

*Presented to The Honorable Wm
Jones - Secretary of The Navy - by the
author -*

Bailey

AN ORATION, 20: 7: }

DELIVERED ON THE 5TH JULY, 1813,

IN THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF SAINT HELENA.



BY THE REVEREND
PHILIP^V MATHEWS,
RECTOR OF SAID CHURCH.



Published at the unanimous request of the Congregation;

As expressive of their sentiments,

"United we stand, divided we fall."



CHARLESTON, So. Carolina:

From the PRESS of JOHN MACKAY & Co. No. 236 East-

Bay.



1813.

AN ORATION,

Æc. Æc. Æc.

THE History of man and the annals of nations, exhibit to the contemplative mind, a widely diversified scene ; teeming with events, marked with the boldest inscriptions; struggling for pre-eminence, and vieing with each other, to arrest our thoughts and command our attention. In taking a rapid survey of the heterogeneous mass, which the waste of ages and the lapse of six thousand years, have accumulated, we experience involuntary embarrassment, in a selection of subjects for stricture and animadversion.

But this day, with its antecedents, concomitants, and future consequences, can never fail to furnish an endless variety of the most interesting incidents, that ever warmed the heart, or toned the nerves of the rhetorician. A nation bursting by an instantaneous effort from a chaos of political discordancy, and casting from it with indignant scorn, the massive chains, welded in the sanguinary forges

of Kings! A vast Empire emerging from a world of rude simplicity, abounding, with all the substantial ingredients for defence, utility, and lasting embellishment; inhabited by millions of souls panting for liberty, and sternly tenacious of the rights of man, forms an object so variously modified, and of such imposing magnitude, that the Orator can never be at a loss for a subject for panegyric; the Historian for well authenticated facts for narration; or the votive Muse for favorite heroes, whose chivalric deeds he may roll in flowing numbers, through waste of years. Here, Genius and Science may in safety entwine, and deposit the trophies of their united labours, for the admiration of succeeding generations, without any timorous fears of their being either lost or tarnished by the corroding rust of time.

But it must be confessed, that man viewed in his original abstract, such as he was when he came warm from his maker's hands, clothed with rectitude and glowing with the divine resemblance, nearly allied to angels, and possessed of a conspicuity of intelligence, which qualified him for colloquial intercourse with the fountain of wisdom and the donor of life, forms a harsh and striking contrast with that state of delinquent apostacy into which he plunged himself, and his numerous descendants. By one fatal act of disobedience, we see him an appalled and trembling culprit, flying from the presence of his Creator and seeking concealment, in the most impervious shades of the garden, and like all other offenders anxious to

devise, or fabricate, some wretched expedient, either to mask his shame; or extenuate the magnitude of his crime, by palming the inducing cause, if not the commission of it, on others. At the voice of his Maker, with slow and tardy movements, he leaves his retreat; his eyes cast on the ground in guilty dejection; and his brow clouded by the contractions of internal remorse. Guilt trembles at the scrutiny of day, and with cowardly suffusion, deprecates reprehension, and exposure.

Thus while man was yet treading the threshold of juvenile time, were awakened those conflicting passions; and that spark of pride and ambition struck, which soon found congenial fuel, to kindle a wide consuming flame, that like the blazing Lava, in its impetuous descent, has swept every impediment to the vortex of destruction: It has floated the earth and dyed the ocean, with the blood of millions of their wretched inhabitants. It has extorted the widow's groans, and the orphans tears, which continue to stream through all the departments of humanity.

From that moment, in whatever direction we turn our eyes, we see abundant, and accumulating cause of lamentation and woe. Civil intolerance, and religious frauds, have been practised, and imposed without fear, or remorse upon all the classifications of mankind.

In the first formation of civil society, men by mutual consent, made a voluntary surrender of many of the minor rights of nature, to secure those of a higher, and more essential

grade ; which soon created a thirst for accumulation, and a restless desire for monopoly. It was then, even in the first germination of social compacts ; that the aspiring few, conceived the daring design of wresting by force from the many, the rights of government and control : and to what extent, and degree, they have succeeded, the page of history furnishes an instructive, but melancholy narration.

Men of superior artifice ingratiated themselves into the confidence of their associates ; by the blandishments of duplicity, obtained at first an ascendancy over their reason, and then gave what force, and direction, to their passions they pleased ; which has generally terminated in the exaltation of the few, and the finished degradation of the many.

