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DIVINE SONGS

ATTEMPTED IN

EASY LANGUAGE,

FOR THE USE OF

MARTIN MUSIC LIE

CHILDREN.

By I. WATTS, D. D.

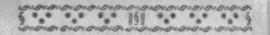
Мат. ххі. 16.

On of the Mouths of Babes and Sucklings thou has perfedted Praise.

3013

LONDON:

7. WILSON AND 2, SPENCE, YORK,



PREFACE,

To all who are concerned in

The EDUCATON of CHILDREN.

MY FRIENDS,

T is an awful and important charge that is committed to you. The wisdom and welfare of the fucceeding generation are entrufted with you before-hand, and depend much on your conduct. The feeds of mifery or happiness in this world, and that to come, are oftentimes fown very early; and therefore whatever may conduce to give the minds of children a relish for virtue and religion, ought, in the first place, to be proposed to You.

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ALC CO SUA

Verse was at first designed for the fervice of God, though it hath been wretchedly abused fince. The Ancients among the Jews and the Heathens, taught their children and disciples the precepts of morality and worship in verse. The children of Israel were commanded to learn the words of the fong of Moses, Deut. xxxi. 19, 30. And we are directed in the New Teftament not only to fing with grace in the heart, but to teach and admonifo one another by hymns and fongs, Eph. v. From these few observations you may fee the authority for a work of this nature; and there are these four advantages in it.

very learning of truths and duties this

way. There is something so amusing and entertaining in rhymes and metre, that will incline children to make this part of their business a diversion. And you may turn their very duty into a reward, by giving them the privilege of learning one of these Songs every week, if they fulfil the business of the week well, and promising them the book itself, when they have learnt ten or twenty songs out of it.

2. What is learnt in verse is longer retained in memory, and sooner recollected. The like sounds, and the like number of syllables, exceedingly assist the remembrance. And it may often happen, that the end of a song running in the mind, may be an effectual

means to keep off fome temptations, or to incline to fome duty, when a word of scripture is not upon their thoughts.

3. This will be a constant furniture for the minds of children, that they may have something to think upon when alone, and sing over to themselves. This may sometimes give their thoughts a divine turn, and raise a young meditation. Thus they will not be forced to seek relief for an emptiness of mind, out of the loose and dangerous sonnets of the age.

4. These Divine Songs may be a pleasant and proper matter for their daily or weekly worship, to sing one

in the family at fuch time as the parents or governors shall appoint; and therefore I have confined the verse to the most usual psalm-tunes.

The greatest part of this little book was composed several years ago, at the request of a friend, who has been long engaged in the work of catechifing a very great number of children of all kinds, and with abundant skill and fuccefs. So that you will find nothing here that favors of a party: The children of high and low degree, of the Church of England, as Diffenters, baptized in infancy, or not, may all join together in these Songs. And as I have endeavoured to fink the language to the level of a child's understanding,

and yet to keep it (if possible) above contempt; so I have designed to prosit all, (if possible) and offend none. I hope the more general the sense is, these composures may be of the more universal use and service.

I have added at the end fome attempts of Sonnets on Moral Subjects, for children, with an air of pleasantry, to provoke some fitter pen to write a little book of them.

May the Almighty God make you faithful in this important work of education; may he succeed your cares with his abundant grace, that the rifing generation of Great Britain may be a glory among the nations, a pattern to the Christian world, and a blessing to the earth.

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DIVINE SONGS

FOR

CHILDREN.

SONG I.

A general Song of Praise to God.

HOW glorious is our heav'nly King, Who reigns above the sky! How shall a child presume to sing His dreadful Majesty?

How great his pow'r is, none can tell, Nor think how large his grace; Not men that dwell below, nor faints On high before his face. Not angels that fland round the Lord Can fearch his fecret will:

But they perform his heav'nly word, And fing his praises still.

Then let me join this holy train, And my first-off'rings bring; Th' eternal God will not disdain To hear an infant fing.

My heart refolves, my tongue obeys, And angels shall rejoice To hear their mighty Maker's praise Sound from a feeble voice.

SONG II.

Praise for Creation and Providence.

Sing th' almighty pow'r of God, That made the mountains rife, That spread the flowing seas abroad, And built the lofty Ikies.

I fing the wisdom that ordain'd The fun to rule the day,

The moon shines full at his command, And all the flars obey.

I fing the goodness of the Lord, That fill'd the earth with food: He form'd thecreatures with his word. And then pronounc'd them good.

