

DIVINE

SONGS,

ATTEMPTED IN

EASY LANGUAGE.

FOR THE USE OF

CHILDREN.

By I. WATTS, D.D.

Out of the Mouth of Babes and Sucklings thou hast perfected Praise. Matt. xxi. 16.

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TO ALL THAT ARE CONCERNED

In the Education of CHILDREN.

My Friends,

T is an awful and impor-I is tant Charge that is committed to you. The Wifdom and Welfare of the fucceeding Generation are entrusted with you before hand, and depend much on your Conduct. The Seeds of Misery 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 a Relish of Virtue and Religion, ought in the first Place, to be proposed to you.

A 2

VERSE

VERSE was at first designed for the Service of God, tho'it hath been wretchedly abused since.— 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 Song of Moses, Deut. xxxi. 19, 30. And we are directed in the New Testament, not only to fing with Grace in the Heart; but to teach, and admonish one another by Hymns and Songs, Ephef. v. 19. And there are these four Advantages in it.

1. There is a great Delight in the very learning of Truths and Duties this Way. There is fomething so amusing and entertaining in Rhymes and Metre, that will incline 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 Day 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 fooner 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 some Temptations, or to incline to some Duty, when a Word of Scripture is not upon their Thoughts.

A 3

- 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 such Time as the Parents or Governors shall appoint; and therefore I have confined the Verse to the most usual Psalm Tunes.

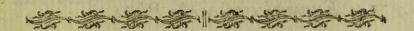
The greatest Part of this little Book was composed several Years.

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 Succels. So that you will find here nothing that favors of a Party: The Children of high and low degree, of the Church of England or 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; fo I have defigned to profit 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, some ATTEMPTS OF SONNETS, on Moral Sub-

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 fucceed 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 Bleffing to the Earth.



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DIVINE SONGS

FOR

CHILDREN.

SONG I.

A general Song of Praise to God.

I.

How shall a Child presume to sing
His dreadful Majesty?

II.

How great his Pow'r is none can tell, Nor think how large his Grace; Not Men below, nor Saints that dwell On high before his Face.

B

III.

III.

Not Angels that stand round the Lord Can search his secret Will; But they perform his heav'nly Word, And sing his Praises still.

IV.

Then let me join this Holy Train, And my first Off'rings bring, Th' Eternal God will not disdain To hear an Infant sing.

V.

My Heart resolves, 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.

I.

Sing th' Almighty Pow'r of God,
That made the Mountains rife,
That spread the flowing Seas abroad,
And built the lofty Skies.

II.

I fing the Wisdom that ordain'd The Sun to rule the Day; The Moon shines full at his Command, And all the Stars obey.

III.

I fing the Goodness of the Lord, That fill'd the Earth with Food: He form'd the Creatures with his Word, And then pronounc'd them good.

IV.

Lord, how thy Wonders are display'd, Where'er I turn mine Eye, If I survey the Ground I tread, Or gaze upon the Sky.

V

There's not a Plant, or Flower below, But makes thy Glories known; And Clouds arife, and Tempests blow, By Order from thy Throne.

VI.

Creatures (as num'rous as they be) Are subject to thy Care; There's not a Place where we can flee, But God is present there.

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.

VIII.

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.

I.

BLest be the Wisdom and the Pow'r,
The Justice and the Grace,
That join'd in Council to restore,
And save our ruin'd Race.

II.

Our Father eat forbidden Fruit,
And from his Glory fell,
And we his Children thus were brought
To Death, and near to Hell.

III.

III.

Blest be the Lord, that sent his Son To take our Flesh and Blood; He for our Lives gave up his own, To make our Peace with God.

IV.

He honour'd all his Father's Laws, Which we have disobey'd; He bore our Sins upon the Cross, And our full Ransom paid.

V.

Behold him rising from the Grave,
Behold him rais'd on high;
He pleads his Merit there, to save
Transgressors doom'd to die.

VI.

