

*Henry D*  
*R*

AN

# ORATION,

DELIVERED AT THE SOUTH PARISH IN

*WOODSTOCK, VERMONT,*

On the Fourth Day of July, A. D. 1806.

---

BY TITUS HUTCHINSON, ESQUIRE.

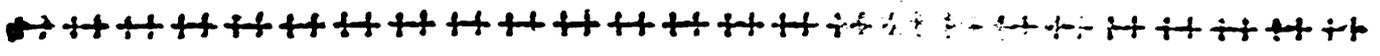
---

*“ While Liberty is my theme, I'll not be weary.”*

---

PRINTED AT RANDOLPH, VERMONT,  
BY SERENO WRIGHT.

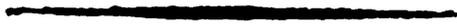
1806.



*At WOODSTOCK, South Parish, July 4th, A. D. 1806.*

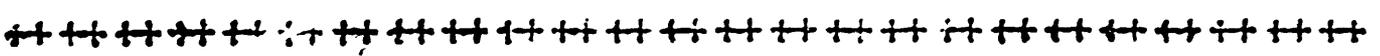
*AFTER dinner, voted unanimously that we return our thanks to the ORATOR OF THE DAY for his Oration now delivered, and request a copy thereof for the press.*

**ATTEST.** *WILLIAM STRONG, One of the Committee of Arrangement.*



*IN compliance with the above request the following sheets are submitted to the inspection of a candid world. If they contain any ideas calculated to instruct the uninformed, or stimulate the wise, in the duties of political life, they ought not to be repressed: and, in this, there is full confidence in the opinion of those who heard for themselves and made said request.*

**THE AUTHOR.**



---

*FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS!*

**W**E are now assembled to commemorate the birth of our nation, and the birth of that liberty which constitutes the happiness and the glory of our nation. Whenever the revolving sun brings on the auspicious day, we are animated at the recollection of that great event. That ardor for liberty, by which our forefathers were impelled to leap from the bonds of colonial slavery, seems rekindled in our breasts; and we are elevated above the common concerns of life, to contemplate the political situation and prosperity of our country. And, while we acknowledge, with humility, the divine government of the universe, yet we trace, in the actions of men, the causes of events great and important, to nations as well as individuals.

We look back to the day when our land was a howling wilderness and the haunt of Savages: When, upon it, civilization had never smiled, the sun of science had never risen, the light of Revelation had never shown: When its venerable forests, blooming with vegetation, and towering to the clouds in height, proclaimed the soil rich and fertile: When its plains and mountains, streams and rivers, in rich varieties, pronounced it meet for the habitation of man, and predicted it the future residence of a great and wealthy nation: When, unfettered by the chains of Monarchy, it exhibited a striking contrast to any region in the old world: When, on the one hand, it strongly invited the arts of civilized life, and promised great rewards to the labors of the husbandman, and the undisturbed sweets of retirement and religion; and on the other, it exhibited all the terrors of savage barbarity. At this period, we view our forefathers, oppressed in the old

world by the hard hand of tyranny, daring to seek an asylum  
 in these wilds of the west. We trace them bidding adieu to  
 the shores of their native country ; launching upon the broad  
 ocean ; landing upon the American Canaan ; and there, to  
 enjoy the rights of Freemen and the religion of their choice,  
 encountering all the difficulties and the dangers, which the  
 human mind can conceive, or which language can paint. The  
 hardship and labor necessary to commence the settlement of  
 an uncultivated land were among the least of their calamities.  
 Disease was their constant attendant : Destruction from Sava-  
 ges perpetually hovered around them. Notwithstanding these  
 obstructions they grew in numbers, in wealth, and in respect-  
 ability, till they attracted the notice and even the envy of the  
 powers of Europe. From the jarring claims of these pow-  
 ers they experienced additional evils. Upon their shoulders,  
 in a great degree, rested the burden of the war, carried on up-  
 on this Continent, between the kingdoms of France and Eng-  
 land : At the expiration of which war the thirteen States  
 were the acknowledged Colonies of Great Britain. With re-  
 gard to each other, they were separate States ; but, with re-  
 gard to their mother country, they were dependent colonies.  
 Until this time each State exercised, independently, the power  
 of taxing its own inhabitants : And that power was so gen-  
 erously exercised by the State Legislatures, and patiently sub-  
 mitted to by the people, as amply to meet the claims of the  
 public. Thus the inhabitants of these States were educated,  
 in some degree, in the habits of self government. Their  
 souls, expanded by inhaling the sweets of freedom, aspired  
 to independence ; yet they calmly submitted to be dependent,  
 claiming in return the parental care and protection of their  
 mother country. So long as they received and enjoyed this  
 care and protection, with those rights and privileges which  
 descended from their fathers, their submission was the dictate  
 of reason and gratitude. But, their confidence in their own

right to freedom and independence, their growth in numbers, and their increase of science, very ill prepared them to acquiesce in a restraint of those rights, or in the diminution of that care and protection.