Lord, how thy wonders are display'd Where'er I turn mine eye, If I furvey the ground I tread, Or gaze upon the fky.

There's not a plant, or flow'r below. But makes thy glories known; And clouds arife, and tempefts blow, By order from thy throne.

Creatures (as numerous as they be) Are subject to thy care; There's not a place where we can flee, But God is present there.

FOR CHILDREN.

VII.

In heav'n he shines with beams of love, With wrath in hell beneath! 'Tis on his earth I stand or move. And 'tis his air I breathe.

His hand is my perpetual guard, He keeps me with his eye: Why should I then forget the Lord, Who is for ever nigh?

SONG III.

Praise to God for our Redemption.

Lest be the wisdom and the pow'r, The justice and the grace, That join'd in council to reftore And fave our ruin'd race.

Our father eat forbidden fruit, And from his glory fell, And we his children thus were brought To death, and near to hell.

Bleft be the Lord, that fent his Son To take our flesh and blood; He for our lives gave up his own, To make our peace with God.

He honour'd all his Father's laws, Which we have disobey'd; He bore our fins upon the cross, And our full ranfom paid.

Behold him rifing from the grave, Behold him rais'd on high; He pleads his merit there, to fave Transgressors doom'd to die.

There on a glorious throne he reigns, And by his pow'r divine Redeems us from the flavish chains Of Satan, and of fin.

Thence shall the Lord to judgment And with a fov'reign voice come Shall call, and break up ev'ry tomb While waking faints rejoice.

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VIII.

O may I then with joy appear Before the Judge's face, And, with the bless'd assembly there, Sing his redeeming grace.

SONG IV.

Praise for Mercies Spiritual and Temporal.

Whene'er I take my walks abroad,
How many poor I fee!
What shall I render to my God
For all his gifts to me?

Not more than others I deserve, Yet God hath giv'n me more; For I have food while others starve, Or beg from door to door.

How many children in the street
Half naked I behold?
While I am cloath'd from head to feet,
And cover'd from the cold.

IV

While fome poor wretches fcarce can tell

Where they may lay their head, I have a home wherein to dwell, And rest upon my bed.

While others early learn to fwear,
And curse, and lye, and steal;
Lord, I am taught thy name to fear,
And do thy holy will.

Are these thy favours day by day
To me above the rest?

Then let me love thee more than they, And try to serve thee best.

SONG V.

Praise for Birth and Education in a Christian Land.

GReat God, to thee my voice I raise
To thee my youngest hours belong!

I would begin my life with praise, Till growing years improve the song H

'Tis to thy fov'reign grace I owe That I was born on British ground, Wherestreams of heav'nly mercy flow, And words of sweet salvation found.

I would not change my native land For rich Peru with all her gold: A nobler prize lies in my hand Than East or Western Indies hold.

How do I pity those that dwell Where ignorance and darkness reigns! They know no heav'n, they fear no hell, Those endless joys, those endless pains.

Thy glorious promises, O Lord, Kindle my hopes and my desire! While all the preachers of thy word Warn me to 'scape eternal sire.

Thy praise shall still employ my breath Since thou hast mark'd my way to heav'n;

Nor will I run the road to death, And waste the blessings thou hast giv'n.

SONG VI.

Praise for the Gospel.

ORD, I ascribe it to thy grace,
And not to chance, as others do,
That I was born of Christian race,
And not a Heathen or a Jew.

What would the ancient Jewish kings, And Jewish prophets, once have giv'n Could they have heard those glorious things

Which Christ reveal'd and brought from heav'n?

III.

How glad the Heathens would have been,

That worship'didols, wood, and stone, If they the book of God had seen, Or Jesus, and his gospel known!

Then if this gospel I refuse, How shall I e'er lift up mine eyes? For all the Gentiles, and the Jews, Against me will in judgment rise.

SONG VII.

The Excellency of the Bible.

REAT God! with wonder and with praise
On all thy works I look!
But still thy wisdom, pow'r, and grace,
Shine brightest in thy book.

The stars that in their courses roll,
Have much instruction giv'n;
But thy good word informs my soul
How I may climb to heav'n.

The fields provide me food, and show
The goodness of the Lord;
But fruits of life and glory grow
In thy most holy word.

Here are my choicest treasures hid,
Here my best comfort lies;
Here my desires are satisfy'd,
And hence my hopes arise.

Lord, make me understand thy law, Shew what my faults have been;

And from thy gospel let me draw Pardon for all my sin.