There on a glorious Throne he reigns,
And by his Pow'r divine,
Redeems us from the slavish Chains
Of Satan, and of Sin.

VII.

Thence shall the Lord to Judgment come, And with a sov'reign Voice Shall call, and break up ev'ry Tomb, While waking Saints rejoice.

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VIII.

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.

I.

Hen'er I take my Walks abroad, How many Poor I see? What shall I render to my God For all his Gifts to me?

II.

Yet God hath given me more;
For I have Food while others starve,
Or beg from Door to Door.

III.

How many Children in the Street
Half naked I behold?
While I am cloth'd from Head to Feet,
And cover'd from the Cold.

IV.

IV.

While some poor Wretches scarce can tell
Where they may lay their Head;
I have a Home wherein to dwell,
And rest upon my Bed.

V.

While others early learn to swear,
And curse, and lye, and steal;
Lord, I am taught thy Name to fear,
And do thy holy Will.

VI.

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.

I.

Reat 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.
II.

II.

'Tis to thy sov'reign Grace I owe,
That I was born on British Ground,
Where Streams of heav'nly Mercy flow,
And Words of sweet Salvation sound.

III.

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.

IV.

How do I pity those that dwell
Where Ignorance and Darkness reigns?
They know no Heaven, they fear no Hell,
Those endless Joys, those endless Pains.

V.

Thy glorious Promises, O Lord, Kindle my Hopes and my Desire; While all the Preachers of thy Word Warn me to 'scape eternal Fire.

VI.

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.

SONG VI.

Praise for the Gospel.

I.

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.

II.

What would the ancient Jewish Kings,
And Jewish Prophets, once have giv'n,
Could they have heard these glorious things
Which Christ reveal'd and brought from
(Heaven.

III.

How glad the Heathens would have been, That worship Idols, Wood, and Stone, If they the Book of God had seen, Or Jesus, and his Gospel known!

IV.

Then if this Gospel I refuse,

How shall I e'er list up mine Eyes?

For all the Gentiles, and the Jews,

Against me will in Judgment rise.

SONG.

SONG VII.

The Excellency of the Bible.

I.

Reat God, with wonder and with Praise
On all thy Works I look;
But still thy Wisdom, Pow'r and Grace,
Shine brighter in thy Book.

II.

The Stars that in their Courses roll,

Have much Instruction given;

But thy good Word informs my Soul

How I may climb to Heav'n.

III.

The Fields provide me Food, and shew
The Goodness of the Lord;
But Fruits of Life, and Glory grow
In thy most holy Word.

IV.

Here are my choicest Treasures hid Here my best Comfort lies; Here my Desires are satisfy'd, And hence my Hopes arise.

V

Lord, make me understand thy Law,
Show what my Faults have been;
And from thy Gospel let me draw
Pardon for all my Sin.

VI.

Here would I learn how CHRIST has dy'd To fave my Soul from Hell: Not all the Books on Earth befide Such heav'nly 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.

Praise to God for learning to Read.

I.

HE Praises of my Tongue
I offer to the Lord,
That I was taught, and learnt so young
To read his holy Word.

II.

That I am brought to know
The Danger I was in,
By Nature, and by Practice too,
A wretched Slave to Sin.

III.

That I am led to fee
I can do nothing well;
And whither shall a Sinner flee,
To save himself from Hell?

IV.

Dear Lord, this Book of thine
Informs me where to go
For Grace to pardon all my Sin;
And make me holy too.

V.

Here I can read, and learn
How Christ, the Son of God,
Has undertook our great Concern;
Our Ransom cost his Blood.

VI.

And now he reigns above,

He sends his Spirit down,

To shew the Wonders of his Love,

And make his Gospel known.

VII.

O may that Spirit teach,
And make my Heart receive
Those Truths which all thy Servants preach,
And all thy Saints believe.

VIII.

Then shall I praise the Lord
In a more cheerful Strain,
That I was taught to read his Word,
And have not learnt in vain.

SONG IX.

The All-seeing God.

I.

