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Bond, Thomas, 1778-1827.

An Oration, Delivered at Hallowell.

Augusta, Me., Edes, 1802. 23 pp.

MWA copy.



Mr. Bond's Oration.



ORATION,

DELIVERED AT HELLOWELL,

THE *FIFTH* DAY OF *JULY*, 1802,
(THE *FOURTH* BEING SUNDAY)

IN CELEBRATION OF THE ANNIVERSARY

OF

American Independence.

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BY THOMAS BOND, jun. A. B.

PRINTED AT AUGUSTA, (DISTRICT OF MAINE)
BY PETER EDES,

1802.

HALLOWELL, JULY 6th, 1802.

SIR,

PERMIT us to offer our thanks for your compliance with the request of the Gentlemen of Hallowell, in pronouncing an Oration on the 5th instant, commemorative of the birth of our Nation, and to desire a copy of the same for the press.

*In behalf of the Committee of Arrangements of the
Town of Hallowell,*

NATHAN MOODY.

Mr. THOMAS BOND, jun.



JULY 6, 1802.

SIR

THE Oration, agreeably to the desire of the Committee of Arrangements, is submitted to their disposal, with an impression of its many imperfections. The author entertains a hope, should it ever be read, that it will be regarded with candor and indulgence.

THOMAS BOND, jun.

To Mr. NATHAN MOODY,

*In behalf of the Committee of Arrangements
of the Town of Hallowell.*

AN
ORATION.

FRIENDS AND FELLOW-CITIZENS,

WE are assembled to celebrate the festival of our liberty ; to commemorate the origin of our nation. Memorable is that day, brilliant in the annals of freedom, when the voice of virtue, indignant at the wrongs she had suffered, announced the emancipation of a world ; the exaltation of a brave people to honor and independence. It is grateful to the just pride of Americans to retrace the steps which led to their revolution, wonderful in progress, in termination glorious and triumphant ; to contemplate the growing prosperity and dignity of their country ; and anticipate its future greatness and felicity. An employment like this, which animates the spirit of patriotism, and impresses on the mind a due estimation of our transcendent blessings, and the means of their preservation, is, on this occasion, peculiarly important and proper.

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The cruel aggressions of the British nation, her illegal and repeated attempts to fill the treasury of avarice, by exhausting the riches of industry, justly alarmed the apprehension and jealousy of her colonies. They remonstrated in language, energetic, but respectful, against the oppressive edicts of parliament. Averse to hazard the unknown consequences of war, unwilling to separate from the parent state, they adopted every mild expedient to secure their natural and civil rights. But expostulation was worse than vain, and argument served only to irritate masters, resolved on the ruin of their faithful subjects. The corrupt and rapacious ministry of England, guided by maxims of savage policy, determined to reduce our countrymen to unconditional servitude. America, fired with indignation, animated with the genuine spirit of liberty, arose in arms to defend her insulted rights.

The robes of peace were exchanged for the garments of war. Preparations for manly resistance were undertaken and prosecuted with energy and expedition. The people were impressed with the importance of repelling the earliest encroachments of despotism, and sensible of the necessity of breaking the chains of slavery, before they were fastened on the necks of a devoted nation. They had contemplated with deliberation all the possible