Here would Ilearn how Christhasdy'd
To fave my foul from hell:
Not all the books on earth befide
Such heavenly wonders tell.
VII.

Then let me love my bible more,
And take a fresh delight
By day to read these wonders o'er,
And meditate by night,

SONG VIII. as I stall

Praise to God for learning to read.

HE praises of my tongue
I offer to the Lord,
That I was taught and learnt so young
To read his holy word.

That I am brought to know
The danger I was in,
By nature, and by practice too,
A wretched flave to fin.

That I am led to fee
I can do nothing well,
And whither shall a finner flee
To fave himself from hell?

Dear Lord, this book of thine Informs me where to go For grace to pardon all my fin, And make me holy too.

Here I can read, and learn
How Christ, the Son of God,
Has undertook our great concern;
Our ransom cost his blood.

nd now he reigns above,
He fends his Spirit down,
To shew the wonders of his love,
And make his gospel known.

O may that Spirit teach,
And make my heart receive
Those truths which all thy fervants
preach,

And all thy faints believe.

Then shall I praise the Lord
In a more chearful strain,
That I was taught to read his word,
And have not learnt in vain.

SONG IX.

The All-Seeing God.

A Lmighty God, thy piercing eye
Strikes thro' the shades of night,
And our most secret actions lie
All open to thy fight.

There's not a fin that we commit,
Nor wicked word we fay,
But in thy dreadful book 'tis writ
Against the judgment-day.

And must the crimes that I have done Be read and publish'd there? Be all expos'd before the fun, While men and angels hear?

Lord, at thy foot asham'd I lie; Upward I dare not look! Pardon my fins before I die, And blot them from thy book.

Remember all the dying pains That my Redeemer felt, And let his blood wash out my stains, And answer for my guilt.

O may I now for ever fear T' indulge a finful thought, Since the great God can fee and hear, And writes down ev'ry fault.

There's not a fin that we commit-

Well aw kiese badein self

Againfinhe judgment-day.

actor thy decadful book for writ

All open to the agni.

SONG X.

Solemn Thoughts on God and Death,

has predon't when it to the dead. Here is a God that reigns above, Lord of the heav'ns, and earth, and feas;

I fear his wrath, I ask his love, And with my lips I fing his praise,

There is a law which he has writ, To teach us all what we must do; My foul, to his commands fubmit, For they are holy, just, and true.

There is a gospel of rich grace, Whence finners all their comforts draw: Lord, I repent, and feek thy face, For I have often broke thy law.

There is an hour when I must die, Nor do I know how foon 'twill come A thousand children, young as I, Are call'd by death to hear their doom, Con Aleman bus Con Aleman ha

Let me improve the hours I have, Before the day of grace is fled: There's no repentance in the grave, Nor pardon's offer'd to the dead.

Just as a tree cut down that fell To north, or fouthward, there it lies; So man departs to heaven or hell, Fix'd in the ftate wherein he dies.

SONG XI.

Similar shammon aid or due Heaven and Hell.

ta find I longon a al see

THERE is beyond the sky
A heav'n of joy and love; And holy children when they die Go to that world above. here is a dreadful hell And everlasting pains; There finners must with devils dwell, In darkness, fire, and chains,

Can fuch a wretch as I Escape this cursed end? And may I hope whene'er I die I shall to heav'n ascend?

Then will I read and pray, While I have life and breath; Lest I should be cut off to-day, And fent t'eternal death.

SONG XII.

And make our virtue firong,

The Advantages of early Religion.

has our whole tives were thing. TAppy the child whose tender years Receive inftructions well; Who hates the finner's path, and fears The road that leads to hell.

When we devote our youth to God 'Tis pleasing in his eyes; A flower, when offer'd in the buc

Is no vain facrifice.

III

'Tis easier work if we begin
To fear the Lord betimes;
While sinners that grow old in fin,
Are harden'd in their crimes.

'Twill fave us from a thousand snares
To mind religion young;
Grace will preserve our following
years,
And make

And make our virtue strong.

To thee, Almighty God, to thee
Our childhood we refign;
'Twill please us to look back and see
That our whole lives were thine.

Let the sweet work of prayer and praise Employ my youngest breath; Thus I'm prepar'd for longer days, Or fit for early death.

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SONG XIII.

The Danger of Delay.

WHY should I say, 'Tis yet too foon
To feek for heav'n, or think of death?
A slower may sade before 'tis noon,
And I this day may lose my breath,

If this rebellious heart of mine Despise the gracious calls of heav'n, I may be harden'd in my sin, And never have repentance giv'n.