A Lmighty God, thy piercing Eye
Strikes through the shades of Night,
And our most secret Actions lie
All open to thy Sight.

II.

There's not a Sin that we commit, Nor wicked Word we say, But in thy dreadful Book 'tis writ, Against the Judgment-Day.

III.

III.

And must the Crimes that I have done,
Be read and publish'd there;
Be all expos'd before the Sun,
While Men and Angels hear?

IV.

Lord, at thy Foot asham'd I lie, Upward I dare not look; Pardon my Sins before I die, And blot them from thy Book.

V.

Remember all the dying Pains
That my Redeemer felt,
And let his Blood wash out my Stains,
And answer for my Guilt.

VI.

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.

SONG X.

Solemn Thoughts of God and Death.

T.

HERE is a God that reigns above, Lord of the Heavens, & Earth & Seas; I fear his Wrath, I ask his Love, And with my Lips I fing his Praise.

II.

There is a Law which he has writ, To teach us all what we must do: My Soul, to his Commands submit, For they are holy, just and true.

III.

There is a Gospel of rich Grace, Whence Sinners all their Comforts draw, Lord! I repent, and feek thy Face, For I have often broke thy Law.

IV.

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.

V.

Let me improve the Hours I have, Before the Day of Grace is fled; There's no Repentance in the Grave, Nor Pardons offer'd to the Dead.

VI.

Just as a Tree cut down, that fell To North, or Southward, there it lies; So Man departs to Heaven or Hell, Fix'd in the State wherein he dies.

SONG XI.

Heaven and Hell.

I.

HERE is beyond the Sky,

A Heaven of Joy and Love;

And holy Children when they die

Go to that World above.

II.

There is a dreadful Hell,
And everlasting Pains,
There Sinners must with Devils dwell
In Darkness, Fire, and Chains.

III.

Can fuch a Wretch as I

Escape this cursed End?

And may I hope whene'er I die

I shall to Heav'n ascend?

IV.

Then will I read and pray,
While I have Life and Breath;
Lest I should be cut off To-day,
And sent t'eternal Death.

SONG XII.

The Advantages of early Religion.

I.

Appy's the Child whose youngest years
Receive Instructions well;
Who hates the Sinners' Path, and fears
The Road that leads to Hell.

II.

When we devote our Youth to God,
'Tis pleasing in his Eyes;
A Flower, when offer'd in the Bud,
Is no vain Sacrifice.

C 3

III.

'Tis easier Work if we begin,
To fear the Lord betimes;
While Sinners that grow old in SinAre harden'd in their Crimes.

IV.

'Twill save us from a thousand Snares
To mind Religion young;
Grace will preserve our following Years,
And make our Virtue strong.

V.

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

VI.

Let the sweet Work of Prayer and Praise Employ my youngest Breath; Thus I'm prepar'd for longer Days, Or sit for early Death.

SONG XIII.

The Danger of Delay.

I.

WHY should I say, "'Tis yet too soon To seek for Heaven, or think of Death!" A Flower may sade before 'tis Noon, And I this Day may loose my Breath.

II.

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.

III.

What if the Lord grow wroth and swear, (While I refuse to read and pray)
That he'll refuse to lend an Ear
To all my Groans another Day.

IV.

What if his dreadful Anger burn, While I refuse his offer'd Grace, And all his Love to Fury turn, And strike me dead upon the Place?

V.

'Tis dang'rous to provoke a God; His Pow'r and Vengeance none can tell; One Stroke of his Almighty Rod Shall send young Sinners quick to Hell.

VI.

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 my Maker's Face.

SONG XIV.

Examples of early Piety.

I.

WHAT bless'd Examples do I find Writ in the Word of Truth, Of Children that began to mind Religion in their Youth.

II.

Jesus, 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.

III.

At twelve Years old he talk'd with Men, (The Jews all wond'ring stand) Yet he obey'd his Mother then, And came at her Command.

IV.

Children a sweet Hosanna sung,
And blest their Saviour's Name;
They gave him Honor with their Tongue,
While Scribes and Priests blaspheme.

