

dreds of years—whose colours have triumphed on many a field, and whose name is emblazoned on the rolls of history? The Church of our fathers, that has been such a blessing to us all, shall we see her robbed and trampled in the dust by traitors? Let her faithful sons now rally around her in the hour of danger, hold up her arm in the coming struggle, and cling to her the more because of the tempest and the storm:

“ Even as a child, when scaring winds molest,  
Clings close and closer to its mother's breast

so let the stormy trials through which the Kirk has bravely passed and may soon pass again, endear her to our heart more and more. Defend that Zion whose name is music to the ear in a distant land—as British subjects defend your national rights—your national religion—let parliaments and persecutors do as they please. Emulate, my countrymen, the faith and high principle of God's people in their captivity and sorrow. Tread in the path trodden by the feet of saints and martyrs—the path of your pious forefathers who so loved the Kirk that *its very name* was precious to them, as the stones of Zion were dear to Israel, so the hallowed name, “Kirk of Scotland” was dear and sacred to their heart. I warn you before God of the danger of forsaking the old path; of the sin of separating from a Kirk approved by God, and consecrated by the blood of His holy martyrs. Remember the calamities which befel Israel for neglecting their national Church, and how bitterly they bewailed their misfortunes in Babylon. Be faithful then to the trust committed to you by noble ancestors. Stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ has made you free, and be not entangled with the yoke of “union” bondage. Quit you like men; be strong, for the day of trial is approaching. Highlanders, shoulder to shoulder! Be “ready, aye ready,” true men of the Border! “I cannot stand by and see Randolph perish!” was the noble-hearted exclamation of Douglas on the field of Bannockburn; and you and I will be unworthy of the name of Scotland if we allow our brethren to fight unaided—if we stand by and see our liberties perish and the noblest Institution of our nation, and the last vestige of her ancient Independence, fall undefended into the hands of her mortal foes.