POETRY.

The OLD BACHELOR.

I'M weary of a single life.
I really wish I had a wife:
My years consume in care and pain,
And nature proves I've liv'd in vain.
I've paid so long thro' doubt and fear,
The girls now fly me like a deer;
And when I ask a pretty maid,
If she of wedlock is afraid,
Or Betsey will you be my bride?
She laughs as if she'd split her side.
Good Lord must I endure such scorn!
I wish I never had been born!
Or had I shun'd this deadly woe,
By wedding forty years ago.
But well they may revile at me,
I'm out the same I us'd to be.
My beard is long, my head is grey,
My eyes are *fine*—my teeth decay;
My shirt is dirty, and much worn,
My coat is old my small cloaths torn;
My shoes, alas! they have no soles;
My stockings have five hundred holes;
And all these woes, and ills of life;
Are nothing but the want of wife;
Please God I live, and tarry here,
I'll have a wife before a year.
But should I unsuccessful prove,
In all the fond intrigues of love;
Should all despise me and my pelf;
I'll go, BE GAR and hang myself.

TIM CRUSTY.

PENNSYLVANIA, ss:

BY THOMAS MIFFLIN,
Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS it has been represented to me, upon oath, That certain ill-disposed persons have, without due authority, unlawfully intruded upon and surveyed, and are attempting to seize and settle, certain lands situate within the County of Luzerne, in violation of the rights and the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania, as settled and declared by the decree of the Commissioners, or judges, of the United States, at Trenton, on the 30th day of Dec. 1782; and also in contempt of the laws and judicial proceedings of this Commonwealth: And whereas it appears to me expedient, as well for preserving the public peace, as for affording a just protection to the property of the real owners of the said lands, that the said ill-disposed persons, their aiders and abettors, should be warned of the danger to which they inevitably expose themselves, and the tranquility of the state, by persevering in such unlawful conduct; and that, collectively and severally, they should be enjoined forthwith to desist therefrom: Therefore I have issued this Proclamation, hereby enjoining all persons whomsoever, as they regard their own safety, and the public welfare, to forbear from intruding upon, surveying, occupying, and settling any of the lands in the county of Luzerne aforesaid, or any other lands within this Commonwealth, unless the same be done peaceably, and in a due course of law; And all Judges, Justices, Sheriffs, and other public officers, according to the duties of their respective stations, are hereby directed vigilantly to enquire after, and by all lawful means to prevent, any proceedings of the illegal nature and dangerous tendency herein before set forth.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State, at Philadelphia, the twenty sixth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-five, and of the Commonwealth the nineteenth.

THOMAS MIFFLIN.

By the Governor:
A. J. Dallas
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

PARIS, December 6.

The crimes of which the members of the revolutionary Committee of *Nantes* have been guilty, *have depopulated a considerable part of the French territory*; They have caused *to perish in the midst of torments, patriot citizens* and *virtuous men*; The desolated Banks of the *Loire*, witness against them, and history will transmit their names with horror to posterity. If these execrable crimes remain unpunished, we have only to draw a funeral veil over the altar of justice, and in mournful silence, wait the dissolution of the Republic, and the return of servitude.

One charge against the old committees of Public Safety is, that during the forty days that *Robespierre* absented himself from the Committee immediately preceding his fall, there were guillotined in *Paris*, four hundred MORE persons, than had ever been guillotined before in the same space of time.

DEC. 10. All is tranquil in this city; we continue to progress with confidence under the standard of the Convention, since it is no longer governed by the factions, and to pursue with ardour those Villians who have covered *France* with misery and cruelty, and who yet pretend to excuse their crimes, by saying, they acted under an authority, which it is known they held in chains: As if there could be any power in the world which had the right to permit those assassinations, plunderings and robberies of every kind, of which our country has been the theatre; as if there could exist any authority on earth, which had the right, to *immerse a whole people into a bath of blood*. (Bain de-Sang) to overturn the holiest laws of nature, and to replunge it, as it were, into that Chaos, from whence the great governor of the universe first drew it.

