

On the Love of our Country

Read before the Honble. Allen & de
Gardner. Case of Mr. Smith's Resolutions
of Loyalty. — June. 1801.

Camp Sullivan Cove Van Diemen
Land. May — 13. 1804

137. Psalm - 5 verse

W^h I forget thee O Jerusalem, let
my right hand forget her cunning.

Such was the Patriotic Exclamation
of the Jews, when, after the conquests
of their country, by a proud invader,
they had been led away away captive,
and were insulted, by the cruel
taunts of their tyrannic conquerors.

Amid the grandeur of a City, enriched
by the spoils of that country, in which
they first beheld the light, & where
they had cherished the pleasing
hope, that they should die in
peace; The unhappy Israelites,
discerned, when too late, the

Fatal errors, which in the day
of prosperity, had rendered them
blind to their real interests. They
various assemblage of art, the bold
display of genius or of novelty,
which gave such unusual fame
to the abode of their conquerors, brought
all the past blessings of their
native land, in painful retrospect
before them. They could no longer
sit under their own vine, or
their own fig tree. Their children,
who had been the comfort of
former days, were, in their present
captivity state beheld with
additional misery.

The security, that reigned in the bowels
of their former state, was not to be
found: their very sepulchres
had been pillaged or overthrown.
The sad devastation of Jerusalem,
the various misdeeds of its invaders,
when they haughtily exclaimed down
with it, down with it, even to the
ground. produced a gloomy train
of reflections. In this melancholy
state of mind, was the tower of
Salem, on the banks of Jordan, pre-
sented themselves to their imagination,
lamenting the fate of their country
and their own sad exile from it:
By the waters of Babylon, they
sat down and wept.

Their Native Land was the continual
object of their thoughts. The change
of its masters, the affliction of its
people, the striking contrast, between
its present and former state, called
forth the tenderest emotions of regret.
While frequent tears told the sad story
of their sorrows; upon the willows
that shaded the streams, which they
had retired, they hung up the
various instruments, which distin-
guished the sacred office of the
Levites, or had heightened the
cheerful, but innocent relaxations
of domestic life. —

In this forlorn condition, they are
required by their haughty and insulting
conquerors, to express sentiments of joy,
to sing one of the songs of Zion. As if
humbled to the dust, or alarmed at the
menaces, which may be supposed to have
accompanied this cruel insult; they
appear at first, rather to remonstrate
in a tone of dejection, at the unreasona-
bleness of such a demand, than to
refuse an obedience to it: "How
shall we sing the Lords Song, in a strange
land? When suddenly, recovering, as it
well, from their late depression, they
disdain the unfeeling proposal; and
break forth, in that burst of affection for their
country, If I forget thee O Jerusalem!
let my right hand forget her cunning! —

Thus threatened by tyrannic powers,
and languishing under oppression and
captivity, they would not disgrace their
Country, by uttering the sounds of woe.
Jerusalem, though lost, was still the
object of fond affection. Their conduct,
in this trying situation, affords a strong
and affecting example, of that love
for our Country, the principles of
which, I shall now endeavour to
illustrate.

The instinctive regard for our native
Land, in whose customs, laws, and language,
we have been educated, is so blended
with the sensations of men, as seldom
to be excited by enjoyment, or destroyed
by absence. Though professional

Duty, or other laudable motives, may
oblige him to leave it for a time; he looks
forward, with delight, to that day, when
he shall again return. He loves the
place, whatever it may be, where
the years of infancy glided insensi-
bly away. Burying the inhabitants of
the frigid regions of the North, unto
the more genial climate of the
South; and he will sigh for the bleak
mountain, and his dreary cottage.

Another motive for the love of our
Country, and of an higher order,
proceeds from our attachments and
connections; with the advantages,
which, on a comparative view, reason
points out, as resulting to those
who are its inhabitants.