To doubt the political orthodoxy of this statement, would betray an ignorance of civil institutions, and their shifting fates, which the science and illumination of the eighteenth century, would stigmatize with unqualified reprobation. In fact, the records of man, is but the sad detail, of his imbecility, of his crimes, and of his humiliation. At one moment we see him making a languid effort, to regain his long lost ground, and take his proper level, in the scale of national existence ; and at the next, sufficiently sunk into torpid, and voluntary debasement.

But without entering upon a tedious and disgusting detail of the abuse of original principles, and a prostration of indefeasible rights, among the nations of antiquity ; without pau-

sing to portray the splendid achievements of Grecian and Roman patriotism ! Without wasting your time, by a delineation of the stern and Godlike virtues of Cato, who, in despair of Roman freedom, doomed himself to death by his own hands : without wafting you back to the plains of Thessaly, or the passage of Thermopoly where Spartan valor, for Spartan liberty, made a firm and desperate stand, resolutely determined, rather than to drag the galling chains of an imperious conqueror ; to raise ramparts of their bodies, and pour forth torrents of their blood, through which, the victors should wade to the servitude of their country.

The geographical mart of that country, is indeed still to be found ; but the animating voice of Republican hilarity, tempered by reason and moderation, is heard to vibrate there no more. The dæmon of Tyranny, floated on waves of blood, has usurped its place, and fixed her home, in death-like silence, on the ruins of desolate Athens.

Even Rome where Cicero plead, and Virgil sung, whose foundations were supposed to be laid in such depths of political wisdom as to warrant presumptions of eternal sovereignty, has long since been, stripped of her arrogated greatness, and now crouches for favor and protection, beneath the standard of the splendid Corsican.

In modern Europe the spirit of liberty has, at no period, been totally extinguished ; but it has been incrustated, and depressed by an

arbitrary assumption, of feudal exactions; by a corrupt, and corrupting system of national policy, predicated on principles of aristocracy, which places the government of millions in the hands of a few; and that few destitute of morality, and religion.

From such a combination of guilty materials as is to be found, in most of the cabinets of Europe, what have the inhabitants of those countries a right to expect? Can they be so ignorant and visionary, as to suppose that a God of Justice, who, delights in the rectitude of his creatures, will patronize; and succeed the councils of men, who are a compound of refined, practical Atheism? With more consistency, might they hope, that elements radically discordant, would harmonize, and form one homogeneous nature.

Many and grievous must have been the oppressions exercised over our forefathers, which could have inspired them with the hardy, and apparent desperate resolution, of abandoning the land of their nativity; and through stormy seas, and in a howling wilderness, seek for personal, and moral security; which the sanguinary temper, of municipal laws, forbid them to hope for on their native shores.

Before they could enter upon a measure of self-expatriation, all the ties of juvenile endearment must be sacrificed on the Altar of stern necessity; the friends and companions of early life, be given up; the Temples that they had long resorted, and the devotional scenes, that they often knelt, and wept

around, were to be trod, and frequented by them no more; and we know that memory on those occasions is officiously tenacious; and that, when far distant, with fond recollection, we retrace those persons, and places, where we have in the bosom of friendship, passed the congenial hour. The actions, the looks, the parting words of those we love, flutter around the feeling heart, and take a particular pleasure, in their recapitulation, and amplification. It is thus that distant friends, perpetuate an interchange, of kindred sensibilities, though mountains should rise, and oceans roll between them.

But no alternative was left! Our virtuous forefathers, were doomed by dire necessity, either to rear up their children, in the abjection of servitude, under the galling coercions of Feudal, and Gothic institutions, and thus propagate a race of slaves, whose liberty, and feelings, would become the property, and sport of capricious tyranny, or to abdicate forever the land, and soil where they first felt the genial glow of life.

To hesitate between the lingerings of inclination, and self-evident duties, is always dangerous, and often fatal: they therefore with precipitance, bid a hasty adieu, a last farewell, to their country, and friends; committed themselves to the briny deep, and through the surging waves, bent their way for the setting sun.

Imagination, may still stoop to trace, the tragic feelings, of that phrensied moment,

when they first felt themselves, afloat on an element; to which, they had been unaccustomed: when they saw the canvas unfurled, and heard the signal pass, to weigh, for western worlds! While under easy sail, and slowly receding from those shores, to which they were destined, never more to return, what must have been the agonizing emotions, which then struggled for expression! Mothers, and daughters twined in each others arms, mingled their tears, and vented their groans in loud despair!

