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TRANSLATED

For the GAZETTE of the UNITED STATES.

## A DISCOURSE OF STEPHEN BOETIUS, Concerning voluntary Servitude: Or the Anti-Onc.

Οὐκ αγαθὸν πολυκυρασίῃ εἰς κέρατος ἑσθῶ,  
Εἰς Βασιλευς. Iliad, lib. 2, v. 204. 205.

"I SEE no good in having several Lords; let one alone be master; let one alone be King." This was said by Ulysses in Homer, in a public speech. If he had only said I see no good in having several Lords, this would have been said with perfect propriety. To have spoken with reason he should have said, that the domination of several cannot be good, because the power of one alone, as soon as he takes the title of Master, is hard and unreasonable. But he had gone quite to the contrary side and said let one alone be Master; let one alone be King.

Perhaps it is necessary to excuse Ulysses, to whom at that time, it might be necessary to make use of that language, to compose a mutiny in the army, conforming his words, as I believe more to the times than to truth. But to speak in good conscience, it is an extreme misfortune to be subject to a Master, who, we can never be sure will be good, since it is always in his power to be bad when he will. And to have several masters, is as much as to be so many times extremely unfortunate. It is not my design to debate, at present, the question so much agitated, whether the other fashions of republics are better than monarchy. Before I should discuss the question what rank monarchy ought to hold among republics, I should enquire whether it has any; for it is not easy to believe, that there is any thing of a public in a government, where all is in one. But this question is reserved for another occasion; and will require a treatise by itself—or rather it will draw after it, the whole train of political disputes.

At present I wish only to enquire, whether it is possible, and how it is possible, that so many men, so many cities, so many nations endure the tyranny of one, who had no power but such as they give him, who is incapable of hurting them, any longer than they please to endure him, who can do them no evil, unless they choose to suffer it, rather than contradict him. A great thing certainly, and yet so common, that it is the more to be regretted, to see a million of millions of men, serving miserably with their necks under the yoke, not constrained by any greater force, than their own, but enchanted and charmed by the mere name of ONE, whose power they ought not to fear because he is single, whose qualities they ought not to love, because he is to them inhuman and savage. Such is the weakness among us men, we must often submit to force: it is necessary that we temporize; we cannot always be the strongest. If, therefore a nation is constrained by force of arms, to serve one, as the city of Athens the thirty tyrants, it should not refuse to serve, but complain of the accident; or rather neither refuse nor complain, but bear the evil with patience, and reserve itself for better fortune in future. Such is our nature that the common duties of friendship, consume a great part of the course of our lives. It is reasonable to love virtue, to esteem fair actions, to acknowledge benefits where they have been received, and often to diminish our own ease, to increase the honor and advantage of him whom we love, and who deserves well of us. Thus therefore if the inhabitants of a country have found some great personage, who has shown them by experience a great foresight, in watching over them, great courage in defending them, great caution in governing them: If from these considerations they grow familiar and tractable in obedience to him, and confide in him so far, as to give him certain advantages, I know not whether it would be wisdom, to take him out of those circumstances in which he did good, to advance him into others where he might do evil. Certainly it must be called goodness of heart, not to fear evil from him, of whom we have received nothing but good. But, good God! What can this be? What name can we give it? What misfortune? What vice? What miserable vice? To see a multitude, an infinite number, not obey, but serve; not be governed but tyrannized, having neither property, relations, children, nor even their lives which they can call their own?

(To be continued.)

For the GAZETTE of the UNITED STATES.

O D E S.

O D E I.

### HINTS TO REVIEWERS.

YE MEN in whom all Science dwelleth;  
Whose Wisdom far the world's excelleth;  
Who mete out blame in plenteous measure;  
Or give, of praise, the precious treasure;  
Reigning triumphant o'er the field of fame,  
With power unquestion'd, and with right divine;  
Renown'd alike for what you praise or blame:  
Accept this humble offering at your shrine.

Great men, full well you know,  
With all their knowledge, sometimes err.  
A fool may sage advice bestow;  
And oft the mad will virtue show;  
And good to wickedness prefer.  
Then, tho' your learning were as great  
As swells the Owl's projecting pate;  
Tho' your opinions ne'er were wrong;  
Your virtue like the harden'd steel;  
Your souls as tender, and as strong;  
And thro' in beauteous order throng,  
Like tickets in a lottery wheel;  
Yet, without judgment to conduct these powers,  
Vainly you strew rhetoric flowers,  
And all the world astonish with your sense:  
Then, kindly, from your thrones sublime,  
Bestow attention to the rhyme;  
And mark the important rules which I dispense.

Loud groans the Press, the Workmen fly,  
Sheet after sheet appears;  
The Binder plies the screw and shears,  
And a new Work salutes the eye.  
'Five hundred pages! how much toil to read!  
O! mind it not—you do not wish  
To con each sentence, groan, and sigh:  
'Tis not required, in Critics to succeed.  
And never take a general view—  
There's nothing, now that's publish'd—new.

'Tis needful only to select,  
From all the book, a passage here and there,  
To shew how candid, and how smart you are;  
A few old rules in criticism collect;  
With a grave face, press-errors vile, detect;  
Then deal of praise the proper share,  
And suit damnation to a hair.

