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Manuscript Found: The Complete Original "Spaulding Manuscript"

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Editor(s): Kent P. Jackson

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Abstract: This was the first-ever facsimile edition of *Manuscript Found*, which preserves the original unedited words, spelling, and punctuation of Spaulding's handwritten text published. While *Manuscript Found* will undoubtedly never become a literary classic, modern readers will enjoy the charm, spontaneity, and subtle humor of its author. Spaulding's novel provides an engaging view into one man's fanciful reconstruction of Native American life. But it will not take long for readers to see that it bears no resemblance to the Book of Mormon. Nevertheless, this unique edition will be a useful reference for students of Latter-day Saint history and nineteenth-century American culture.



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Manuscript Found

The Complete Original
"Spaulding Manuscript"

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Manuscript Found

The Complete Original
"Spaulding Manuscript"

By Solomon Spaulding
Edited by Kent P. Jackson

Volume Eleven
in the Religious Studies Center
Specialized Monograph Series



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Brigham Young University
Provo, Utah

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What is “Manuscript Found”?

Rex C. Reeve, Jr.

Because of its importance as the keystone of the Latter-day Saint faith, the Book of Mormon has been and will continue to be a point of attack for those who seek to discredit the claims of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. These attacks often hinge on the book’s authorship. Joseph Smith stated that an angel of God delivered to him a scriptural record, written on gold plates, of the ancient inhabitants of the Americas, which he translated by the gift and power of God. “The Book of Mormon is a volume of holy scripture comparable to the Bible . . . and contains, as does the Bible, the fulness of the everlasting gospel.”¹ Since its first publication in 1830, millions who have read the Book of Mormon have accepted Joseph Smith’s testimony of its origin, believing that they received a personal spiritual witness that the book is true and that it is indeed “a volume of holy scripture.”

Some critics have rejected the testimony of Joseph Smith and have felt obliged to provide alternative explanations for the authorship of the Book of Mormon. Those critics generally fall into one of two broad camps: (1) those who claim that Joseph Smith alone wrote the book without divine assistance, basing it on doctrines common to his day, or (2) those who claim that others helped him or that he copied all or part of it from some manuscript or document. Both of these arguments have been addressed by believers in the Book of Mormon, but they still reappear from time to time.

The theory that Joseph Smith copied the Book of Mormon from someone else’s writings was first introduced in 1834 in Eber D. Howe’s book, *Mormonism Unveiled*. It published materials gathered by Philastus Hurlbut² which were intended to prove that the Book of Mormon came from a manuscript written by Solomon Spaulding

¹ Introduction to the Book of Mormon.

² The name Hurlbut has alternate spellings: Hurlbut, Hulbert, and Hurlburt.

(sometimes also spelled Spalding) in 1812. The claim that Joseph Smith used Spaulding's writings as the source for the Book of Mormon has come to be known as the "Spaulding theory." Despite its untenable premises and the questionable motives of its first proponents, the theory has persisted, with a few variations, since its inception. It is still being used by a few critics of the Book of Mormon today.

Solomon Spaulding was born at Ashford, Connecticut, on 21 February 1761. He served in the Revolutionary War, graduated from Dartmouth College, preached as an ordained evangelist, and was involved in several unsuccessful business ventures. He died at age fifty-five in October 1816 in Amity, Pennsylvania, nearly fourteen years before the publication of the Book of Mormon in 1830. In about 1812, while living in New Salem (now Conneaut), Ohio, Spaulding wrote a fictional historical romance that he introduced as a translation from Latin of a portion of twenty-eight rolls of parchment he had found in a small cave near the remains of an ancient fort on the west bank of the Conneaut River. His novel has become known as "Manuscript Story" or "Manuscript Found." It tells of a group of Romans in the days of Constantine (Roman emperor, A.D. 306–37) whose ship, blown off course by a fierce storm, carried them across the Atlantic Ocean to what is now the northeastern United States. The story contains an account of the history, wars, and religion of several groups of natives discovered by the Romans.

In his introduction to "Manuscript Found," Spaulding told of discovering the rolls of parchment and declared that his purpose in writing was to improve the head and heart of the reader. He also wanted to develop the "natural sentiments we should form in viewing the innumerable remains of antiquity which are scattered over an extensive country" (see Spaulding's introduction, p. 1).

Spaulding also hoped to pay his debts with proceeds from the sale of his story. Concerning this, his brother John said, "I made him a visit in about three years after; and found that he had failed, and [was] considerably involved in debt. He then told me had he been writing a book, which he intended to have printed, the avails of which he thought would enable him to pay all his debts. The book was

entitled the 'Manuscript Found,' of which he read to me many passages."³ Spaulding, however, was not a gifted writer, and his "Manuscript Found" was never published. As far as is known, the extant manuscript of it was his first and only draft.

Philastus Hurlbut and *Mormonism Unveiled*

Doctor Philastus Hurlbut appears to have been the first critic to suggest a relationship between Spaulding's manuscript and the Book of Mormon. He was not a medical doctor by profession or education but was given the name *Doctor* by his mother. According to Benjamin Winchester, "Dr. P. Hulbert resided at Jamestown, N. Y., previous to his embracing the profession of a Latter Day Saint, and was a member of the Methodist E. Church, and was for some time a class leader, and then an exhorter and local preacher; but was expelled for unvirtuous conduct with a young lady."⁴

Hurlbut joined the Church of Christ (later renamed The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints) in 1832. Soon after his baptism, he went to Kirtland, Ohio, where he was ordained an elder. "In the Spring of 1833, [Hurlbut] labored and preached in Pennsylvania. Here his self-importance, pride and other undesirable traits of conduct soon shook the confidence of the members of the Church in him as a man of God; and before long his unvirtuous habits were so plainly manifested that he was cast off from the Church, and his license taken from him by the conference."⁵

Hurlbut returned to Kirtland in a professed spirit of repentance and appealed to the general conference for the return of his license. His case was considered and his license restored. But on his way back to Pennsylvania he stopped in Thompson, Ohio, where he was expelled from the Church for attempting to seduce another young lady. "On discovering he had irretrievably ruined himself with the Church,

³ Eber D. Howe, *Mormonism Unveiled* (Painesville, Ohio: Howe, 1834), 279.

⁴ Benjamin Winchester, *The Origin of the Spaulding Story, Concerning the Manuscript Found* (Philadelphia: Brown, 1840), 5.

⁵ George Reynolds, *The Myth of the "Manuscript Found," or the Absurdities of the "Spaulding Story"* (Salt Lake City: Juvenile Instructor Office, 1883), 14.

his tactics were changed, and he now determined to demolish, as far as practicable, what he had once endeavoured to build up.”⁶ He soon went to Springfield, Pennsylvania, and began to preach against the Church. During his stay in Pennsylvania, he met a family who “had been acquainted with the now widely-known Mr. Solomon Spaulding, and from them Hurlbut learned that [Spaulding] had once written a romance . . . history of the ancient inhabitants of this continent. . . . He quickly perceived that this romance could be used as a weapon” against the Book of Mormon and the Church.⁷

Hurlbut returned to Kirtland and caused considerable excitement among anti-Mormons with his announcement of the Spaulding theory and his plans “to write a book, and call it ‘Mormonism Unveiled,’ in which he would reveal the whole secret.”⁸ Backed by contributions from anti-Mormon friends, Hurlbut went in search of the Spaulding manuscript. He contacted Spaulding’s widow in Massachusetts and at length located the manuscript in an old family trunk at the home of Jerome Clark in Hartwick, New York. However, Spaulding’s work proved a disappointment for Hurlbut. “I obtained a manuscript,” he said, “. . . which was reported to be the foundation of the ‘Book of Mormon’ . . . when upon examination I found it to contain nothing of the kind, but being a manuscript upon an entirely different subject.”⁹

Nevertheless, Hurlbut returned to Kirtland to finish writing his promised book, *Mormonism Unveiled*. According to Benjamin Winchester, he

had not been there long, before he threatened to murder Joseph Smith, Jun., for which he was bound over in the sum of five hundred dollars, to keep the peace. While there, his best friends began to lose confidence in him, his reputation waned rapidly, and the dark side of his character began to develop itself more fully. . . . Those who were anxious that Mr. Hurlbut’s work should come out, discovered it would not do to publish it in his name, his reputation was too rotten; they advised him therefore, to sell it to Mr. E. D. Howe, of Painesville, Ohio, for five hundred dollars. Mr. H. got the

⁶ Winchester, 6.

⁷ Reynolds, 15.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid., 17.

money, and gave up his manuscript, thus *Mormonism Unveiled*, became the adopted offspring of Mr. Howe.¹⁰

Although Hurlbut knew for himself that "Manuscript Found" was not the "foundation of the Book of Mormon," he introduced the Spaulding theory in his manuscript which eventually became Howe's *Mormonism Unveiled*.

Even though he had physical possession of the original Spaulding manuscript, Howe did not publish it. He was so uninterested in it that it became lost among the papers in his office and was not rediscovered until it was found in Hawaii in 1884. Howe did, however, print testimonies purported to be from Spaulding's family and friends who claimed to have remembered reading the work many years earlier. It is not definitely known who gathered these testimonies, but since they have been shown to be false with the reappearance of the manuscript, it seems safe to assume that they were with the material Hurlbut sold Howe. Other affidavits were also collected, mostly during the period from 1847 to 1893, some being more than sixty years after the events they claim to describe.

The testimonies claimed that most of the main incidents in the Book of Mormon originated with Solomon Spaulding; that proper names found in the Book of Mormon, such as *Nephi*, *Lehi*, *Nephites*, *Lamanites*, and even a brief mention of *Laban*, *Zarahemla*, and *Moroni*, were the exact names found in Spaulding's manuscript; and that Spaulding wrote in a scriptural style, often using the phrases "and it came to pass," and "now it came to pass," which appear frequently in the Book of Mormon.

In 1834 the credibility of these testimonies was at best suspect. But the rediscovery of the original Spaulding manuscript in 1884 proved them to be outright lies. Spaulding's characters were not Jews from Jerusalem but Romans from Rome. There was not a single Book of Mormon proper name in the Spaulding manuscript, and Spaulding did not write in a scriptural style. He never used the Book of Mormon phrases "it came to pass" or "now it came to pass."

¹⁰ Winchester, 11.

MORMONISM UNVAILED :
OR,
A FAITHFUL ACCOUNT OF THAT SINGULAR IMPOSITION AND
DELUSION,
FROM ITS RISE TO THE PRESENT TIME.
WITH SKETCHES OF THE CHARACTERS OF ITS
PROPAGATORS,
AND A FULL DETAIL OF THE MANNER IN WHICH THE FAMOUS
GOLDEN BIBLE
WAS BROUGHT BEFORE THE WORLD.
TO WHICH ARE ADDED,
INQUIRIES INTO THE PROBABILITY THAT THE HISTORICAL PART
OF THE SAID BIBLE WAS WRITTEN BY ONE
SOLOMON SPALDING,
MORE THAN TWENTY YEARS AGO, AND BY HIM INTENDED TO HAVE
BEEN PUBLISHED AS A ROMANCE.
.....
BY E. D. HOWE.
.....
PAINESVILLE :
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHOR.
—
1834.

Title page of E. D. Howe's *Mormonism Unveiled*, asserting "the probability that the historical part" of the Book of Mormon "was written by one Solomon Spalding." Courtesy LDS Church Archives.

The Writings of Solomon Spalding
 Proved by John Wright Oliver
 Smith John P. Miller and others
 The testimonies of the above
 gentlemen are now in my
 possession D. P. Hurlbut

Affidavit signed by D. P. Hurlbut, citing witnesses that the manuscript was the "Writings of Solomon Spalding"

Rediscovery of the Manuscript Story

In 1884 L. L. Rice of Honolulu, Hawaii, discovered the Spaulding manuscript among some old antislavery documents in his possession. In the 1830s Rice had purchased Howe's newspaper, *The Painesville Telegraph*, along with papers that had belonged to Howe. He apparently was unaware of the manuscript and its interest to Latter-day Saints and their detractors. Included with the manuscript was an affidavit written by Philastus Hurlbut, invoking the names of witnesses who knew the document to be the work of Spaulding (see photograph, above). Rice donated the manuscript to James H. Fairchild, president of Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio, to be included in the college's archival collection. It remains there today.

In 1885 the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints published the Spaulding manuscript, based on a copy made after it arrived in Oberlin.¹¹ The following year, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints published it also, based on a copy Rice

¹¹ Solomon Spaulding, *The "Manuscript Found": A Verbatim Copy of the Original* (Lamoni, Iowa: The Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 1885).

transcribed himself while the manuscript was still in his possession in Hawaii.¹²

Elements of the Solomon Spaulding Theory

One of the difficulties in making the Spaulding theory believable was the need to "prove" that there was a clear connection between Solomon Spaulding and Joseph Smith. Since the Prophet was only ten years old when Spaulding died and there is no evidence that the two ever met, some critics have suggested that the Smith family had association with the Spaulding family. Vernal Holley summarizes this view:

The possibility exists that the Joseph Smith Sr. family members were not strangers to Solomon Spaulding. During the time the Smith family lived in Sharon, Vermont, Solomon Spaulding's uncle, Ruben Spaulding, also lived there. Ruben was a deacon in the Sharon Congregational Church for forty-two years and was the justice of the peace for fifty years. His children would have been contemporaries of Joseph Smith Sr.'s children, Alvin, Hyrum, and Joseph Smith Jr.

Sharon, Vermont, was a small community and it would have been almost impossible for the two families not to have had some association during those years. It is also likely that, while attending nearby Dartmouth College, Solomon Spaulding made visits to his uncle Ruben's home in Sharon and became acquainted with the Joseph Smith family.¹³

Other critics have rejected this theory because of its highly speculative nature and have attempted to find different links between Joseph Smith and Solomon Spaulding, the first and most popular possibility being Sidney Rigdon.

In *Mormonism Unveiled*, E. D. Howe published a brief, undocumented statement which attempted to connect Sidney Rigdon with the Spaulding manuscript through the "Patterson and Lambdin" printing company in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Howe said, "We are, then, irresistibly led to this conclusion:—that Lambdin . . . placed the

¹² Spaulding, *The "Manuscript Found": Manuscript Story* (Salt Lake City: Deseret News, 1886).

¹³ Vernal Holley, *Book of Mormon Authorship: A Closer Look* (Ogden, Utah: Zenos, 1983), 9–10.

'Manuscript Found,' of Spalding, in the hands of Rigdon, to be embellished, altered, and added to, as he might think expedient; and three years' study of the bible we should deem little time enough to garble it, as it is transferred to the Mormon book. . . . We therefore, must hold out Sidney Rigdon to the world as being the original 'author and proprietor' of the whole Mormon conspiracy, until further light is elicited upon the lost writings of Solomon Spalding."¹⁴

If he were to claim contact between Rigdon and the Spaulding manuscript, Howe would have to show contact between Sidney Rigdon and Joseph Smith prior to the publication of the Book of Mormon. Here again he speculated on a possible but undocumented connection:

Rigdon resided in Pittsburgh about three years, and during the whole of that time, as he has since frequently asserted, abandoned preaching and all other employment, for the purpose of *studying the bible*. He left there and came into the country where he now resides, about the time Lambdin died, and commenced preaching some new points of doctrine, which were afterwards found to be inculcated in the Mormon Bible. He resided in this vicinity about four years previous to the appearance of the book, during which time he made several long visits to Pittsburgh, and perhaps to the Susquehannah, where Smith was then digging for money, or pretending to be translating plates.¹⁵

Other critics have also attempted to establish the Spaulding/Rigdon/Smith connection, but none has been able to produce historical evidence that Rigdon had either access to the Spaulding manuscript or contact with Joseph Smith prior to the publication of the Book of Mormon. In fact, Abner Cole (alias Obediah Dogberry) and Alexander Campbell, two of the Book of Mormon's earliest detractors, made no claim that Joseph Smith had any help at all in writing the book. Both Cole and Campbell were in New York at the time the Book of Mormon was published and both knew Sidney Rigdon; yet neither Cole nor Campbell made any suggestion before Howe that Rigdon, or anyone else, had helped produce the text of the Book of Mormon. In the February 1831 *Millennial Harbinger*, Campbell wrote that "there never was a book more evidently written by one set of fingers,

¹⁴ Howe, 290.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, 289.

nor more certainly conceived in one cranium since the first book appeared in human language, than [the Book of Mormon]. . . . I cannot doubt for a single moment but that [Joseph Smith] is the sole author and proprietor of it."¹⁶ Only after *Mormonism Unveiled* was published did Campbell change his position, saying, "Since reading *Mormonism Unveiled* we have had but little doubt that Sidney Rigdon is the leading conjurer in this diabolical affair."¹⁷ Cole and Campbell were in a much better position than Howe to observe any possible Spaulding/Rigdon/Smith connection, yet neither writer suggested it until after the idea was presented in *Mormonism Unveiled*.