To the lofty cliffs of Albion! This last adieu! The breeze increases, the vessel plows the watery main; the distant cliffs, are no longer visible! The scene, is closed, and the curtain drops! After undergoing the extremes, of hope and fear; after submitting for many weeks, to the irksome privations of a sea voyage; they at length, reached those distant shores, of which they had heard so much. But new difficulties, which, as they were unexpected, they were unprepared to combat, now stared them in the face. They had to encounter hordes of merciless savages, and dismantle the ample forests, of their immemorial productions, before they could by agricultural arts, obtain a scanty subsistence, for themselves and families. The hopes of reward, sweetened toil, and they cheerfully submitted, to the trying difficulties, of their new situation; under the pleasing anticipations of enjoying, without fear, or molestation, the fruits of their industry; and of training a numerous progeny, in the exercise of virtuous ha-

bits, and in the secure possession of civil, and religious liberty.

They fondly amused themselves with the grateful hope, of giving birth to, and cherishing, a social order of things, in the western hemisphere, which should out vie, the imagined scenes, of Arcadian felicity; and of bequeathing them, as an imperishable inheritance, to their posterity. How far those anticipations, might have been realized, must now be left to conjecture, as a concatenation, of frowning events interposed, to prevent the experiment, in that way, which was then contemplated: for the colonies had no sooner surmounted their internal difficulties, and acquired a sufficient degree of strength, and maturity, to defend themselves, against the barbarous incursions, of their aboriginal neighbors, than the voracious cupidity, of their original transatlantic persecutors, was turned upon their increasing prosperity, with a jealous, and malignant glare. Their privileges were abridged; their charters violated; standing armies of morose, and savage Britons, and Germans, to awe them into submission, were stationed among them, in times of profound peace; who, at different times, and places, with wanton apathy, imbrued their hands in the blood of our orderly, and peaceable citizens.

Taxations in their most disgusting, and odious forms, were imposed; rapacious governors appointed by the crown, or its privy council, were placed at the head of our colonial departments to spy out our privileges, and misrepre-

sent, or exaggerate our conduct, to their colleagues, in iniquity beyond the waves. Our fellow-citizens, in direct contradiction of statute acts, and immemorial usage, were refused the invaluable privilege of trial by their peers; and by the haughty mandate, of an ignorant, and stupid judge, were ordered for adjudication beyond the seas; which means, the opportunities of self-justification, were contravened, by the ruling junto, of court favorites; a back stairs influence was created, which arrested our petitions, and humble remonstrances, in their flight to the throne. The manly, and honorable exertions of the Earls of Chatham, and Camden, with many others in both houses, for a remission, of our grievances, proving abortive, and ineffectual, unconditional submission, or an appeal to arms became unavoidable.

The results of that appeal, I certainly need not detail to an American audience: but thus much, I have thought proper to exhibit, that you might have a succinct view, of British aggressions, on this country, from its first settlement, and colonization, as well as, to form a counterpart, to what is still to follow. To eulogize the many distinguished patriots who figured in the grand drama, of our national struggle for independence, would swell this address to ample volumes, and far transcend the limits assigned to me, as the duties of the day. Suffice it then for the present to say, that six and thirty years, have now rolled their ample suns away, since American valor placed its beloved country, among the sovereign, and in-

dependent nations, of the earth. Since that time, a smiling providence, with benignant sedulosity, has presided over the new born destinies, of the infantile republic; and these United States, were passing with, unexampled rapidity to opulence, and national importance. Our citizens happy and prosperous under a government of their own formation, neither wished for, nor sought after a change.

Among us, agriculture has been improved, beyond any thing known in the same time, and department, in the old world. Commerce has extended; and a spirit of commercial enterprise, been exhibited by our fellow-citizens, which has astonished the universe! No element, but what has witnessed our persevering industry; no sea over which the American eagle has not been seen to soar; even the Leviathan of the deep, by our dauntless harpooners, has been chased and pierced, within the arctic and antarctic circles; in waters where he had sported, with unmolested security, from the birth of time!

Through every part of this extensive union, seminaries of learning, have been established, by substantial incorporate or legislative endowments; and all the useful, and fine arts are verging, with velocity to the highest acme of perfection.