REVOLUTIONARY TRIBUNAL,
Sitting of the 5th Dec.

Antonia Quentin-Fouquier Tainville, aged 47 years, born at Herouan, district of St. Quentin, Ex-Procureur at the Chatelet, Ex-public Accuser at the Revolutionary Tribunal in *Paris*, has appeared before his judges.

He is accused of having wickedly, and with criminal designs, strangely, and in every manner prevaricated in the functions of his office, of having seconded and favoured the liberticide and counter-revolutionary projects and plots of the enemies of the people and the republic, and of having, himself, conspired, as author or accomplice, against the interior safety of the state, and the French people—of having consequently aimed at the dissolution of the National Representation, the destruction of the Republican government, and the re-establishment of royalty—of having fought, by murder and terror, to produce an arming of the citizens, one against the other, and excite a civil war.

He is accused of having caused to be condemned and executed many persons, without presenting an act of accusation against them, or obtaining in their favor any formalities, ordered by the law.

In many cases he substituted one person for another, so that persons who were never tried or condemned, were yet put to death, and many who were condemned, are now at liberty.

One article of the accusation mentioned a citizen, whom he condemned and executed for wishing to him to demand his liberty. It appeared to *Fouquier*, that the petitioner was in haste, and that he ought to be satisfied. Thus he amused himself with misery, and by a refinement of cruelty, sent this victim to the scaffold, with a cart full of assassins, and hoisted like them in a red shirt, though he had never been charged with any such crime.

Having several times ordered one of the sergeants of the hall to take out of prison for trial, a man whom he named, and being told by the sergeant, that there were several of the same name, in the same prison, he answered, "then bring them all." They were accordingly all brought out, condemned and executed, without any accusation against either of them.

A Secretary of the tribune declared, that he one day, saw *Fouquier Tainville*, in the lobby with the Jurors. They were passing jokes on the *guillotine* and the *guillotined*. *Fouquier* said, so many a day, that will give us from four to five hundred each *decade*, and the Jurors applauded.

After the affair of *Danton, Camille des Moulins*, and the rest, began the custom of arraigning forty prisoners at once, but it was not fully adopted, until ROBESPIERRE, and his partisans thought proper no longer to disguise their horrible intentions. At that epoch FOUQUIER caused to be constructed all round the hall a number of benches rising one above the other, like the gallery of a theatre, up to the cornice of the ceiling, so as to receive a greater number of victims at a time.

They were usually taken without distinction from all the prisons, and the number commonly tried and condemned at a time, was, from 60 to 70. The evening before, or the morning of the trial, the act of accusation was given to some of the prisoners; it was often never signified to them at all, no witness questioned for, or against, and no official defender allowed them.

Often, for want of a victim, some innocent spectator was seized in the hall, placed instantly among the accused, and condemned!

After they had spread the report, that an attempt had been made to assassinate *Robespierre* and *Collot d'Herbois*, they picked up about 80 persons for trial. Few or no witnesses were heard in that affair. The second taken at hazard from different prisons, did not even know one another. *L'Amiral*, the reputed assassin, had never seen the unhappy family of *Renaud*. They were however, all charged with the attempt to assassinate *Robespierre* and *Collot d'Herbois*, *Dumas*, the President, holding the list in his hand, said to each of the accused, "Do you know any thing of this conspiracy." They all answered "no." If any of them attempted to make an observation, "you have no longer the right of speaking" replied *Dumas*. If they insisted, they were condemned immediately. This operation began at 10 o'clock in the morning, and was finished at 11 or 12. The jurors then retired into their chamber, and in a quarter of an hour returned, and made their declaration, *on their souls, and consciences*, that all the accused were guilty of the attempt to assassinate *Robespierre* and *Collot d'Herbois*.—The prisoners were not permitted to be present when the President pronounced judgement on them, for fear they might in despair, be guilty of some excess.—They were all assembled in the prison, a secretary read over the sentence to them, and they were immediately conducted to the guillotine!