What if the Lord grow wrath, or swear While I refuse to read and pray, That he'll refuse to lend an ear To all my groans another day?

What if this dreadful anger burn, While I refuse his offer'd grace, And all his love to fury turn, And strike me dead upon the place?

C 3

'Tis dang'rous to provoke a God!
His pow'r and vengeance none cantell;
One stroke of his Almighty rod
Shall send young sinners quick to hell,

Then 'twill for ever be in vain To cry for pardon and for grace; To wish I had my time again, Or hope to see Maker's face.

SONG XVI.

Examples of early Piety.

WHAT blefs'd examples do I find
Writ in the word of truth,
Of children that began to mind
Religion in their youth?

II.

fesus, who reigns above the sky,
And keeps the world in awe,
Was once a child as young as I,
And kept his Father's law.

Attwelve yearsold hetalk'd with men,

(The fews all wond'ring stand)
Yet he obey'd his mother then,
And came at her command.

Children a fweet Hofanna fung, And blest their Saviour's name; They gave him honour with their

While Scribes and Priests blaspheme.

Samuel the child was wean'd and brought

To wait upon the Lord:
Young Timothy betimes was taught
To know his holy word.

Then why should I so long delay
What others learnt so soon?
I would not pass another day
Without this work begun.

SONG XV.

Against Lying.

Tis a lovely thing for youth To walk betimes in Wifdom's way!

To fear a lie, to speak the truth, That we may trust to all they say.

But liars we can never trust, Tho'they should speak the thing that's true;

And he that does one fault at first, And lies to hide it, makes it two.

Have we not known, nor heard, nor read

How God abhors deceit and wrong? How Ananias was struck dead, Catch'd with a lie upon his tongue?

So did his wife Sapphira die, When she came in and grew so bold As to confirm that wicked lie That just before her husband told. The Lord delights in them that speak
The words of truth; but ev'ry liar
Must have his portion in the lake
That burns with brimstone and with
fire.

Then let me always watch my lips, Lest I be struck to death and hell, Since God a book of reck'ning keeps For ev'ry lie that children tell.

SONG XVI.

Against Quarrelling and Fighting.

ET dogs delight to bark and bite,
For God hath made them so;
Let bears and lions growl and fight,
For 'tis their nature too.

But, children, you should never le Such angry passions rise; Your little hands were never made

To tear each other's eyes.

Let love through all your actions run, And all your words be mild; Live like the bleffed Virgin's Son,

That fweet and lovely child.

His foul was gentle as a lamb; And as his flature grew,

He grew in favour both with man And God, his father too.

Now Lord of all he reigns above, And from his heav'nly throne He fees what children dwell in love, And marks them for his own.

Love between Brothers and Sifters.

Hateverbrawls disturb the street, There should be peaceat home; Where fisters dwell and brothers meet, Quarrels should never come.

Birds in their little nests agree; And 'tis a shameful fight When children of one family

Fall out, and chide, and fight.

Hard names at first, and threat'ning words,

That are but noify breath, May grow to clubs and naked fwords, To murder and to death.

The devil tempts one mother's fon To rage against another; So wicked Cain was hurried on 'Till he had kill'd his brother.

The wife will make their anger cool, At least before 'tis night; But in the bosom of a fool It burns till morning-light,

Pardon, O Lord, our childish rage, Our little brawls remove:

That, as we grow to riper age, Our hearts may all be love.

SONG XVIII.

Against Scoffing and calling Names.

OUR tongues were made to bless the Lord, And not speak ill of men; When others give a railing word, We must not rail again.

Cross words and angry names require
To be chastis'd at school;
And he's in danger of hell-fire,
That calls his brother fool.

But lips that dare be fo profane,
To mock, and jeer, and fcoff
At holy things, or holy men,
The Lord shall cut them off.

When children in their wanton play Serv'd old Elisha so,

And bid the Prophet go his way, "Go up, thou Bald-bead, go;"

God quickly stopt their wicked breath, And fent two raging bears,

That tore them limb from limb to death, With blood, and groans, and tears.

Great God, how terrible art thou
To finners, e'er so young!
Grant me thy grace, and teach me how

To tame and rule my tongue.

SONG XIX.

Against Swearing, and Cursing, and taking God's Name in vain.

A Ngels, that high in glory dwell, Adore thy name, Almighty God! And devils tremble down in hell, Beneath the terrors of thy rod.

And yet how wicked children dare Abuse thy dreadful, glorious name! And when they're angry, how they swear,

And curse their fellows, and blaspheme!