Here the shade of the fig tree, and the tranquil enjoyments of the fire side, are never molested by the rude clamours of brutal press gangs, or the surly agents of conscriptive edicts; and I do not hesitate to affirm, that if there

exists a spot on earth, where rational happiness, and liberty is to be found, that it is under the umbrageous shade, of American policy, founded on principles of suffrage and representation.

In these happy regions, an experiment has been made, which goes far in refutation of the theoretic speculations, of chamber politicians, and the grave sententious maxims, of crowned heads, who, have with equal pertinacity, labored for the degradation of man, by inculcating, that he possesses an inheritant levity of disposition, which disqualifies him, for the exercise, of a republican government.

Whereas it can be proven, almost without an effort, that the practicability of that form of government, was never in either Greece or Rome, submitted to a fair trial on representative principles.

And no person in the least, acquainted with the history, of modern Europe, will pretend to say, that any fair trial, of those principles of jurisprudence, have yet been made in that ill-fated country. It is true, that a collision of arbitrary causes, have recently elicited a spark of light in France; but it was no sooner struck, than it came in contact, with such a prodigious mass of ill assorted, inflammable combustion, that the sudden and unexpected explosion, communicated a tremor, to the nerves of national sensibility, the result of which, were widely different, from what warm politicians had anticipated: but precisely such as the philosopher, and skillful statesman must

have foreseen. Nor should it be a matter of surprise, when the human mind, has writhed beneath the depression of ages, that upon its being suddenly unfettered, it should fly back beyond its meridional line, and continue to fluctuate there for some time, before it becomes stationary on its vertical level.

Anarchy is the opposite of debasing vassalage; and the French people no sooner sipped at the rich fountain of civil liberty, than they became intoxicated, with the nectarian draught, and during the paroxisms, committed excesses which good men must deplore. But can it be believed, that those excesses would have been eternal? Or that the Political Horizon, of that polished and enlightened country, would have remained forever obscured, by the fulminating vapours of a revolutionary explosion? Or that the interposition of *Imperial tyranny*, and the galling fetters of conscriptive laws were necessary to subsidize the casual effervescence of the day? It may be true, that I do not, perfectly understand the systems of Logic, taught in the schools of aristocracy, and despotism; but I know, that among men, of plain republican understandings, causes, and their effects are believed, to partake of one common nature, and be proportionate, in all their relations, and kindred analogies. ~~Shall~~ *Sho* this mode of reasoning be correct, and I pledge myself, for its orthodoxy, our wonder need not be excited, that when the principles of reaction commenced their progress, as the lower orders of the community, had been long trampled

upon, by a court, that has seldom been equalled in profligacy, and corruption, (except by St. James', where the devil must blush to find himself out topped in iniquity) and the enormous exactions of a licentious ministry; when the shifting scenes of passing events reversed the order of things, and placed influence and power in the hands of those, who had been long doomed to kneel, and to cringe, on whom every species of tyranny had been inflicted, with merciless and wanton barbarity; when they gained the ascendancy, and became the ruling party, the desire of retaliation, and the love of revenge warmed their feelings, and inflamed their passions.

But the calm and solemn pause of reason and reflection, would have recalled those adventitious wanderings, predicated on the integral and well known principles of the human heart. As the great body of the People, became acquainted with their real weight in the scale of society, and appreciated their consequence as rational beings and freemen, would they not have settled their political ark, on the firm Atlas of republican moderation and representative wisdom? Had the experiment been fairly made, I am persuaded, that this would have been the happy result.

What wretched logic then, what unblushing impiety, is that, which dares contend, that thirty millions of rational beings, have derived from the hands of their creator, physical disqualifications for the blessings of Civil Liberty?

This cant phraseology may answer the ends of tyranny, and be adapted to the ears of unthinking slaves, but it is discordant impiety, to reason and religion; it involves consequences, which shocks the heart, and clouds the attributes of the deity, with the most horrid blasphemy! Can the country which gave birth to Richlieu, Rascien, La Fayette, and Masselon, have received from the hands of its creator any radical disqualifications, for the judicious exercise of legislative and municipal policy.

Republican institutions clothed with wisdom, replete with energy, and productive of social happiness, are to despots an agonizing spectacle—they petrify with chilling horror, when they reflect on the possibility of their becoming models of universal imitation, which would be the death warrant of royalty, and hurl it head long, from its altitudes of usurped, and ill begotten power. This at once accounts for the rancorous hatred of Great Britain, to these United States.

