

When, Nations hastened at a Despot's call,
 To found a Temple, or erect a wall.
 Tyrants commanded, passive skill obeyed,
 Millions repined, and pyramids* were made :
 But we, rejoicing, that the age has pass'd,
 To fill the world, with monuments, so vast,
 By patient toil, and unrequited skill,
 Passive, and subject to a Tyrant's will ;
 Yet, proudly claim achievements, greater far—
 The ship, the factory, and the rushing car ;
 The mystic art, by which on wings of thought,
 Nations remote, contiguous are brought,
 And cities, scattered over half the Earth,
 Converse, like neighbours round a social hearth.
 We claim the Press, that wondrous art, alone
 Worth more than all, to the great ancients known :
 An orb of light, before whose powerful ray,
 The mist of superstition melts away ;
 The voice, which science gave to liberty,
 To instruct the oppres't, and teach them to be free.
 Ever, oh glorious art, man's rights proclaim ;
 Speak with thy thousand tongues, in freedom's name ;
 Thine is a voice, more terrible by far,
 Than all the thunders of tumultuous war ;
 Thine is a power, which spurns all base controul,
 And stirs the Nations to the inmost soul ;
 Law, Justice, Order, venerate thy word,
 And to the dungeon's depths, thy voice is heard :
 Whilst thou in freedom's name, shalt dauntless speak,
 The slave shall struggle, till his fetters break.
 Immortal Freedom, glorious and divine,

* It is stated by Mr. Buckle in his History of Civilization, on the
 ancient authority of Diodorius Sicculus, that the great Pyramid of
 Cheops required the combined labor of 120,000 men for a period of
 thirty-six years to accomplish its erection.