

The North Carolina Standard.

THOMAS LORING,
Editor and Proprietor.

THE CONSTITUTION AND THE UNION OF THE STATES.....THEY "MUST BE PRESERVED."

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TERMS.

THE STANDARD is published weekly, at three dollars per annum—payable half-yearly in advance; but it will be necessary for those living at a distance, or out of the State, to pay an entire year in advance. A subscriber failing to give notice of his desire to discontinue at the expiration of the period for which he may have paid, will be considered as having subscribed anew, and the paper continued, at the option of the Editor, until ordered to be stopped; but no paper will be discontinued, until all arrearages are paid.

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COURT ADVERTISEMENTS, and Sheriff's Sales will be charged 25 per cent. higher than the usual rates.

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FOURTH OF JULY.

The Fourth of July was celebrated at the Baptist (Lock's) Meeting House, Granville Co., N. C. The services were introduced by singing, and a prayer by the Rev. WILLIAM E. OAKLEY. The Declaration of Independence was then read by E. HESTER, Esq.,—after which, the following Oration was delivered by Dr. A. W. GAY, who had been requested by his fellow-citizens to address them on that occasion.

ORATION.

When the children of Israel were delivered from the cruel bondage under which they groaned in Egypt, they were divinely ordered to commemorate the day of their deliverance; and this commemoration, was to be perpetual throughout all their generations. They were solemnly charged to "keep this ordinance in his season, from year to year;" and to explain its origin and design to their children. Great National deliverances, ought to be remembered with the liveliest gratitude. If it was the duty of the chosen tribes, to celebrate their departure from the land of bondage and oppression, equally obligatory is it upon us, to commemorate, with the most joyful emotions, each returning Anniversary of the day which gave us our National existence: for we too, were delivered from tyrannical bondage & oppression. By such celebrations, we keep always fresh in memory the events of our revolutionary struggle. Events, so interesting and important in their results, should never be forgotten.—While we thus reflect upon the price of our liberty, we are prepared to appreciate its value, and are incited to labor for its preservation.

In this way, too, we may instruct the youth of our country, concerning the toils and exploits of their illustrious forefathers. Children, should be early taught to love their country; and principles of patriotism, should be carefully instilled into their tender minds; and when they assemble with their parents on such an occasion as this, they will naturally inquire why all this is done; and, in this way, they will imbibe the spirit of liberty and republicanism. At such Anniversaries, also, American females are brought to realize the elevation and dignity of the situation which they occupy, compared with that of women in other countries. Here they know and feel that they are the mothers, wives, daughters and sisters of freemen. When the American lady approaches the hymenial altar to give away her hand, her heart, herself, to the man upon whom her affections are placed, she knows, and she should proudly feel, that she commits the sacred trust to a freeman, who has never served, or bowed the knee to any Prince, except to Heaven's King. When they assemble with us on the fourth of July, and join in the celebration, their presence enlivens the scene, and gives a higher interest to the whole occasion.—With us, they feel the spirit of patriotism.—I can by no means agree with those, who would have us believe that women have no business with politics. Such was not the doctrine of our fathers during the revolutionary war. True, it is not desirable that women should become what we usually call politicians; but, they should be able to know and appreciate the privileges which they enjoy as citizens of a free and Independent Nation. Throughout our revolutionary struggle, there was as much genuine patriotism, among the women, as among the men; and the ultimate success of our arms, was owing in no small degree, to the ardent love of country and desire of liberty exhibited by the women. Fewer torments were found among the women, than among the men; and, in many instances, the traitorous designs of tory husbands were most nobly and successfully defeated by their whig wives. When the women of the present day, meet with us to celebrate the deeds of those times, they are reminded of the pure patriotism of their mothers, and imbibe more or less of their spirit.

To reflect upon the early events in the history of our country, and to commemorate the deeds of '76, is the design of our meeting this day. About three hundred and fifty years ago, his large and desirable country, which we now call America, was entirely unknown to the civilized world. The European, in the ride of his imagination, had never thought, that far beyond the Atlantic Ocean, lay a country, so rich, so lovely, as this. Our con-

continent was inhabited only by savages and wild beasts, and lay under the unbroken dominion of nature. The Indians, who then lived in what are now called the Atlantic States, chased the wild beasts, caught the fish, and conducted their wars in their own way, ignorant alike of the arts, the knowledge, and the vices of civilized man. Here, nature had planned and executed her works upon the most extended scale. Chains of the loftiest mountains were stretched across our whole continent, enclosing between them, vallies of the most fertile soil, fertilized by rivers, long, wide and deep, conveying to different Oceans the waters of many springs, thousands of miles distant from each other. The forests contained the loftiest trees of almost every known variety.—The most fragrant flowers bloomed on the mountains and in the vallies, unfolded their rich beauties, and breathed their sweet perfumes on the desert air.