At this crisis, the Parliament of England, envying the wealth and happiness, and jealous of the growing power of her American Colonies, and equally regardless of the principles of justice and of sound policy, not only imposed many restraints upon their commerce, but usurped the right of subjecting them to taxation at her own will and pleasure. Their enjoying no seat in her councils, no part in her debates, and no vote in her decisions, afforded no argument of sufficient weight to prevent this usurpation. The well known stamp act, in point of consequence, led the train of odious revenue laws imposed upon these States, without their consent and against their will. From the passing of this act our Independence may be said to be in embryo, until it was publicly assumed on the day we now commemorate. The chains of slavery, which before were twining round the Colonies, but were not intolerable, were now perceived in all their galling features. They were now felt and realized, not as a burden which could not be borne, but, as a burden imposed in violation of every principle of right and justice ; and, as such, one that would not be borne. Here the virtue and patriotism of the inhabitants shown conspicuous in all their native dignity. They spurned indignant at the tax imposed, not by reason of its greatness merely, but of its injustice. Nay, so attached were they to harmony and regular government, they would have borne this burden had it stood unconnected with other evils. But they saw the flood gates open, and predicted a torrent of oppression soon to be poured down upon them. This prediction they saw verified in those statutes of the Parliament of England, disannulling the charter of Massachusetts,

and taking from its inhabitants every vestige of the right of self government ; and transporting to England, for trial, persons charged with supposed crimes. The sun of liberty, which for ages had faintly beamed on their then devoted country, they saw go down, to rise no more, till some bold effort of human strength and genius, aided by the power of God, should burst asunder the chains of slavery already too strongly riveted. They earnestly solicited redress for their grievances without recourse to arms. By petitions preferred to the King and Parliament of Great Britain, they set forth their degraded situation and their depressing burdens, in that pathetic language which the patriotism of the times inspired : they urged their claim for redress with that cogent reasoning which had for its basis the principles of humanity and of justice. But neither the ardor of prayer nor the force of reasoning nor persuasion could avail them. An armed power was sent to compel their obedience to the arbitrary laws which were daily multiplied upon them.

Thus depressed by tyranny, yet supported by virtue and conscious rectitude ; discouraged by the magnitude of the assailing power, yet emboldened by their confidence in the smiles of heaven upon the defence of their injured rights ; destitute of arms and ammunition, but strongly armed with patriotism ; they engaged in the unequal contest. That flame for liberty, first kindled in Massachusetts, had now expanded and shed its heavenly influence upon the several States. The relation of all these States to their mother country was similar : the liability of all to the same aggressions was equal : hence arose a common interest, which, upon the first onset of actual hostility, occasioned them all to act in concert for the defence of their common country. Strengthened by their union, the Continental Congress their Council, and the brave Washington their leader, they nobly resisted those attacks

which aimed destruction at the lives and property of their citizens.

When the day arrived, that ever memorable day, marked by historians and the world as the birth day of our Independence, the members of their Congress were assembled to consult and act for their common welfare, and to remove, if possible, the vial of British wrath which was daily poured out upon them. Thus assembled, they beheld themselves the representatives of a people, spread over an extensive and fertile country : a people, few in numbers, but wise and virtuous, bold and persevering ; firmly attached to their interests and connections ; and nerved with fortitude and resolution against the torrent of impending evils. They saw an ardent desire for liberty glow in the breasts of their countrymen, which was ready to burst forth, through the political darkness that overshadowed them, to the bright sunshine of freedom. With this prospect around them, and preferring death to slavery, they, for themselves and their constituents, in impressive language, told the world, *We are, we of right ought to be, and we will be, free and independent.*

At this interesting epoch, the tree of liberty, as if obedient to the most sanguine wishes of Americans, sprang up in its own native soil : in this our happy land. Amid the storms of war it grew and flourished, extending its mellifluous branches, to animate every virtuous heart, and invigorate every patriotic nerve, in its cultivation and support. Charmed with the sight and zealous for the acquisition and enjoyment of their beloved object, those heroic sons of liberty, those patrons of our national dignity and happiness, who acted parts in that interesting tragedy, disdained all considerations of private interest. Their whole souls were absorbed in the vast concerns of the public. Private property was with them no object, while there stood a power on earth contending for

the right to take it from them. If, therefore, it was sacrificed by their rapacious foes, it was to them a source of but little lamentation. If it added to the relief of their perishing armies, it gave them real satisfaction.