Although the former Principles,
may be more general, we must
consider the latter as superior, being
the result of reflection. The maxims
of the British Constitution, appear
valuable, in proportion as they are
made the object of your serious
attention. Consider them, not only
as the laws, by which you are gover-
ned, and unto which obedience
is therefore due, but as forming
a Code, of aught with consum-
mate wisdom; the boast of ~~the~~
England
Country, and the envy of every other
Nation. Consider them well, and
you will perceive, that they

produce whatever Liberty and
security can be expected from any
human institution; and that they
possess, in an extraordinary degree,
the means of constant renovation,
and the principle of gradual
improvement. The honest pride,
which arises within us, on hearing
what arduous struggles, our ancestors
made, to obtain these advantages,
animates the heart to support and
protect them. We consider the earth
as sacred where these Heroes have
long slept in death. Their venerable
monuments, now mouldering beneath
the power of time, are dear to
the youthful patriot; who

as he hopes by them, exults in these
vestiges of his country's glory, and
feels an ardent love, that his name
may hereafter be thus enrolled,
in the records of his home.

The untamed savage loves his
country, though it contains little
more than the wretched habitation,
the trackless wilderness, and the
uncultivated waste. But as the
progress of civilization advances,
and his rude character becomes
lost in the milder customs of
polished society; when the
He roves at large amid these scenes, which are
alternately desolate and inhabited.

Solitary enjoyment of natural
liberty, is exchanged for legal
security and social happiness; the
Love of our Country, gradually
displays features more liberal &
attractive. Yet still, until Jesus
It had revealed the only foundation
of all virtue, and taught mankind,
that divine lesson for public spirit
and private friendships: "as ye would
that men should do to you, do ye
even so to them:" until, they had seen
him shed tears of real patriotism
and had been exhorted, both by
precept and example, to love
their enemies, to bless their

persecutors, and to do good unto
those, that hated them; this virtue,
like that the rest, was vain
and imperfect. A real love for
our Country, must be founded
on the extensive basis of regard
for Mankind. Which is no where
taught, but by the precepts of
the Stran Religion.

If in the imperfect state of civiliza-
tion, the inhabitants of this Island,
could be thus attached to their caverns
and forests, and, for a succession
of years, resolve firmly to oppose
the infringement of their liberties;
can their probably exist the smallest
doubt, that their posterity will at
all times, act worthy of such dis-
tinguished ancestors. Even in
a savage, untaught state, England
gloried in the same of things
 rallying around the royal standard
 & our forefathers displayed
 a spirit of loyalty, which astonished
 those, who had conquered

to large a portion of the world.

Liberty, was not considered as
secure, by them, without the sanction
of the Crown: and consequently, above
for their King and Country, equally
gloried in every bosom.

We perceive therefore, from the
earliest accounts, that in periods,
when mankind could judge, without
any dread of their opinion being
influenced by a baser motive,
the Government of the ancient
British Nations was monarchi-
cal. From the 2d of May they

to defend it, this must have been
a government of free choice, & not
of compulsion: adapted to their
Character, favourable to the wel-
fare of Society; Productive of
private and public Happiness.

The Throne may have been established
in other Kingdoms, by the force
of arms, and a too successful
sword have obtained the sceptre;
But in that Country, to which you
may brethren belong, and whose
laws you are bound to defend,
there is the clearest evidence, that
the Throne succeeded the Patriarchal
state. and was thus established

not by military oppression, but by
social love, confidence, and
harmony.

Above of this Country, must always,
for this reason, in the hearts of Britons,
be accompanied with an high
spirit of loyalty. But this spirit
will not be preserved pure & active,
unless you carefully guard yourselves
against the systems of wicked
men; whose restless minds,
are continually in search of
innovation.