D

III.

How will they stand before thy face, Who treated thee with such disdain, While thou shalt doom them to the place

Of everlasting fire and pain!

Then never shall one cooling drop To quench their burning tongues be giv'n;

But I will praise thee here, and hope Thus to employ my tongue in heav'n.

My heart shall be in pain to hear Wretches affront the Lord above: 'Tisthat great God, whose pow'r! fear, That heavenly Father, whom I love.

If my companions grow profane, I'll leave their friendship when I hear Young sinners take thy name in vain, And learn to curse, and learn to swear.

SONG XX.

Against Idleness and Mischief.

HOW doth the little bufy bee Improve each shining hour, And gather honey all the day From ev'ry op'ning flow'r!

How skilfully she builds her cell!

How neat she spreads the wax!

And labours hard to store it well

With the sweet food she makes.

III.

In work of labour, or of skill,

I would be bufy too;

For Satan finds some mischief still

For idle hands to do.

In books, or work, or healthful play,
Let my first years be past,
That I may give for ev'ry day
Some good account at last.

SONG XXI.

Against Evil Company.

I.

HY should I join with those in play
In whom I've no delight,
Who curse and swear, but never pray,
Who call ill names, and fight?

I hate to hear a wanton fong,
Their words offend my ears;
I should not dare defile my tongue
With language such as theirs.

Away from fools I'll turn mine eyes, Nor with the scoffers go; I would be walking with the wise,

That wifer I may grow.

They learn the wicked jest;
One fickly sheep infects the flock,
And poisons all the rest.

My God, I hate to walk, or dwell
With finful children here;
Then let me not be fent to hell,
Where none but finners are.

SONG XXII.

Against Pride in Cloaths.

Till Eve, our mother, learnt to fin.

When first she put the cov'ring on, Her robe of innocence was gone: And yet her children vainly boast In the sad marks of glory lost,

How proud we are! how fond to shew Our cloaths, and call them rich and new When the poor sheep and silk-worm wore

That very cloathing long before.

 D_3

FOR CHILDREN.

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IV.

The tulip and the butterfly
Appear in gayer coats than I;
Let me be dreft fine as I will,
Flies, worms, &flow'rs exceed me ftill.

Then will I fet my heart to find Inward adornings of the mind; Knowledgeand virtue, truth and grace, These are the robes of richest dress.

No more shall worms with me compare, This is the raiment angels wear: The Son of God, when here below, Put on this blest apparel too.

It never fades, it ne'er grows old, Nor fears the rain, nor moth, nor mould;

It takes no spot, but still refines; The more 'tis worn, the more it shines. VIII.

In this on earth would I appear, Then go to heav'n, and wear it there; God will approve it in his fight, 'Tis his own work, and his delight.

SONG XXIII.

Obedience to Parents.

ET children that would fear the

Hear what their teachers fay; With rev'rence meet their parents word,

And with delight obey. A sholl had

Have you not heard what dreadful plagues

Are threaten'd by the Lord To him that breaks his father's law, Or mocks his mother's word?

What heavy guilt upon him lies! How curfed is his name!

The ravens shall pick out his eyes,
And eagles eat the same.

But those who worship God, and give. Their parents honour due,

Here on this earth they long shall live, And live hereafter too.

SONG XXIV.

The Child's Complaint.

HY should I love my sport so well?
So constant at my play?
And lose the thoughts of heav'n & hell?
And then forget to pray?
H.

What do I read my bible for,
But, Lord, to learn thy will?
And shall I daily know thee more,
And less obey thee still?

How fenfeless is my heart, and wild!

How vain are all my thoughts!

Pity the weakness of a child,

And pardon all my faults.

Make me thy heav'nly voice to hear, And let me love to pray, Since God will lend a gracious ear To what a child can fay.

SONG XXV.

A Morning Song.

Y God who makes the fun to know

His proper hour to rife,
And to give light to all below,
Doth fend him round the fkies.

When from the chambers of the east His morning race begins, He never tires, nor stops to rest, But round the world he shines.

III.

So like the fun, would I fulfil

The business of the day;

Begin my work betimes, and still

March on my heav'nly way.

Give me, O Lord, thy early grace, Nor let my foul complain

That the young morning of my days Has all been spent in vain.

SONG XXVI.

An Evening Song.

A ND now another day is gone,
I'll fing my Maker's praife;
My comforts ev'ry hour make known
His providence and grace.

But how my childhood runs to waste!
My fins, how great their sum!
Lord, give me pardon for the past,
And strength for days to come.