Another part of the Spaulding theory asserts that the manuscript provided the historical structure of the Book of Mormon and that Joseph Smith and others added the religious content. The title page of *Mormonism Unveiled* calls attention to this element of the Spaulding theory (see fig. xii).

Each of Howe's eight witnesses who "remembered" similarities between "Manuscript Found" and the Book of Mormon also at least briefly mentioned that Spaulding's book provided the Book of Mormon's historical outline. Howe speculated that Sidney Rigdon, in connection with Joseph Smith, employed Spaulding's historical framework and added the religious parts of the Book of Mormon while using many quotes and doctrines from the Bible.

The question of how many manuscripts, or drafts of manuscripts, Spaulding wrote is another feature of the Spaulding theory. It is clear that Howe had "Manuscript Found" in his possession when he published *Mormonism Unveiled* in 1834. The rediscovery of this manuscript in 1884 made it equally clear that the manuscript did not support the testimonies of Howe's witnesses. This situation has caused division and confusion among those who espouse the Spaulding theory. One group of critics has maintained that "Manuscript Found" is only one of many versions of Spaulding's romance, and that the Book of Mormon was derived from another of these versions. Howe's witnesses claim that "Manuscript Found" was indeed Spaulding's work but that he had revised it: "This old M.S. has been shown

¹⁶ Alexander Campbell, "Delusions," *Millennial Harbinger*, 7 February 1831, 267.

¹⁷ Campbell, "The Mormon Bible," *Millennial Harbinger*, June 1839, 267.

to several of the foregoing witnesses, who recognise it as Spaulding’s, he having told them that he had altered his first plan of writing, by going farther back with dates, and writing in the old scripture style, in order that it might appear more ancient. They say that the earlier version bears no resemblance to the ‘*Manuscript Found*.’”¹⁸

Similarly, other critics have claimed that the extant manuscript is not the true “Manuscript Found” from which the Book of Mormon was taken, which has yet to be located. Charles A. Shook represents this view in the following statement: “They [the Latter-day Saints] have started out by *assuming* that the Honolulu manuscript is the ‘Manuscript Found,’ and then have asserted that those who oppose them claim that the Book of Mormon came from it. But this is not true. From 1834, every opponent of Mormonism, who has given due consideration to the evidence in the case, has differentiated between the manuscript discovered in Honolulu and the ‘Manuscript Found,’ denying that the Book of Mormon came from the former and claiming that it came from the latter.”¹⁹ While it is true that Spaulding’s widow had mentioned that her husband “had a great variety of manuscripts, and . . . that one was entitled the ‘Manuscript Found,’”²⁰ at the present time only one manuscript has been found and made available for study. These critics, in enlarging on brief allusions to other drafts or other manuscripts, have created a whole network of alternate possibilities based entirely on speculation.

The Honolulu manuscript itself refutes the claim of any revision prior to 1812, the time most witnesses claim to have read “Manuscript Found.” Lester E. Bush notes the following from the Honolulu manuscript:

On the back side of page 135 of the 171 page manuscript was a portion of an unfinished letter from Spaulding to his parents referring to correspondence dated January 1812—almost certainly penned prior to the narrative text on the other side of the same sheet. (The reverse order would make no sense; and in all other cases the Spaulding story appears on both sides of the manuscript pages.) Spaulding thus was still at work on his Roman story well

¹⁸ Howe, 288.

¹⁹ Francis W. Kirkham, *A New Witness for Christ in America*, 2 vols. (Salt Lake City: Utah Printing, 1959 and 1960), 2:215.

²⁰ Howe, 287.

after several of Hurlbut's witnesses claim to have read or heard read Manuscript Found. Moreover, it appears that Spalding penned an additional 36 pages of text *after* January 1812, the probable year of his move to Pittsburgh.²¹

Another group of critics has chosen to ignore the discrepancies between the existing manuscript and the accounts of the witnesses and has turned to searching for parallels between the current Spaulding manuscript and the Book of Mormon. They have claimed that even if the manuscript was only a first draft of what eventually became the Book of Mormon, there are still observable story parallels. In 1901 Theodore A. Schroeder wrote:

We are astonished at the number of similarities . . . the finding of the story in a stone box, its translation into English, the attempt to account for a portion of the population of this continent, the wars of extermination of two factions, the impossible slaughters of primitive warfare, and the physically impossible armies which were gathered together without modern facilities of either transportation or the furnishing of supplies—the fact that after two rewritings . . . there should remain these very unusual features, makes the discovery and publication of this manuscript only an additional evidence that the second did furnish the basis of the Book of Mormon.²²

Other critics followed Schroeder with lists of differing lengths which featured parallels in the stories. In 1937 M. D. Bown presented one hundred similarities between the Book of Mormon and the Spaulding manuscript. His list represents what was typically done by many others and includes the following parallels:

23. They landed on the American continent.
24. There were many rivers and lakes in the land.
25. There were many tribes or races of people.
49. They refined ore.
50. They manufactured their own tools from steel.
66. [They] believed in the fall of man from a higher state.
67. [They] believed that man was created by a super-natural being.
75. There were prophets among the people.
77. They believed in prayer.

²¹ Lester E. Bush, Jr., "The Spaulding Theory Then and Now," *Dialogue* 10 (autumn 1977): 40–69.

²² Theodore A. Schroeder, *The Origin of the Book of Mormon, Re-Examined in its Relation to Spaulding's "Manuscript Found"* (Salt Lake City: Salt Lake Ministerial Association, 1901), 6.

80. Some of the people were dark, others lighter.
81. The people had a great leader with four sons.
89. The last war was to be one of extermination.²³

More recently, in 1977, three researchers in California—Howard A. Davis, Donald R. Scales, and Wayne L. Cowdrey—claimed that knowledgeable handwriting experts had established a link between the Spaulding manuscript and twelve of the original handwritten manuscript pages of the Book of Mormon. “They obtained enlarged photocopies of the original manuscript of the *Book of Mormon* that are in archives in Salt Lake City. These reproductions and known specimens of Spaulding’s handwriting were submitted to three prominent handwriting analysts with impressive credentials. Working independently, and unaware of the *Book of Mormon* connection, all three analysts concluded that Spaulding had written all the material they examined.”²⁴ In an address given at the Church Educational System’s Church History Symposium, 19 August 1977, Dean C. Jessee refuted this research, pointing out that all three experts came to Salt Lake City after the above statement was made to examine the original pages, which “indicated that final conclusions had not been reached, and each of them confirmed this verbally.”²⁵ Jessee’s comparison of the handwriting of the two documents shows several obvious and consistent differences between them.²⁶

A few critics have recently attempted to go beyond simple story parallels and have examined such things as writing style, thematic parallels, vocabulary, word construction, and word combinations, in an attempt to establish Spaulding’s work as the basis of the Book of Mormon. Dale R. Broadhurst has said, “In my opinion the textual parallels are so numerous and so detailed that serious questions are raised as to a possible internal relationship of the two texts. . . . Incredible as it may seem, no previous writer on the subject

²³ M. D. Bown, “One Hundred Similarities Between the Book of Mormon and the Spaulding Manuscript” (N.P., 1937), 14–15, 22–23, 29, 33–35, 37.

²⁴ Edward E. Plowman, “Who Really Wrote the Book of Mormon?” *Christianity Today* 21 (8 July 1977): 32–34.

²⁵ Dean C. Jessee, “Solomon Spaulding and the Book of Mormon,” *CES Church History Symposium* (Provo, Utah: Church Educational System, 1977), 59.

²⁶ *Ibid.*, 58–60.

had ever subjected the Spaulding manuscript to even the most basic quantification methods prior to April 1979. Though literally hundreds of supposedly authoritative statements have been printed telling how the Oberlin manuscript does or does not resemble *The Book of Mormon*, none of these were based upon critical examinations of the texts themselves."²⁷ This approach to the Spaulding theory has neither been accepted widely nor used by many critics of the Book of Mormon.

Why Book of Mormon Critics Reject the Spaulding Theory

With all its elements and variations, the Spaulding theory is tangled and complicated. The key points are speculative, and critics have failed to establish a solid connection between Joseph Smith and Sidney Rigdon prior to the publication of the Book of Mormon. They have also failed to establish the way in which Sidney Rigdon could have obtained a copy of the manuscript, how many manuscripts there were, or how Solomon Spaulding could have written even the historical parts of a work as complex as the Book of Mormon when his own manuscript was so poorly written. Many critics, when faced with the inconsistencies and weaknesses of the Spaulding theory, have rejected it and returned to simpler explanations. Although critics have provided a variety of explanations for Joseph Smith's ability to write the Book of Mormon, they generally reject the Spaulding theory.

One of the first critics of the Book of Mormon to reject the Spaulding theory was Davis H. Bays. He opted for Oliver Cowdery, not Sidney Rigdon, as the creator of the Book of Mormon. In 1897 he called the Spaulding theory a failure, although he still felt that Joseph Smith could not have written the Book of Mormon by himself.

The usual debater undertakes to trace the Book of Mormon to the Spaulding romance through Sidney Rigdon.

²⁷ Dale R. Broadhurst, "A New Basis for the Spaulding Theory: Parallels of Theme and Vocabulary in the Book of Mormon and the Spaulding Manuscript," Spaulding Research Project Working Paper No. 10, Revision 2 (Delaware, Ohio: Methodist Theological School, 1981), 4-5.

Nothing can be more erroneous, and it will lead to almost certain defeat. . . .

In order "for" the successful refutation of the Mormon dogma it is not at all necessary to connect Sidney Rigdon with Joseph Smith in its inception. In fact, such a course will almost certainly result in failure; and the principal reason why it will fail is because it is not true. . . .

The long-lost Spaulding story has at last been unearthed, and is now on deposit in the library of Oberlin College at Oberlin, Ohio, and may be examined by anyone who may take the pains to call on President Fairchild, of that institution. . . .

The writer has examined a certified copy of this remarkable document, and to say he was surprised is to express it moderately. Instead of exhibiting the qualities of a scholarly mind, as we had been lead to believe it would do, quite to the contrary, it bears every mark of ignorance and illiteracy, and is evidently the product of a mind far below the average, even in the ordinary affairs of life. A twelve-year-old boy in any of our common schools can tell a better story and couch it in far better English. *The Spaulding story is a failure.* Do not attempt to rely upon it—it will let you down.²⁸

In 1902, I. Woodbrige Riley rejected the Spaulding theory and claimed that Joseph Smith wrote the Book of Mormon himself, his environment providing the source material.²⁹ In 1917, Walter Prince, who also rejected the Spaulding theory in favor of the idea that Joseph Smith was the sole author, attempted to show in *The American Journal of Psychology* that proper names were an unconscious reflection of Joseph Smith's environment.³⁰

While not the first to write, Fawn Brodie has emerged as a standard-bearer for the critics who rejected the Spaulding theory in favor of the nineteenth-century-environment theory as the source of the Book of Mormon. In rejecting the Spaulding theory, she said:

The Spaulding-Rigdon theory of the authorship of the Book of Mormon is based on a heterogeneous assortment of letters and affidavits collected between 1833 and 1900. When heaped together without regard to chronology as in Charles A. Shook's *True Origin of the Book of Mormon*, and

²⁸ Davis H. Bays, *The Doctrine and Dogmas of Mormonism, Examined and Refuted* (St. Louis: Christian, 1897), 22–25.

²⁹ I. Woodbridge Riley, *The Founder of Mormonism: A Psychological Study of Joseph Smith, Jr.* (New York: Dodd, 1902), 111–38.

³⁰ Walter Franklin Prince, "Psychological Tests for the Authorship of the Book of Mormon," *American Journal of Psychology* 28 (July 1917): 373–89. See also Kirkham, 2:257.

without any consideration of the character of either Joseph Smith or Sidney Rigdon, they seem impressive. But the theory is based first of all on the untenable assumption that Joseph Smith had neither the wit nor the learning to write the Book of Mormon, and it disregards the fact that the style of the Book of Mormon is identical with that of the Mormon prophet's later writings, such as the *Doctrine and Covenants* and *Pearl of Great Price*, but is completely alien to the turgid rhetoric of Rigdon's sermons.³¹

Wilford Smith has summarized Brodie's contribution as follows: "Whereas previous writers have not been able to credit Joseph Smith with writing the *Book of Mormon* because he lacked the ability, Fawn Brodie reversed the issue and accepted the difficulty of [his] producing the book as evidence of his brilliance."³²

In a similar vein, James Black, a minister of St. Georgia's Church in Edinburgh, Scotland, rejected the Spaulding theory in *New Forms of the Old Faith*:

A former explanation of this puzzle—that Joseph Smith concocted history from an old romance of pre-historic America written in Ohio in 1812 by Solomon Spaulding, a Congregational minister—has had to be given up. . . . The theory is further invalidated by the fact that it is impossible to show how, when, or through whom Smith could have obtained one of the two copies of the Spaulding MS.³³

In his recent book, *Trouble Enough: Joseph Smith and the Book of Mormon*, Ernest H. Taves discusses the Spaulding theory and concludes that "it made a stir for a time, but the theory cannot be supported":

The evidence, then, indicates that *this* Spaulding manuscript had nothing to do with the *Book of Mormon*. In that case, how are we to account for the Hurlbut affidavits?

It has been suggested that there was another Spaulding work, that the manuscript Hurlbut unearthed was not what everyone was referring to as *Manuscript Found*. This is, of course, a possibility, but the question might seem, at first glance, irrelevant. If there was another Spaulding manuscript would it not be stylistically similar to the one Hurlbut found, and thus have

³¹ Fawn M. Brodie, *No Man Knows My History*, 2d ed., rev. and enl. (New York: Knopf, 1978), 442.

³² Wilford Smith, "In the Shadow of Solomon Spaulding," Unpublished manuscript in the possession of the author, 48.

³³ Kirkham, 2:301.

little in common with the *Book of Mormon*? Only a skillful writer indeed—a gifted parodist, for example—can significantly alter his way of writing. The signature is there, as with a thumbprint. Whatever else can be said of Joseph Smith and Solomon Spaulding, neither was a skillful writer. It suffices to read a page or two of Joseph Smith and of Spaulding to understand that those pages were written by different writers. The same would probably apply to any other manuscript written by Spaulding. . . .

This still leaves us with questions about the affidavits. How could they be so far off the mark? First, we must agree with Brodie that they were written by Hurlbut—and here we again invoke stylistic considerations. The affidavits have the tone of common authorship. Further, there is the almost universal insistence upon the “and it came to pass” phraseology, and upon the proper names of Nephi and Laman. Hurlbut put thoughts into the minds of his respondents, and words into their mouths. . . . One would like to know more of Hurlbut here. We must suspect that he was not without his own manipulative abilities as he pursued what he was after. He was grinding an important ax, and his respondents were certainly also motivated: The manuscript of their brother, relative, and friend had been plagiarized—in what they considered to be a blasphemous cause—and they would have vengeance. So they remembered what Hurlbut suggested, thus giving birth to the Spaulding-Rigdon theory four years after Joseph had completed his manuscript.³⁴

Though they are unwilling to accept Joseph Smith’s explanation of a divine origin of the Book of Mormon, these critics all reject the Spaulding theory.

