

Verse xciii.—“*Pit's heaven-born general.*” The allusion was made in a speech by the Great Commoner on the Mutiny Bill. That portion which lavishes upon Clive this unstinted praise contained these words: “We had lost our glory, honour and reputation everywhere but in India. There the country had a heaven-born general who had never learned the art of war.” \* \* \*

Verse xcvi.—The author has no intention or desire, by weighing the pros and cons, to enlarge the discussion here. He contents himself with this extract from the biographer of Clive, in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*: “General John Burgoyne, of Saratoga memory, did his best to induce the House of Commons, in which Lord Clive was now member for Shrewsbury, to impeach the man who gave his country an empire, and the people of that empire peace and justice.”

But for Burgoyne—in view of the profound humiliation which the disaster was to bring upon his country—of all men, to have depreciated Clive's imperishable work, “O tempora; O mores!” Gleig says that “had circumstances allowed of his (Clive's) taking the command in America, the dependence of the United States upon the mother country would have continued for at least another half century.”

Verse xcvi.—“*Often the high soul's pinions,*” etc. Beginning with the year 1750, soon after Devicota, when Clive had to give up work of every description, and proceed to the higher latitudes of Bengal to recuperate, he was visited by attacks, more or less serious, of ill-health, these being invariably heightened by his temperamental depression of spirits. When his second Bengal administration was about to close, his life was for weeks despaired of, and his condition for a considerable time after his return home, continued to excite grave apprehension.

With panegyrists in every land to keep the torch of his incomparable fame alight, the author is not driven to justify