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That republican system, which
has gone forth with such inveterate
violence, is not, as may have
imagined, the produce of superior
understandings, or of minds, that
scorn the fetters of prejudice, of
corruption and depravity; produc-
ed amid the lax principles, and
indolent lives, of a too luxurious
people. It is a demon, which
has been visible at different
periods, in the history of every
regal government. When any
nation has fill'd up the measure
of its iniquity, he always percei-
ve this republican pestilence,

causing, for a season, under the
direction of Heaven, the severest
and most bitter punishment.

Such was the situation of Israel,
when, as Isaiah said, "It had
become a people laden with
iniquity, a seed of evildoers;
children that are corrupted. Then
did the Lord kindle a fierce
spirit in the midst thereof, to strain
the bow of glory, and to bring
into contempt all the honorable
of the earth."

Look around on the different King-
doms of Europe, and endeavour
to find the smallest resemblance,
to that comfort and security, which
is enjoyed in your own. In one,
the Door considered as little better
than beasts of burden, are scattered
throughout its dreary regions.

In another, said by the monarchs
of revolution, to a situation above
their capacity, they involve their
country in distress, and render its
character detestable. Whilst
England placed by nature in a
situation, admirably adapted

Adapted to preserve its inhabitants.
From any sudden misadventure, appears
the centre of Liberty, to which all
nations are attracted. Our
fertile Land contains every
enjoyment that this life can
afford; and when existence
terminates, we all look to it
for a grave, where we may
rest in peace. In assuming
in cheerance, plain and open
in their character, sincere in friendship,
prompt in offering relief, firm
and undiminished in danger, and
merciful in victory, its
inhabitants form a distinct

6 People from the rest of Europe.
at the same time that it displays
modesty in its government, and
inflexibility in its laws; while
commerce, from all quarters of
the globe, augments the riches
of the Crownin City, whose
Merchants are Princes whose
traffickers are the Honourable
of the East.

If the inhabitant of the barren
mountain, feels an attachment
to the tree, which during infancy,
protected him from the storm;

Ad. Must not the Subject of ~~the~~
for a Kingdom, as that we have
the now considered, cherish a proper
ne sense of its superiority, and thus
s. heighten a Love for their Country,
en which is common to the human
a race? Will they not incidentally
ter exert themselves to defend its
of liberties, to humble any daring
re. in a der, to destroy the artifices
in and designs of the rebellious;
in fervently exclaiming, amid the
ro din of that mad republican
an spirit, which now too fatally prevails,
m. O forget thee, my Country! let
in a right Land forget her cunning.

It becomes those, who like yourselves
are the rational Defenders, to see
the blessings you enjoy in a proper
light. Papers therefore of due value,
for the preservation of English Liberties,
and be not deceived by beholding
objects in false and unfavourable
colours. Let no affections, which an
evil or ignorant mind may make,
though uttered with the most solemn
confidence, abate a stedfast love
for the government you support;
lest, when too late, like the captive
Israelites, you may set down &
weep, remembering the Lion you
have lost.

Anxious to maintain those
Blessings which your ancestors
enjoyed, and are bequeathed, with
such increase of Happiness to
their posterity; let every one preserve
a love for his Country, unfeigned
and pure: that, when times of
unusual danger, demand the united
exertions of a nations Zeal, with all
the disinterested virtues of a
patriot mind; in every work
that you begin, in the service of
your King, and Country, you
may go forth with all your hearts,
and Powers.

2 On that Altar, which our forefa-
thers reared to Liberty, the Flame
of Patriotism arises! Around it
let every age and rank assemble:
The Nobles, and the Rulers, & the
Elders of the People, and take that
oath, which the Genius of
Britain offers: — We swear, that
we will remember the Lord!
We will Fight for our Brethren,
our Sons, our Daughters, our Wives,
and our Houses! And will Firmly
unite, in the Preservation and
Defence of Her, who dwelleth,
with so much Terribleness,
in the Clefts of the Rock.

Whose Rampart, and whose
Wall, I from the Sea -

Which that we stand soothly
Protect, God of his infinite
Mercy grant. Through Jesus
At our Lord. Amen