These bloody scenes would no doubt have excited shame and remorse in the breast of any other man. But *Fouquier-Tainville*, on the contrary, has been known to make merry, and boast of the prodigious number of victims, which he every day sacrificed, to complain and regret that he could not sacrifice more; to promise himself the pleasure of being soon able to do it, and with a horrid affinitery appear to receive the most sensible pleasure from this inconceivable hope, and the more speedily to realize it, he employed the most criminal manœuvers, and such unheard of measures, that it seemed as if the important sword of the law and the sceptre of justice, moved by his terrible hands, had been, in effect, the fire brand of fury, and the sacrilegious poignard of cruelty.

He was invested, during eighteen months, with the painful obligation of pursuing and punishing crimes; but honored at the same time with the holy and consolatory power of raising his voice in favor of innocence, of defending it and of protecting it.—He was, however, capable of the cruel pleasure of confusing these two duties, and taking them in an inverse sense.

Take Notice,

ALL persons who were indebted to the subscribers by book or note, the first day of December last and have not since that time settled and paid their respective balances, are indiscriminately called upon, to call and settle their accounts previous to the first of April next.

Produce of all sorts—Ashes, Butter, Tallow and Bees Wax, old Pewter and clean comb'd Hogs Bristles will be received in payment.

JOHN WILLIAMS, and Co.
Conway, Feb. 12, 1795.

The late co-partnership

of SAMUEL COOKE, JOSEPH LOCK and MOSES P. HOLT, was by agreement dissolved on the 26th of February last.—All persons having accounts with them, are desired to call on the subscriber for settlement, by the 20th of March, as he must leave the town by that time.

In behalf of said Company.
MOSES P. HOLT.

N. B. Said COOKE and HOLT will carry on the Boating business as usual.

Hadley, March 2, 1795.

The late co-partnership

of SAMUEL COOKE and JOSEPH LOCK, was dissolved on the 26th of March last—All persons having accounts with them, are desired to call on them for settlement.

SAMUEL COOKE.
JOSEPH LOCK.

Hadley, March 2, 1795.

Take Notice,

THE subscriber, (for the last time) acquaints those indebted to him, that he expects to remove from this State, on the 20th of March next—all accounts remaining unsettled at that time, together with bonds and notes of hand, which are payable by contract, will (indiscriminately) be lodged in the hands of an attorney for immediate collection.

SPENCER WHITING.

Worthington, Feb. 1795.

Take Notice,

ALL persons that are indebted to the subscriber, by book or note, whose time of contract is out, are informed, that unless they settle the same, by the 15th of March, they will be put in suit, without further notice.

EZEKIEL WHITE.

Williamsburgh, Feb. 28, 1795.

Lost, between Hadley

and Easttampton, a LEATHER-POCKET-BOOK, containing sundry papers, some notes of some consequence to the owner. Whoever has found said Book and papers and will leave them at the Printing-Office, Northampton, shall receive six shillings reward, by SETH MOODY.

South-Hadley, Feb. 25, 1795.

Stebbins & Snow,

INFORM their customers that with what GOODS they have lately been received, they can be supplied with a good assortment of English and Hard Ware.

GOODS,

DRUGS and MEDICINS as usual—W. I. and N. E. Rum, Brandy, Wine, Gin, Molasses, Loaf and Brown Sugars, Raisins, Green and Bohea Tea, Coffee, Chocolate, Rice, Pepper, Allspice, Ginger, Cinnamon, Camphor, Coffee, Salt, Salt-Petre, Sulpher, Bar-Iron, German and English Steel, Iron Shovels, Shovels and Tongs, Sheep Shears, 4 8 10 and 20d Nails, Slate Paper, Bed Cords, Halters, Seal Leather, best Mill'd Deer Skins, Cow Skin Whips, Violins and Strings, Nonesforia Grind Stones, Cod Fish, Pewter, Glass, and Crockery Ware.