But all these natural advantages were prodigally lavished upon savages, who knew little of their value, or of the manner in which they might be made to contribute most to the comfort and convenience of man. Providence, did not design, however, that these, her rich and choice blessings should be lost upon those who could not appreciate their proper value. The country was formed, and the blessings were prepared for others.—Christopher Columbus, a native of Genoa, first discovered this country, in the year 1492. South America, was found to be rich in the precious metals; and the lust of gold, brought the covetous inhabitants of Spain to that ill-fated land, to pillage, plunder, and enslave the natives. These unrelenting Spaniards, under the mask of christianity, committed deeds of cruelty, which the Prince of darkness might well blush to acknowledge. It was not until about one hundred years after the discovery made by Columbus, that any very successful attempt was made to effect a permanent settlement in North America.—Capt. Smith, with his crew, landed on a peninsula of the river Powhattan, in April, 1607. Other adventurers gradually arrived, and settled this western world. Lands were procured from the natives. These new comers brought with them science, religion, and the arts of civilized life. Wars at length sprung up between the whites and Indians, in which many were slain on both sides; but the former were finally victorious, and the powerful Indian tribes, who, three hundred and fifty years ago, inhabited the Atlantic States, were finally, either destroyed, or merged in other tribes, and driven far back towards the setting Sun to make room for the successful whites. Through the agency of the latter, how changed is the scene! how much brighter and more enlivening the aspect of things all around us! The ancient forests are now converted into fruitful fields, meadows and orchards, yielding their rich annual produce to supply the wants of man, and fill his heart with gladness. Instead of the ravenous wolf, panther and bear, we now see in our woods and on our plantations, beasts adapted to our comfort, convenience and use. The canes which rendered the low grounds on the rivers almost impassable, and furnished dens and hiding places for the wild beasts, are destroyed; and, in their place, we see a abundant crops of grain to furnish us the staff of life. The Indian hut or wigwam, has disappeared with its naked, half-starved, copper-colored squaw and Indian children; and in its stead, we see the neat commodious dwelling, or splendid mansion, occupied by the cheerful mother with her lovely rosy-cheeked offspring. The savage war-whoop, dreadful to all who ever heard it, is silenced; and in lieu of it, we now hear the voice of peace throughout our borders.—The Indian town house, is changed into the neat court-house village. The superstitious and cruel rites, by which the ignorant savage vainly attempted to appease the great unknown Spirit, are superseded by the divinely instituted sacrifice of prayer and praise, arising from the grateful hearts and cheerful voices of millions of devout worshippers.—Then, there was no sabbath in the land; now, on every seventh day, thousands of thousands and ten times thousands, and a great multitude which no man can number, through the courts of the Most High, to learn his will, believe his truth, and feel his love.

But we must advert to other facts, which especially render the fourth of July, a memorable era in the history of our country.—Most of the whites who first settled that part of North America, which is now called the United States, came from the kingdom of Great Britain, and brought with them most of the religious and political institutions of their native land. They were greatly attached to their mother country; and, for a time, things went on harmoniously enough between them. The two countries, England and America were friendly in peace and united in war. They joined their armies against the French, who were harassing our frontiers, and bringing down upon us, the merciless Indians with their dreadful war-whoop and barbarous scalping knife, and tomahawk. The French and Indians were repulsed and conquered by the combined forces of England and America. The dark and stormy night of war was succeeded by the calm and cheerful day of peace; and our fathers gladly exchanged the tented fields of battle, for the more congenial fields of agricultural pursuit. All things appeared to be settled and quiet, and bright indeed was the prospect before them. With boundless forests of the most fertile soil, with a hardy, industrious, intelligent and virtuous population, and with a kind, much beloved, and powerful mother country to protect them, their resources for wealth and happiness seemed almost inexhaustible, and their condition was such as might well have been envied by all the world. But the brightest, calmest morning is often suddenly changed into the darkest, stormiest day. Such unhappily was the case with our fathers.