Thousands, who went not to the field of battle, nobly acted very important parts upon that grand theatre of national birth : but those who, leaving their families and connections, put their lives in jeopardy to front the enemies of freedom, acted a more conspicuous part. Through what scenes of difficulty and danger passed the great Washington ! Placed at the head of an army, without discipline ; raised but for short periods ; mostly recruited from the undisciplined militia ; ever changing through want of permanency in our infant system of war preparations ; frequently driven to the borders of death, by the want of clothing and provisions ; with no stimulus to action but their zeal for the cause in which they had embarked : and often yielding to the overbearing menaces of adversity ; to keep this army united, to support their courage, and regulate their conduct, he was driven to all the expedients which his unrivalled wisdom could invent. At times, even all his patriotic lessons, and his military mandates, enforced by his presence and example, were inadequate to the object. Contending against a numerous and well regulated army, superior to his own in all things but patriotism and virtue, how often did he avoid destruction, nay, even gain a victory, by avoiding battle ! How often did he rush in person to the unpropitious battle, and, by his presence, animate his troops to certain conquest ! By whatever difficulties and dangers surrounded, he was ever calm and courageous. To whatever duties invited, he discharged them with zeal and fidelity. Thus, by his wisdom and perseverance, his zeal and patriotism, the Americans were conducted through the unwelcome scenes of a bloody war ; were

placed in full possession of their long fought liberty ; and gained a respectable rank among the nations of the earth.

This establishment of our independence was pregnant with happy consequences to the human race. Until then the naval power of Great Britain had laid siege to the ocean, and claimed submission from every nation on earth. Power and right had become with the Britons synonymous terms : and the peaceful commerce of every neutral nation, within their grasp, became the sacrifice of their superior power. But, when France had formed an alliance with the contending colonies of America, and Spain and Holland were indirectly aiding their enterprize, and thus became virtually at war with Great Britain, the Empress of Russia improved the auspicious moment in forming, with the nations around her, that armed neutrality, which opposed a formidable barrier to the naval depredations of England.

In contemplating the condition of our forefathers, thus emancipated from the British yoke, what, let me ask, is that liberty for which they so bravely fought and nobly conquered ? Is it a mere phantom ? Is it like a dream which is gone when a man awakes ? No, Fellow Citizens. It is that great reality, that boon from heaven to men, which, in all their political interests and connections, raises them above the brute creation. It is that power of reason and information which renders them capable of self government. It is that stimulus which leads them to contemplate things noble and divine, and perform what is worthy of their natures. It is that detester of anarchy and confusion which cheerfully submits to every system of laws in which justice and wisdom are conspicuous. It is that monitor which forbids the passing of any law which will not communicate equal rights to all the citizens of the State or nation. It is that sceptre of justice

which condemns and abolishes all slavery. It is that conqueror which extirpates all tyranny from its domains. In fine, it is the source of patriotism, the patron of virtue and the nurse of science. O, Liberty ! thou brightest gem of earthly blessings ! May thy charms allure all nations to thy embrace ! May every heart rejoice in that exalted bliss by thee alone conferred on man !

This, Fellow Citizens, this liberty is the basis of our Federal Constitution. That constitution is the guardian of our rights and privileges. It is the production of the united wisdom, knowledge, experience and virtue, of those patriots, who never would set a seal to the slavery of their country. It was formed at a time when the flame of liberty still burned ; when a sense of our weakness, in a divided situation, called for a permanent union of the States ; and when a thirst for arbitrary power, unfriendly to the peace of nations, was scarcely felt in our land. It received its sanction from the united voice of the people, who, jealous of their liberties, retained, in their own hands, the powers of government. It contains those fundamental principles by which they are willing to be governed, and regulates those tenures by which all offices must be holden. It guarantees the equal rights of all men, in matters temporal and religious. It says, to the national legislature, hitherto shalt thou come, but no further. It discards the government of arbitrary man, and institutes a government of laws. It contains no provision incompatible with that original sentiment of liberty which called, from our late dependent colonies, this independent nation. This national compact, this guardian of our liberties, perhaps in other respects defective, yet is rendered perfect by the provision it contains for the amendment of its own errors. This provision is in the power of the people, to be exercised by legislators of their own appointment : and is so