Believers’ Responses to the Spaulding Theory

Believers in the Book of Mormon have defended their belief by simply stating the facts pertaining to the Spaulding theory and restating, with testimony, the conditions of the book’s origin. In 1840, Benjamin Winchester wrote the following in the introduction to *The Origin of the Spaulding Story*: “As the public mind has been somewhat agitated, for the last nine or ten years, upon the subject of Mormonism, (so called,) and as there have been coined and put into circulation, innumerable statements respecting its origin, and all of them contrary the one to the other; I deem it an act of justice to a belied

³⁴ Ernest H. Taves, *Trouble Enough: Joseph Smith and the Book of Mormon* (Buffalo, N.Y.: Prometheus, 1984), 54–55.

people, and a deceived public, knowing the facts of the case, to present to them the truth of the matter, and to show the contradictions and the absurdities, which are swallowed greedily down, without question or examination, because men love darkness rather than light."³⁵

He then gave a brief history of Philastus Hurlbut, noting his immoral character and his ulterior motives for inventing the Spaulding theory. He concluded by saying that after Hurlbut sold the manuscript to E. D. Howe, he,

with his ill gotten gains, went to Erie county, Pa., in the township of Girard, Miller Settlement, and bought a farm, and married a wife, soon became a confirmed drunkard, spent every cent of his inglorious gain, was reduced to beggary, took to stealing for a livelihood, was detected in stealing a log chain, fled the country, to escape justice, and that is the last of him, so far as I know. I have written this short biography of Dr. P. Hulbert, that my readers may know the character of the man who first invented the Spaulding lie.—Also that they know the merit of him whom the priests of this day, to serve their purpose, have dubbed honourable, reverend, &c.³⁶

Concerning the Rigdon/Spaulding manuscript question, Winchester pointed out that Sidney Rigdon did not live in Pittsburgh until at least eight years after the Spaulding manuscript had been removed from that city by Spaulding's widow, Mrs. Davieson:

That Mr. Rigdon lived in Pittsburgh between the years 1822 and 1826, no one disputes; but that he had any thing to do with the compilation of the Book of Mormon, we utterly deny. In fact, he did not know of its existence until years after, as we are prepared to show. Let us, however, see how the statements tally. Mr. Spaulding wrote his manuscript in New Salem, Ohio, in the year 1812: from thence he removed to Pittsburgh. . . . Mr. Hulbert says the widow of Mr. Spaulding informed him, that the removal to Pittsburgh took place in 1812, and from thence to Amity, in 1814. Mrs. Davieson is made to say in the "Origin of Mormonism," that, "At length the manuscript was returned to its author, and soon after we removed to Amity. The manuscript then fell into my hands, and was carefully preserved." Admitting this—all the time, and the only time S. Rigdon had an opportunity, or possibility, of becoming acquainted with the manuscript, was between 1812 and 1814; for since that time, it has been carefully kept by Mrs. Davieson. . . . Mrs. Davieson says she had it from 1814 to the time of Mr. Hulbert's application, in her own possession: couple that with the fact, that S. Rigdon

³⁵ Winchester, 3.

³⁶ *Ibid.*, 11–12.

never lived in Pittsburgh until after 1822! eight or ten years after the manuscript was in the careful preservation of Mrs. Davieson!! The very lame attempt at something like precision, by affixing names and dates, is the key by which the whole plot is unravelled and exploded.³⁷

In 1883, just prior to the rediscovery of the Spaulding manuscript, George Reynolds, in his *The Myth of the "Manuscript Found,"* summarized many facts that refute the Spaulding theory. After outlining the whereabouts of the Spaulding manuscript from its creation in 1812 up to 1834 when Hurlbut received it in Harwicks, New York, Reynolds says:

Here we have an unbroken history of its wanderings until years after the Book of Mormon was published. How then is it presumed that Joseph Smith obtained possession of it? This is an unanswerable question. Was Joseph in any of those places at the time the manuscript was there? No, there is not the least proof that he ever was, all the testimony and evidence is directly to the contrary. Was Sidney Rigdon ever in those places? Not at the same time as the 'Manuscript Found.'³⁸

Addressing the question of a secondary copy of the manuscript which Sidney Rigdon was supposed to have found years later, Reynolds pointed out,

To tide this difficulty some one has suggested that probably Spaulding made a copy of his romance for the printer, and it was this copy that Rigdon afterwards found. But this is a baseless supposition; until lately such an idea was never thought of, and it loses all its force from the fact that those best acquainted with the history of that manuscript say that the copy Spaulding gave to Patterson was returned to him; it was not left in the office to be found by Rigdon, or any one else in after years.³⁹

Pointing out the weaknesses of the affidavits and testimonies of the various witnesses, Reynolds discussed the conflicts between testimonies and showed them to be of little value because so much of the material was obtained secondhand and because many statements were reminiscences made fifty to seventy years after the events had transpired. Furthermore, many testimonies came from religious leaders who held biased views against Mormonism.

³⁷ Ibid., 14–15.

³⁸ Reynolds, 12.

³⁹ Ibid., 27.

Reynolds also detailed Rigdon's introduction to the Book of Mormon by quoting from Parley P. Pratt:

About the 15th of October, 1830, I took my journey in the company with Elders O. Cowdery and Peter Whitmer, to Ohio. We called on Elder S. Rigdon, and then for the first time his eye beheld the Book of Mormon. I, myself, had the happiness to present it to him in person. He was much surprised, and it was with much persuasion and argument, that he was prevailed on to read it, and after he had read it, he had a great struggle of mind, before he fully believed, and embraced it.⁴⁰

Catherine Smith Salsbury, Joseph Smith's sister, testified in a sworn statement in 1881, at age sixty-eight, that

Prior to the latter part of A.D. 1830, there was no person who visited with, or was an acquaintance of, or called upon the said family, or any member thereof to my knowledge, by the name of Sidney Rigdon; nor was such a person known to the family, or any member thereof, to my knowledge, until the last part of the year A.D. 1830, or the first part of the year 1831, and some time after the organization of the Church of Jesus Christ, by Joseph Smith, Jr., and several months after the publication of the Book of Mormon.⁴¹

From 15 April to 1 September 1843, the year prior to the death of Joseph Smith, the *Times and Seasons* printed a detailed history of the life of Sidney Rigdon which verified that his first contact with the Book of Mormon was in the fall of 1830.⁴²

John W. Rigdon, Sidney's son, published a report of an interview he had with his father in 1865 which also included the testimony of his mother just prior to her death. Both his father and his mother reaffirmed their testimonies that Sidney had nothing to do with the coming forth of the Book of Mormon:

My father, after I had finished saying what I have repeated above, looked at me a moment, raised his hand above his head and slowly said, with tears glistening in his eyes: "My son, I can swear before high heaven that what I have told you about the origin of [the Book of Mormon] is true. Your mother and sister, Mrs. Athalia Robinson, were present when that book was handed to me in Mentor, Ohio, and all I ever knew about the origin of [the Book of Mormon] was what Parley P. Pratt, Oliver Cowdery, Joseph Smith and the

⁴⁰ Ibid., 33.

⁴¹ Ibid., 34.

⁴² See also Kirkham, 1:317.

witnesses who claimed they saw the plates have told me, and in all of my intimacy with Joseph Smith he never told me but one story.⁴³

Concerning his mother's testimony, he said:

She said to me in that conversation that what my father had told me was true, about the book being presented to him, for she was present at the time and knew that was the first time he ever saw it, and that the stories told about my father writing the Book of Mormon were not true.⁴⁴

In an 1841 letter to George A. Adams, Elder Orson Hyde, an associate and student of Sidney Rigdon, denied any possible deception by Rigdon concerning the writing of the Book of Mormon.⁴⁵ Elder Hyde said:

At the time our enemies say that Mr. Rigdon was engaged in fabricating the Book of Mormon, I was a student under him. He was then a minister in the Christian Baptist Church in America . . . I was intimately acquainted with him, and his family, for a number of years; and a good part of that time I was a boarder in his family, particularly in 1829. If Mr. Rigdon had been engaged in a work of that kind, I am certain that he would have, either directly or indirectly, given me a hint of it. But such an intimation he never gave me in any shape or manner.⁴⁶

Summarizing his chapter concerning Sidney Rigdon's supposed involvement in the production of the Book of Mormon, Francis W. Kirkham wrote:

To the knowledge of the writer, and after careful study of all the printed material available, there exists no evidence to prove that Sidney Rigdon had any part in the production of the Book of Mormon. What he declared all his life and was known to hundreds of witnesses must be accepted as the facts. Notwithstanding this positive evidence on the one hand and the entire lack of historical facts on the other, some anti-Mormon writers still repeat as true this human origin for the Book of Mormon, namely that Sidney Rigdon assisted Joseph Smith or alone wrote the religious parts of the Book of Mormon and that together they copied the historical parts from the Solomon Spaulding manuscript.⁴⁷

⁴³ Ibid., 1:328.

⁴⁴ Ibid.

⁴⁵ Ibid., 1:332.

⁴⁶ Ibid., 1:333–34.

⁴⁷ Ibid., 1:336.

Believers in the Book of Mormon have also addressed the claim that Spaulding wrote the historical part of the Book of Mormon while Joseph Smith or someone else added the religious part. In 1857 Elias L. T. Harrison addressed this question in an article in the *Millennial Star*:

It is always affirmed that the "*religious matter*" of the Book of Mormon was *not* copied from Spaulding's work. Particular attention is called to this, because great stress is laid upon its being like it, "*except the religious matter.*" Now, as every circumstance that is narrated in the whole of the "historical part" of the Book of Mormon is connected with, and springs from, the "religious matter" which was *not* in the Spaulding work, by excepting the religious matter from the charge of piracy, *they have excepted the whole book. . . .* The religious matter is the bone and sinew of that book, and the historical part is the flesh built upon it. By examining the "historical part" of the Book of Mormon, it will be clear that *its* religious and historical matter are inseparably united.⁴⁸

Harrison closed his article with this statement: "We have also a testimony of great force in favour of the *Divinity* of the Book of Mormon, seeing that after twenty-five years of efforts by its enemies, to upset its claims to a *divine origin*, the only way by which they are agreed to account for its existence vanishes at a *touch*."⁴⁹

⁴⁸ Elias L. T. Harrison, "The 'Spaulding Story' Refuted from Itself," *Millennial Star* 19 (24 January 1857): 49–56, 54.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.*, 56.

Editor's Introduction

“Manuscript Found,” more commonly known as the “Spaulding manuscript,” is housed in the archives of Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio. It consists of eighty-four almost equally sized sheets of paper, *ca.* 16.4 by 20.2 cm in dimension. Aside from the first sheets, which evidence some faded ink and deterioration of the paper (especially on the first page), the manuscript is in a good state of preservation. Today it is bound in a red leather cover, which was applied sometime in the twentieth century. The ink ranges from light brown to very dark brown or black.

The manuscript arrived at Oberlin College in 1885, when it was sent to James H. Fairchild, president of the college, by L. L. Rice, who had possessed it since 1839. Since it arrived in Oberlin, it has been housed under archival conditions and has been well preserved.

Given the widespread knowledge in the nineteenth century of Philastus Hurlbut's contentions concerning the origin of the Book of Mormon, it is not surprising that the Spaulding manuscript became a popular curiosity not long after it resurfaced in Rice's possession in Honolulu. While the manuscript was still there, Rice provided a copy to President Joseph F. Smith, second counselor in the First Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. President Smith had it published in Salt Lake City in 1886.¹ Shortly after the manuscript arrived in Oberlin, a transcription was made for the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, which published it in 1885.² Of those, Rice's transcription was the more carefully done, but both publications corrected some of Spaulding's spelling and punctuation and provided some editing to the text. Since the 1880s, no new editions of “Manuscript Found” have been published, aside from reprints of the 1885 and 1886 publications.

¹ Solomon Spaulding, *The “Manuscript Found”: Manuscript Story* (Salt Lake City: Deseret News, 1886).

² Spaulding, *The “Manuscript Found”: A Verbatim Copy of the Original* (Lamoni, Iowa: The Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 1885).

Because the Spaulding manuscript has been part of Latter-day Saint history since 1834—however undeserved its role in that history may be—the Religious Studies Center at Brigham Young University has thought it appropriate to bring it to life again so readers can be aware of its content. A few critics of LDS history and beliefs still hold to the claim that this was the source or the inspiration for the Book of Mormon, a notion that was invented by Philastus Hurlbut himself. This publication will hopefully put that idea to rest forever. A forbidden love, a stolen princess, gallant kings going to war over the love of a beautiful woman—this doesn't sound like the Book of Mormon at all. In reality, "Manuscript Found" is a fictional historical romance that has nothing in common with the Book of Mormon, aside from the fact that its setting is among Native Americans of a past generation.

While "Manuscript Found" is not a literary classic, it is a charming story in its own right. Modern readers will enjoy the author's mode of expression, his subtle humor, his early nineteenth-century rough-draft spelling and punctuation, and the fact that the book has two chapters numbered 8 and no chapter 13. The book gives the impression that the author did not know where he was going when he started and was unsure where he was when he stopped writing. But by the end of the manuscript, the hero had killed the villain and rescued the princess from her fate as the wife of an evil monarch. Still, readers will have the feeling that the novel is not yet finished and that there was more to come, even though it is clear that Spaulding wrote no more on the manuscript.

The present volume is an unedited facsimile transcription of "Manuscript Found." Its production required many hours of work with the manuscript itself, supplemented by photographs, microfilm photographs, and photostatic images provided by the Oberlin College archives. The transcription was prepared according to the following guidelines:

We have, to the best of our ability, transcribed the text exactly as Spaulding wrote it, without editing or corrections in spelling.

We have added letters in square brackets ([]) only where part of the original page is missing (primarily at the edges of the paper), to suggest letters that Spaulding wrote but which are no longer extant.

We have preserved Spaulding's punctuation as in the original. Spaulding's dashes, which he used for a variety of purposes, vary significantly in length. We have represented them all with a dash that approximates the length of most dashes in the manuscript (—).

Spaulding usually indicated paragraph endings by returning to the left margin to begin a new paragraph on a new line without indentation. We have noted his paragraphs with conventional modern indentation.

Words or letters inserted by Spaulding above (or in a few cases below) the lines are indicated with angle brackets (< >).

Spaulding's strikeovers are indicated in the transcription with a line through the word (e.g., ~~to Tolanga~~), including those large strike-over sections that were crossed out with large Xs in the manuscript.

A long dash in square brackets ([—]) indicates an indecipherable word.

All pages but the last two (170–71) were numbered by Spaulding at the top center of the page. Each sheet was also numbered secondarily near the top right in pencil, perhaps by an archivist after the manuscript arrived in Oberlin. The secondary sheet numbering includes only the extant sheets and thus does not account for the two sheets that were lost prior to 1885 (133–34 and 143–44). We have noted the beginning of each page in bold brackets (e.g., [p. 24]) and have used Spaulding's original page numbering.

A few footnotes have been provided to explain or describe readings in the text.

Photographs of the first page of each chapter have been provided to give readers an image of the manuscript's appearance. They are printed here at approximately 73 percent of the original size.

I would like to acknowledge the service of several persons who have contributed to bringing "Manuscript Found" to publication. Special thanks and acknowledgment is due to the staff at the Religious Studies Center Publication office: Heidi O. Gassman, Lisa Kurki, Charlotte Pollard, Jason O. Roberts, Anna N. Shaw, and LeGrande

W. Smith. Melissa Duncan and Jessica Welch assisted with proof reading. Charles D. Tate Jr. had the inspiration for this volume and started the project, and Rex C. Reeve Jr.'s excellent introduction provides the context to understand it. I would also like to acknowledge the kind assistance of Roland M. Baumann, archivist at Oberlin College. The manuscript is the property of Oberlin College, and both the text and the photographs of it are published with the college's permission.

Manuscript Found

Introduction

Near the west bank of the Concaught
River there are the remains of an ancient
fort. As I was walking and forming various
conjectures respecting the character situa-
tion & numbers of those people who
had executed the present ware of Indians
works of art & ingenuity, I happened to tread
on a flat stone. This was at a small distance
from the fort: & it lay on the top of a great
mass of earth exactly horizontal. The
inscription had a singular appearance. It
consisted of a number of characters which ap-
peared to me to be letters, but so much effaced
by the ravages of time, that I could not read
the inscription. With the assistance of a
glass I traced the stone. But you
may easily conjecture my astonishment
when I discovered that not its letters & figures
were on stones & that it was designed
to be cut to an artificial cave. I found
on examining that its pieces were lined
with a conical form with
a hole in the middle & that it was a

[p. 1]

Chap Introduction

Near the west Bank of the Coneaught River there are the remains of an ancient fort. As I was walking and forming vario[us] conjectures respecting the character situatuation & numbers of those people, who far exceeded the present race of Indians in works of art & inginuity I hapned to tread on a flat stone. This was <at> a small distance from the fort; & it lay on the top of a smal[l] mound of Earth exactly horizontal— The face of it had a singular appearance. I discovered a number of characters which appeared to me to be letters—but so much effaced by the ravages of time, that I could not read the inscription. With the assistance of a leaver I raised the stone— But you may easily conjecture my astonishmen[t] when I discovered that ~~at~~ its ends & sides ~~it~~ [r]ested on stones & that it was designed [—] a cover to an artificial Cave.— I found [—] examining that its sides were lined with [—] built in a connical form with [—] down—& that it was abou[t] [p. 2] [e]ight feet deep— Determined to investigate ~~extra~~ design of this extraordinary work of antiquity—I prepared myself with necessary requisites for that purpose & decended to th[e] Bottom of the Cave— Observing one side to be ~~built~~ <perpendicular> nearly three feet from the bottom, I began to inspect that part with accuracy; Here I noticed a big fla[t] stone fixed in the form of a doar, I imm[e]diatly tore it down & Lo a cavity wit[h]in the wall presented itself—it being about three feet in diamiter from side to side & about two feet high Within this cavity I found an earthan Box with a ~~Box~~ <cover> which shut it perfect[ly] tite— The Box was two feet in length one & half in breadth & one & three inche[s] in diameter. My mind filled with awful sensations which crowded fast upon me would hardly permit my hands to remove this venerable deposit, but curiosity soon gained the assendan[— —] the box was taken & raised to open [—] When I had removed the Cover I f[ound] that it contained twenty eig[ht —] of parchmet. & that when [— —] [p. 3] appeared to be manuscripts written in eligant hand with Roman Letters & in the Latin Language.