England which had acted towards us, the part of a kind, affectionate parent, transformed herself into an unrelenting, savage step-mother. She oppressed us, and heaped injury upon injury upon us. The British Government claimed authority to tax us at pleasure, without allowing us the right of representation. Our ancestors remonstrated, and petitioned for redress; but the king of England, like his great prototype, Pharaoh, king of Egypt, spurned the petitioners from his royal presence, and augmented their burdens, which were already intolerable. Our fathers endured, until endurance ceased to be a virtue; and, when they discovered that neither petition, remonstrance, nor patient endurance was of any avail, they began to talk of resistance. The first public declaration of a determination to separate from England, was made in Mecklenburg County in North Carolina. The spirit of Independence spread like fire in a prairie before a driving wind. But how could a few scattered thousands, without friends or resources for war, contend successfully against the most powerful nation under heaven, whose fleets were a terror on every sea, and whose military prowess was known and dreaded in every land! These patriots believed, however, that the race is not always to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, but that Providence would interpose its aid in behalf of a righteous cause. They therefore resolved, come what might, to separate from the mother country, and become a free and independent nation. Accordingly representatives from the thirteen colonies met in Philadelphia, and, on the fourth of July, in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy six, this day sixty-one years ago, appealing to the searcher of hearts and to the king of nations for the righteousness of their cause and the purity of their motives, before the world, and in the presence of high Heaven, passed and individually subscribed that sacred instrument which you have heard read this day, THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE. On that day, a mighty nation was born, and the transaction was ratified above.

The Rubicon was now passed, the deed was done, the stand was taken. The news of these proceedings soon crossed the Atlantic, and reached the ears of his Britannic Majesty. Vengeance, was denounced against the cursed rebels. British fleets and armies, with mercenary hirelings, were immediately sent to quell the insurgents. Our fathers were again compelled to leave their plantations, their homes and their families, once more to experience the horrors of war, and to meet in deadly conflict those at whose side they had lately fought, against the French. Did time permit, it would be interesting and useful to recount some of the deeds of noble daring performed by our undaunted patriotic forefathers, during their protracted and memorable struggle; but this we cannot do. All we can now say is, that they nobly achieved in the field what they had resolved in council. France, whether out of good will to us, or ill will towards England, her ancient rival and enemy, nobly espoused our cause, and some of the flower of her youth were sent to assist in fighting our battles. The Americans, thus assisted, and with Washington at their head, bravely met every danger, and, encouraged by the smiles of a benignant Providence, at length vanquished the minions who were sent to enslave them. England was compelled to acknowledge us an independent nation. Peace was ratified and war ceased, and our fathers once more laid aside their arms and returned to their homes. But they soon found that their difficulties were not yet ended. A constitution was to be formed for people of different habits and religion, scattered over an extensive territory, sparsely settled, and having opposing interests and pursuits. To please and reconcile all parties and interests was no easy matter; but it was at length effected: and, after compromising these differences of opinion, and reconciling these jarring interests, the Constitution of these United States was framed and the government placed upon a solid foundation. General George Washington was called by the suffrages of a grateful people to be the first Chief Magistrate of the only free and independent nation on earth.

On the other side of the Atlantic, it was confidently predicted that our system of free and republican government would not last long—that, as men were too ignorant & unstable to govern themselves without the gracious aid of such indispensable personages as kings, lords and pensioned priests, our people would soon be torn asunder by intestine dissensions, and the shattered fragments of our nation become the sure victims and the easy prey of foreign powers;—or else, that our people finding the government too