Bibles, Testaments, Psalm Books, Webster's Spelling Books, Children's Books, Almanacs, Accompt Books, Writing Paper, Dutch Quills, Ink Powder, Black Deeds, &c.

Wanted, a quantity of Ashes, for which Pewter bushel will be given.

South-Hadley, Feb. 27, 1795.

Bangs & Hayden,

HAVE just received and are now selling at their Store in Williamsburgh, lately occupied by Mr. Daniel Butler, W. I. and N. E. Rum, Brandy, Sugar, Tea and Spices, with a small assortment of English

GOODS,

suited to the present and approaching seasons also, a small assortment of Crockery and Hard-Ware, Sd and 10d Nails, Dickinson's best made Furs and Fell Hats, &c. &c. &c.

All which will be sold on reasonable terms for Cash or most kinds of produce, or short approved credit.

N. B. They wish to purchase a quantity of good House-Ashes, for which Goods at Cash price, or Cash will be given.

Williamsburgh, March 2, 1795.

FOR SALE, BY
Simeon Butler,
WRITING PAPER by the Ream.
Northampton, March, 4 1795.

To be sold by the subscriber,

that pleasant situated and well improved FARM, whereon he now lives, in the Town of Williamsburgh, in the County of Hampshire, 8 miles from Northampton, on the County road, leading to Albany and Bennington, about 150 rods north of the meeting-house, containing 110 acres of excellent land for mowing or pasturing and a sufficient proportion of tillage, is well fenced, with a good convenient dwelling house and barn—Also another dwelling-house adjoining, with convenient out-houses for both—Also, a good Horse Shed and Stables to accommodate a Tavern, which has been imposed as such, for a number of years past and is an excellent stand, there is three good wells of water and upwards of 200 fine thrifty Apple-Trees, the greatest part of which bears—Also, 30 acres of excellent wood land, lying within one mile of the above premises, it is needless to say any thing more, in recommendation.—Any person wishing to purchase, may have a good bargain, by applying to

JOHN FROST, on the Premises.

Williamsburgh, March 2, 1795.

To be sold cheap,

A small FARM, containing 60 or 80 acres, 30 acres under improvement, with a house and barn, situated 2 miles east of the meeting-house in Westampton, on the county road, leading from said Westampton meeting-house to Northampton—a good place for a Tradesman, especially a Shoemaker is very much wanted—Also, to be sold, one eighth part of a good SAW-MILL, within half a mile of said Farm—for particulars, enquire of

SOLOMON CLARK, living on the Premises.

Westampton, March 4, 1795.

FOR SALE, BY
HUDSON & GOODWIN,
A few Rods North of the Bridge, Hartford,
All Parts of
Webster's Institute,
In large or small quantities, either bound or in sheets.

They have also on hand, a variety of *BOOKS, STATIONARY, &c. as usual.*

They want to purchase clean Cotton and Linen Rags, old Sail Cloth, old Skins, Bees-Wax, Horse Hair that is long, and Calves Pates, for which they pay Cash on delivery.

CASH GIVEN FOR CLEAN COTTON AND LINEN RAGS.

Hampshire Gazette.

NORTHAMPTON, (*Massachusetts*) PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY WILLIAM BUTLER.

[Vol. IX.] WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1795. [NUMB. 447.]

Dr. SMITH's DISCOURSE.

THE DIVINE GOODNESS TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

A DISCOURSE on the subjects of *National Gratitude*; delivered in the third Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, on Thursday the 19th of Feb. 1795, recommended by the PRESIDENT of the United States, to be observed throughout the union as a day of general *Thanksgiving and Prayer*—By SAMUEL STANHOPE SMITH, D. D. Vice President of and Professor of Moral Philosophy and Divinity, in the College of New-Jersey.

Oh! that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!—Psalm cvii. 21.

