

as the oak, that graceth the plain, is high in respect of the shrubs, that creep beneath it, and low in respect of the mountain, that rears its head above the clouds.

Job, who lived in the east whence the light of Masonry first arose, was in different periods of his life an eminent example both of opulence and indigence. In his early days heaven had showered down on him its richest blessings. Even the sumptuous east had never beheld a man so magnificently great. His fields were extensive, his flocks numerous, his houses splendid, his children rising into consequence, his health good and his conscience easy. Can imagination paint a man in more enviable colours? Alas! on what a sandy foundation doth the fabric of human happiness rest? and how suddenly may it be destroyed by the storm of adversity! See calamities rushing on him, not like winds or floods, but like lightning cast from heaven! see him in one day despoiled of his property, of his health and of his children! And in the anguish of distress, hear him exclaiming,

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