

AN

ORATION,

John

DELIVERED IN

Wilkes

St. PAUL'S CHURCH,

AUGUSTA,

ON THE

FOURTH OF JULY,

EIGHTEEN HUNDRED AND ONE.

BY JOHN E. ANDERSON, ESQUIRE.

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At Eleven o'clock, the VOLUNTEER COMPANIES of Augusta, being assembled in St. PAUL'S CHURCH, together with a large Collection of the Citizens; the Ceremonies of the Day were commenced by the Reverend Pastor, who offered up to ALMIGHTY GOD: the following appropriate PRAYER.

LET us enter into the Gates of the most High with thanksgiving, and into his Courts with Praise: Let us be thankful unto him, and bless his name!

HOLY, holy, holy Lord God Almighty, who art, who wast, and who art to come! Who only hast immortality; who dwellest in light inaccessible and full of glory; whom no mortal eye can approach, whom no man hath seen, or can see; to whom be honor and power everlasting!

Blessed art thou, O God of our fathers, and blessed be thy holy and glorious name forever! Let the Heavens bless thee, and all thy creatures! We would extol thee, O our God; our souls shall praise the King of Heaven, and shall rejoice in his greatness. Thou art he, at whose reproof, the pillars of Heaven tremble and are astonished; who spake, and it was done; who commanded, and all things stood fast! Would we comprehend thy greatness, O God, our conceptions are vain, for the Heavens and the Earth are full of it! We would understand thine omnipotence, but the thunder of thy Power none can comprehend! We would feel thine omnipresence, but all nature containeth thee not! Yet would our inmost souls be stirred up to magnify and bless thee, the uncontrouled Sovereign of the Universe, though thy judgments are unsearchable, and thy ways past finding out, that there is a God in Heaven, who will direct our steps, to whom we may commit our ways; a God, full of compassion, slow to anger, and of great mercy; a God, who will, when all things have run their stated course, judge the world in Righteousness! Shall not the judge of all the earth do right?

Approaching thy Alter of spotless purity and holiness, be thou pleased, O God, to overlook our unworthiness! Be thou pleased to sanctify, by thy grace, our hearts, and renew right spirits within us! Enable us to render unto thee the homage, due to thy Heavenly Majesty: to approach thy Throne with that reverence and Godly fear, with that delight and love, which matchless perfection, and never-failing mercy inspire! In the name, and through the mediation of thy Son and our Saviour, we beg that we may be cleansed from all our Sins; that thou wouldst receive the offered sacrifice of our hearts, unworthy as it is; and that thy blessings and favours, which we have received without number, may be also without end!

On this auspicious day, O God, rendered sacred by the event which it commemorates, with hearts united by gratitude, with voices uplifted by joy, we, the conspicuous objects of thy bounty,