THIS verse is the chorus* of a psalm designed to offer to God the praise of a devout and grateful people for the goodness of his providence towards their nation, and individually towards themselves in various situations of life. It is therefore a proper introduction to our present duty.

"Let us sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing."

Thanksgiving to God for public, or for private blessings is an act of worship as reasonable as it is pious—because, as the whole course of nature is arranged and moved by him, *every good and perfect gift*, which we enjoy, must flow to us from the immediate direction and benificence of his providence. Surrounded continually with many proofs of the divine goodness, and partakers of many of its fruits, thanksgiving ought to form a part of our daily devotions. But singular instances of personal or national felicity require public and solemn acknowledgements. Connected by fraternal relations with the whole family of mankind, it is our duty to rejoice in their happiness, as well as to sympathize with them in their misfortunes. But, united with our country by more intimate ties, it is especially our duty to bring our vows and offerings of praise for her prosperity before the throne of eternal mercy. To this pious office we are now invited by her voice speaking through that illustrious and excellent magistrate who adds to all his other virtues a sacred regard to religion, and who has ever shewn an exemplary and humble acknowledgement of divine providence, even in those moments, so glorious to himself, when the human heart, elated by the splendor of success, is most apt to forget its dependence upon God.

Although it is the business of the philosopher to trace the relations of causes and effects, and though every event in society, as well as in nature, may be referred to some adequate cause incorporated into the system of the universe; yet does not this impair our obligations to God, the first mover of all, or diminish the reasonableness of our present duty. He who created the universe, who gave to all things their respective powers, and arranged their combinations, foresaw also their results, intended every end, and prepared, in the general system, the necessary means to accomplish it. Short-sighted indeed is the man who terminates his view on the means, and who does not discern in them the superior direction of that Infinite Being from whom they have derived their existence and their agency. When therefore I trace our mercies, however a speculative mind may be able to refer them to political, or to natural causes, it is our duty to direct our gratitude ultimately to the Supreme Disposer of all events, who, in the plan of the universe, had prepared, and in the train of his providence has conducted these causes to a happy issue.

It will be impossible, in the time allotted for a single discourse, to go into a detail of all our public blessings; and I forbear, at present, to point out the chastisements or the threatenings of Divine Providence which have been mingled with them, and which should awaken within us an humble and holy circumspection of conduct, and preserve us, in our prosperity, from an undue elation of mind. I shall confine my view to a few of the most obvious and important subjects of national gratitude, that are either peculiar to the time, or have been suggested by some striking circumstances in the conduct and opinions of the present age.

The subjects then to which I shall call your attention, at present, and on which I would awaken your gratitude are, the existence and success of the federal government—the continuance of peace with the powers of Europe, and the prospect of returning peace with our savage neighbours—our internal tranquility, and particularly the suppression of the late unhappy insurrection.—And lastly, that which, in the enumeration of national blessings, ought always to hold the chief rank, our enjoyment of the christian religion in its purity, unshackled by power, uncorrupted by fraud.

I. In the first place, the existence and success of the federal government.

Although this system was framed by men of acknowledged patriotism, and distinguished talents; yet, as it is so difficult in theory to embrace and reconcile the infinite diversity of interests and opinions that exist in an extensive country, to seize the proper springs of human actions, and by a single impulse, to move ten thousand wheels, the forces and tendencies of which are hardly subject to calculation, and as in operation every political theory is liable to be deranged by unforeseen accidents, government, at first is a measure merely of experiment. It requires time to verify, or to correct its principles. These observations justify me in going so far back as the establishment of the federal government, and calling it up at present as a subject of acknowledgement to heaven. The experience of six years entitles us now to call it a blessing. It has more than realized the expectations of every friend to public order who wished to see energy infused into the laws, of every real patriot who hoped to see public credit redeemed, and the prosperity of the nation established on a firm basis, and even of every enthusiast for his country who fondly gloried in the name of an American. Under the former system, the exertions of the states were divided, unequal, dilatory, and feeble. No common principle of union and energy pervaded them, and concentrated the efforts of the whole. The supreme council of the republic, divested of power, could only recommend their duty to the citizens, and supplicate from them their tardy, their jealous, their parsimonious, & reluctant aids. America resembled a giant paralized, and laid upon his back, who can move but one limb at a time, and that feebly and irregularly, and who, robbed of his strength, can use his hands only to beg a precarious assistance of his children.