They were written on a variety of Subjects. But the Roll whic[h] principally attracted <my attention> contained a history of the authors life & that part of America which extends along the gr<e>at Lakes & the waters of the Mississppy.

Extracts of the most interesting & important matters contind in this <Roll> I take the liberty to publish— —

~~Gentle Reader, tread lightly on the ashes of the venerable dead—Thou must know that this Country was <once> inhabited by great & powerful nations. [C]onsiderably civilized—& skilled in the arts [—] its of war, & that on ground wher thou [—] treadest many an hard fou a bloody [p. 4] Battle hath been faught—& heroes by thousand have been made to bite the dust.~~

~~In the history given of these natains by my Auther you will find nothing but what will correspond with the natural sentiments we should form on viewing the innumerable remains of Antiquity which are scattered over an extensive Country. This is an evidence of the authors impartiality & veracity.—But if any should pretend that the whole story is fictitious or fabulous,~~

To publish a translation of every particular circumstance mentioned by our author would produce a volume too expensive for the general class of readers. But should <this> attempt to throw off the vail which has secuded our view from the tranactions of nations who for ages have been extinct, meet the approbation of the public, I shall then be happy to gratify the more inquisitive & learned part of my readers by a more minute publication. Apprehensive, that sceptical, illiberal or superstitious minds may cen[su]re this performance with great accrimo[ny,] I have only to remark that they will b[e depri]ved of a great fund of entertainment [—] [p. 5] of a contrary disposition, will obtain My compassion will be excited more than my resentment & there the contest will end.

Now Gentle Reader, the Translator who wishes well to thy present & thy future existence entreats <thee> to peruse this volume with a clear head a pure heart & a candid mind— If thou shalt then find that thy head & thy heart are both improved it will afford him more satisfaction than the approbation of ten thousand who have received no benifit.— —

~~And now permit me to admonish thee that if thou shouldst reside
in or travil thro' any part of the Country~~

of contrary disposition will obtain & My company
will be excited more than my objection
& these the context will end.

How gentle Reader, the Translator who
wishes well to thy present & thy future
existence entreats ^{thee} to peruse this volume
with a clear head, a pure heart & a candid
mind - If thou shalt then find that thy
head & thy heart are both improved it
will afford him more satisfaction than
the approbation of ten thousand who
have received no benefit. - -

And now permit me to admonish thee
that if thou shouldst refuse in or
travail thro' any part of the following

Chapter

An Epitomy of the Authors Life & of his
arrival in America -

As it is possible that in some future age
this part of the Earth will be inhabited by
Europeans & a history of its present inhabi-
tants will be a valuable acquisition I pro-
pose to write one & deposit it in a box of ^{the} ~~the~~
that the savages of time will

Chapt I

An Epitomy <<of> ~~some part~~> of the Authors life & of his <arival> in America—

As it is possible that in some future age this part of the Earth will be inhabited by E[ur]opians & a history of its present inhabi[tants] would be a valuable acquisition I pro[ceed] to write one & deposit it in a box &¹ ~~se~~ secured [— —] <so> that the ravages of time will have [p. 6] effect upon it. That you may know <the> Auther I will give a succint account of his life & of the cause of his arival—which I have extracted from a manuscript which will be deposited with this history;

~~My name was <is> Fabius~~ The family name I sustain is Fabius, being decended from the illustrius General of that name— I was born at Rome & received my ~~tuition~~ education under the tuition of a very Le<a>rned Master— At the time that Constantine arived at that city & had overcome his enimies & was firmly seated on the throne of the Roman empire I was introduced to him <as> a young Gentleman of ~~litera~~ genius & learning and as being worthy of the favourable notice of his <imperial> majesty— He gave me <the> appointment of one of his s<e>critaries, & such were the gracious intimations which he frequently gave me of his high approbation of my conduct that I was happy in my st[at]ions

One day he says to me—Fabius yo[u] [—] go to Brittain & carry an import[ant] [—] to the general of our army there [—] [p. 7] sail in a vessel & return when she return[s.]

Preparation was made instantly & we sailed— The vessel laden with provisions for the Army—Cloathing, knives & other impliments for their use had now ariv[ed] near the coasts of Britain when a trem[en]dous storm arose & drove us into the mid[st] of the boundless

¹ The ampersand is written over “of.”

Ocean. Soon the whole Crew became lost & bewildered— They knew not the direction ~~for~~ <to> the rising Sun or polar Star—for the heavens were covered with clouds; & darkness had spread her sable mantle over the face of the raging deep. Their minds were filled with consternation & despair— ~~& unanim~~<e>~~usly agreed that~~ What could we do? How be extrecated from the insatiable jaws of a watry tomb. Then it ~~is~~ was that we felt our Absolute dependence on that Almighty & gracious Being who holds the winds & storms in [—] hands— From him alone could we ex[pect] deliverance. To him our most fer[vent] desires assended—prostrate & on [p. 8] bended nees we poured forth incessan[t] Supplication, & even Old Ocean appeared to sympathize in our distress by returning the eccho of our vociforos Cries & lamentations— After being driven five days with incridable velocity before the furious <wind>, the storm abated in its violence—but still the ~~strong~~ wind blew strong ~~in the strong~~ <as I now believe> in the same direction— — Doubtful whether the wind had not changed her point we gave the ship full sail & let <her> drive— On the sixth day after, the storm wholly subsided, the sun rose clear & the heavens once more appeard to smile— Inexpressible was the consternation of all the crew. they found themselvs in the midst of a vast Ocean. No prospect of returning— All was lost— The wind blowing westwardly & the presumption was that it had been blowing in that direction during the whole of the storm. No pen can paint the dolorious cries & lamentations of the poor mariners. for the loss of frie[nds, f]or the loss of every thing they held most [—.] At length a Mariner stept [—] [p. 9] the midst & proclaimed. Attend O friends & listen to my words— A voice from on high hath penetrated my soul & the inspiration of the Almighty hath bid me proclaim— Let your sails be wide spread & the gentle winds will soon waft you into a safe harbor— A Country where you will find hospitality.—

Quick as the lightnings flash joy sparkled in every countenance— A Hymn of Thanksgiving spontaniouly bust forth from their lips— In full confidence that the divine prediction would be accomplished they extoled the loving-kindness & tender mercies of their God & promised, by the assistance of his grace to make ample return of gratitude.

On the fifth day after this we came [in] sight of Land— we entered a spaious [riv]er— & continued sailing up the [—] many leagues until we came [p. 10] in view of a Town— Every heart now palpitated with joy— & loud shouts of gladness expressed the inthusiastic transports of our souls. We anchored within a small distance <from> shore— Immediatly the natives ran with apparent signs of surprize & astonishment, to the bank of the River— After veiwing us for some time, & receiving signs of Friendship—they appeared—to hold a counsel for a few minutes— Their King then stept forward to the edge of the bank—& proffered us the hand of friendship—& by significant gestures invited us to Land promising us protection & hospitality. We now found ourselvs once more on terra firma— & were conducted by the King & four cheifs into the town whilst the multitude followed after, shouting & performing many odd jesticulations— The King ordered an entertainment to be prepared f[or] his new friends which consisted of [— —] fish, boild beans & samp— [— —] [p. 11] The whole was placed under a wide spreading Oak in wooden dishes— a large clam shell & a stone Knife were provided for each one The king then came forward with about twenty of his principal subjects—& ~~eon~~ seated us, (being twenty in number) & ~~seated us~~ by the side of our repast— He & his company then took seats in front.

After waving his hand & bowing all fell to eating & a more delicious repast we never enjoyed— The repast being finished our attention was called to a collection of about One thousand men & women <who> had formed a ring and invited our company to come forward into the midst— After gazing upon us for some time with surprizes we were permitted to withdraw & to take our stand in the Ring— About forty in number then walked into the midle of <the> Ring & began a song [wi]th such a discordant & hedious modifi[cat]ions of sounds & such frantic jeticulations [— b]ody, that it seemed that chaos had brot [p. 12] her furies to set the world in an uproar— And an uproar it was in a short time for the whole company fell to ~~dancing~~, shouting, whooping, & screaming ~~at intervals~~— then dancing, jumping, & tumbling with many indisdiscrible distortions in their <countenance> & indelicate jestures— In fact they appeared

more like a company of devils than human Beings. This lasted about one hour— They <then> took their places in a circle & at a signal given gave three most tremendous whoops; they then instantly dispersed, playing ma[n]y antike capers & making such a confused medly of sound by sk<r>eaming, whooping screeching like owls, Barking like dogs & wolvs & ~~howling~~ <croaking> like Bull frogs, that my brains seemed to be turned topseturvy—& for some time I could scarce beleive that they belongd to the hum[an] species.

[p. 13]

Chapt. II
An account of the settlement of the
ships Company—~~& many particulars
respecting the Natives.~~

As no alternative now remained, but either to make the desperate attempt to return across the wide boistrous Ocean or to take up our residence in <a> Country in ~~in a land of Savages~~ habited by savages & wild ferocious beasts we did not long hesitate. We held a solem treaty <with the king> & all the chiefs of his nation.— They agreed to cede to us a tract of <excellent> Land on the north part of the town on which was six wigwams, & engaged perpetual amity & hospitality & the protection of our lives & property.— In consideration of this grant we gave <them> fifty yards of scarlet cloth & fifty knives; with this present they were highly pleased.— —

[Ar]rangements must now be made for [—] settlement. Vessel & cargo had [suff]ered no material damage, & by [p. 14] striping the vessel of its plank we could erect a house in which we could deposite the whole <cargo> in safety— All hands were immediatly employed some in procuring timber, which was hued on two sides & then locked together, some in procuring shingles & some in striping the vessel of its plank; & having a large quantity of nails on board, in ten days we finished a very convenient storehouse, sufficiently spacious to receive the whole Cargo. We also built a ~~small~~ house adjoining which was to be the habitation of the Captain & myself— Having secured all our property we then found it necessary to establish some regulations for the government of our little society.—

The Captain whose¹ name was Lucian, & myself were appointed judges in [a]ll matters of controversy & manages o[f th]e public

¹ The word “whose” is written over something indecipherable.

An account of the settlement of the
Ship's Company - ~~& many particulars re-
specting the natives.~~

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cloth & fifty knives; with this present
they were highly pleased. -

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settlement. Vessel & cargo had
suffered no material damage, & by

property, to make bargain[s w]ith [p. 15] the natives & barter such articles as we did not need for necessaries.— As we all professed ~~The next thing to be done was to~~ to believe in the religion of Jesus Christ we unanimously chose Trojanus the mate of the ship, a pious good man, to be our minister to lead our devotions every morning & evening & on the Lords day.—

But now a most singular & delicate subject presented itself for consideration. Seven young women we had on board, as passengers, to visit certain friends they had in Brittain— Three of them were ladies of rank, & the rest were healthy buxom Lasses.— Whilst deliberating on this subject a mariner arose whom we called droll Tom— Hark ye shipmates says he, Whilst tossed on the foming billows what brave son of neptune had any more regard for a woman than a sturgeon, but now we are all safely anchored on Terra firma— our sails furled & ship keeled up, I have a huge longing [— som]e of those <rosy> dames— But willing to take [p. 16] my chance with my shipmates—I propose that they should make their choice of husbands. The plan was instantly adopted.

As the choice fell on the young women they held a consultation on the subject, & in a short time <made> known the result— Drooll Tom was rewarded for his benevo-<lent> proposal with one of the most sprightly rosy dames in the company.— Three other of the most cheerful resolute mariners were chosen by the other three buxum Lasses— The three young Ladies ~~of rank~~ fixed their choice on the Captain the Mate & myself. ~~Happy indeed in <my> partner I had formed an high esteem for the excellent qualities of her mind~~ The young Lady who chose me for a partner was possessed of every attractive charm both of body & mind— We united heart & hand with the fairest prospect of enjoying every delight & satisfaction which are attendant on the connubial State. Thus ended th[e af]fair. [p. 17] You may well conceive our singular situation. The six poor fellows who were doomed to live in a state of clebicy or accept of savage dames, discovered a little chagrine & anxiety— However they consoled themselves with the idea of living in families where they could enjoy the company of the fair sex & be releived from the work which belongs to the department of Women.—

Our community might be said to be one family tho we lived in seperate houses, situate near each other— The property was common stock— what was produced by our <Labour> was likewise to be common, All subject to the distribution of the judges, who were to attend to each family & see that proper industry and econim<y>² were practised by all.—

The Capt. & myself, attended with our fair Partners & two mariners repaired t[o ou]r new habitation which consisted of [p. 18] two convenient appartments. After having partook of an elligant Dinner & drank a bottle of excellent wine our spirits were exhilarated & the deep gloom which beclouded our minds evaporated. The Capt. assuming his wonted chearfulness made the following address My sweet good sould fellows we have now commenced a new voyge— Not such as bro't us over mountain billows to this butt end of the world— No, no, our voyge is on dry land—& now we must take care that we have sufficient ballast for the riging—evry hand on board this ship must clasp hands & condecend to each others humour; this will promote good cheer & smoth the³ raging billows of life.

Surrounded by innumerable hords of human beings, who resemble in manners the Orang Outang—let us keep aloof ~~from~~ from them & not embark in the same matri<monial> ship ~~with them~~— At the same time we will treat them with good cheer— & enlighten their dark souls with good instruction— By continuing a distinct people & preserving our customs manners, religion & arts and sciences an[o]ther [p. 19] Italy will grow up in this wilderness & we shall be celebrated as the fathers of a great & happy nation.—

May God bless your soul, says one of our mariners, what would you have us do who have had the woful <luck> not to get mates to cheer our <poor> souls & warm our bodies, methinks I could pick out a healthy plum Lass from the copper coulerded tribe that by washing & scrubing her fore & aft & upon the labbord & stabbord sides she would become a wholsome bedfellow—& I think may it please your honour I could gradually pump my notions into her head & make her a good ship mate for the cupboard & as good hearted a christian as

² The “y” is inserted below the line.

³ The words “smoth the” are written over “billows of.”

any of your white damsels. & upon my Soul—I warrant you if we have children, by feeding <them> with good faire & keeping them clean they will be as plump & and as fair & nearly as white as your honors children.— Upon this I filled the bottle with wine, & observing to honest Crito that <he> was at liberty to make the experiment if he could find a fair [—] to his liking—I then expressed the [p. 20] <the great> pleasure I received from <the> addresses of the speakers & ~~wished~~ <drank> success to the new voige— All drank plentifully & the exhilaration produced the greatest cheerfulness & hilarity.—By this time the sun had hid his head below the horizon & darkness invited all the animal creation to sleep & rest. We retired two & two—hand in hand—Ladies heads little awri—blushing like the morn &— But I forgot to mention that our society passed a resolution to build a church ~~in the~~ in the midst of our vilage.