Depravity sickens at the sight of virtue and purity; and the restless malignity of its nature, makes it pant to demolish, what it is conscious it does not possess, and cannot hope to rival. For it is with nations, as in the private walks of society, where we find without an exception, that personal merit, and individual exertions to excel, becomes an object of envious malediction.

Men without the souls to rise, and destitute of that industrious energy, which is necessary

to enable them, to scale the steep and rugged acclivities of fame, feel mortified at seeing others placed on an elevation which they cannot reach : in whose presence they sink into a contemptible insignificance ; and feeling themselves unequal to the task of entering into an honorable competition, resort to the low, and degrading arts of traduction, to equalize what must in the eternal order of things, remain forever unequal. I know that friendship among nations, is the Ephemera of the moment, and the visionary production of chimera ; but if it had a real and substantial existence, England is the last nation on earth, with whom, we should seek to form it ; at least, while its present government and council exist. For the ruling family in that country, is a deep and loathsome sink of moral putrescency, through all its ramifications : from the stupid, moping, drivelling, idiot on the throne, down to the scullion in the kitchen, it is one unvaried, disgusting, distorted picture of bloated depravity. The men without integrity, without honor, and destitute of the talents to rule or command, have danced the pantomime of royal foolism upwards of thirty years, for the diversion of Europe, and the detestation of the civilized world. Dunkirk, Amsterdam, stews of prostitution, Bacchanalian revelries, and spunging houses, have been the splendid theatres on which they have gathered the trophies of their fame ; and under a hypocritical pretence of being the firm defenders of the christian faith, they have stabbed it with every weapon that

they could wield, and dishonored it by all the means in their power. From the shores of Africa, to the plains of Hindostan, humanity has bled at every pore, for the crimes of this abandoned and worthless Hanoverian race; among whom virtue is only known by name, justice by the legerdemain of state juggling, and morality as the cant phraseology of court grimace.

Their Nobility, as they should be called only in ridicule, are profligate, immoral, profuse and libertine; wallowing in excesses of every kind, dead to every virtue of the heart, they deserve to be proscribed from the records of man. A large portion of their Clergy, are a reproach to the sanctity of their profession, and a deep and deadly stain to the purity of their lawn.

Such my fellow-citizens, is the motly phantom of mock royalty, which you are commanded to respect, cringe, and kneel before—such, the stupid and brutal idol which would exact your national homage—such the Government which has loaded you with contumely, and insults without number, and beyond endurance. By its arbitrary orders clothed in the unintelligible jingle of laws of nations, you have been feloniously rifled of the fruits of your hard earned industry, on the high road of nations; your seamen insulted, abused and loaded with chains, the perpetual badges of slavery; dragged from their wives, their children and country stripped and whipped like the vilest of felons, on the common gang-way, till the sun

rounding waves were tinged with American blood.

The blood wantonly and cowardly spilt on board of the Chesapeake, still cries to heaven, and the shade of Pierce and his associates in calamity, yet roam the earth unrevenged ; but the day of vengeance is come, and the moment of retribution to violated humanity is on the wing. For the wisdom of our government, rather than submit any longer to those insults, which every discerning man in America saw, if not repelled by the sword, would be eternal, has once again, after much reflection, made a solemn appeal to arms ; not for the acquisition of territory, any further than was necessary to expel a dangerous enemy from our neighborhood, and thereby secure ourselves against the annoyance of her depredations, and the contagion of her pestiferous examples, for it must now be obvious, that while England retains a foot of land in North or South America, we have no security against her intrigues, no barrier against the incursions of her savage allies ; not to wave the banners of conquest over prostrate nations, but to defend our rights and shield our citizens from unmerited humiliation.

And if ever there was a war, which reason, religion, and humanity could justify, it must be the one in which we are reluctantly involved, for we have borne and forborne, till the goblet of humiliation was drained of its last fraction: and there can be no doubt, but our amiable President and patriotic administration, were

willing to concede much in point of form, for the preservation of peace ; and posterity uninfluenced by the heat of party feelings, and unbiased by the pressure of private interest, disencumbered of local partialities, and national animosities, when it comes to sit in judgement, on the numerous state papers that have been published, will pronounce a verdict of honorable acquittal, from many of the base and illiberal charges, now adduced in the columns of anti-republican printers ; an order of men, whom I am ashamed to say, are supported by native Americans, to abuse the country which gave them birth, and the laws by which their liberties are guaranteed. Since a formal declaration of war has been promulged, the cowardice, or want of skill in one man, cast a momentary gloom over our land operations, which the present campaign has abundantly dispersed, as in every instance even against the odds of numbers, victory has hovered around the American eagle, and our patriotic soldiers have behaved with a gallantry, which would have done honor to the first veterans in the world ; and our naval achievements are the most brilliant that have occurred in the annals of maritime history, for which much gratitude to heaven is due.