Public credit was expiring—general industry languished—the resources of the nation were inactive and unexplored—the soldier was defrauded of the dear bought reward of his dangers, and his toils—the faithful patriot who had sacrificed his possessions to the liberty of his country was oppressed with want—and foreigners who, thro' admiration of our heroism, had been led to trust our integrity, were beginning to turn their admiration into contempt. That proud and irritated nation whose fetters we had broken, triumphed in our disgrace—the friends who had trusted us in our extremity complained of our injustice—and the adherents of monarchy laughed at the imbecility and faithlessness of the people.

It has frequently been asked, whence it could arise that men who had acquired so high and just a reputation as those patriots who had conducted our revolution, should frame a system of government that on experience has been found so inefficient and injurious? Illustrious men! I venerate their memory—But they were deceived by that noble enthusiasm which they felt in their own souls, they were deceived by that elevated and sublime virtue which was displayed at that time by the whole mass of the people. Advice was taken—the public will anticipated the resolutions of the legislature—every citizen contributed who should serve his country best, and who should make to it the most illustrious sacrifices. Those great legislators forgot that this was only a revolutionary virtue—they forgot that it is the character of great and generous passions to draw every other principle to their service, and to elevate human nature to their own dignity. In the transport of liberty they fondly hoped that it was the virtue, not of the occasion, but of the people—that it was familiar to their country—and that, when she should be emancipated it would be eternal. They framed therefore a system of government adapted only to patriots, and heroes,—a government, that did not contemplate those unjust, and selfish principles which take possession of the human heart in the ordinary state of society, and which cannot be made to bend to the public good but by the force of the laws, hence resulted the imbecility of our former federation, and the numerous evils that were growing upon us apace under a system that was chiefly advisory, and that had not within itself the efficient springs of action, nor the power of compulsion—But let us remark the change that has taken place, and with gratitude to heaven let us remark it, since the new system has been established.

The first benefit that has accrued, and that is, indeed, the foundation of almost all others, is the resurrection of public and individual credit. Confidence in the laws, and confidence among the citizens has been restored; millions that were lying dead in the hands of the possessors, were suddenly revivified, and brought into active, and extensive operation. What has been the consequence? A face of prosperity was instantly diffused over the whole continent. Instead of that torpor that benumbed the hands of industry, enterprize was reanimated—agriculture began to flourish—commerce was extended—the extremities of the globe were explored by our merchants—and India and China saw with astonishment in their ports the ensigns of a new nation which seemed to have suddenly sprung out of the earth. Improvements are rapidly extending themselves. Roads of communication are stretched in every direction—canals are opened—rivers are united—the forests are extirpated—the earth subdued under the active toils of the husbandman, yields a double increase to his vows. The arts have been reproduced—new ones have been created—the limits of cities have been enlarged—new ones have been built—labour and industry are every where renovating the face of nature. Were all the improvements of a few years within the United States collected together, so that they could be contemplated under one view, how would they beggar the utmost efforts of despotism? Despots, like the Roman emperor, or the Russian czar, may drain their empire to raise by force one splendid capital encompassed by deserts, and by inactive and disconsolate vassals—liberty can rear a thousand flourishing cities, every where filled with happy and industrious citizens, surrounded by fertile and cultivated fields. She diffuses population and strength, improvement and wealth throughout the whole republic. The empire of the despot is like the monstrous image of Nebuchadnezzar, the head of which was of gold, but it was supported by legs and feet only of iron and clay. The republic resembles the Jupiter of Phidias, where you behold gold and ivory, majesty and beauty, proportion and symmetry in every part. What thankfulness do we owe to God, whose providence presides over all, for the liberty which we enjoy. And, when we compare our present situation and prospects, with the desolations of the late cruel war waged upon us by tyrants, or with that state of imbecility and languor which afterwards succeeded under a puny and paralytic government, what praise is due to him for the blessings of our present state? You now see the laws active and respected—the tribunals enlightened and impartial—the republic respected, her friendship courted, her wisdom admired by all nations, and her example copied by one of the most powerful upon earth—Would to heaven, that that great and heroic people had copied also a larger portion of her moderation!