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Chap. III

Many particulars respecting the
Natives

Intrest as well as curiosity invited an ac-
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They were tall. Bodies well proportioned, straight limbs,
complexions of a brownish hue. broad cheek
bones, black wild rolling eyes. & hair black
& coarse. No strangers they were both

Chap. III

Many particulars respecting the Natives

Intrest as well as curiosity invited an acquaintance with our new neighbours—They were called in their Language Deliwann~~ucks~~.¹ They were Tall—bodies well proportioned, strait limbs, complexions of a brownish hue—broad cheek bones, black wild roling eyes, & hair black & course. To strangers they were hosp[itab]le [p. 21]—true to their engagements, ardent in their friendship, but to enimies ~~inconsolable~~, implacable cruel & barbarous in the extremes— Innumerable hords of this disscription of people were scattered over an extinsi<ve> country, who gained their living <by> hunting the Elk, the dear & a great variety of other wild animals—by fishing & fowling & by raising corn, beans & squashes.— Shooting the arrow slinging stones, wrestling, jumping, hoping & runing were the[ir] principal amusements—& prizes would often be staked as a reward to the conqueror.— Their cloathing consisted of Skins dressed with the hair on—but in warm weather, only the middle part of their bodies were incumbered with any covering— The one half of the head <of the men> was shaved & painted with red—& the one half of the face was painted with black.

The head was adorned with feathers of various kinds—& their ears & noses were ~~adorned~~ ornamented with rings formed ~~formed~~ from the sinues of certain animals, on which were suspended smoth stones of different coulars.

Thus cloathed, thus painted, thus ornament[ed a] Deliwann~~unk~~² made a most terrefic [appeara]nce.—

¹ The final “n” of “Deliwan” is written over an “r.”

² See note 1, above.

[p. 22] They held festivals at stated <times>, which varied in the manner of conducting them, according the object they had in view— At one of their annual festivals their ceremonies were peculiarly singular & different from any that were ever practised by any nation—Here a description would give us some idea of their religion & would gratify the curiosity of an ingenious mind.

When the <time> arrives—which is in september, The ~~who~~ whole tribe assemble— They are <dressed &> ornamented in the highest fashion— The women in particular have their garments & heads so adorned with feathers shells & wampum that they make a very brilliant & grotesque appearance.— —

They form a Circle— their countenances are solemn. A Speaker mounts a stage in the midst. At this moment two Black Dogs led by two Boys—& two White Dogs led by two young da[m]sels enter the circle and are tied [—]es [p. 23] The speaker then extended his hands & spoke Hail ye favorite children of the great & good Spirit, who resides in the sun, who is the father of all living creatures & whose arms incircle us all around—who defends us from the malicious designs of that gr<e>at malignant Spirit that pours upon us all the evils we endure he gives us all our meat & our fish—& causes the corn & the fruits to spring up & makes us to rejoice in his goodness. He hath prepared a delightful country to receive us—if we are valiant in battle or are benevalant & good— There we can pick all kinds of delicious fruit & have game & fish in abundance & our women being improved in beauty & sprighliness will cause our hearts to dance with delight— But wo unto you wicked, malicious, mischevous mortals—your lot will be cast in a dark, dreary, miry Swamp—where the malignant spirit will torment you with musquetoës & serpents & will give you nothing to eat but toads, frogs & snails.— [p. 24] But O my dear friends—all hail—here is a custom which is sanctioned by time immemorial— Look steadfastly on the black dogs & let not your eyes be turned away—when they are thrown on the sacred pile & the flames are furiously consuming their bodies—then let your earnest prayers assend for pardon & your transgressions will flee away like ~~they~~ shadows & your sins will be carried by the smoke into the shades of Oblivion—When this solemn expiatory sacrifice <is ended> then

prepare your souls to partake of the holy festival— Each one will receive a precious morsel from these immaculate snow coulered Dogs in token that your offences have all evaporated in the smoke of the holy sacrifice, & that you are thankful to ~~him~~ <the benevolant Sperit> for the abundance of good things that you enjoy—& that you humbly anticipate the continuance of his blessings & that he will defend you against the evill designs of that malignant spirit, who gives us gawl & wormwood, & fills our bosoms with pain & our eyes with tears.

[p. 25] He then proclaimed, let the sacred pile be erected & the solemn sacrifice performed. Instantly about one hundred men came forward with small dry wood & bundles of dry sticks & having thrown them in one pile within the circle they sat the pile on fire— The black dogs were kocked on the ~~middle~~ head & thrown on the top—in a moment all was in a blaze & the flame assended in curls to heaven. The whole company assumed the most devout attitude & muttered in sounds almost inarticulate their humble confessions & earnest requests—

When the dogs were consumed & the fire nearly extinguished, the cerimonies of their sacred festival began—the white dogs which were very plump & fat, were knocked on the head & their throats cut. Their hair was then <singed> off, having first their entrails taken out—& being suspended by the nose before a hot fire they were soon roasted—thrown upon a long Table & dissected into as ma<n>y peices as there were persons to swallow them— The company <immediately> formed a procession, one rank of men, the other of women—the <men> marching to the left & the women to the right of the Table each one t[ook] a peice & devoured it with as good a [—] as if it had been the most delicious morsel. [p. 26] Having compleated these sacred cerimonies with great solemnity—the whole company formed themselvs into a compact circle round the stage—ten musitians immediately mounted & facing <the multitude> on every side sang a song—The tune & the musical voices of the singers <pleased the ear>, whilst the immagination was delighed with the poetic inginuity of the composition—The multitude all joined in the chorus, with voice so loud & multifarious that the atmosphere quaked with terror—& the woods and neighbouring hills ~~sent back~~ by way of mockery—sent

back ~~their vociferation~~ <the sound of their voices> improved by tenfold confusion. Perhaps, reader, you have the curiosity to hear the Song—I can give you only the last stanza & the chorus.—

'For us the sun emits his rays
'The moon shines forth for our delight
'Th. Stars ~~shine forth~~ <extol> our heroes praise
'And warriors flee before our sight.

Chorus

'Delawan to chahee poloo
'Manegango farwah teloo
'Chanepanh, lawango chapahto
'Quinebogan hamboo gowah.

The solemnities are ended & in their opinion their poor souls are completely whitewashed— & every stain entirely effaced.— A little diversion [p. 27] will now dissipate the solemnity & inspire them with cheerfulness & merriment.

The whole tribe repair to the top of an hill, at one place there is a gradual slope a small <distance> & then it descends about twenty five feet in an almost perpendicular direction, at the bottom of which is a quagmire, which is about ten feet in length & the soft mud is about three feet deep—at each end the ground is soft but not miry— Down this declivity twenty pair of very supple & sprightly young men & women are to descend, If by their agility & dexterity they escape the quagmire,—a peice of wampum will be the reward of each³ fortunate champion—but if they plunge in, their recompence will be the ridicule & laughter of the multitude—

In making this descent, six young women & five young men by a surprizing dexterity in whirling their bodies as they descended cleared themselves from the quagmire— The rest as their turns came plunged in & came out most wofully muddied to the great diversion of the Spectators. The incident which excited the most merriment hapned when the last pair descended. by an unlucky spring to [p. 28] clear himself from the quagmire he brot his body along side of the declivity

³ The word "each" is written over the word "the."

& roled his whole length into the midst of the quagmire where he lay ~~his whole length in an horizontal position on his back~~ neither heels up or head up, but horizontally—soft & easy—but alas when one unlucky event happens another follows close on the heal.— the fair, ~~plump~~ corpulant Damsel, his affectionate sweetheart came instantly, sliding with great velocity—she saw the woful position of her beloved— she wished <him> no harm— she raised her feet this bro't the center of gravity directly over the center of his head—here she rested a moment— his head sunk— she sunk after him his heels kicked against the wind like Jeshuran waked fat— but not a word from his lips—but his ideas came in quick succession—tho't he, what a disgrace to die here in the mud under the pressure of my sweet heart— however his time for such reflections were short— the tender hearted maid collecting all her agility in one effort <dismounted &> found herself on dry land i[n —] in[p. 29]stant— not a moment to be lost; she seized her lover by one leg & draged him from the mud—a curious figure, extending about six feet six inches on the ground,—all bismearred from head to foot, spiting—puffing, panting & strugling for breath.—Poor man, the whole multitude laughing at thy calamity, shouting, rediculing—none to give thee consolation but thy loving & simpithetic partner in misfortune—

~~Upon my soul, exclaims droll Tom— Stern formost—that bouncing Lass ought to have the highest prize for draging her ship from the mud—~~ She was cleaning the filth from his face.—⁴

⁴ Some indecipherable words or symbols are written vertically along the left margin near the top of page 29.

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[Chap. IV.] A journey to the N.W. &
removal.

O gracious God! how deplorable our situa-
tion! are we doomed to dwell among hordes of
savages - & be deprived of all social intercourse
with friends & the civilized world? What will
be the situation of our offspring? will they
preserve our customs & manners, cultivate
the arts & sciences & maintain our ^{holy} religion
or rather will they not rather degenerate into
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[p. 30] Who can indurer such reflections, such heart-rending anticipations?— They pour upon my soul like a flood & bear me down with the weigt of a milstone. O that my head were waters & my eyes a fountain of tears—then my intolerable burthen ~~shoud~~ should be poured forth in a torrent & my soul set at liberty. But behold the light springs up & beams upon my soul, She brings in her train Hope—that celestial Godes, that sure & strong anchor—that dispencer of comfort & pleasing anticipation—& that dispeller of coroding grief & black dispair—

She bids me review the exploded reasing of of a great philosopher & compair it with my own observations—perhaps the result will point out a safe road to the land of our nativity.

Thus I reasoned respecting the solar system of which the earth is a part. Provided the earth is stationary, according to the present system of philosophy— then the sun, the moon & the plannets, being at <an> immence distance & from the earth—must perform their revolutions round her with inconceivable velocity— whereas, if according to the P<h>atonic <other> system, the earth is a globe— & the sun is stas[ion]ary then the earth by a moderate veloci[ty —] [p. 31] perform her revolutions— This scheme will represent the solar Sytem as displaying the transcend<ant> wisdom of its almighty Architect—for in this, we behold the Sun suspended by omnipotence &

all the planets moving round him as their common center in exact [or]der & harmony— In this we can easily account for days & nights & the different seasons of the year,— When the earth presents one part of her face to the sun it <is day>— when that part is turned from his beams it <is> night— when she varies to the south the sun shines upon us in a more perpendicular direction—the sun beams become more dense & the heat encreases—as she returns back the heat decreases in proportion as this <part of> earth looses its perpendicular ~~assent~~ <direction> to the sun & the cold becomes more intence in the same proportion. This accounts for the various seasons of the year, appears correct & consistent & highly honourable to the divine perfections.

~~But behold the other system— The Earth firmly fixed on a firm foundation— perhaps as as some some say on a giants back who stands on a prodigious Rock— Its surfiice widely extend[s — n]early horizontal— & its cut down [p. 32] & <its> sides cut down strait or perpendicular to the the very bottom— below which is a fathomless abiss. Pray Mr Philosopher, what man was ever there <&> looked down? & what prevents the Ocean, unless it is damd with earth & rocks from pouring down & loosing itself in this horrible Abiss?— But how extensive is this teraqueous surface? Indeed I am of opinion, if this sytem is true I am nearly at one end of it. But the hipothises is too absurd & inconsistent. The earth must be of a spherical form & a westerly [—] will lead us to the land of our nativity— Perhaps this is a part of the eastern Continent, or perhaps only a narrow strip of the Ocean intervenes? On no other principle can we account for the emigration of the ancestors of those innumerable hords of human beings that possess this continant— their tradition is that their anees-tors came from the west— & they agree in their information that at the distance of fifteen days journey in a westerly direction, there are nations vastly more numerous, powerful & civilized than th[e]mselvs.~~

[p. 33] The earth therefore must be of a spherical form <a Globe> and a westerly course will lead us to the land of our nativity. On what principle can we account for for the emigration of the ancestors of those innumerable hords of human beings that possess this Continant? Their tradition tells them that they emigrated from the wes<t>ward—

From this I draw the conclusion—that the sea <if any> which intervenes between the two Continants at the westward is not so extensive, but that it may <be> safely <{—}>navigated. ~~I have <also> learnt from some of the~~ <we are also informed by some of the> natives, that at the distance of about fifteen days journey in <a> northwesterly course there is a great River which runs in a ~~south~~ westerly direction, ~~they cannot tell how far~~—& that along the banks of this river there are great towns & mighty <kings> & a people who live in a state of civilization— From all these considerations I am determined to remove—pursue a westerly course & seek the delightful <country> of my ancestors.—

I immediately comunicated my determination & the reasons on which it was founded to our little Society, who joyfully acquiesced— It was tho't to be the most prudential to find out the disposit[ion] & character of the inhabitants, who were [p. 34] settled along the great River lest we should fall into the hands of Robbers—For this purpose my man Crito & myself & a Delewan for an interpeter set off. We passed thro' a country intersperced with vilages, inhabited by the same kind of people as the Delewans, untill we came to a great mountain. Having passed over this we had not traveled far before we came to the confluence of two great Rivers, which in conjunction produced a river <which was called Owaho> deep enough, for the navigation of ships.—

Here was a large town or city inhabited by a distinct race of people from any we had seen before. We were immediately conducted to the King, ~~wer~~ <& were> received ~~us~~ very graciously—& having asked a number of very pertinent questions & received answers to his satisfaction—I then made known to him our business & had all my requests granted— As we proposed to move into his territory he offered to furnish us, for our convenience with four Mammoons & four men to manage them. These were an Annimal of prodigious magnitude, even bigger than the eliphant, which the natives had tamed & domesticated— They were very segacious & docile & were employed in carying burthens & in drawing timber—~~& in plowing their Land~~— Their hair at the spring season was ab<o>ut seven inches i[n] length [p. 35] & was of a fine wooly consistence—& being sheared

off at the proper season was manufactured into course Cloath—And the milk of the females, which they produced in abundance, afforded a very wholesome nutriment. Having thus succeeded beyond our expectation we made as much expedition to return as possible— We arrived in safety without <any> material accidents— The Little Society I had left were greatly rejoiced on our returne—& highly pleased with the account we gave of the country we had visited—& at the sight of the ~~extraordinary & prodigious Animals~~ <Mammoons> <whch> we had bro't to convey our baggage.—No time was lost to make preparation for the journey— The Captain, Mate & myself went to the King & held a conference with him & the cleifs & obtained leave to depart, tho with apparent regret & reluctance. [p. 36] Sacks were provided from course Cloth to receive the most valuable part of our goods & furniture—These were thrown across three of the Mammoons— The other was caparisoned, in a manner too tedious to discribe for the accomidation of of our women & childen—They were ~~were~~ all mounted upon him & road with great convenience & safety—~~Being thus prepared & ready~~ Thus having resided among the Deliwans two years— & being prepared to take our departuree

The king & his chiefs & many of his principal Subjects came forward to take an affectionate farewell. This was done on both sides, ~~with~~ with mutual expressions of the most ardent & sincere Friendship & the most earnest wishes & payerer for future prosperity & happiness [p. 37] Having taken our final adieu I observed honest Crito shedding tears very plentifully— You seem to be affected said I— God bless your honour said. he, when I think how kind & generous these poor Delewans have been to us I cannot help feeling an affection & friendship for them—

We were obliged to anchor amongst them—we were strangers—& helpless & they were ignorant Savages— yet they held out the hand of kindness & treated us as brothers & sisters.— Have they not fulfilld the law of christian charity—O that they were good Christians— May God forgive their ignorance & unbeliefe—& reward them for their kindness & gerosity.—

We passed on— No obsticles impeded <our journey> until we came to the great River suscowah—which ~~lies~~ <runs> between the

Deliwah River & the great moun [p. 38] mountain— The water being too deep for fording, we built a small boat and ~~at~~ with this, at several times we conveyed the whole of the <baggage &> Company <& ~~baggage~~> across, except the manager of the Mammoons, who mounted them & ~~forded~~ & swam <them> across— We then proceeded on by slow marches, [—]—

But in crossing the great mountain we had some difficulties to encounter but ~~hower met with receivd no material damage~~— but <finally> arived safely at the great city Owahon on the twenty fifth day after our departure from Deliwan.—

Fatigued with a long & difficult journey, great joy & gladness were visible in evry ~~in~~ Countenance, & all were disposed to establish our residence here until further information could be obtained & further measures concerted to prossecute our journey to Europe [p. 39] The King & his principal Officers proffered us evry assistance necessary to make our situation agreeable.—They assigned us in ~~conformity to our wishes~~, <compliance with our request> a number of houses on the bank of the river at a little distance from the City— We made him some valuabl presents in return. which he received as a token of friendship—but not as a compensation— For such was the high sence of honour which this prince sustained, that when he made <a> present, he would take it as an insult to offer him any thing as a compensation.—

Having now once more become settled our little community continued the same regulations which they had established at Deliwan—& all things proceeded in peace & our affairs prospered.—

20
A description of the Opoms
~~A promise of procuring a living~~
I am now to describe a species of
nation who have but little resemblance
to those ~~to those~~ ~~immense~~ tribes of
Savages, who live along the coast of
the Atlantic - Their complexion, the
form & construction of their bodies, their
customs manners, laws, government
& religion all demonstrate that they
must have originated from some other
nation & have but a very distant affi-
nity with their savage neighbours.
As to their persons, they were taller on
average than I had ever seen in any
nation - their bones were large, limbs
straight & shoulders broad - Their eyes
rather small & sunk deep in the head
their foreheads were prominent - & the
face below tapering in such a manner
that the chin ~~that~~ was ~~formed~~ nearly to a
point.