But yet it cannot, and if it could, should not be dissembled, that every thing dear to the hearts of freemen is now at stake ; the clangor of war is blown ; the sonorous blast floats on every breeze, and the engines of death, and destruction on every wave, that murmurs a-

round our shores. Neutrality is impossible ; “those who are not for us, are against us,” and by the policy of the great laws of self-preservation, should be treated as enemies ; timid, temporising experiments, can alone lay the foundations of inevitable ruin to the present administration. Surely Mr. Madison has not yet to learn, that in the day of extremity, when the souls of men will be tried, dependence can alone be placed on his republican friends, they are the bulwark of the nation ; the Atlas against which, British vengeance may exhaust its rage, without producing any other effects, than shame and discomfiture : why then these fruitless, these unavailing efforts to harmonize parties, which are as far removed from each other in their feelings, as the heavens, are from the earth, and as directly opposite in their views, as the Poles ? Those events that thrill the nerves of one party with pleasure, is to the other a fruitful source of pain and lamentation. Have we not seen the countenances of many brighten, with the internal joy they felt at hearing of the disasters of their country ? The fate of Winchester, and the intrepid Lawrence, has been a prolific theme for exultation, and eulogy to men of this description. The complimentary style of the day, is the hypocritical language of dissimulation, and but a flimsy disguise to the silent, but more candid workings of the heart ; and the spirit of divination is not necessary to discover, that many who affect to wish well to the government, are dissatisfied with its measures, and would re-

joice in its overthrow. From the mercy or humanity of the enemy, we have nothing to hope —already by British gold, have the scalping knife and tomahawk of the murderous savage been employed and let loose on our defenceless frontiers? They have been urged by British influence to acts of atrocity, and deeds beyond their former examples; and beyond what their natures appear to have been susceptible of, previous to their British alliances; indiscriminate slaughter without distinction of age, or sex, is their mode of warfare. The mangled forms of your Western brethren; the cries of infants writhing in suspension on the points of bayonets, or smoking on the spits of English auxiliaries; the lamentations and tears of phrensied mothers, and the shrieks of violated virginity, summon you to arms, and bid you arise to defend your rights, and avenge your country's wrongs.

The smoking ruins of Havre-de-Grace, and Georgetown, where the sanctuary of your God has been profaned, and the altars of your redeemer overthrown, and trampled upon by the impiety of British miscreants, should serve as an awful warning of the fate impending over these shores. Already are our coasts begirt with ships of war; you have seen their canvas proudly spread within your waters, you have heard their cannon in loud defiance, thunder from the depths of the ocean; and can you any longer remain either tardy or inactive? Here you felt the first fluttering sensations of life; here you have passed the sportive scenes of your juve-

nile years; the objects around you have become from long habit, familiarized to your senses, and endeared to your affections; here are the houses that you have built; the fields which you have cultivated; the trees that you have pruned; the gardens you planted; and the flowers that you have watered; and can you with folded arms look on, & witness their conflagration, and demolition? This is the land of your nativity, the soil purchased by your fathers, and redeemed by the rich libations of their blood.

Here are your fathers, your mothers, your wives, and their little ones, to you they raise the suppliant eye, to you they lift the feeble and trembling hand, on you their palpitating hopes for safety and protection rest; and your bravery must form an asylum, or your bodies an impassible barrier to save them from violation. Look around my fellow-citizens; who among you so insulated, as not to have some object of affectionate attachment within these walls, to save whose sensibilities, and to prevent whose dishonor you would not bleed and die? Husbands turn to the wives of your bosom, and of your choice; does not a chilling death like horror harrow up your souls, at the tremendous thought of their tears and their dishonor? Fathers survey your children; from you they drew the first glowing principles of life; you have nourished their helpless infancy, and in times of sickness grew pale over the midnight lamp, in watching with fond solicitude, and supplying with trembling tenderness their little wants, expressed perhaps only by a sigh, or ut-

tered with a groan ; you have again, and again dandled them on your knees ; their innocent prattlings have been music to your ears, and transport to your hearts ; and can you now see them doomed to wretchedness ; shivering beneath the rude blasts of merciless poverty, and rattling the chains of brutal task masters ?