weak for their protection, and, worn out by anarchy, and the aggressions of the lawless, would be forced to establish a monarchical government, at the head of which would be placed some successful Military Chieftain to rule as like all the other nations of the earth. Prophets are even yet busily engaged in making similar predictions, but the spirit of inspiration is not among them.—Some of the best and purest patriots of our Country too, have often felt their hearts die within them, from the apprehension that such might yet be the result of all their toils and sufferings in the noble cause of liberty; but, after the lapse of more than half a century, we find that these painful apprehensions are not realized, nor these malignant predictions fulfilled. The light of liberty, still shines bright in her sacred temple, and the American Eagle still soars proudly aloft over our Capital at Washington City. During the period, since we became a free and independent people, revolutions and political convulsions have shaken almost every other nation under heaven to its centre; nations have been born and have died;—some of the most powerful and ancient kingdoms of Europe have been repeatedly revolutionized, kings and emperors have been dethroned, exiled and beheaded; and, in our own country too we have felt the full force of all those powerful and agitating causes which are suited to try the strength of government. We have been engaged in war with several Indian tribes and with one of the most powerful nations on the globe;—we have experienced all the embarrassing and distracting influence of contending and almost equally balanced political parties;—sectional jealousies, and local interests have combined to impede the regular movement of our political machinery, and have retarded our onward march to greatness and to national glory.—All these and many other powerful causes have combined to mar our peace, to overthrow our government, and have at times threatened the destruction of our free institutions and the dissolution of our union.—But in the midst of revolutions and convulsions in other countries, we have remained unmoved;—in war, we have been victorious, and our brave soldiers have put to flight the conquerors of Napoleon Buonaparte;—sectional jealousies have been healed, opposing local interests have been harmonized, and our ship of state rides triumphantly through every storm and over every wave. Our commerce whitens every sea, and our flag is respected in all quarters of the globe. With such evidences of the stability of our government, shall we be discouraged. Our system, having been tried more than half a century, can no longer be considered a doubtful experiment. So far, it has stood like an immovable rock in the Ocean, against which tempests and billows may beat, and for a while it may be concealed and covered by overflowing waves; but, after a time, the tempest ceases, the waves recede, the ocean is calmed, and the rock appears only the more firmly settled by the violent onset it had sustained. Such has been the case with our government. The shocks it has received from the violence of political factions, sectional jealousies, local interests, and from foreign foes, have only served to settle its foundations, show us our strength, and unite us the more closely together. It has already stood many terrible assaults, and is able to stand many more. Our commerce has been wonderfully extended, our population greatly increased, and the number of our States has been doubled. Literature and Science have shed their benign rays upon our land. Schools, Academies, Colleges, and Institutions for the acquisition of legal, theological and medical knowledge, are established and prospering all over our Country. Our Statesmen and Orators, our Philosophers, our Artists and Mechanics, rival, and, in many instances, surpass those of the old world. A liberal and extensive system of internal improvements is rapidly developing and increasing our resources; our rivers are made navigable, and our mountains are beginning to be crossed by rail roads. In this way, we trust that the most distant sections of our country will soon be virtually brought near together;—New York to the neighborhood of New Orleans, and Cincinnati in Ohio near to Charleston in South Carolina. In the bowels of our earth, are found the useful minerals and precious metals. No nation on earth, ever became, in so short a time, so mighty, so great, or so prosperous. This day while we here celebrate the Anniversary, of our national birth day, we are the wonder, the envy and the admiration of the whole civilized world.—What changes have been effected in our country by two hundred and fifty years! a change from barbarism to the highest civilization;—from heathenism to christianity! Such is a rapid glance at some of the more prominent events in the history of our country from its first settlement by our forefathers up to the present time.

"Where nothing dwelt but beasts of prey,
Or men as fierce and wild as they;
We see the oppressed and poor repair,
And build them towns and cities there.

They sow the fields and trees they plant,
Whose yearly fruit supplies their want;
Their race grows up from fruitful stocks,
Their wealth increases with their flocks."

As a nation we differ from all others un-

der the Sun. Almost all governments, except ours, recognize a privileged order of men, having a hereditary claim to the most important and lucrative offices in the country. Kings ascend the throne by this hereditary right; and, whether the heir to the crown be a wise man or a fool, whether he be honest, kind, and competent to the conducting of the complicated machinery of government, or whether he be knavish, cruel and utterly ignorant of all law, human or divine, except his own arbitrary will, and regardless of the rights, persons and property of his subjects, still he must be king. He can be removed from power only by a revolution, which will almost always occasion scenes of riot and effusion of blood. Such revolutions are seldom bloodless. Most other nations have, in addition to the king, a long catalogue of subordinate hereditary officers, such as lords, dukes, electors, counts, &c. &c. All these exercise their authority each in his own sphere, and, whether good or bad, they must be endured. We have no such usages as these. With us, all officers are free, and are offered to the poor as well as to the rich; and the son of the obscurest individual in this assembly may, for ought we know, be called to discharge the duties of the highest office known to our Constitution. Here all power is, where it ought to be, in the hands of the people;—they directly or indirectly choose all their public officers and put up and put down whom they please. Here we believe that men are able to govern themselves without the help of a king or order of nobility;—and, the experience of the last half century has proved that we are not mistaken. Here we have no use for such things as kings, lords and nobles.