[p. 40]

Chap V

A discription of the Ohons, & manner of procuring a living

I am now to discribe a ~~species of~~ nation who have but little resemblane to those ~~to those innumerable tribes of~~ Savages, who live along the coasts of the Atlantic—Their, complexion, the form & construction of their bodies, their customs manners, Laws, goverment & religion all demonstrate that they must have originated from some other nation & have but a very distant affinity with their savage neighbours.—

As to their persons, they were taller on an avarage than I hade ever seen in any nation— their bones wer large, limbs strait & shoulders broad— Their eyes rather small & sunck deep in the head Their forheads were prominent—& the face below tapering in such a manner that the chin ~~that~~ was formed nearly to a point. [p. 41] As to their complexion, it was bord<er>ing on an olive tho of a lighter shade— Their eyes were generally of a dark brown or black Their hair of the same coular, tho I have sometimes <seen> persons,—whose hair was of a redish hue.—

They cloathed themselvs in cloath <which w[as]> manufactured ~~among themselves~~ from the hair of the Mammoons & from Cotton which was transported from the south west westward. They <men> wore shoes & long stockings,—wide trouses—a waistcoat & a garment with wide short sleeves which came down to their nees & in cold weather a Cloak over the whole The covering for the head was generally a kind of a Cap which ran up high—& tapered to a point— This was generally made of fur skins & was ornimented with feathers. It had a small brim in the shape of an half moon to project over the forehead—[p. 42] The women beside a stockings & shoes wore a short petecoat, a shirt of Cotton a loose garment with sleavs which

they girted round them with belts—& a cloack— They had various ornaments such as ribbons made from cotton & coulared with different coulars—the most beautiful feathers that could be obtained & shels of various kinds— Indeed the higher class of women were extreemly fond of ornament— & ~~were~~ placed a large share of their happiness in the briliancy¹ & gaudy appearance of their garments. They <people> obtained their living generally by by the cultivation of the Land—& ~~the manage~~ by tending & managing certain Animals, which <had> been so long domesticated that they <had> lost their wild nature & become tame.

Corn, wheat, beans & squashes <& carrots> they raised in great abundance—The ground was plowed [p. 43] by horses & generally made very mellow for the reception of the seed.—

It was the occupation of a certain part of the men to tend upon the tame Amimals to drive them to pasture & keep them from straying & feed them when the snow was on the ground.— Two men would tend twenty Mammouth, which were indifferent whether they fed on grass or cropt the bushes—<when these animals were fat, their flesh was higly esteemed>—They had droves of Elk, which they had so tamed <& tutored> that they could manage <them> as they pleased—~~these had~~ They tenders—whould [— — — — —] <& they would> follow them like a flock of sheep—& it was but seldom that any ~~would~~ left² their companions— The elk constituted a considerable part of their animal food— The horses were managed in the same way— & the people tho't their meat to be a savory dish.

[p. 44] They had large numbers of turkies & gees—which, tho' originally wild, yet by treating them with great familiarity by cropping their wings & feeding them ~~they~~ frequently they discovered no disposition to ramble off— but ~~would~~ propogated their species & laid³ eggs in abundance.—

Hunting & fishing were the employments of some—others followed ~~the~~ mechanical business & Others carried on a bartering trade to the southwesward—in order to ~~furnish to~~ furnish the people

¹ The letters “li” are written over “ri.”

² The word “left” is written over “leave.”

³ The word “laid” is written over “lay.”

with cotton & other articles whose production was not congenial to their climate.

By pursuing these various employment[s] they generally had a plenty of provisions <at all seasons> & were comfortably clothed — And here I would remark as one striking characteristic of this people—that they observed great neatness in their dress—in their cookery & in their houses

[p. 45] The manufacture of Iron & lead was understood but was not carried on to that extent & perfection as in Europe A small quantity of Iron in proportion to the number of Inhabitants served to supply them with all the implements which custom had made necessary for their use—By hammering & hardening their Iron they would convert it nearly into the consistence of Steel—& fit it for the purpose of edge tools.

The pottery Business was conducted with great ingenuity, & great quantities of stone & earthen ware consisting of ~~every kind of~~ vessels of every construction which were needed for family use, were manufactured in every part of this extensive country. ~~They would~~ These vessels they [p. 46] they ornamented with ~~pictures with~~ the likenesses of various kinds of animals & trees—& impressed upon them such colours as would strike the fancy with delight.— The females of the ~~higher Class~~ most wealthy Class would often have a large & superfluous quantity of this brittle furniture to decorate one apartment of the house— The vessels they arranged in such order as to make a display of taste & impress the mind with the agreeable sensation of beauty.—

In Architecture there can be no comparison with the civilized nations of Europe— In their most wealthy & populous Cities ~~they~~ their houses & public buildings, exhibit no elegance—no appearance of wealth & grandure—all is plain—& [p. 47] nothing superfluous—But convenience appears to be the whole object they had in view <in> the construction of their buildings of every kind.

Their houses were generally but one story <high>— built of wood, being framed & covered with split clapboards or shingles & in the inside the walls were formed of clay, which was plastered over with a thin coat of lime— Their houses seldom consisted of more than three apartments As to their chimnies, they ~~built~~ <construt> a wall

of stone about five feet high ~~for the fire to be~~ against which they build their fire—from the top of this wall they construct their chimney with thin peices of split timber, on the inside ~~with wet dirt or clay~~—of which they plaister wet dirt or clay—which compleatly covers & adheres to the timber & prevents the [p. 48] fire from having any operation upon it. The inside of their houses, as the women generally practise neatness makes a much better appearance than the outside.

It is my opinion, says Trojanus that this people display a taste in building which is formed upon the true principles of Reason— Their houses are sufficiently spacious for convenience No expence or Labour are thrown away in building useless apartments—or in erecting their houses higher than what convenience requires— The whole catalogue of ornimental trumpery is neglected— This in Roam produces more than half the Labour & expence in building— ~~Yes says Lucian— & without this, these labouring people must starve for the want of employment. & [] the citizens of the Roman empire would be deprived of the honour [p. 49] <of> of possessing a splended Capital & of the exquisite pleasure of beholding the greatest exhibition of human ingenuity in the eligance, the splendor, the simitry & beauty of their houses, their palices & public Edifices. True indeed, replies Trojanus, men may be dazled & delighted with such objects for a moment— But could not wealth be better bestowed upon to promote the intrest of the community & for charitable purposes— & these artists better employ their strength & ingenuity in producing some substantial benefits to themselvs & others.—~~

~~Rejoins Lucian, the course reason dictates is to avoid extremes.— A slab coulored world would tire the senses by its uniformity & too much orniment & splendor would cease to please by its frequency.—~~

Besides—lofty houses can more easily be overthrown by tornadoes or tumbled [p. 50] down upon our heads by earthquakes.—

The course says Lucian, that reason dictates is to avoid extremes. A slab coulored, ~~would~~ by its uniformity <would> tire the senses—& by its possessing too much Orniment & splendor ~~it would~~ cease to please.—

Chap. VI

Discription of the Learning Relligion¹ & ~~customs of the Ohons~~

Learning² appears to be so consonant to the nature of man & a ~~good~~ convenient share of it, so easy to obtain, that some may wonder why it is not universally defused thro the world, <But the wonder would cease when it is considered that mankind with but few exceptions to walk in the track of their fathers & to pursue the Road marked out by their education.>³ ~~But~~ If we can place any reliance on the dark annals of antient history, it is a certain fact that Letters are indebted for their existence to the inventive genius of certain extra ordinary characters—

Egypt & Chaldea contended for the honour [p. 51] of being the first who invented letters—Perhaps they were invented in each nation nearly at the same <time> <Tho the most probable conjecture is that they were communicated from one nation to the other.>⁴— ~~But~~ let this be as it may—could no other nation in the world produce as great geniusses as Egypt or Chaldea? Is there any natural obsticle to prevent their production in America as well as in Asia?— Whatever may be the reasonings of some—on this subject, the fact is, that I found ~~Letters~~ ~~or~~ some share of Learning, tho' in a very imperfect state, among this people— At present I shall wave the account of its introduction & shall merely discribe the state of learning as it <existed> among the Ohons They had chacters which represent words—& all compound words ~~were~~ had each part represented by ats

¹ The word “Relligion” is written over the previously erased “& customs.”

² After the word “learning,” the letters “is s” have been erased.

³ This insertion is written vertically on the left margin of the page. Its location here is noted by a “:+:” sign in the text.

⁴ This insertion is written at the bottom of the page. Its location here is noted by a “+” sign in the text.

The course says Lucian, that reason dictates is to avoid extremes. A flat colored, ~~word~~ by its uniformity ^{is of} tins the senses - & by its possessing too much Orniment & Splendor it ~~will~~ cease to please.

50

down upon our heads by earthquakes. —
The course says Lucian, that reason dic-
tates is to avoid extremes. A flat
colored, ~~word~~ by its uniformity ^{is of} tins
the senses - & by its possessing too much
Orniment & Splendor it ~~will~~ cease to
please. —

Chap. V
Description of the Learning ~~the~~
~~Customs of the~~ Chons

Learning appears to be so conformable
to the nature of man & a good convenient
share of it, so easy to obtain, that some
may wonder why it is not universally
diffused thro' the world; ~~But~~ If we can
place any reliance on the dark annals
of antient history, it is a certain fact
that Letters are indebted for their
existence to the inventive genius of
certain extraordinary characters —
Egypt & Chaldea contended for the honor

<appropriate> character. The variation of cases moods & tences was designated by certain marks placed under the Character. They generally wrote on parchment—& begining at the right wrote from the top to the bottom, plac<i>ng [p. 52] each character directly under the preceding one—& having finished one colum or line they ~~begin the~~ write the next on the left of that & so continue on until they cover the parchment if the subject require it.

It is⁵ a work of considerable Labour & time to obtain such a knowledge of their characters & the application as to be able to read with fluency & to write with ease & accuracy—

In their principal Cities & towns the Government appoint learned men to instru[ct] the sons of the higher class of Citizens & in the course of four or five years they will make such proficiency as to become tolerable schollars.—

The works of the learned are not very voluminous. Records are kept of the transactions of their governments. Their constitutions & laws are committed to writing— ~~A sacred Roll in manuscript is preserved among the Records [p. 53] of their Emperors & kings,~~ & are dispersed thro the impire—& much pains is taken to defuse the knowledge of them among the people— In all their large towns & Cities they have deposited under the <care> of a priest a sacred Roll which contains the tenets of their Theology & a discription of their religious cerimonies. This order of men publish comments upon these sacred writings— they publish some tracks on moral philosophy—& some ~~wise~~ containing a collection of proverbs & the wise sayings of their sages.—

But the kind of composition in which they most excell is poetry— In poetic numbers they describe the great events, which take place— & the exploits & mighty atcheivmts of their heroes— In soft eligies they ~~deseribe~~ <paint> the Amours of Lovers⁶ & in pathetic strains they delineate the calamimities & sorrows of the unfortunate.

In their Assemblies it is very common for a certain class of their Learned to entertain the company ~~by~~ with a repit[o]ir [p. 54] of poetic

⁵ The word "is" is written over "was."

⁶ After the word "Lovers" there is a notation ":+:" which indicates another line written at the bottom of the page for insertion here. The words are illegible.

peices describing the battles & exploits of their warriors—or to sing some amorous or witty ballad— As for Theators they have none—but as a kind of substitute—there are actors, who entertain the people by pronouncing dialogues or plays, in which they display all the arts of mimicry— ~~& act out the~~ express in their countenance, their gesture & the tone of their voices the differant passions of the human mind

As only a small proportion of the people are instructed in <the> arts of reading & writing, of consequen the great mass, must possess a large share of ignorance—but not so great a share as savages who have no learning among them— They hear the conversation & the letures of their sages—~~they <they are entertained with>~~ Their poetic oritors entertain ~~&~~ them with the productions of their poets, containing the history of great events & mighty atcheivments— Their Actors divert & please them by exciting the various passions—~~at the same time communicating instruction & correcting the natural savageness~~ [p. 55] ~~of manners by.~~ & as the peices they rehearse contain many ideas & sentiments tending to expose the deformity of vice, ~~&~~ the folly of superstition & the disgustfulness of rude & clownish manners, the people of consequence are improved <& considerably refined> add to this their living in compact towns or⁷ cities in which there is a constant & reciprocal communication of ideas All which of course would have no small effect into inform their minds— To all these causes combined the ~~Ohns~~ the great mass of the people are indebted for possessing a considerable share of knowledge & civilization.

⁷ The words “& considerably refined” have been inserted and erased here.

Relion. VII.

In every nation there is some kind of Religion & in every religion, however adulterated & corrupted there are some things which are commendable—<some things>which serve to improve the morals—& influence mankind to conduct better than what <they would> do, provided they pursued the natural dictates of their depraved minds. ~~without any restraint~~ As this sentiment is an¹ established maxim, which has been beleived <in every nation.> from the earliest ages of tim[e] [p. 56] ~~in every nation~~, hence it has been the policy of all governments to encourage & protect some kind of Religion.

In examining the religious ~~system~~ <precepts & sentiments> which are beleived & practised thro'out this extensive empire & which are encouraged & protected by the goverment,—I found some things which are common to the various² systems of Theology in Europe & Asia & some things which have³ no resemblance to either. From the sacred Roll as it is denominated I shall extract the tenets of their Theology & a description of their religious Cerimonies. It expresses them to this effect. “There is an inteligent omnipotent Being, who is self existant & infinitely good & benevolent— Matter eternally existed— He put forth his hand & formed it into such bodies as he pleased— He presides over the universe & has a perfect knowledge of all things— From his own spiritual substance he formed seven sons— These are his principal agents to manage the affairs of his empire— He formed the bodies of men from Matter— Into each body he ~~emitted~~ <infused> a particle of his own spiritual substance, in consequence of which man in his first formation was inclined to benevolence & goodness. There is also another great inteligent [p. 57] Being who is self existent & possessed of great power but not of

¹ The word “an” is written over “firmly.”

² The word “various” is written over “differant.”

³ The word “have” is written over “had.”

of manners. & as the ⁵⁵pe is they ~~rehearse~~ rehearse
contain many ideas & sentiments tending to
expose the deformity of vice, the folly of super-
stition & the disgustfulness of rude & clownish
manners. The people of consequence are improved
^{considerably} ~~add to this~~ their living in compact towns or
^{considerable} ~~cities~~ ⁱⁿ which there is a constant & reci-
procal communication of ideas — All
which of course would have no small effect
to inform their minds — Do all these
causes combined the ~~others~~ the great mass
of the people are indebted for possessing a
considerable share of knowledge & civili-
zation.

Religion. § 11.