Gentlemen of unrealized sensibility ! Turn your eyes on the blooming objects of your hopes and your fears ; whose very names awaken emotions, which hurry through the heart with quickened sensations of renewed life ; the sound of whose voices acts as the talisman of your fate, and ~~turns~~^{turns} with destinies, to you yet unborn ; can you live to witness the tears, and to hear the shrieks, which you wanted the valor to save, and to prevent ? Confusion to the thought !!! For, never shall it be said, that the age of chivalry is past, while we have hearts to love, or swords to defend the fair. Is it real or imaginary, that the spotless shade of the great, the immortal Washington, is now fleeting before us ? Mark his impressive attitude ; he points to the bleeding wounds, of that country, which his valor and his wisdom once saved from British rapacity ! What voice was that ? Hark ! Hark !! It is the father of liberty in the Western world ; he calls and he bids you rally around the ark, in which, sword in hand, he deposited the rights of man ; through the hollow glooms of death, he speaks, and commands you to awake, and defend with the last gleam of life the trophies which his arms have won ! Dear departed hero ! Breathe into the

souls of thy degenerate sons a portion of that patriotic, dauntless, ethereal spirit, which animated thee through the stormy conflicts of a revolutionary struggle, and exhibited to an astonished universe, millions of freemen glowing with the fire of political regeneration, which thou hadst transfused. May thy transparent mantle, drop to shield us in the day of approaching extremity.

Remember the heroes of the Cowpens, of the Eutaw Springs, and of Guilford Court House; they were your countrymen, they were your fathers and your brethren; inhale their intrepid spirits and imitate their bright examples; like them meet death in its most terrific forms, rather than abandon your peaceful homes to rapine, and conflagration; awake! For your wives and your children, with your country call; arise soldiers! Arrayed in uniform, and glittering in arms; march, for the ferocious invader comes, with fire and carnage in his train, unfeeling as the savage and merciless as the tiger; inflated with lust and impelled by rapacity. Blood alone is congenial to his Satanical feelings; groans and tears the elements on which he delights to feast; and deflowered purity the scenes over which his lawless passions range, with unbridled control!

Meet him then, on the margin of the deep! On yonder sands! There teach the haughty Briton, the difference between the soldiers of freedom, and the hired menials of despots. Let him there feel that you are the intrepid descendants of the patriots of '76; and that the

blood, which mantled in your fathers veins, has lost nothing of its sterling value by its transmission into yours. Death, or victory must be your motto ! The universe with trembling anxiety inspects your conduct ; the recording angel stands ready to enter your names on the rolls of fame, and bid your memories live, when the last ligament of nature is convulsed in death ! Nations and ages unborn, are deeply interested in the result ; for the universe now contains, but one temple, but one altar, consecrated to liberty. The sun in his ample circuit of the heavens, and the earth, sees but one spot, where the harrassed & persecuted patriot can find a momentary repose, from the frowns of insulting tyranny ! And whither, O ! whither ! shall the genius of liberty bend her flight, should her sanctuary be demolished on Columbia's shores ? Oppressed by the imposing magnitude of the theme, and overcome by the agitation of my own sensations ; to you fair daughters of my country, I fly for auxiliary aid. Assist I beseech you my feeble lays, by your electrifying influence. You inherit the virtues of your fathers, as well as the charms of your mothers ; your hearts are broad awake to the gentlest whispers of humanity ; your fine toned nerves are tremblingly alive to all the varied modes of pleasure and of pain ; heaven can never want an altar, while your chaste bosoms, retain the celestial purity of their feelings ; or incense to smoke thereon, while your hearts throb with the ardent glow of redeeming grace. Urge then your husbands