No matter tho' you chance to blame  
A part which, in relation to the whole,  
Glews with a spirit worthy endless fame,  
And wakes new virtue in the human soul.  
And be not troubled should you praise bestow  
On what, if measured by the extended plan,  
The traits of fell deformity should show.  
And plant new vileness in the heart of man.  
Is't not enough, a passage to disgrace,  
That a poor zigzag Z supplies an S's place?  
Is't not enough, the breath of praise to claim,  
That titles dangle to an Author's name?  
I can't help laughing, for my soul,  
To think how great a fool that Dr. BLAZA must be,  
Who is so anxious, in Reviews, to see  
A part considered as't respects the whole.

If this were right, how wise the Oarich is,  
Who, close pursued, in hollow log or tree  
Thrusts his poor head, and with a joyous hiss,  
His body sticking out, exclaims in glee—  
"If 'twill not work both ways, a poor rule this—  
"I can't see you; you can't discover me."  
Ye who, sublime, o'er Fame's dominion reign,  
Here let me close this monitory strain;  
Help'd by the Muses, at another time,  
New thro'ts, for you, may blest the Man of Rhyme.

J O H N.

From the AMERICAN MERCURY.

THE various bounties granted by our legislature for the encouragement of the farmers in raising Sheep, has greatly increased that useful animal; yet much remains to be done, to bring this business to the utmost state of perfection which this article will admit of. Not only the increase of numbers should be attended to; but the quality of the wool also is an essential object. A short treatise on this subject is much wanted—pointing out the best mode of managing Sheep, so as to procure the greatest increase of their numbers; how to prevent the distempers to which they will be most liable in this climate; what food is most suitable for winter and spring feeding; how to prevent their shedding their wool before the proper season of shearing—and how to procure the finest fleeces, suitable for making superfine cloths. The making wool one of the staple articles of this state, I consider as an object which should not be lost sight of for a moment.—No man who is a descendant of Britain, and who reflects a moment on the causes which have contributed to raise that nation to their envied greatness, can hesitate to pronounce it to be their attention to manufactures—of which, that of wool holds the first place. Those politicians who deride the idea of Connecticut's becoming a manufacturing country, should never be considered as friends to the state—or as wise and useful statesmen.

Great-Britain and Ireland might as well depend on husbandry as we; nay better, for they are in possession of a finer country—their lands produceth better crops, and they have less winter to intercept a constant course of labor in the field, and succession of crops. Yet had Britain depended simply on her husbandry, she would this day have been ranked among the most inferior nations; indeed she had not maintained her independence in the midst of such powerful neighbors.

But our farmers should not confine their attention to raising wool; all parts of the state are not equally well calculated for that purpose:—Hemp and Flax merit their attention, and should be listed amongst their yearly crops. The preparing those articles for market, would furnish labor for the winter months, when so many of our farmers, who have not large crops of grain, are idle. Large sums of money are sent out of this state every year, for hemp—which is now imported, at a heavy expence, from the Baltic. Flax is wanted also for rigging—but immense quantities are demanded for the supply of the Duck Manufactures, over and above the constant demand for coarse linens.

A short treatise on the best method of cultivating those two articles, and preparing them for market, is much wanted: Any one who can furnish such a desirable piece of instruction, adapted to the most common capacity, would better deserve a Doctorate than most of those who now so cheaply obtain them.

There have been several experiments made, about Norwich, in raising hemp, which are said to have proved successful: It is much to be wished a more general spirit of adventure and experiment were observable amongst our farmers—and that they did not content themselves with barely doing what their fathers have done before them.

Some experiments have been made at New-Haven in the cultivating of Flax, so as to produce that article in greater abundance and perfection. I hope those gentlemen who have seen the great benefit of their new mode of culture, will have public spirit enough to publish the result of their experiments, for the purpose of introducing a more general attention to, and adoption of, their improvements.

### EXTRACT.

MEN should never be in haste to conclude that any enquiry is impracticable, merely because there appears no relation between the present means, and the fact to be ascertained; for have all the combinations of these means been tried? If not, who can be certain, that he is acquainted with all the relations between these means and the fact, which is presumed to exist, and proposed to be ascertained? This reflection is strengthened by numberless instances, recorded in every page of the history of natural philosophy, and more especially of physiology. Consider how many inventions, for which the ancients would scarce have dared to hope, even if they had had a distant glimpse of them, have enriched these sciences! Could they have imagined that the artificial foundation of the germs of various animals would one day be accomplished, and that chickens would be hatched without the aid of animal heat, or of a stove? Need I mention those admirable chyrurgical operations, the miracles of the healing art, which are scarce credible even to those who behold them? We are as yet incompetent judges of what is impossible in philosophy; for we always decide from our present acquisitions of knowledge, which bear no proportion to nature. Nature is immense; the possible combinations of beings have no bounds, and the human understanding is always too hasty in its decisions. The conviction of our ignorance or moderate attainments, ought to preserve us from despairing of any thing in physics; we should say to ourselves, What I cannot discover, another will lay open to every eye.

B O N N E T.

### SHEARING OF SHEEP.

THE following method has been found effectual. Immediately after the sheep are shorn, soak the roots of the wool that remains all over with oil, or butter, and brimstone, and three or four days afterwards wash them with salt and water, and the wool of next season will be not only much finer and softer, but the quantity will be greatly enlarged, and it may be depended on, that the sheep will neither be troubled with the scab or vermin that year.