In every nation there is some kind of Religion
& in every religion, however adulterated &
corrupted there are some things which are
commendable — which serve to improve the
morals — & influence mankind to conduct
better than what ^{they would} do, provided they pursue
the natural dictates of their depraved minds,
~~without any restraint~~ As this sentiment
is ~~firmly~~ ^{firmly} established maxim, which has
been believed ^{in every age} from the earliest ages of

Omnipotence— He is filled with infinite malice against the good Being & exerts all his subtlety & pow[er] to ruin his works— Seeing the happy situation of man he approached so near as to tuch his soul with his deliterious hand—The poison was immediately defused & contaminated his passions & appetites— His reason & understanding received no injury—. The good being looking upon his unhappy ofspring with infinite love & compassion made a decree that if mankind would reduce their passions & appetites under the government of reason he should ~~be~~ enjoy blessings in this world & be compleatly happy after ~~death~~—as his soul quits his body Death desolv[s] the connection—Ethereal Bodies are prepared for the souls of the righteous— These bodies can pass thro' any part of the universe & are invisible to mortal eyes. Their place of residence is on a ~~great & City~~ vast plain which is beautified with magnificent Buildings— with Trees fruits, & flowers ~~Here they enjoy every delight, which~~ No immagination can paint the delights, the felicity of the Righteous. But the wicked ~~have no etheria~~ are denied ethereal bodies— Their Souls naked & incapable of seeing light, dwel in darkness & are tormented with the keenest anguish— Ages roll away & the good being has compassion upon [p. 58] them—He permits them to take possession of ethereal bodies & they arise quik to the abodes of delight & glory: Now O man, attend to thy duty & thou shalt escape the portion of the wicked & enjoy the delights of the righteous Avoid all acts of cruelty to man & beast. <No Crime is so horrid as maliciously to destroy the life of man.>⁴ defraud not thy neighbour, nor suffer thy hands secretly to convey his property from him— Preserve thy body from the contamination <of> lust—& remember that the seduction <of thy neighbours wife> would be a great Crime.—

~~Let thy Citizens be numbered once in two years— & if the young women, who are fit for marriage are more numerous than the young men— then we <a> lthy men, who are young & who have but one wife, shall have the priviledge, with the permission of <the> King to marry anothe<r> until the numbers of the single young men & the single young woman are made equal— But he who hath two wives shall~~

⁴ This insertion is written vertically on the left margin of the page. Its location here is noted by an asterisk in the text.

~~have a house provided for each— & he shall spend his time equally with each one.—~~

Be grateful for all favours & forsake not thy friend in adversity. Treat with kindness & reverence thy Parents— Forsake them not in old age, nor let their cheeks be furrowed with tears for the want of bread.— Bow down thy head before the aged, treat thy superiors [p. 59] with respect— & place thy rulers & thy teachers in the most honourable seat. Let Rulers consult the welfare of the people & not agrandize themselvs by oppression & base bribes— Let Religious Teachers walk in the Road which leads to celestial happiness & lead the people after them— Let Parents restrain the vices of their children & instruct their minds in useful knowledge— Contention & strife is ~~is~~ the Bane of Families & the destruction of domestic happiness— being yoked together the husband & wife ought to draw in the same direction—their countenances will then ~~appear beautified~~ <shine> with the effulgent Beams of Friendship & love— peace & harmony will attend their habitation & their affairs will prosper.

Hold out the hand of kindness & friendship to thy n<ea>ighbour—consider him when reduced to indgence & distress—he is as dear to the great & good being as what thou art—~~& now thou hast an opportunity to manifest the disposition of thy heart~~—<To afford him releif will be pleasing to thy maker & an> expression of thy gratitude

Envious & malicious Souls are almost incurably contaminated with that hellish poison which ~~which was~~ first disordered the soul of man— [p. 60] partake not of their guilt by joining them in the malignant work of slander & detraction. Their intended mischief returns upon their own heads & the slandered character of the innocent & just shines forth with encreasing lusture. Let the stranger find an ~~hospitable~~ resting place under thy Roof— give <him> to eat [—] <from> thy portion, that whe<n> he departs he may bless <the> & go on his way rejoicing.—

~~Industry will~~ Say not to thyself I will indulge inactivity & idleness & lie upon the bed of sloth & slumber away the precious moments of time—for in this thou art unwise—for ~~unwise~~ disease will attend, <thee> hunger will torment thee—& Rags will be thy clothing— Let industry & econemy fill up the measure of thy waking

moments, so shall thy countenance display health & sprightliness plenty shall suply the wants of thy family & thy reputation shall be respectable.

~~But I behold a being in human form, from whom I turn away with disgust & abhorrance. He is covered with so much dirt & filth, that no ethereal body is provided for him nor can he be received into the abodes of the blessed.~~

[p. 61] Sufer not thy bodies or thy garments to remain long bismersed with dirt & filth— Cleanliness prevents many deceases & is pleasant to the sight But from a dirty filthy mortal we turn with disgust & abhorrance

As the great author of ~~being~~ <our existence> is benevolent to all his ofspring so it becomes us to be benevolent to our fellow beings around us— Our country is one Body & we are part of its members— We are therefore bound to maintain the rights & priviledges & the the honour & dignity of our Country at the Risk of our lives— Great rewards attend the Brave—& <their> expploits & atcheivments in contending against tyrants & in defending the Rights ~~their~~ of their country will be celebrated on the plains of glory.—

[p. 62] But the vision now expands & directs our contemplation to fix on his attributes, whose spiritual substance is commensurate with infinity— As only a single particle from his substance constitutes our souls, how small, how diminitive must we appear in the view of Onniicence— We must therefore contemplate his attributes thro the medium of his works—& admire with profound reverence & adoration his wisdom goodness & power which are visible in the formation & arangement of all materiall bodies & spiritual beings.

He requires us to suplicate his favours— & when received to express our gratitude— As our passions & appetites often get the assendence of reason—we are [p. 63] therefore bound to confess our faults & implore forgiveness—

Now that you may <know &> keep all these things which were made known by divine inspiration, it is ordained that <on evry eighth day> ye lay asside all unnecessary labour—that ye meet in convenient numbers & form assemblies That in eah assembly a learned holy man shall preside, who shall lead your devotions & explain this sacred Roll

& give you such instruction as shall promote your happiness in this life & in the life to <to come> Once in three months—ye shall hold a great festival in every <City> & town & your priests shall sacrifice an Elk as a token that your sins deserve punishment— but that the divine Mercy has banished them into shades of forgetfulness.—

Be attentive O man to the words of truth which have been recorded & [p. 64] & pay respect to all the commandments which have been written for your observance— Your maker will then be pleased to see you rejoice in the participation of his favours & to behold your faces brighten with the ~~cheering~~ <benign> beams of cheerfulness.—

An Account of Baska.

Chap VIII

Among the great & illustrious Characters who have appear<d> in the world in different ages as instructors & reformers of mankind, Baska holds <is intitled to> a conspicuous place—

The place of his nativity is not recorded. But the first notice which is given of him is—his appearing at th<e> great <City> of Golanga, which is situate on the Banks of the Siota River. He was attended by his wife & two little sons. The fashion of their garments were different from the natives— Their complexion likewise was of a {—} little whiter— ~~They were~~ <Baske was> grave solemn & sedate—reserved in th his Conversation—but when he spoke wisdom proceeded from his lips—& all were astonished at his eloquence— His fame spread [p. 65] rapidly thro, City & country—& he was celebrated as a man of the most brilliant & extraordinary Talents.— He was conducted to the King & in<roduced> to him— The King asked him from what country he came— His reply was at a great <distance> from the westward— He then asked him induced him to come into his country— He replied

pay respect to all the ^{com}mandments
which have been written for your ob-
servance - Your maker will then be
pleased to see you rejoice in the partici-
pation of his favours & to behold your
faces brighten with the ~~cheering~~ ^{strengthen}
beams of cheerfulness. -

An Account of Nasira. Chap VIII

Among the great & illustrious characters
who have appeared in the world in different
ages as instructors & reformers of mankind
Nasira ^{is in the} holds a conspicuous place -

The place of his nativity is not recorded.

But the first notice which is given of him
is - his appearing at the great of Solanga which
is situate on the banks of the Sista River.

He was attended by his wife & two little sons.

The fashion of their garments were different
from the natives - Their complexion like-

wife was of a ~~4~~ little white - ^{Nasira} They were

of grave solemn & sedate reserved in ^{his} his

congregation - but when he spoke wisdom

issued from his lips - & all were ^{at} at

at his discourse - His fame spread

rapidly thro, City & country - & he was celebrated
as a man of the most brilliant & extraordinary
Talents. - He was conducted to the thing ³³ ~~with~~
^{to him} - The thing asked him from what
country he came - His reply was at a great
distance from the westward - He then asked him in-
duced him to come into his country - He re-
plied

Cap 4 - VIII

Perhaps Reader before we describe the
government of the Chons it might be proper
to relax our minds by with a ^{few} sketches of His-
-ography - The Character which will best
connect with the history of the Learning
& religion & the government ~~of~~ of
the Chons is that of the great & illustri-
ous, Sobaska - He is the man, who
first introduced their present method of writing
who presented them the sacred scroll which
contains the tenets & principles of their religi-
on - & who formed their political constitution
as it respects the connection of various king-
-doms or tribes under one government

Capt VIII

Perhaps Reader before we describe the government of the Ohons it might be proper to relax our minds ~~by~~ with a <few> sceches of Biography— The Character which will best connect with the history of the learning & religion & ~~the~~ government ~~& laws~~ of the Ohons is that of the great & illustrious Lobaska— He is the Man, who first introduced their present method of writing who presented them the sacred Roll which contains the tenets & precepts of their religion—& who formed their political Constitution as it respects the connection of various kingdoms or tribes under one government

[p. 66] There are many anecdotes. which tradition has handed down respecting this extraordinary man which have the complexion of ~~the miraculous & hence I conclude they must be fabulous—~~ Such ~~as his~~ <fables> <As for instance he is represented as> forming a curious machine ~~by which~~ <& having seated himself upon it> he mounted into the Atmosphere & assended a great hieght—& having sailed a considerable distance <thro the air>, he decended slowly & received no damage— ~~&~~ that multitudes of astonished spectators had, a number of times seen him perform this miraculous Exploit—& that he declared that when he took these excursions his extraordinary wisdom & knowledge was communicated to him— If he did in fact perform such exploits no wonder that he managed an ignorant people as he pleased— But as it is not my intention to amuse my readers by a splended relation of fables I shall confine myself to facts which ca<n>not be contested— The place of his nativity is not recorded— The first account given of him was his appearance in the great city of Golanga which is situate on the Banks of the siota River. When he entered that city he was attended by his wife & four sons, the [p. 67] the eldest of whom was about Eighteen years of age.—He himself appeared to be about forty. His personal appearance was commanding, being of midling Stature—of a bold frank countenance & eyes lively & penetrating; In his general deopment he was chearful, yet

displayed much sedateness & gravity.— He was affable & familiar in conversation but not loquacious— He never would converse long on trifling subjects—had a wonderful facility to intermix some wise sayings & remarks ~~that should improve~~ & of turning with dignity & gracefulness the attention of the company to subjects that were important & interesting— None could then withstand the energy of his reasoning—& all were astonished at the ingenuity of his arguments & the great knowledge & wisdom which he displayed— His fame spread thro' the City & ~~multit~~ & Country & multitudes frequently assembled & importuned him to give them instruction— Always cheerful to gratify the curiosity & comply with the reasonable requests of the Multitude he entertained them by conversing with them familiarly—& by exhibiting public Discourses— All were charmed with his wisdom & eloquence— & all united in pronouncing him to be the [p. 68] most extraordinary man in existence & generally beleived that he held conversation with celestial beings— & always acted under the influence of divine inspiration.— The people were very liberal in their donations, which enabled him to support his family in affluence—

Having thus in a short time established a character superior with respect to wisdom & eloquence to any man who had ever appeared before him in the nation, he then, at an enterview which <he> held with the king & the chiefs, told them, that he had invented the art of expresing ideas by certain marks or charaters— & having explained the nature of the subject to their full satisfaction <he> then proposed to establish a school, for the instruction of the sons of the principal subjects of the King.— The proposal was received & accepted with much gratitud & cheerfulness— A house was immediately prepared for the accomidation of schollars, & in a short time <the> numbers amounted to near two hundred.— But here it must be observed that the art of making & applying the characters to the words which they represented—was taught principally by his sons—they had all received an education from their father—& even the youngest, who was but about eleven years old could read & write with great correctness & facility— He superintended their instruction & very freequently gave them lectures on scientiffic & mor[p. 69]morrall subjects—his

Scollars made great progress in learning—& delighted their parents with the improvments they had made in literature civilization & refinement.— He still continued to associate among the people & was indefatigable in his labours to dispel their ignorance, correct their superstition & vices to excite their industry & to defuse a more accurate knowledge, of the mechanical arts— The manufacture of Iron in particular was not known; this he taught a number by showing them how to build a small furnace, & to cast iron ware— & then how to build a small forge & ~~then~~ refine pigs & Conv<ert> them into Iron—

He had resided among the Sciotans about three years & the happy effects of his Labors were visible to all observs— A great reformation had taken place in the morals & manners of the people— industry had increased— & agriulture & the mechanical arts had received great im[p. 70]provment—& houses were built on a more commodious & eligant construction— But not willing to stop here the benevolent mind of the great Lobaska midetated a more important revolution— now ~~was~~ the propicious era ~~to~~ had arived & the way was prepared for the introduction of that sytem of Theology which is comprised in the sacred Roll— In the first place he read & explained the whole sytem to the king & the cheifs of the nation, who cordially gave it their approbation & gave permssion to propogate <it> among the people— Under a pretence that this sytem was revealed to him in several interviews which <he> had been permitted to have with the second son of the great & good Being— the people did not long hisitate, but received as sacred & divine truth every word which he taught them They forsook their old religion which was a confused & ~~absurd~~ medly of Idoletry & superstitious nonsense & embraced a religion more sublime & consistent—& more fraught with sentiments [p. 71] which would promote the happiness of mankind in this world.

Whilst the Siotans were thus rapidly progressing in their improvments they were unhappily¹ disturbed by the certain prospect of war. Bombal the king of the Kentucks—a nation which lived on the south side of the great River Ohio, had taken great umbrage against Hadokam the King of Siota— This Bombal was the most haughty &

¹ The letters "ily" are written over "y."

~~the most~~ powerful prince, who reigned in this part of the western Continent—

It had been the custom for several ages for the king & chiefs of the Kentucks <to have the exclusive right> to wear, in their Caps a bunch of blue feathers, which designated their preeminence over every nation.— The Siotan princes envying them this distinguished [p. 72] honor & considering themselves as being at least their equals assumed the liberty to place bunches of Blue feathers upon their Caps.— This in the opinion of the Kentucks, was an unpardonable offence, if persisted in, & a most daring insult upon their supereminent dignity— ~~A messenger was immedi~~. After a solemn Council was held with his chiefs, Bombal, with their unanimous consent dispatched a Messenger to Hadocam—who thus proclaimed— Thus saith Bombal, the king of kings & the most mighty prince on earth— Ye have insulted ~~my~~ <our> honour & dignity in assuming blue feathers, which was the badge of our preeminence— know ye that unless ye tear them from your Caps, ye shall feel the weight of our vengeance. Hadocam replied, tell your Master that <a great Company of> Wolves made an attack upon a City to rob the² citizens of their dear & elk, & they let forth their dogs upon them, which attacked them with such fury & courage, that they fled, mangled, & torn, to a most dreary swamp—here ~~they by <the> most tremendous~~ the most plaintive howling, they lamented their sad disaster & disgrace.

An answer so shrewd & insulting, it was expected would soon be followed by an invasion. Measures must immediately be taken for the defence of the kingdom— Lobaska was invited to set in Council— All were unanimously of opinion, that to comply with the haughty demand of Bombal, by tearing the blue feathers from their caps would be degrading the honour of the nation & a relinquishment of their natural right— they were likewise sensible that the most vigorous exertions were necessary to save the Country from ruin. The opinion & advice of Lobaska was requested. It is my opinion says he, that <by> using a little stratagem this war might be bro't <to> a conclusion

² The word "the" is written over "it of."

[p. 74] which will be honourable to this kingdom. We will pursue, says the King, your advice & directions.

