

vibrations of the tongue. This is called *tahleel*, *woolwal*, or *olooleh*, and is constantly set up by Eastern women on all occasions of excitement. By men, however, it is only used as an Arab war-cry. I have fully described this remarkable yell in another place.¹ Both these authors justly remark, that in several passages clapping the "hand" in the singular is mentioned, which is the case in all the instances alluded to above as illustrations of clapping for gladness.

But they do not seem to have been aware of the fact that, in the clapping of hands for joy, such as I have described, the palm of the left hand remains comparatively motionless whilst it is struck by the palm of the right, so that it is literally a clapping of the "hand," that is, the left hand. In further confirmation of this, let the reader observe that, as I have already had occasion to remark, the onlookers to this day always call out, "*kaph, kaph!*" "palm, palm!" in the singular; that is, "go on striking the palm" (not "the palms"), when encouraging the mirthful clapping of hands. As distinguished from this, the clapping or smiting of the hands in mourning or anger is emphatically a clapping of "hands"—always in the plural; for, as I have shown in the latter case, first one hand is struck, and then the other. We may indeed point to this as an excellent example of the fine accuracy of language in the Hebrew Scriptures.

Both Paxton and Burder admit that clapping of hands, when in the plural, was also used to express joy, but generally to denote a "malignant satisfaction, a triumphant or insulting joy," and quote in proof of this assertion a passage where hands are in the dual, that is, "two hands."² But if we apply this test to one of the plainest instances of the kind in all Scripture, that already quoted, where Ammon is represented as rejoicing over Israel's downfall, it fails; for "hand" is here in the singular.³ Besides—and this really settles the matter—the cry of *tahleel*, *woolwal*, or *olooleh* is, save in the case of the war-cry of Bedouin Arabs, practised by *women only*;

¹ *Salute One Another; or, The "Kiss" of the Bible*, pp. 76, 77. London: Simpkin, Marshall & Co., 1885.

² Lam. ii. 15.

³ Ezek. xxv. 6.