plain and so guarded, that it precludes all danger of abuse, while there remains the least virtue in the people. Should the man of ambition at any time become the man of power; should he attempt to lay prostrate the liberties of his country; should he even dupe the legislature of his own State to foster his iniquity, by proposing an amendment of our constitution; all this would avail him nothing without the concurrence of the legislatures of three fourths of the States in the union. Should he even obtain all this, two thirds of the members of Congress, who are chosen of the people, must also concur, before our liberties would become extinct. Let us reverse the scene. Should this ambitious man first attack the virtue of the national legislature; should he succeed with them to the utmost of his wishes, our liberties would still remain till the legislatures of three fourths of the States concur in their abolition. But, should liberty for a while lose its advocates, and an amendment of the constitution, in either of these ways, take effect, against the sentiments and the will of the people, very soon would the day return, when, by electing into their State and national legislatures men of patriotism and virtue, and men attached to their interests, they would restore, to their constitution, its primitive rectitude, and, to themselves, their violated rights. Hence, the preservation and safety of our constitution depend solely on the attention, the firmness and virtue, of the very people whose interest nerves them in its support.

If, then, our constitution be the guardian of our rights and privileges; if it be safe in the hands of its progenitors; if it be good and perfect in dispensing equal rights to all our citizens, whence can arise any obstruction to the prevalence of justice, peace, harmony and benevolence? Whence any obstruction to the enjoyment of all those blessings, which render social life desirable and happy? Whence, but from among

ourselves? Were our government that of men, we might well fear that the exercise of power would render it too familiar even to the breast of a well tried patriot. Were the appointments, in the bestowment of our Executive, so regulated as to create an interest counter to that of the people; and were the emoluments of those appointments of sufficient magnitude to assail the virtue of men in office (as is the case in England and other still more despotic countries) we might well fear that, by the combination of interest, ambition and court influence, our liberties would be attacked, and laid prostrate at the will of a despot.

But the case with us is quite the reverse of this: our government is a government of laws; and our rulers, if they may be called such, are but the servants of the public, to carry into effect the constitution and laws by the people established. They all receive their appointments, not from a despot, whose interests they might serve, but directly or indirectly from the suffrages of the people. They hold their offices but for short periods. Hence, were those offices lucrative, the interests of those who hold them would ever be attached to the rights and liberties of the people: and on the observance of those rights and liberties would wholly depend the returning suffrages of the people. But, did the offices in the appointment of our Executive in fact create an interest counter to that of the people, yet the emoluments are too small to influence a man possessed of the least spark of virtue. This check upon the rulers, in the hands of the people, creates a formidable barrier against tyranny, and is like a flaming sword in all directions guarding the tree of liberty.

Thus, Fellow Citizens, possessed of all the powers of government, to be by us exercised at certain and constitutional periods, whence, again let me ask, have we ought to fear, but from among ourselves? surely no where. And what shall

we fear among ourselves? Our inattention, surely, to the cultivation of virtue and the increase of knowledge; and our neglect of those important trusts reposed in us by our constitution. From these result temporary evils which may become serious before the period of constitutional redress shall return. But, permit me to dwell minutely on this pleasing theme, till our duty, as citizens and as freemen, becomes so interesting, so plain, and so animating, that we cannot fail to perform it.

And here let me observe that the worst government on earth, administered by virtuous, patriotic and discerning men, may become tolerable: while the best government, administered by men destitute of those ~~essential~~ qualifications, becomes intolerable. This observation points, on the one hand, to the ark of our safety, and, on the other, to the gulf where our danger lies. Safe and happy as our government now is, should there once be elevated to office men who spurn at the restraint of laws and constitutions; who despise the sovereignty of the people, and create dependencies for their own support in power, there would soon be forged, for our countrymen, those chains, from which they could never be loosed, without the boldest effort of their genius and patriotism. Hence we perceive, that, notwithstanding the wisdom displayed in framing our constitution, and those powerful checks to usurpation there established, the uninterrupted course of our liberties and equal rights seems suspended on the narrow pivot of elections into office. This important branch of our administration is exercised directly or indirectly by the people at large: yet so simple and so frequent be our elections that we are apt to lose sight of their importance. Did we but keep in view their importance, when invited by the institutions of our country, we should never fail to be present; we should always give our suffrages. When we vote for our representative to Congress, we virtually vote for or against those measures in which he may act a part. Nay