I lay my body down to fleep,
Let angels guard my head,
And thro' the hours of darkness keep
Their watch around my bed.

With chearful heart I close my eyes,
Since thou wilt not remove;
And in the morning let me rise
Rejoicing in thy love.

SONG XXVII.

For the Lord's-Day Morning.

THIS is the day when Christ arose
So early from the dead;
Why should I keep my eye-lids clos'd,
And waste my hours in bed?
II.

This is the day when Jesus broke
The pow'rs of death and hell;
And shall I still wear Satan's yoke,
And love my fins so well?

To-day, with pleasure, Christians meet To pray, and hear the word: And I would go with chearful feet

To learn thy will, O Lord.

I'll leave my fport to read and pray, And so prepare for heaven:

O may I love this blessed day The best of all the seven.

SONG XXVIII.

For the Lord's-Day Evening.

ORD! how delightful 'tis to see A whole assembly worship thee! At once they fing, at once they pray; They hear of heav'n, and learn the way.

I have been there, and still will go, 'Tis like a little heav'n below;
Not all my pleasure and my play
Shall tempt me to forget this day.

III.

O write upon my mem'ry, Lord, The texts and doctrines of thy word; That I may break thy laws no more, But love thee better than before.

With thoughts of Christ, and things divine,

Fill up this foolish heart of mine; That, hoping pardon thro' his blood, I may lie down, and wake with God. The Ten Commandments, out of the Old Testament, put into short Rhime for Children.

EXODUS, Chap. xx.

1. THOU shalt have none other Gods but me.

2. Before no idol bow thy knee.

3. Take not the name of God in vain.

4. Nor dare the Sabbath-day profane.

5. Give both thy parents honour due.

6. Take heed that thou no murder do.

 Abstain from words and deeds unclean.

8. Norsteal, tho' thou art poor & mean.

9. Nor make a wilful lye, nor love it.

10. What is thy neighbour's dare not covet.

The Sum of the Commandments, out of the New Testament.

MATTHEW xxii. 37.

WITH all thy foul love God above.

And as thyfelf thy neighbour love.

E

FOR CHILDREN.

51

Our Saviour's Golden Rule.

MATTHEW vii. 12.

BE you to others kind and true, As you'd have others be to you; And neither do nor fay to men Whate'er you would not take again.

Duty to God and our Neighbour.

LOVE God with all your foul and ftrength,

With all your heart and mind, And love your neighbour as yourfelf; Be faithful, just, and kind.

Deal with another as you'd have Another deal with you;

What you're unwilling to receive,

Be fure you never do.

Out of my Book of Hymns I have here added the Hosfanna and Glory to the Father, &c. to be fung at the End of any of these Songs, according to the Direction of Parents or Governors.

The Hosanna; or, Salvation ascribed to Christ.

I

Ofanna to King David's Son, Who reigns on a superior throne; We bless the Prince of heav'nly birth, Who brings salvation down on earth.

Let ev'ry nation, ev'ry age, In this delightful work engage; Old men and babes in Sion fing The growing glories of her King!

Common Metre.

Hofanna to the Prince of Grace, Sion behold thy King!
Proclaim the Son of David's race,
And teach the babes to fing.
II.

Who from the Father came; Afcribe falvation to the Lord, With bleffings on his name.

Short Metre.

HOfanna to the Son
Of David, and of God,
Who brought the news of pardon
down,

And bought it with his blood.

To Christ, th' anointed King,
Be endless blessings giv'n;
Let the whole earth his glory sing,
Who made her peace with heav'n,
Glory to the Father, Son, &c.

Long Metre.

TO God the Father, God the Son, And God the Spirit, three in one, Be honour praise and glory giv'n, By all on earth and all in heav'n.

Common Metre

And Spirit be ador'd,
Where there are works to make him
known,
Or Saints to love the Lord.

Short Metre.

Give glory to the Son,
And to the Spirit of his grace
Be equal honour done.

A SLIGHT SPECIMEN of MORAL SONGS,

Such as I wish some happy and condescending Genius would undertake for the Use of Children, and perform much better.

THE fense and subjects might be borrowed plentifully from the Proverbs of Solomon, from all the common appearances of nature, from all the occurrences of civil life, both in city and country; (which would also afford matter for other divine songs.) Here the language and measures should beeasy, and flowing with chearfulness, with or without the solemnities of religion, or the sacred names of God and Holy Things; that children might find delight and profit together.