V.

Samuel the Child was wean'd, and brought
To wait upon the Lord;
Young Timothy betimes was taught
To know his holy Word.

VI.

Then why should I so long delay What others learn so soon? I would not pass another Day Without this Work begun.

SONG XV.

Against Lying.

I.

'Tis a lovely Thing for Youth
To walk betimes in Wisdom's Way;
To fear a Lie, to speak the Truth,
That we may trust to all they say.

II.

But Liars we can never trust, [true; Tho' they should speak the thing that's And he that does one Fault at first, And lyes to hide it, makes it two.

III.

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?

IV.

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.

V.

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.

VI.

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.

I.

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.

II.

But, Children, you should never let Such angry Passions rise; Your little Hands were never made To tear each other's Eyes.

III.

Let Love thro' all your Actions rnn, And all your Words be mild; Live like the bleffed Virgin's Son, That sweet and lovely Child.

IV.

His Soul was gentle as a Lamb;
And as his Stature grew,
He grew in Favor both with Man,
And God his Father too.

V.

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.

SONG XVII.

Love between Brothers and Sisters.

I.

Hatever Brawls disturb the Street,
There should be Peace at Home;
Where Sisters dwell and Brothers meet,
Quarrels should never come.

II.

Birds in their little Nests agree;
And 'tis a shameful Sight,
When Children of one Family
Fall out, and chide, and fight.

III.

Hard Names at first, & threat'ning Words, That are but noisy Breath, May grow to Clubs and naked Swords, To Murder and to Death.

IV.

The Devil tempts one Mother's Son
To rage against another;
So wicked Cain was hurry'd on
'Till he had kill'd his Brother.

V.

The Wise will make their Anger cool, At least, before 'tis Night; But in the Bosom of a Fool It burns till Morning Light.

VI.

Pardon, O Lord, our childish Rage,
Our little Brawls remove;
That as we grow to riper Age,
Our Hearts may all be Love.
D

SONG XVIII.

Against Scoffing and calling Names.

I.

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.

II.

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.

III.

But Lips that dare be so prophane, To mock, and jeer, and scoff At Holy Things, or Holy Men, The Lord shall cut them off.

IV.

When Children, in their wanton Play, Serv'd old Elisha so; And bid the Prophet go his Way, "Go up, thou Bald-head, go;"

V.

God quickly stopt their wicked Breath,
And sent two raging Bears,
That tore them Limb from Limb to Death,
With Blood, and Groans, and Tears.

VI.

Great God, how terrible art thou
To Sinners, ne'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.

I.

And Devils tremble down in Hell,
Beneath the Terrors of thy Rod.

II.

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 2

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?

IV.

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.

V.

My Heart shall be in Pain to hear
Wretches affront the Lord above:
'Tis that great God, whose Power I fear,
That heavenly Father, whom I love,

VI.

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.

I.

I OW doth the little busy Bee
Improve each shining Hour,
And gather Honey all the Day,
From ev'ry opening Flow'r!

II.

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 Works of Labour, or of Skill, I would be bufy too; For Satan finds fome Mischief still For idle Hands to do.

IV.

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.

D 3

SONG XXI.

Against Evil Company.

I.

In whom I've no Delight,
Who curse and swear, but never pray,
Who call ill Names, and fight?

II.

I hate to hear a wanton Song,
Their Words offend my Ears;
I should not dare defile my Tongue
With Language such as their's.

III.

Away from Fools I'll turn my Eyes,
Nor with the Scoffers go;
I would be walking with the Wise
That wifer I may grow.

IV.

From one rude Boy that's us'd to mock,
Then learn the wicked Jest;
One fickly Sheep infects the Flock,
And poisons all the rest.

V.

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

SONG XXII.

Against Pride in Clothes.

I.

WHY should our Garments (made to hide Our Parents shame) provoke our pride? The Art of Dress did ne'er begin, Till Eve, our Mother, learnt to sin.

