

12
1877 Celebration of the Washington Society.

ODE FOR THE FOURTH OF JULY.

TUNE—"HAIL COLUMBIA."

BY A MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY.

WHILE clouds of darkness fill'd the west,
The orient climes severe, oppress'd,
With awe beheld the tyrants power:
With awe beheld the tyrants power,
Spread fell destruction through the field
And bade man's noble spirit yield.
With firm reliance on their God,
Our fathers shun'd the cruel rod,
And, for a land of peace, did brave
The perils of th' Atlantic wave—

While we devote this day to mirth,
And celebrate our nation's birth
With grateful hearts, while mem'ry's dear
Their deeds of valour we'll revere.

In dreary wilds they sought repose
From impious and insidious foes;
Where equal rights might be secure,
Where equal rights might be secure,
And generations which succeed
From chains of despots might be free'd.
But hope's fond dream e'en here expir'd,
Proud Albion frown'd—for vengeance fir'd
Bid Mars with thunders seek the clan,
And blast the hopes of rebel man.

While we devote this day to mirth,
And celebrate our nation's birth
The valiant deeds of those, we'll tell
Who, for their Country nobly fell.

The trump proclaims the war-like sound,
Columbia's Heroes rally round,
And Freedom's banners soon unfurl,
And Freedom's banners soon unfurl,
While *Bunker's Mount* a bulwark stood,
For richest blessings bought with blood.
For WASHINGTON, the welkin rung
For *Glory's Cause*, each nerve was strung;
Compell'd, the oppressor bent the knee,
Pronounc'd Columbia *EVER FREE!*

While we devote this day to mirth,
And celebrate our nation's birth
With grateful hearts, the deeds we'll tell
Of Patriots who in battle fell.

With jealous fear, with venom'd hate,
Great Britain view'd our rising state;
On crests engrav'd, saw "*Rights of man*"
On crests engraved, saw "*Rights of man*;"
Indignant at this bold decree,
Commanded *Neptune guard the Sea*—
But HULL, DECATUR, BAINBRIDGE—brave,
With JONES and LAWRENCE mount the wave;
They from the God his *Trident* tore,
And plac'd it on COLUMBIA's shore!

While we devote this day to mirth,
And celebrate our nation's birth
With grateful hearts the deed we'll tell
Of Heroes who in battle fell.

JULY 1813.