This would be one effectual way to deliver them from the temptation of loving or learning those idle, wanton, or profane fongs, which give so early an ill taint to the fancy and memory, and become the seeds of future vices.

I. The Sluggard.

TIS the voice of the Sluggard; I heard him complain, You have wak'd me too foon, I must slum-

ber again.

As the door on its hinges, fo he on his bed Turns his fides, and his shoulders, and his heavy head.

II.

Alittlemoresseep and a little more sumber, Thus he wastes half his days and his hours without number;

And when he gets up, he fits folding his hands,

Or walks about faunt'ring, or trifling he ftands.

marble HI.

I pass by his garden, and saw the wild brier,

The thornand the thiftle grows broader and higher;

The clothes that hang on him are turning to rags;

Andhis money still wastes, tillhe starves or he begs.

le him a vifit fill hoping to find

I made him a vifit, still hoping to find He had took better care for improving his mind:

He told me his dreams, talk'd of eat-

ing and drinking;

But he scarce reads his bible, and never loves thinking.

Said I then to my heart, bere's a leffon for me;

That man's but a picture of what I might be;

But thanks to my friends for their care in my breeding,

Who taught me betimes to love working and reading.

II. Innocent Play.

A Broad in the meadows to fee the young lambs [dams, Run fporting about by the fide of their With fleeces fo clean and fo white;

Or a nest of young doves in a large open cage, [anger or rage, When they play all in love without How much may be learnt from the fight! early dire bas said

If we had been ducks we might dabble in mud; fin blood; Or dogs, we might play till it ended So foul and so fierce are their natures; But Thomas and William, and fuch pretty names,

Should be cleanly and harmless as doves, or as lambs,

Those lovely sweet innocent creatures.

Not a thing that we do, nor a word that we fay, [play; Should hinder another in jesting or For he's still in earnest that's hurt:

How rude are the boys that throw pebbles and mire!

There's none but a madman will fling about fire,

And tell you, 'tis all but in Sport.

III. The Rose.

Bur gain a good mund by well a HOW fair is the Rose, what a beautiful flow'r!

The glory of April and May! But the leaves are beginning to fade

in an hour,

And they wither and die in a day.

Yet the rose has one powerful virtue to boaft

Above all the flow'rs of the field: When its leaves are all dead, and fine colours are loft,

Still how fweet a perfume it will yield!

So frail is the youth and the beauty of men,

Tho' they bloom and look gay like, the Rose:

But all our fond care to perferve them is vain:

Time kills them as fast as he goes.

Then I'll not be proud of my youth or my beauty,

Since both of them wither and fade: But gain a good name by well doing my duty; dead. This will fcent like a Rose when I'm

IV. The Thief.

egene side sing Landy THY should I deprive my neighbour Of his goods against his will? Hands were made for honest labour, Not to plunder, or to steal.

'Tis a foolish felf-deceiving By fuch tricks to hope for gain: All that's ever got by Thieving Turns to forrow, fhame, and pain.

Have not Eve and Adam taught us Their fad profit to compute? To what dismal state they brought us When they stole forbidden fruit?

Oft we fee a young beginner

Practife little pilf'ring ways, 'Till grown up a harden'd finner; Then the gallows ends his days.

Theft will not be always hidden, Tho' we fancy none can fpy: When we take a thing forbidden, God beholds it with his eye.

Guard my heart, O God of heaven, Left I covet what's not mine: Lest I steal what is not given, Guard my heart and hands from fin.

V. The Ant or Emmet.

HESE Emmets, how little they are in our eyes! We tread them to dust, and a troop of them dies Without our regard or concern;

Yet, as wife as we are, if we went to their school,

There's many a fluggard, and many a fool,

Some lessons of wisdom might learn.

They don't wear their time out in fleeping or play,

But gather up corn in a fun-shiny day, And for winter they lay up their stores. They manage their work in such regular forms,

One wou'd think they forefaw all the frosts and the storms,

And fo brought their food within doors.

III.

But I have less sense than a poor creeping Ant, [shall want, f I take not due care for the things I Nor provide against dangers in time. When death, or old age, shall stare in my face, [my days, What a wretch shall I be in the end of

If I trifle away all their prime!

Now, now, while my ftrength and my youth are in bloom,

Let me think what will ferve me when fickness shall come,

And pray that my fins be forgiv'n: Let me read in good books, and believe, and obey,

That when death turns me out of this cottage of clay I may dwell in a palace in heav'n.

