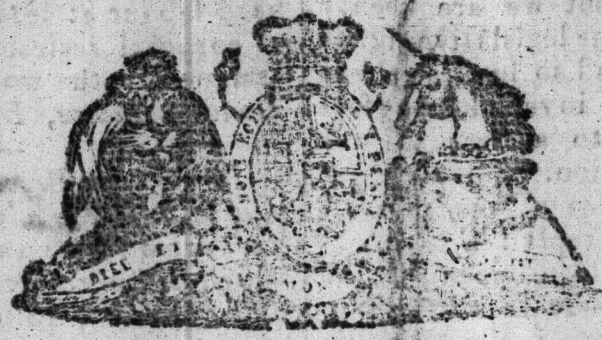


# THE



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### POETRY

#### GOD.

The following sublime ode to the Supreme Being is translated from the Russian. It was written by one of our distinguished poets, D. Zhukov. This ode has never been translated into the Chinese or other languages, written on silk, and suspended in the Imperial Palace at Peking. The Emperor of China had it translated into Japanese characters in gold, and hung up in the temple of Jodo. It is gratifying to learn, that these nations have done themselves the honour to bestow these honours on this noble composition.

We possess, that no man, however powerful his intellect, or sublime his imagination, unacquainted with the spirit, ever did, or ever will, compose a noble poem. It abounds in scriptural allusions. The most parts of the ode were written with the aid of the author, perhaps unconsciously, was written in contemplation of passages in the poem which were the poet, fleeing from the holiness of humanity, takes shelter in the glory of the divine idea, that the Divine Spirit shines in its spirit.

"As when the sunbeam in the drop of dew," immediately after the words, "in thee I live, and breathe, and dwell," is it not manifest that the line of this sublimely beautiful passage is borrowed from Acts xvii, verse 28, "in him we live, and move, and have our being?"—New York Observer.

O, Thou Eternal One! whose presence bright,  
All space doth occupy—all motion guide;  
Unchanged through time's all-everlasting flight,  
Thou only God; there is no God beside.  
Being above all beings! Mighty One!  
Who none can comprehend, and none express;  
Elevating all—supporting—ruling o'er—  
Being, whom we call God—and know no more!

In its sublime research, philosophy  
May measure out the ocean deep—may count  
The sands, or the sun's rays—but God!  
For Thee  
There is no weight nor measure; none can mount  
Up to Thy mysteries; Reason's brightest spark,  
Though kindled by Thy light, in vain would try  
To trace Thy counsels, infinite and dark:  
And though is lost ere thought can soar so high,  
Even like past moments in eternity.

Thou from primeval nothingness didst call  
First, chaos, then existence—LORD, on Thee  
Eternity had its foundation; all  
Sprung forth from Thee; all light, joy, harmony,  
Side origin—all life, all beauty, Thine,  
Thy word created all, and doth create;  
Thy splendour fills and space with rays divine.  
Thou art, and wert, and shalt be!  
Glorious! great!  
Life giving, life sustaining, potentate!

Thy chairs the unmeasured universe surround;  
Upheld by Thee, by Thee inspired with breath!  
Thou the beginning with the end hast bound,  
And beautifully mingled life and death!  
As sparks mount upwards from the fiery flaze,  
So suns are born, so worlds spring forth from Thee,  
And as the spangles in the sunny rays,  
Shine round the silver snow, the pagantry  
Of Heaven's bright army glitters in Thy praise.

A million torches lighted by Thy hand  
Wander, unweaved, through the blue abyss,  
Thy own Thy power, accomplish Thy command,

All gay with life, all eloquent with bliss,  
What shall we call them? Piles of crystal light?  
Glorious company of golden streams?  
Lamps of celestial ether burning bright?  
Suns lighting systems with their joyous beams?  
But Thou to these are as the moon to night—

Yes? a drop of water in the sea.  
All this magnificence in Thee is lost:—  
What are ten thousand worlds compared to Thee?  
And what am I then? Heaven's unnumbered host,  
Though multiplied by myriads and array'd  
In all the glory of sublimest thought,  
Is but an atom in the balance weigh'd  
Against Thy greatness—is a expher bright  
Against infinity: What am I then?—  
Nought.

Nought—but the effluence of Thy light divine,  
Pervading worlds, hath reached my bosom too?  
Yes, in my spirit doth Thy Spirit shine,  
As shines the sunbeam in a drop of dew.  
Nought—but I live, and on hope's pinions fly  
Eager towards Thy presence; for in Thee  
I live, and breathe, and dwell; I lift my eye  
Even to the throne of Thy divinity:  
I am, O God, and surely Thou must be.