II.

When first she put the Cov'ring on, Her Robe of Innocence was gone; And yet her Children vairly boast In the sad Marks of Glory lost.

III.

How proud we are! how fond to shew
Our Clothes, and call them rich and new!
When the poor Sheep and Silk-worm wore
That very Clothing long before.

IV.

IV.

The Tulip and the Butterfly
Appear in gayer Coats than I:
Let me be drest, fine as I will,
Flies, Worms, and Flow'rs exceed me still.

V.

Then will I set my Heart to find Inward Adornings of the Mind; Knowledge and Virtue, Truth and Grace, These are the Robes of richest Dress.

VI.

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.

VII.

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 Sight,
'Tis his own Work, and his Delight.
SONG

SONG XXIII.

Obedience to Parents.

Î.

ET Children that would fear the Lord Hear what their Teachers fay; With Rev'rence meet their Parents Word, And with Delight obey.

II.

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?

III.

What heavy Guilt upon him lies!
How curfed is his Name!
The Ravens shall pick out his Eyes,
And Eagles eat the same.

IV.

But those who worship God, and give
Their Parents Honour due,
Here on this Earth they long shall live,
And live hereaster too.

SONG

SONG XXIV.

The Child's Complaint,

I.

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?

II.

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?

III.

How fenseless is my Heart, and wild!

How vain are all my Thoughts!

Pity the Weakness of a Child,

And Pardon all my Faults.

IV.

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.

I.

Y God, who makes the Sun to know His proper Hour to rife,
And to give Light to all below,
Dost fend him round the Skies.

II.

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 Sun, would I fulfil,
The Business of the Day;
Begin my Work betimes, and still
March on my heavenly Way.

IV.

Give me, O Lord, thy early Grace,
Nor let my Soul complain
That the young Morning of my Days
Has all been spent in vain.

SONG XXVI.

An Evening Song.

I.

A ND now another Day is gone,
I'll fing my Maker's Praise;
My Comforts ev'ry Hour make known
His Providence and Grace.

II.

But how my Childhood runs to waste!
My Sins, how great their Sum!
Lord, give me Pardon for the past,
And Strength for Days to come.

III.

I lay my Body down to Sleep,
Let Angels guard my Head:
And thro' the Hours of Darkness keep
Their Watch around my Bed.

IV.

With cheerful 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.

I.

HIS 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 Sins so well?

III.

To-Day, with Pleasure, Christians meet To pray, and hear the Word: And I would go with cheerful Feet, To learn thy Will, O Lord.

IV.

I'll leave my Sport to read and pray,
And so prepare for Heaven:
O may I love this blessed Day
The best of all the seven!

E

SONG XXVIII.

For the Lord's Day Evening.

I.

ORD, how delightful 'tis to see A whole Assembly worship Thee! At once they sing, at once they pray, They hear of Heav'n, and learn the Way.

II.

I have been there, and still would 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.

IV.

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

THE

Ten Commandments,

Out of the Old Testament, put into Short Rhyme for Children.

Exop. xx.

Hou shalt have no more Gods but me.

A 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.

7 Abstain from Words and Deeds unclean.

8 Nor steal, tho' thou art poor and mean.

9 Nor make a wilful Lie, nor love it.

10 What is thy Neighbour's dare not covet.

The Sum of the Commandments out of the New Testament.

MATT. XXII. 37.

And as thyself thy Neighbour love.

Our Saviour's Golden Rule.

MATT. vii. 12.

E 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.

OVE God with all your foul & strength,
With all your Heart and Mind,
And love your Neighbour as yourself;
Be faithful, just, and kind.
Deal with another as you'd have
Another deal with you;
What you're unwilling to receive,
Be sure you never do.

Out of my Book of HYMNS I have here added The Hosanna, 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.

Long Metre.

I.

Who reigns on a superior Throne; We bless the Prince of Heav'nly Birth, Who brings Salvation down on Earth.

II.

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.

E 3

Common Metre.

I.