further, we may be voting for or against an amendment of our constitution. At stated periods, when we vote for the representatives of our respective towns, we virtually, but indirectly, vote for a President of the United States, and consequently for those appointments by him afterwards made. Too similar to this to need description, is our influence upon the choice of Senators to Congress, and the appointment of all our State officers. How manifest, then, is our duty, not only to attend and vote at those elections within our respective circles, but so to inform ourselves, that we may be able to act judiciously. We ought ever, in our free government, to beware of wolves in sheep's clothing. Many say unto us, lo ! here, and lo ! there, but, adhering to our constitution as a pole star, we will not go after them. Let us mark those men who profess virtue and correct principles, and whose whole life and conduct is the direct image and superscription of their professions ; let us mark those and those only as worthy of our confidence. Let us, by our precept and example, by our diligence, care and perseverance, so cultivate the principles of science and virtue, and so disseminate the knowledge of our own system of government, among the rising generation, that, when they shall mount the grand theatre of life, they will shine like stars in the firmament. While we are firm in the observance of these duties, we may remain confident in the possession and continuance of our rights and liberties.

But, should we at any time, be so misled by the influence of intrigue and hypocrisy as to mistake the qualifications of men we elevate to office, and find our rights and liberties thereby threatened, let us not despair of a recovery ; but apply the first constitutional balm to the wounds which may happen. Let us derive encouragement from the lesson taught by our own experience. Once have we seen a train of

internal taxes, an odious stamp act, a direct tax, and a standing army established among us in a time of peace. These supports of Royalty, these destroyers of liberty, occasioned thousands of officers spread over our land, who were so many dependents upon higher powers, giving energy to a court influence, which aimed daggers at the liberties of our country. We have seen the good sense of the people alarmed at these rapid strides towards monarchy. We have seen the energies of our country awake, and, in a constitutional manner, produce a change in the Executive : a change which brought with it an Administration conformed to the principles of our constitution and the genius of the nation. That Administration has relieved the people from many unnecessary burdens, by abolishing a train of useless offices, and of grievous taxes by those offices alone rendered necessary. In the continuance of this Administration, our rights and liberties remain secure against the intrigues of faction and demands of usurpation. And, though we must lament the lawless spirit of British sailors impressing our seamen on board their ships, and drop a sympathetic tear to the memory of the unfortunate Pierce, whose life became a sacrifice to their zeal for depredation ; and though we view the unwarrantable conduct of the Spaniards invading our right of territory ; and all inviting us to a war with foreign powers ; yet we must rejoice in that pacific disposition of our government, and firm resolution for the redress of grievances, which have effected the emancipation of our impressed seamen, and which will probably effect a reconciliation of our national disputes, and procure a compensation for injuries received.

In aiming at a right discharge of the duties we owe to ourselves and the public, we ought, on the one hand, to look with a jealous, though candid, eye upon the official conduct of our rulers ; and, on the other, to cover, with the mantle

of charity, those mistakes and those errors, which, for ought that appears, may be errors, not of the heart, but of the judgment. We ought carefully to scrutinize their official conduct, not that we may misrepresent or defame it ; not that we may render them, their administration, and our whole government disreputable ; but that we may judge of it correctly, and represent it truly : that we may take proper and friendly measures to correct such errors as may be apparent, and direct with skill and propriety our future suffrages. We ought ever to aid, and not perplex, the administration of our government. Good men and able politicians, with a flood of opposition and multitudes watching for their halting, may succeed but poorly in their administration : while men of less wisdom, less knowledge, and even less integrity, receiving aid and encouragement from every class of citizens, may administer the government to general satisfaction. The office of President of the United States is a great and important office. Arduous and perplexing are the various duties there-to annexed. A man, to perform those duties, must thoroughly understand, and carefully watch, the various interests of our country, and all our connections with foreign nations. He must know and adhere to our constitution and laws, as the pole star of his conduct. He must make appointments to offices of immense public consequence, without the possibility of acquiring a personal knowledge of the integrity or talents of the men to be appointed. Who, in this situation, can exhibit such a perfect walk, as to escape the censure of those who watch for the purpose of condemning ? Who in this situation but needs the prayers, the friendship, the aid and assistance of every citizen ?