This government contains an admirable balance of liberty, and of energy. Resting on the free election of the people in all

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The whole psalm is constructed agreeably to the rules of that species of poetry by halves and antistrophes of which we find so many examples, not only in this book, but in other parts of the ancient scripture, and which, from the manner of conducting their music in the public worship, became the peculiar character of the Hebrew poetry. This musicians seem to have been generally divided into two bands. One band began with a strophe containing some devout sentiment—the other made its responses by an antistrophe which was constructed in different ways; but, most frequently, it contained some allusion or antithesis to the strophe, or introduced some similar and related sentiment; or was repeated the same sentiments with some variation in the expression—an example of which we have in the verse immediately following the text.—"Let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving and declare his work with rejoicing." The former part of this verse was probably played and sung by the first band—the latter part seems to be a response of the second band. Frequently two were added at a time, which was either by introducing a separate band, or by both uniting in the music at the same time. The structure of this part seems to be different in different psalms. In general, perhaps, it was not constructed with that artificial antithesis or reduplication, that prevailed in the rest of the composition. The chorus of the psalm from which the text is taken, and of several others is a sentiment that appears to contain the burden of the song, and is frequently repeated in the course of the psalm.

Nothing can be more contemptible than the criticism of Thomas Paine on the subject of the Jewish poetry, in that book of his which he has chosen to entitle, the Age of Reason; a book more fraught with errors on the subject both of religion and of ancient literature than any of the same size with which I am acquainted in the English language. He has read somewhere, or some person has told him, that many parts of the Hebrew scriptures are written in verse; for of this he could know nothing from his own acquaintance with the original language, or even with the English translation, which he glories either never to have read, or to have forgotten. Yet he attempts to prove from one passage in the translation, which he quotes wrong that, because there are ten syllables together which fall into regular feet, according to the rules of English versification, therefore, the original must have been in Hebrew metre. This is a specimen of criticism, to man who was not consummate in impudence as well as in ignorance, could have attempted to palm on the public. Who ever thought before him, that a literal translation of verse in one language would fall into verse, of a totally different measure, in another? The ten syllables which he produces are from the first verse of the prophecy of Isaiah.—"Hear O ye heavens, and give ear O Earth"—If he had read his bible, he would have written it with nine syllables, "Hear O heavens, and give ear O earth." But to demonstrate that it will make a part of a good English couplet, he adds a verse of his own,—"Ye God himself who calls aloud and says forth." By the same rule of criticism, I can prove that Thomas wrote his book in verse. For, if you take the next eight syllables of his prose, and add eight more, of at least as good poetry as his own, you will have the following lyric couplet.

"Another instance I shall quote."
Religion's odious to a fop.

Now this is a proof of the same kind with his, that Thomas Paine wrote in verse." It is probable, indeed, as I have said, that a great part of the Hebrew scriptures are written in some kind of poetic measure or rhythm. Critics however are not able to determine whether their poetry consisted in certain combinations of long with short, or of accented with grave syllables, or, not; because the pronunciation of the language is totally lost. The most judicious are inclined to think, that it consisted rather in certain contrasts or resemblances that took place between the ideas or objects in different lines, together with similar structure of period in each.—See Lowth's de sacr. poes. heb. praelect. and prelim. dissert. to translation of Isaiah.