In some other countries, the eldest son is entitled by law and custom to certain primogenial privileges, constituting him the family heir; and estates are thus entailed to the great injury of society for the vain purpose of keeping up the family name. Noble birth and noble blood constitutes the chief passport to respectability, honor and influence. Here no man can claim any honor, dignity or office, on account of his connexion with his father, however respectable, meritorious or honored that father may have been.—Here every man stands upon the foundation laid by himself; or falls in consequence of his own follies or faults. Among us the law directs that property shall be equally divided among those who possess equal degrees of relationship, allowing the testator however the right to make a difference where he thinks proper.

In most other countries too, religion is supported by law. The pensioned priest must be paid out of the hard earnings of the poor. If they honestly disapprove his doctrine, and are unwilling to hear his sermons, conscientiously believing them to be heretical, and, if they are allowed the privilege of having clergymen of their choice, whom they must support by their voluntary contributions, still they must pay their proportion to the support of the parish priest, who is appointed, and who preaches according to the law of man; he must have his salary. In those countries too the Ministers of religion have an important share and influence in conducting the operations of government.—Church and State are intimately united.

With these things are managed in a very different way. One of our fundamental maxims is that church and state, religion and politics, must be entirely separate and distinct. Every American citizen is allowed full liberty of conscience, and is permitted to worship his Maker in that way which he believes to be right;—and, if, as is the case with too many, any one chooses not to worship the Almighty at all, nor contribute anything to the support of religion, our laws leave him to himself, and, for this neglect, he is responsible to none but his Maker, whose service he thus disregards. Here every man is at full liberty to connect himself to any denomination of christians he may prefer, to enjoy the labors of just such religious teachers as he may like best, and to contribute to their support just such sums as he may feel a freedom to give. In consequence of these usages, the Ministers of religion among us are free from that pride, haughtiness and worldly spirit which are so conspicuous in men of that order in other countries. In this way too religion prospers most. Let religion and politics be united, civil and ecclesiastical affairs be blended, and religion will be shorn of that transcendent celestial beauty, with which she was adorned when she first descended from heaven to earth, to cheer, support, enlighten and bless a darkened and ruined world. It is a fact, highly honorable to our country, that, in no other part of the world, does religion appear so lovely, or exert so salutary an influence as in our own beloved United States of America. Here she stands unsupported by civil enactments, and all the support she expects or desires from government, is that it would just let her alone, and protect every man in the enjoyment of his religious rights. Here she seeks no entangling alliance with the state; for she would feel herself polluted by its touch;—and here, she consequently appears in her native loveliness, as she is revealed in the Scriptures of everlasting truth, enlightening, cheering and animating by her benign influence, all her

votaries, and conducting them, step by step, up to the abode; the bosom of their father and their God.