THOMAS JEFFERSON, our worthy Chief Magistrate, clothed with wisdom, prudence and magnanimity, and conscious of the approbation of a great majority of the people, pursues his steady course. He is harshly reviled by some, yet he

revileth not again. Firmly attached to our rights and liberties, he is indefatigable in the investigation, establishment and promotion of the best interests of our country. His administration hitherto succeeds prosperously. We are now in the quiet possession of that liberty, for which our fathers have fought, bled and conquered. And for national eminence, as well as national and individual happiness, we are become the envy of the whole earth. Let us then, with the joy which this rehearsal excites in our breasts, sound through the world this public testimonial of our approbation of the well intended, and well concerted, measures of our Administration. Let us, in this way, encourage the heart and strengthen the hands, of our worthy Chief Magistrate, that he may go on in the ways of well doing, conscious that the laurels which adorn his head will never fade till the annals of history shall be no more.

But while we repeat our joy at the unparalleled prosperity of our country, let us not forget to drop a tear of sympathy over the remains of our worthy friend and citizen, which await the last duty of mortals. Heavy, to us, is the shock of his death, and very depressing to the joys of this day. While we regret the loss, to our neighborhood and country, of his valuable life, may we be deeply impressed with that solemnity which the scene inspires. May we be ever zealous to emulate his virtues : and above all, may we be prepared to follow him to the bar of our God.\*

Surrounded, Fellow Citizens, as we are, with all the blessings which can flow from liberty, equality of right, and a good government, can motives be wanting to excite in us a zealous perseverance in those duties, which tend to increase

---

\* *On the evening before the celebration, Capt. THOMAS ELLIS was brought a lifeless corpse to his house in this vicinity.*

those blessings, and transmit them to generations yet unborn ! If so, let us for a moment contrast our situation with that of the people of some other countries. Look among the nations of Europe. There you find Kings and Emperors, Lords and Nobles : but how did they become such ? Do those high sounding titles denote any intrinsic merit or virtue ? Or were they conferred by the suffrages of a free people ? No, Fellow Citizens, they are derived from birth, inheritance or fortune. What is the rule of right with those who govern ? The inclination of their will and the extent of their power. What are the people in those countries ? They are a set of beings, so depressed with tyranny, and so degraded with ignorance, that they tamely submit to these things ; they are alike destitute of the qualifications and the power of governing others. Their happiness consists not so much in the contemplation, of blessings within their power, as of evils from which they have narrowly escaped. But the Americans, by the influence of science, and the genius and exercise of liberty, are elevated to more exalted spheres. They all act their part in rolling the wheels of government ; and are happy in delegating the powers they possess to such persons as will exercise them for the interest of the public. Again, should we neglect those duties allotted us in the government of our choice, that government would soon be lost to us and our posterity. We, as a nation, should soon degenerate towards that state of ignorance, which is the support of tyranny and the bane of human happiness. Where would then be all the boast of American liberty ! What endless reproaches would await us from our own consciences ! Here the day we celebrate calls back our recollection to the scenes of peril and danger, which gave birth to the liberties of our country. Behold the aged parents mourning the loss of their darling son, cut down in the vigor of manhood, as he stood in defence of liberty ! View the brother falling at his brother's right hand !

Hear the disconsolate widow tell her inquiring prattlings, that their father is sacrificed upon the altar of freedom ! Behold the venerable shades of WARREN, MERCER and MONTGOMERY, and of that train of worthy heroes whose blood was spilt on the field of battle ! These all witness the vast expense of our freedom. May our tears, the tears of our country, and of posterity, never cease to bedew the laurels of those martyrs of liberty ! And, when the fathers of any future generation, concerning our liberty, shall, to their children, say, " This is the freedom which our forefathers purchased with their blood," may the children, with truth and in joyful accents, respond, " This is the freedom which we now possess."

---

# AN ODE,

ON SCIENCE AND LIBERTY.

---

## I.

‘THE morning sun shines from the east  
And spreads his glories to the west ;  
All nations with his beams are blest  
Where e'er his radiant light appears ;  
So science spreads her lucid ray  
O'er lands that long in darkness lay ;  
She visits fair Columbia,  
And sets her sons among the stars.’

## II.

Though savage tribes infest her land,  
Destruction raves on every hand ;  
And terrors mighty to withstand  
Upon her shores are daily seen ;  
Yet ‘ freedom, her attendant, waits  
To bless the portals of her gates,  
And crown the young and rising States  
With laurels of immortal’ green.

## III.

Fair Freedom ! what though monarchs frown  
And strive to cut thy glories down ?  
Thy seeds in western climes are sown,  
And sprout and grow through every dearth ;  
Not all the rage which Britons bear  
Shall check thy growth that crowns the year,  
Nor cause thy valiant sons to fear  
To spread thy blessings round the earth.