your brothers, your sons, and your lovers, to those scenes where danger calls, and glory invites. Bid them rally around the standard of liberty, planted by the hands, and watered by the blood of your fathers. Teach them by the direction and distribution of your endearing smiles, that you know how to discriminate, between the tinselled, perfumed coward, and the patriotic hero; when from the toils of the ensanguined field, he may present himself as a candidate for your affections. Soldiers! The prayers of the pious, croud heaven for the success of your arms; nor can I conceive how an American heart, touched by one plastic ray of pure religion, can be otherwise than importunate, respecting the final termination of passing events. And yet I speak it with weeping emotion, there are men, who profess to be christians, and christian divines, who have been devoted to the altar from the cradle, and officiated in the temples of the most high, till their locks have been bleached by the flight of many years, who from feelings and motives unknown to me, do all that they can, both in private and in public, to delude the multitude, and clog the operations of the purest, and best government in the world; nor from any analysis that I have been able to make of men, or of books, can I possibly discover their inducements for such a strange, unwarrantable, and unscriptural procedure. Is it their devotion to kings! They at first were only permitted as a scourge for the disobedience of Gods chosen people, and should have been considered by

them as perpetual memento's of divine displeasure; for having basely rejected the theocracy of heaven, and substituted in preference, the control of men of like passions with themselves; thereby rendering themselves unworthy of the blessings of civil liberty; for blindly submitting to the ^{curse} ~~cause~~ of royalty, which had in its train more than all the plagues of Egypt, and opened to that unhappy people, those flood gates of contritional sorrow, which still pours in torrents through every section of the habitable globe. It was the inflated pride of arrogant kings, which originated the seeds, and nourished the growth of those crimes, which terminated in the captivity and dispersion of the jews, and compelled them under mournful depressions, and an afflictive exile on the banks of the Euphrates, to complain aloud of their expiring hopes, and reversed fortunes. Their harps and voices once tuned to the animating lays of Sion's excellency, then unstrung, and suspended on the willow's leafless bough, could no longer tune the anthem of praise, or warble forth the grateful aspirations of hearts conscious of divine benediction and protection. Our researches into the perplexed mazes of the human heart, to discover the motives of those gentlemen, are equally barren and unproductive; for it is natural for all sensitive beings, to foster and wish well to their own. But we find that the clergy themselves sometimes do not hesitate at the commission of unnatural crimes; for ingratitude has no justification, no apology to plead in the feelings of an upright heart,

unless counterbalanced by subsequent injury ; which appears not to have been the fact with Parson Gardener. In the southern states, and particularly in this Parish, he was loaded with unbounded hospitality, and yet without any regard to decency, and in direct violation of truth, he has abused the people of this country, in the most ungentlemanly, and unclerical terms. You have known him as a sportsman, more devoted to the turf, than the altar ; and in your less, reflective hours, associated with him at home, and abroad ; and yet, as a Politician, and a Divine, you would not wish the principles of your children corrupted by his baneful heterodoxy, or their morals contaminated by those libertine revels, which you have seen him exhibit to the disgrace of his profession, and the christian name. Among you in sportive mood, he has skipped, and shuffled the midnight hour away. And quaffed his sparkling goblets to the bloated god of wine, and from the consecrated ground of the church yrd, on the Lords day, tried the mettle, and pressed the speed of his nag, with equestrian skill and adroitness ; you then but little thought, that this clerical merryandrew, would become the shameless calumniator, and the ungrateful asperser, of the country, and people by whose bounty, he was fed ; or that this petty adventurer would have had the audacity, to cast low and illiberal abuse, on the Philosophic sage of Monticello, or the virtuous, and beloved executive of these United States. Whether Parson Parish is an American, or not, I have not

sought to learn, nor is it of importance to know; as his late pulpit-ravings are in full proof of his insanity; and as we know that maniacism, usually selects the best, and most sacred subjects for its theme of perpetual garrulity. So poor Parish, under the erratic wanderings of a disordered brain, accidentally blundered on the code of Republican ethic's; and as in the circle of terrestrial excellence it occupies the next grade to the holy bible, the principles of which he had dishonored by his anti-christian want of fraternity, while the paroxism was on, he determined if possible, at one blow to demolish all that was estimable in the eyes of reason and morality, that no object might remain on earth, to remind him of what he might have been, or to reproach him for what he was, a despicable ingrate to the government which fed and fostered him. If under delusions, those gentlemen have strong claims to our commiseration and our prayers; but if willfully obstinate, they are the abortions of the country that gave them birth, and do not merit the protection of the laws. Thus my fellow citizens, I have in the best manner that I could, discharged the duties assigned to me by yourselves, and by this memorable day; It only remains that I close the scene; and should the emergencies of our country call, evince, by joining you in the front of danger, and at the point of attack and defence, that I can act on my own principles, as well as write and declaim.

FINIS.