VI. Good Refolutions.

THO' I am now in younger days,
Nor can tell what shall befal me,
I'll prepare for ev'ry place
Where my growing age shall call me,
II.
Should I e'er be rich or great,
Others shall partake my goodness,
I'll supply the poor with meat,

Never shewing fcorn or rudeness.

111

Where I fee the blind or lame,
Deaf or dumb, l'll kindly treat them;
I deserve to feel the same,
If I mock, or hurt, or cheat them.

If I meet with railing tongues,
Why should I return them railing,
Since I best revenge my wrongs,
By my patience never failing?
V.

When I hear them telling lies,
Talking, foolish, cursing, swearing,
First I'll try to make them wise,
Or I'll soon go out of hearing.
VI.

What tho' I be low and mean,
I'll engage the rich to love me,
While I'm modest, neat, and clean,
And submit when they reprove me,
VII.

If I should be poor and sick,
I shall meet, I hope, with pity,
Since I love to help the weak,
Tho' they're neither fair nor witty.

I'll not willingly offend,
Nor be easily offended;

What's amiss I'll strive to mend, And endure what can't be mended.

May I be so watchful still
O'er my humours and my passion
As to speak and do no ill,
Tho' it should be all the fashion.

X.

Wicked fashions lead to hell,
Ne'er may I be found complying;
But in life behave so well
Not to be afraid of dying.

VII. A Summer Evening.

bright was the day been! How bright was the Sun! [he run, How lovely & joyful the course that Tho' he rose in a mist when his race he begun,

And there followed fome droppings of rain;

F 2

But now the fair traveller's come to the west; [are best; His rays are all gold, and his beauties He paints the fky gay as he finks to his rest,

And foretells a bright rifing again.

Just fuch is the Christian: His course he begins

Like the fun in a mist, while he mourns for his fins,

And melts into tears: Then he breaks out and shines,

And travels his heavenly way: But when he comes nearer to finish his race,

Like a fine fetting fun he looks richer his days in grace, And gives a fure hope at the end of

Of rifing in brighter array.

Some Copies of the following Hymn having got abroad already into several Hands, the Author has been perfuaded to permit it to appear in Public, at the End of these Songs for Children.

ACRADLE HYMN.

TUSH! my dear, lie still and flumber, Holy angels guard thy bed!

Heav'nly bleffings without number Gently falling on thy head.

Sleep, my babe; thy food and raiment, House and home thy friends provide :

All without thy care and payment, All thy wants are well fupply'd.

How much better thou'rt attended Than the Son of God could be, When from heaven he descended, And became a child like thee!

IV.

Soft and easy is thy cradle:
Coarse and hard thy Saviour lay,
When his birth-place was a stable,

And his foftest bed was hay.

Bleffed babe! what glorious features, Spotless fair, divinely bright!

Must he dwell with brutal creatures? How could angels bear the fight?

Was there nothing but a manger Curfed finners could afford

To receive the heavenly stranger?

Did they thus affront their Lord?

Soft, my child; I did not chide thee, Tho' my fong might found too hard;

Tis thy \{ * Mother Nurse that \} sits beside thee,

And her arms shall be thy guard.

VIII.

Yet to read the shameful story How the Jews abus'd their King,

How they ferv'd the Lord of Glory, Makes me angry while I fing.

See the kinder shepherds round him, Telling wonders from the sky;

There they fought him, there they found him,

With his Virgin Mother by.

See the lovely babe a-dreffing; Lovely infant, how he fmil'd!

When he wept, the Mother's bleffing Sooth'd and hush'd the holy child.

Lo, he flumbers in his manger, Where the horned oxen fed;

Peace, my darling, here's no danger, Here's no ox a-near thy bed.

'Twas to fave thee, child, from dying, Save my dear from burning tlame, Bitter groans, and endless crying,

That thy bleft Redeemer came.

Here you may use the words, Brother, Sister, Neighbour, Friend, &c.

XIII.

Mayst thou live to know and fear him,
Trust to love him all thy days;
Then go dwell for ever near him,
See his face, and sing his praise!

I could give thee thousand kisses, Hoping what I most desire; Not a mother's fondest wishes Can to greater joys aspire.

THE END.

Blef a lord thefe They good creatures for our use and it. To they fervice for Jefus chrift his fake our andy faviour a men. Sarah Isronen Murch Jonen

Jerah Brown Sarah Jahens wis Born october the sionth the Sanah Crown John Blench Brown, bonn April 1807. Marry Promon march Jan 1804 Bor Smore 1. The March the 19 Day the year 1805



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