Thou art! directing, guiding all, Thou art!  
Direct my understanding then to Thee;  
Control my spirit, guide my wandering heart:  
Thought but an atom 'midst immensity,  
Still I am something fashion'd by Thy hand:  
I hold a middle rank 'twixt heaven and earth,  
On the last verge of mortal being stand,  
Close to the realms where angels have their birth;  
Just on the boundaries of the spirit-land.

The chain of being is complete in me;  
I am its matter's last gradation lost:  
And the next step is spirit—Duty!  
I can command the lightning, and am dust!  
A monarch, and a slave; a worm, a God!  
Whence came I here, and how? so marvellously  
Constructed and conceived? unknown! this clod  
Lives surely through some higher energy;  
For from itself alone it could not be.

Creator! Yes—Thy wisdom and Thy word  
Created me! Thou source of life and good!  
Thou Spirit of my spirit, and my Lord:  
Thy light, thy love, in their bright plenitude,  
Fill'd me with an immortal soul, to spring  
O'er the abyss of death, and bade it wear  
The garments of eternal day, and wing  
Its heavenly flight beyond this little sphere;  
Even to its source—to Thee—its Author there.

O thoughts ineffable! O visions blest!  
Though worthless our conceptions all of Thee,  
Yet shall thy shadow'd image fill our breast,  
And wait its homage to Thy Deity.  
God! thus alone my lowly thoughts can soar,  
Thus seek Thy presence—Being wise

and good!  
Mild! Thy vast works, admire, obey, adore!  
And when the tongue is eloquent no more,  
The soul shall speak in tears of gratitude.

### JAMAICA

The address in reply to the government speech on opening the session was presented on Friday, the 21 of November, and was as follows:—  
"May it please your excellency,  
We, her majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Assembly of Jamaica, thank your excellency for your speech at the opening of the session.

The house join your excellency in bearing testimony to the peaceable manner in which the labouring population have conducted themselves in a state of freedom.  
It certainly was not to be expected that so great a change in the condition of the people would be followed by an immediate return to active labour. The house, however, are willing to believe, that some degree of improvement is taking place, and they sincerely join in the hope expressed by your excellency, that the agricultural interests of the island may ultimately prosper by a resumption of industrious habits on the part of our peasantry in their new condition.

The house would have been ready now, as they ever have been, to give their consideration to every matter submitted to them for promoting the public welfare of the colony; but having taken into their mature consideration, the aggressions which the British parliament continue to make on the rights of the people of this colony; and the confusion and mischief which must result from the present anomalous system of government, they have come to the determination that they will best consult their own honour, the rights of their constituents, and the peace and well-being of the colony, by abstaining from the exercise of any legislative function, except such as may be necessary to preserve inviolate the faith of the island with the public creditor, until they shall be left to the free exercise of their inherent rights as British subjects."

To this his excellency made the following abrupt reply:—  
"I receive with deep regret your reply to the speech with which I opened the present session of the legislature."

The above address was founded upon the following resolutions:—  
Resolved, 1st.—That the act of the British parliament, entitled "An act for the better government of prisons in the West

Indies," is a violation of our inherent rights as British subjects, as recognised by the constitution of this island and by the act of parliament 18 G. 3. c. 111, chap. 12, that the same has not and ought not to have the force of law in this island, and that the authorities will not be justified in acting on it.

Resolved, 2d.—That the violation of our rights by the parliament of Great Britain, in which we are not represented, is the less excusable, inasmuch as the house was prepared, to enter into the consideration of prison discipline, as soon as the report of her majesty's commissioner was officially before them.

Resolved, 3d.—That the house have witnessed, with the deepest regret, the numerous censures passed upon the inhabitants of this island, the extent to which the public mind in Great Britain has been poisoned against them, the absence of all confidence in the legislature, the reckless manner in which the laws passed by it have been dissolved, and the system of legislation for the colonies which has been determined upon, whereby the power of the house has been fettered, and that body has ceased to exist for any purpose useful to the people whom they represent.

Resolved, 4th.—Therefore, that in the opinion of this house, they will best consult their own honour, the rights of their constituents, and the peace and well-being of the colony, by abstaining from the exercise of any legislative function, excepting such as may be necessary to preserve inviolate the faith of the island with the public creditor, until her most gracious majesty's pleasure shall be made known, whether her subjects of Jamaica, now happily all in a state of freedom, are henceforth to be treated as subjects with the power of making laws, as hitherto, for their own government, or whether they are to be treated as a conquered colony, and governed by parliamentary legislation, orders in council, or as in the case of the late amended abolition act, by investing the governor of the island with the arbitrary power of issuing proclamation having the force of law over the lives and properties of the people.

Resolved 5th.—That it be recommended to the house to appoint a committee to prepare an humble address to his excellency the governor, for his speech at the opening of the session.

Shortly after the house was summoned to the Council Chamber, when his excellency was pleased to prorogue the house in the following speech:—  
"Gentlemen, of the Council,