SION behold thy King!
Proclaim the Son of DAVID's Race,
And teach the Babes to fing.

II.

Hosanna to th' Eternal Word, Who from the Father came; Ascribe Salvation to the Lord, With Blessings on his Name.

Short Metre.

I.

OSANNA to the Son
Of DAVID and of God,
Who brought the News of Pardon down,
And bought it with his Blood.

II.

To Christ, th' anointed King,
Be endless Blessings giv'n;
Let the whole Earth his Glory sing,
Who made our Peace with Heav'n.

Glory

Glory to the Father, and the Son, &c.

Long Metre.

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 Sense and Subjects might be borrowed plentifully from the PROVERES of Solomon, from all the common Appearances of Nature, from all the Occurrences in the civil Life, both in City and Country: (which would also afford Matter for other Divine Songs. Here the Language and Measures should be easy, and flowing with Cheerfulness, with or without the Solemnities of Religion, or the facred 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 Songs, which give so early an ill Taint to the Fancy and Memory, and become the Seeds of suture Vices.

I. The Sluggard.

I.

him complain, [again."
"You have wak'd me too foon, I must slumber As the Door on its Hinges, so he on his Bed,
Turns his Sides and his Shoulders, and his heavy
Head.

II.

"A little more Sleep, and a little more Slumber;"
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 stands.

III.

I pass'd by his Garden, and saw the wild Briar, The Thorn and the Thistle grow broader and higher;

The Clothes than hang on him are turning to Rags;

And his Money still wastes, till he starves or he begs.

IV.

I made him a Visit, still hoping to find,
He had took better Care for improving his Mind:
He told me his Dreams, talk'd of Eating and
Drinking:

But he scarce reads his Bible, and never loves Thinking.

V.

Said I then to my Heart, "Here's a Lesson 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.

I.

A BROAD in the Meadows to fee the young Lambs

Run sporting about by the Side of their Dams, With Fleeces so clean and so white;

Or a Nest of young Doves in a large open Cage, When they play all in Love without Anger or Rage,

How much we may learn from the Sight.

II.

If we had been Ducks we might dabble in Mud; Or Dogs, we might play till it ended in Blood; So foul and so fierce are their Natures;

But Thomas and WILLIAM, and fuch pretty Names,

Should he cleanly and harmless as Doves, or as Lambs,

Those lovely fweet innocent Creatures.

III.

Not a Thing that we do, nor a Word that we fay,

Should hinder another in Jesting or Play; 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.

I.

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.

II.

Yet the Rose has one powerful Virtue to boast,
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!

III.

So frail is the Yourh and Beauty of Man,
Tho' they bloom and look gay like the Rose:
But all our fond Care to preserve them is vain:
Time kills them as fast as he goes.

IV.

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;

This will fcent like a Rose when I'm dead.

IV. The Thief.

I.

WHY shou'd I deprive my Neighbour
Of his Goods against his Will?
Hands were made for honest Labour,
Not to plunder or to steal.

II.

'Tis a foolish self-deceiving

By such Tricks to hope for Gain:

All that's ever got by Thieving

Turns to Sorrow, Shame, and Pain.

III.

Have not Eve and Adam taught us
Their fad Profit to compute?
To what difmal State they brought us
When they stole forbidden Fruit?

IV.

Oft we fee a young Beginner Practife little pilfering Ways, 'Till grown up a harden'd Sinner; 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 Eve.

I ald Daise VI.

Guard my Heart, O God of Heaven, Lest I covet what's not mine: Left I steal what is not given, Guard my Heart and Hands from Sin.

V. The Ant, or Emmet.

All that's ever not by Inichin 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 Sluggard, and many a Fool Some Lessons of Wisdom might learn.

II.

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

But gather up Corn in a Sun-shiny Day, And for Winter they lay up their Stores:

They manage their Work in fuch regular Forms,

One wou'd think they forefaw all the Frost and the Storms,

And so brought their Food within Doors.

III.

