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Excuse, great Sir, the ravings of a mind, That can so just a cause for sorrow find; My words too rudely may a monarch greet, For oh! was ever grief like mine discreet! No suff'rings shall my firm alliance end, An unsuccessful, but a faithful friend.

To the DUKE of MARLBOROUGH.

PARDON, great Duke, if Britain's stile delights;
Or if th' Imperial title more invites;
Pardon, great Prince, the failings of a Muse,
That dares not hope for more than your excuse,
Forc'd at a distance to attempt your praise,
And sing your victories in mournful lays,
To cast in shadows, and allay the light,
That wounds, with nearer rays, the dazled sight,
Nor durst in a direct and open strain
Such acts, with her unhallow'd notes, prophane:
In tow'ring verse let meaner heroes grow,
And to elab'rate lines their greatness owe,
Your actions, own'd by ev'ry nation, want
Praises, no greater than a foe may grant.

Oh! when shall Europe, by her MARLBRO's sword, To lasting peace and liberty restor'd,

Allow

Allow her weary champion a retreat,
To his lov'd country and his rifing feat?
Where your foft partner, far from martial noise,
Your cares shall sweeten with domestic joys:
Your conquests she with doubtful pleasure hears,
And in the midst of ev'ry triumph fears;
Betwixt her queen and you divides her life,
A friend obsequious, and a faithful wife.

Hail Woodstock! hail ye celebrated glades!

Grow fast ye woods, and sourish thick ye shades!

Ye rising tow'rs for your new lord prepare,

Like your old Henry come from Gallia's war.

The gen'ral's arms as far the king's o'erpow'r.

As this new structure does surpass the bow'r.

The pleasing prospects and romantic scite,
The spacious compass, and the stately height;
The painted gardens, in their flow'r prime,
Demand whole volumes of immortal rhime,
And if the Muse would second the design,
Mean as they are, should in my numbers shine,
There live, the joy and wonder of our isles,
Happy in Albion's love, and Anna's smiles.

While from the godlike race of Churchill born,
Four beauteous Rosamonds this bow'r adorn,
Who with the ancient syren of the place
In charms might vie, and ev'ry blooming grace;
But bless'd with equal virtues had she been,
Like them she had been favour'd by the Queen,

I 2

Whom

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Whom your high merit, and their own, prefers To all the worthiest beds of England's peers.

Thus the great eagle, when heav'n's wars are o'er,
And the loud thunder has forgot to roar,
Jove's fires laid by, with those of Venus burns,
To his forsaken mate and shades returns;
On some proud tree, more facred than the rest,
With curious art he builds his spacious nest;
In the warm sun lies basking all the day,
While round their fire the gen'rous eaglets play;
Their sire, well-pleas'd to see the noble brood
Fill all the lostiest cedars of the wood.

An ODE on Miss HARRIET HANBURY at Six Years old.

By Sir CHARLES HANBURY WILLIAMS.

I.

Why shou'd I thus employ my time,
To paint those cheeks of rosy hue?
Why shou'd I search my brains for rhime,
To sing those eyes of glossy blue?

II.

The pow'r as yet is all in vain,
Thy num'rous charms, and various graces:
They only serve to banish pain,
And light up joy in parents' faces.

III. But