

^{man's life was engross'd by}
When the whole of man's life ~~was~~ ^{was} love, hunger, & fury,
And man ~~had~~ ^{had} his rank among ^{for a natural}
^{blushing in his follies & then for his days} such herd of fierce ~~warriors~~ ^{warriors} & elected some chief
^{who ruled all the rest} who stood high in the list, as man, butcher & chief.

THM/1124

2

If the warrior thus raised to superior condition
To personal prowess joined art & ambition
To gain sovereign power he no practices spares;
He succeeds - & entails the tam'd herd on his heirs.

3

As the rough stormy night brings a still settled morn
So ferocity's exit was slavery's dawn
Nor could men uninstructed together unite
To wrest off their chains - a spirit nature's right

4

Then the aid of religion was quickly call'd in
& priests paid for teaching all change to be sin
So tyrannical priests their own power to support
With pleasure deserted their God for the ~~short~~.

5

But when printing at length had discover'd the way
How man might to man his ideas convey,
Mind with mind in collision from truth struck a spark
Just sufficient to show them a glimse thro' the dark

6

Her political pile then old England load round
& some pillars of slavery she pull'd to the ground;
But in clearing state rubbish away she was mild,
For political knowledge was then but a child.

But in progress of time when 'twas found that the plan
Of these old gothic piles was unfriendly to man
Poorly France pull'd down hers, & mid nations applause
Transferr'd sovereign power from the king to the Law

A new plan she produces with more symmetry grace,
Less expensive & heavy, more simple & chaste.
Where as failed to still remain, no decree has she path
That the structure for ever unaltered shall last.

Each despot foreboding his power's diminution
With dark visage beheld ^{with dismay} this august revolution
Each despot conspired freedom's throne to pull down
Alarm'd by the tottering he felt in his own

10
But the genius of France from her fetters unbound
The cause still maintains gainst the nations around
& in vain mighty monarchs attempt to erase
The fabric that raised on equality's base.

Read by the Congress of London