But I have less Sense than a poor creeping ANT, If I take not due Care for the Things I shall want,

Nor provide against Dangers in Time.

When Death, or old Age, shall stare in my Face,

What a Wretch shall I be in the End of my Days,

If I trifle away all their Prime?

IV.

Now, now, while my Strength and my Youth are in Bloom,

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

And pray that my Sins be forgiven:
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 Heaven.

VI. Good Resolutions.

I.

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. Lander away all 12 I di

Should I e'er be rich or great,
Others shall partake my Goodness.
I'll supply the Poor with Meat,
Never shewing Scorn nor Rudeness.

III.

Where I fee the Blind or Lame,
Deaf or dumb, I'll kindly treat them;
I deferve to feel the fame,
If I mock, or hurt, or cheat them.

IV.

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 fick,
I shall meet, I hope, with Pity,
Since I love to help the Weak,
Tho' they're neither fair nor witty.

F 3

VIII.

I'll not willingly offend,

Nor be easily offended;

What's amis I'll strive to mend,

And endure what can't be mended.

IX.

May I be fo 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.

I.

HOW fine has the Day been: How bright was the Sun;

How lovely and joyful the Course that he run; Tho' he rose in a Mist when his Race he begun,

And there follow'd some Droppings of Rain:
But now the fair Traveller's come to the West,
His Rays are all Gold, and his Beauties are best,
He paints the Sky gay as he sinks to his Rest,
And foretels a bright rising again.

II.

Just such is the Christian: --- His Course he begins,

Like the Sun in a Mist, while he mourns for his Sins,

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 setting Sun he looks richer in Grace,
And gives a sure Hope at the End of his Days,

Of rifing in brighter Array.

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

A Cradle Hymn.

I.

Holy Angels guard thy Bed!
Heavenly Blessings without Number
Gently falling on thy Head.

II.

Sleep, my Babe; thy Food and Raiment, House and Home thy Friends provide, All without thy Care or Payment, All thy Wants are well supply'd.

III.

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 softest Bed was Hay.

V.

Blessed Babe! what glorious Features,
Spotless fair, divinely bright!
Must be dwell with brutal Creatures?
How could Angels bear the Sight?

VI.

Was there nothing but a Manger Cursed Sinners could afford, To receive the Heav'nly Stranger? Did they thus affront their Lord?

VII.

Soft, my Child, I did not chide thee,
Tho' my Song might found too hard;
'Tis thy {*Mother} that fits befide thee,
And her Arms shall be thy Guard.
VIII.

^{*} Here you may use the Words-Brother, Sister, Neighbour, Friend, &c.

VIII.

Yet to read the shameful Story,
How the Jews abus'd their King,
How they serv'd the LORD of GLORY,
Makes me angry while I sing.

IX.

See the kinder Shepherds round him, Telling Wonders from the Sky: There they fought him, there they found him With his Virgin Mother by.

X.

See the lovely Babe a dreffing;
Lovely Infant how he smil'd!
When he wept, the Mother's Blessing
Sooth'd and hush'd the holy Child.

XI.

Lo! he slumbers in his Manger,
Where the horned Oxen fed;
Peace, my Darling, here's no Danger,
Here's no Ox a-near thy Bed,

XII.

'Twas to fave thee, Child, from dying, Save my Dear from burning Flame, Bitter Groans, and endless crying, That thy blest Redeemer came.

XIII.

XIII.

May'st thou live to know and fear him, Trust and love him all thy Days; Then go dwell for ever near him, See his Face, and sing his Praise!

XIV.

I could give thee Thousand Kisses, Hoping what I most desire; Not a Mother's fondest Wishes Can to greater Joys aspire.

THE END.



A CRADLE HYMN

XUIT.

May'll thou live to loow and feer him,

Trud and love him all thy Days a

Trun to et it for ever near him.

See he free; and fing us Paule!

VIX

I could give thee Thougand Kiffes,
litoping what I most desire;
Vot a Motion's London Willies
Can to greater-Joye aspire.

PHE END.