The establishment of a Republican form of government and free institutions in the western hemisphere, have exerted a powerful and extensive influence upon other nations. The French soldiers who generously assisted us in our revolutionary struggle, imbibed among us the spirit of liberty; and, upon their return to their own country, diffused and enkindled the patriotic fire, by which they had been warmed and animated here. A Republican party was speedily formed in France, and the contest between royalty and republicanism, soon became fierce and bloody. Concession after concession was made by the king; but all would not do, for the spirit of liberty was abroad in the land. The republicans were successful; the king was dethroned and beheaded, and royalty seemed to be forever annihilated in France. A kind of free government was formed. That country, however, refined and enlightened as it really was, contained not the materials necessary to the stability and continuance of a free government. Religion and royalty, had there been united from time immemorial, and those who undertook to revolutionize and remodel the government, readily resolved to abolish religion. Christianity was declared to be false, the Bible to be untrue, and all that enjoined to be nothing but superstitious rites imposed on ignorant men, by knavish and designing priests. The Bible was burnt, and the Sabbath with all the rites and institutions of the christian religion, was abolished. The French Directory undertook to frame a new and enlightened system of religion, suited as they vainly supposed, to the people of refined and regenerated France; but mark the result. While Robespierre, Danton and Marat were charged with the management of affairs, in Paris was made to flow the blood of her best and purest citizens. Such scenes of carnage, bloodshed and cruelty, were there spread open before the world and in the presence of High Heaven, as seldom disgrace our earth. And why? Because the melting, softening, and purifying influence of christianity had been withdrawn, for she had been offended, had taken her flight to more congenial climes, and had left them to themselves to experience the want of her presence. France was unprepared for a free government, because she was deficient in two essential points, virtue and religion. Without these, no nation can long be free or happy. The effort to establish and maintain a free government in France, having signally failed, the nation has been compelled again to resort to a monarchical government. Things there, however, are yet in a very unsettled condition, and the king sits trembling on his throne.—The principles of liberty received from this country are still operating upon the mass of the people; and we may indulge the hope that they will finally effect such a change as will, in the end, lead to the establishment of a free government, not only in France, but in every country in Europe. This may be done as soon as there is a sufficiency of intelligence, stability, virtue and religion to maintain such a state of things. In England, Spain, Greece, and, in fact, in all Europe, the progress of the principles and spirit of liberty has been such as to give alarm to hereditary kings and nobles. This little cloud of liberty which arose in the west, has crossed the Atlantic, has spread far and wide, and kings tremble at its approach.—The genius of liberty, having found no permanent resting place in the old world, and having been refreshed and invigorated by the congenial climes of these United States, has erected her banner in the Southern part of our Continent; and although she has there been embarrassed at every step by customs, habits, and a system of religion unsuited to her nature, yet her success, even amidst all those difficulties, has been far greater than could have been anticipated by her most sanguine friends. South America and Mexico have thrown off their European yokes, and declared themselves free and independent of any foreign power.—Various efforts, more or less successful, have been made to form their Constitutions and frame their laws after the model of ours.—But unfortunately for those countries, they, like France, are wanting in that virtue, stability and enlightened piety which have been, and still are, the strong pillars of our government, and the indissoluble cement of our Union. Without these indispensable supports, no nation can long be free and happy; and, hence it is that those countries have experienced so many convulsions and revolutions. The spirit of freedom is still, however, at work there, and, we trust, will be ultimately successful. As the unfledged eagle, seeing its mother spread her wings, and soar aloft towards the sun, endeavoring to follow her in her flight, spreads its young, untried wings, and attempting to rise, finds itself unequal to the task and falls to the ground, yet, after repeated trials and failures, at length succeeds and, with expanded wings, traverses the airy way with its parent; so these other countries, after various disappointments, and unavailing struggles, may yet become as great, as prosperous and as happy as these United States.

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As the unfledged eagle, seeing its mother spread her wings, and soar aloft towards the sun, endeavoring to follow her in her flight, spreads its young, untried wings, and attempting to rise, finds itself unequal to the task and falls to the ground, yet, after repeated trials and failures, at length succeeds and, with expanded wings, traverses the airy way with its parent; so these other countries, after various disappointments, and unavailing struggles, may yet become as great, as prosperous and as happy as these United States.

In most other countries too, religion is supported by law. The pensioned priest must be paid out of the hard earnings of the poor. If they honestly disapprove his doctrine, and are unwilling to hear his sermons, conscientiously believing them to be heretical, and, if they are allowed the privilege of having clergymen of their choice, whom they must support by their voluntary contributions, still they must pay their proportion to the support of the parish priest, who is appointed, and who preaches according to the law of man; he must have his salary. In those countries too the Ministers of religion have an important share and influence in conducting the operations of government.—Church and State are intimately united.

With these things are managed in a very different way. One of our fundamental maxims is that church and state, religion and politics, must be entirely separate and distinct. Every American citizen is allowed full liberty of conscience, and is permitted to worship his Maker in that way which he believes to be right;—and, if, as is the case with too many, any one chooses not to worship the Almighty at all, nor contribute anything to the support of religion, our laws leave him to himself, and, for this neglect, he is responsible to none but his Maker, whose service he thus disregards. Here every man is at full liberty to connect himself to any denomination of christians he may prefer, to enjoy the labors of just such religious teachers as he may like best, and to contribute to their support just such sums as he may feel a freedom to give. In consequence of these usages, the Ministers of religion among us are free from that pride, haughtiness and worldly spirit which are so conspicuous in men of that order in other countries. In this way too religion prospers most. Let religion and politics be united, civil and ecclesiastical affairs be blended, and religion will be shorn of that transcendent celestial beauty, with which she was adorned when she first descended from heaven to earth, to cheer, support, enlighten and bless a darkened and ruined world. It is a fact, highly honorable to our country, that, in no other part of the world, does religion appear so lovely, or exert so salutary an influence as in our own beloved United States of America. Here she stands unsupported by civil enactments, and all the support she expects or desires from government, is that it would just let her alone, and protect every man in the enjoyment of his religious rights. Here she seeks no entangling alliance with the state; for she would feel herself polluted by its touch;—and here, she consequently appears in her native loveliness, as she is revealed in the Scriptures of everlasting truth, enlightening, cheering and animating by her benign influence, all her