I shall be happy, says Lobaska to assist you with my best advice— Call immediately into the field an Army of Three thousand men— provide two thousand shovels, five hundred mathooks & one thousand wheel barrows—<& one hundred axes.> I will give directions how to make them—

Not a moment was lost, the army was assembled & impliments provided with the utmost expedition—& they marched down the river to a certain place where the Army of the Enemy must pass, in order to arrive at the City of Golanga At this place the hill or mountain came within less than a mile of the River & a flat or level Land intervened— Here Lobaska directed that a Canal should be dug from the River ~~to the River~~ to the Hill— That it should be eight feet wide & eight deep & that the dirt which they dug should be thrown into the River—~~That the canal~~ except what should be wanting to lay over thin peices of split timber, which should be extended across the Canal & so weak & slender that the weight of a man would brake them down. This novel invention ~~invention~~ was soon carried into effect—& the work compleatly finished—Every pre[p. 75]caution was used to prevent, any intelligence of these transactions from getting to the enemy.—

In the meantime Hadokam bro't into the <field> seven thousand more of his warriors, men of brave hearts & valiant for the Battle— The indignant king of the Kentucks by this time had assembled an Army of Thirty Thousand <men> who were ready at the risk of their lives to vindicate the preeminence of their nation & the transcendent dignity of their king & his chiefs— ~~Had of this~~ At the head of this Army Bombal began his march to execute his threatned vengeance on the Sciotans— As he entered their country he found the viliges deserted & all the movable property conveyed away— Not a man, ~~or~~ ~~woman~~ to be seen until he came in view of the army of Hadokam, who was encamped within a small distance of the Canal.—

Bombal halted & formed his men in two Ranks extending from the river to the hill— He had a reserved core, who were placed in the rear of the main body— Having thus arranged them for battle, he went from one wing to the other—proclaiming aloud, we have been

insulted, brave Soldiers, by these cowardly Siotans— They [p. 76] have assumed the blue Feather, the badge of our preeminance & exalted dignity— Behold it flying in their Caps— will your high born souls submit to behold such Dastards place themselves on equal ground with you— No, my valiant warriors, let us revenge the insult by the destruction of their puny army & the conflagration of their City—

Make a furious charge upon them—& the victory is ours— Let you motto be blue Feather & you will fight like wolvs robed of their puppies.— Hadocam had by this time, formed his army in order of Battle close to the edge of the Canal & extended them <only> in one rank ~~only~~ from the River to the Hill.— As the Kentucks approached within a smal distance, the Sciotans gave back & began a retreat with apparent confusion, notwithstanding the pretended exertions of the King & his officers to prevent their retreating— Bombal observing this commanded to rush forward on the full run but to keep their Ranks in order— This they instantly obeyed as one man—& as soon [p. 77] as their feet stept on the slender covering of the canal it gave way & they fell to the bottom, some in one position & some in another— A disaster so novel & unexpected must have appalled the stoutest heart & filled their minds with amazement & & terror.— Nor did this compleat their misfortune of the army of Bombal—an ambush of the Sciotans, who lay on the side of <the> hill opposite to the reserved Corps of the Kentucks, rushed down upon <them> in an instant— Supprize & terror prevented resistance—they threw down their arms & surrenderd— The retreating army of Hadocam immediately returned with shouting to the edge of the Canal— Their enemies, who but a moment before, tho't themselves invincible & certain of victory—were now defenceless & wholly in their power.— ~~When~~ Lobaska was present & saw the success of his stratigim his great soul disdained revenge on an [p. 78] helpless & prostate Enemy— he conjured the Siotans not to shed one drop of Blood—but to be generous & merciful— Bombal had now recovered from his surprize & seeing the deplorable situation of his army, his haugty soul felt the keenest anguish— Where says he is the King of the Siotans? Here I am sasy Hadocam—what is your request my Brother? Reduced says he by a stratigim the most ingenious & artful, to a situation which

subjects us wholly under your power, & in which you can take ample revenge—I now employ your generosity & compassion for my army— Spare their lives—& then name your ~~other~~ terms & if I can comply with them, without degrading the honour of my Crown, it shall be done. Your request says Hadocam is granted— Surrender your arms— & let your army return in peace.— As for your majesty, & the chiefs of your nation, who are present, you <will> give <us> the pleasure of your company in our return to the City of Golanga, & there we will execute a treaty of peace & amity, that shall be advantageous & honourable to both nations.— These terms were accepted, [p. 79] & the Kentucks returned in peace to their own Country, not to describe exploits & bloody victories—but the curious stratagem of Lobaska— The two kings & their splendid Retinue of princes, having arrived at Golanga—~~every attentions was paid by the Hodacam & his chiefs to their honorable visitors~~ Hodacam made a sumptuous entertainment at which all were present— The next day both parties met for for the purpose of agreeing to terms of peace & perpetual amity— What are your terms says Bombal= Lobaska, says Hodacam, shall be our Arbitrator— He shall name the terms,—his wisdom will dictate nothing which will be dishonorable for either party. Your proposal, says Bombal, is generous Lobaska shall be our Arbitrator— Lobaska then rose— Attend says he, to my words ye princes of Siota & Kentuck. You have all derived your existence from the great father of Spirits—you are his children & belong to his great family— Why then have you thirsted for each others Blood for the Blood of Brothers.— ~~& what has~~ [p. 80] & what has produced this mighty war— A blue feather, may it please your majesties, A blue feather, a badge of preeminence. It is pride, it is cursed ambition & avarice which devastate the world & produce rivers of human Blood— & the wars which take place among nations generally originate from as trifling causes as the blue feather.

Let this be ~~the first article of~~ your treaty that any person may wear a blue feather in his Cap—or any other feather that he pleases.—

~~Let this be <the> second,~~ that the individuals of each nation may carry on a commerce with each other— & that they shall be protected in their persons & property.

~~Let this be the third,~~ that I shall be at liberty to establish ~~a school~~ or schools in any part of the domions of Kentuck & furnish them with ~~such~~ instructors ~~as I please~~— That none shall be restrained from hearing our instructions— & that we shall be patronized & protected by the King & his chiefs—

~~Let this be the fourth~~—that perpetual peace & amity shall remain between both nations—

[p. 81] And as a pledge for the fulfilment of these articles, on the part of the princes of Kentuck—that the eldest Son of the King & four sons of the principal Chiefs shall be left as hostiges in this City for ~~the term of~~ Term of Three years.

These terms <met> the cordial approbation of both parties & were ratified in the most solem manner—

Thus³ happy, <was the> termination of the war, about the blue feather! ~~having taken place—Lobaska proceeded with indefatigable industry & perseverance in his benevolent schemes of enlightning & reforming mankind.~~

And how happy would it be for mankind, if all wars about as trifling causes as this, might terminate in the same way The benevolent mind of Lobaska soared above trifles— viewing all mankind as brothers & sisters he wished the happiness of all.— Hence he made provision in the Treaty <with the Kentucks> for the introduction of Scools ~~in Kentuck~~ <amongt them>. This was the first step, which [p. 82] he foresaw would introduce improvments in agreculture & the mechanical arts—produce a reformation in their morals & rligious principals & a happy revolution in <some part of> their political institutions.—

Bombal had become so captivated with Lobaska that he solicited him to be<ar> him company to his own dominions— He consented & when he had arived at the royal City of Gamba, which is situate on the River Kentuck—he there pursued the same course which he had done at Golanga & his success answered his most sanguine expectations. The people were now prepared for the introduction of a school— He returned back ~~to Tolanga~~ & sent his second son & three of the most forward scollars of the Sciotans to establish a sc<h>ool

³ The word “Thus” is written over “As.”

at Gamba— ~~In the mean time his intention was to make some amendments in the government of Sciota.— But as there were several Cities & a great number of viliages, that acknowledged the jurisdiction of the Sciotan king, which still were ignorant of the prin[p. 83]ciples & doctrins which he taught— he found it necessary to viset them & to introduce instructors amongst them. In this work he was engaged about two years— & the happy effect of his labours were now visible in various kinds of improvments & in the reformation of manners, morals & religion. The way was now prepared to introduce his system of government— The chiefs of the nation were invited to attend a grand council at Tolanga— When they were met— Lobaska rose— & presented them with the following constitution of government—~~

~~The king of Siota shall be stiled the Emperor of Ohion & the king of Siota— His crown shall be hereditary in the oldest male heir of his family— The cities & vilages who now aeknowled his jurisdiction or who may hereafter <do it> shall be entitled to protection from the emperor— If invaded by an enemy he shall defend them with the force of the empire—~~

~~Once evry year the cheifs shall meet at Golanga to make laws for the good of the nation.—~~

[p. 84] These young men, having imbibed the the spirit & principles of their great preceptor, spared no exertions to instruct their scholars & to defuse useful knowledge among the people— The happy effects of their Labours were visible in a short time

~~The people~~ The people embraced the religion of Lobaska & became more industrious & civilized. In their various improvments in agreculture, the mechanical arts they & literature they even rivaled the Sciotans & appeared to be as prosperous & flourishing. Even Bombal himself declared that the termination of the war about the blue feather—which at first appeared unfortunate yet as it occationed such happy effects among his people, it gave him more satisfaction & pleasure than <what> ~~the reputation of being a great Conqueror~~ what he could have received from the reputation of being a great conqueror.

Chap. IX Government & money

The people who were denominated Ohians, were settled on both sides of the River Ohio—~~from~~ & along the various branches of the River— The settlements extended to a great distance in the time of Lobaska— but how far it is not mentioned— ~~They lived in compact vil-~~~~lages or towns— We might~~ ~~<except the Cities.>~~ Golanga on the River Sciota & Gamba on the River Kentuck ~~<which>~~— These various vilages or towns formed independant Soveranties— & were governed by their respective Chiefs—

Excepting the Cities of Golanga & Gamba—whose Kings claimed a jurisdiction over an extent of country ~~of country~~ of about one hundred & fifty miles along the River Ohio & about the same ~~extent~~ <distance> back from the river, the remaining part of this extensive Country was settled in compact vilages or towns. &. These formed independant sovereigties & were governed by their respective Chiefs. Frequent bickerings, contentions & wars took place among these Chiefs, which were often attended with pernicious consequences. To remidy these evils & to facilitate & accomplish the great <& benevolent> plan [p. 86] of reforming & civilizing the Ohians, Lobaska had formed a sytem of Government, with a design of establing two great empires—one on each side of the River Ohio.— Their ~~different~~ constitutions were on the <same> plan—& were presented by the hand of Lobaska to the respective kings of Sciota & Kentuck—

The Sciotan Constitution was comprised in these words. The Country east of the great River Ohio shall form the Empire of Sciota— At the head of this empire shall be placed with the title of Emperor— Labamack the oldest son of Lobaska— The office shall be hereditary in the eldest male of his family— He & his sons

The people who were denominated Chians, were settled on both sides of the River Ohio ~~and~~ & along the various branches of the River. The settlement extended to a great distance in the time of Labaska - but how far it is not mentioned. They lived in compact villages or towns - ^{except the Cities of} ~~the~~ *Saugon* on the River Scioto & *Gambra* on the River Shenandoah - These various villages or towns formed independent Sovereignities - & were governed by their respective Chiefs -

Excepting the Cities of *Saugon* & *Gambra* - ~~which~~ Things claimed a jurisdiction over an extent of country amounting to about one hundred & fifty miles along the River Ohio & about the same ^{distance} ~~back~~ back from the river. The remaining part of this extensive Country was settled in compact villages or towns. These formed independent Sovereignities & were governed by their respective Chiefs. Frequent ~~disputes~~ *disputes*, contentions, & wars took place among these Chiefs, which even at times with fatal consequences. ^{Sooner by the} ~~evil~~ *evil* & ~~the~~ *the* ~~inhabitants~~ *inhabitants* ~~of~~ *of* ~~the~~ *the* ~~country~~ *country* ~~at~~ *at* ~~that~~ *that* ~~time~~ *time*

successively shall marry natives of the kingdom of sciota.—<& all their daughters shall marry within their own dominions.> He shall have four counsellors— He with the advice of his Councillors shall have the exclusive right of making war & peace <& of foming treaties with other nations>— He shall be the commander in chief of all the forces & the King of Sciota shall be next to him= All controversies between the Rulers or Chiefs of the differant tribes shall be refered to the dessicion of him & his Councillors— & he is autorized to compel a compliance— He shall hold his settings anually in four differant parts of the empire. The king of Sciota & the chiefs of the different tribes shall hold their offices & exercise the same authority in civil matters that they have done— They shall [p. 87] be amenable to the emperor & his counsellors, whose duty it shall be to enquire into all complaints against them from their subjects & to redress grievances & punish for oppressions & injustice <by fines>.— He <and his Councillors> shall have the excusive priviledge of coining money— They may likewise lay taxes for the support of goverment & for the defence of the nation.— They shall coin no more money than what is necessary for the convenience of the people & in such quantity only that the value shall not depreciate—<In time of war <he>> shall appoint the officers of his army—except where the chiefs chuse to command their own subjects—in that case they shall be subject to the comand of the emperor> The people in evry City, town or village shall respectively chuse one or more Censors— whose duty it shall be to enquire into all mal-conduct of Rulers—& all vicious & improper conduct of the preists & the people—& they shall pursue such measures to obtain justice & to produce a reformation of morals in the offenders as the laws shall direct.

In order that the priests <& instructors of learning> may know & perform their duty for the benefit of civilization, morality & religion, Lambon the third son of Labaska shall preside over them & shall have the title of high Priest— & the office shall be hereditary in the eldest males of his family successively— There shall be associated with him four priests as his assistants— they shall exercise a jurisdiction over all the priests of the empire & shall see that they <faithfully> per<form> the duties of their office—They shall attend to the instruc-

tors of Learning—& shall direct that a suitable number are provided thro, out the empire— It shall likewise be their duty at all suitable times & places to instruct Rulers & people in the duties of their respective [p. 88] stations—& to labour incessantly to persuade mankind to ~~restrain~~ subject their passions & appetites under the government of Reason—that they may secure happiness to themselves in this life—& immortal happiness beyond the grave.— The people shall make contributions, in proportion to their wealth for the support of their priests— If any refuse, they shall be denied the priviledge of their instructions & shall be subjected to the ridecule & contempt of the people.—

For the convenience of the people & for the easy support of the government, it is necessary that there ~~government shou~~ should be something ~~to~~ which shall represent property—& which is of small weight. It is therefore provided that certain small peices of Iron— stamped in a peculiar manner, shall be this circulating medium, to represent property— Each peice according to its particular stamp shall have a certain value fixed upon it.— It shall be the peculiar prerogative of the Emperor & his counsellors to direct the coining of these peices—which shall be denominated money— No more money shall be coined than what will be for the benefit of the empire— Nor shall the Emperor or his Counsellors receive any more of it, than an adequate compensation for their services.— They shall keep an account of the amount of money coined anually & the [p. 89] manner in which it has been distributed & expended This account shall be submitted to the examination of the King of Siota & the chiefs of the empire. The Emperor shall always be ready to receive the petitions & complaints of his subjects— He shall consult the welfare of his people & save them from oppression & tyranny—& by his beneficent acts shall gain their affection & obtain <the appalation> of a just, a good & gracious Prince.—

When Hadocam king of Sciota had received this plan of government, he immediatly assembled all the Chiefs or princes within his kingdom Lobaska pointed out the defects of the existing governments, & the excellencies of that form which he presented for their acceptance— His reasons could not be resisted— they unanimously agreed

to establish it as their constitution of Government. Labamack accepted the office of Emperor, & his four counsellors were appointed— Lambon was ordained High priest & his four assistance chosen— The new government was now put in operation— The various tribes, living contiguous to the empire seeing its prosperity [p. 90] solicited the privilege of being received as parts of the empire— Their requests were granted. Improvement & prosperity attended them— This induced other contiguous Tribes to request the same privilege—& others still adjoining them came forward with their petitions, all were granted & the same regulations established in every part— Within about three years from the first establishment of the empire Lobaska had the pleasure of seeing his Son reign over a territory of more than four hundred miles in length along the River Ohio— & of beholding a nation rapidly progressing from a state of barbarism, ignorance & wretchedness to a state of civilization knowledge & prosperity—

Having now beheld the happy success of his experiment at Sciota, Lobaska made a second visit to Bambo king of Kentuck. His second Son whose name was Hamback was present at the city of Gamba, at [p. 91] His youngest son Kalo attended him. He made known his plan of revolution to Bambo who cordially acquiesced— & calling together his princes—they unanimously agreed to place Hamback on the throne of the empire south of the Ohio River— & to ordain Kalo as their high priest— With the exception of names & places the Constitution of government was the same as that which the Sciotans adopted— The same measures were pursued to ensure it success.— A great & flourishing empire arose— & barbarous tribes connecting themselves with the empire & under the fostering care of the government became civilized wealthy & prosperous.—

Thus within the term of Twelve years from the arrival of Lobaska at Talanga—he had the satisfaction of beholding the great & benevolent objects which he had in view accomplished— He still continued his useful Labours—& was the great Oracle of both Empires— His advice & sentiments were taken upon all important subjects— & no one ventured to controvert his opinions— He lived to behold the

successful experiment of <his> institutions—& to see them acquire that strength & firmness as <not> easily to be overthrown.

[p. 92] Having acquired that renown & glory which are beyond the reach of envy & which aspiring ambition would despair of attaining—at the age of Eighty, he bid an affectionate adieu to two Empires & left them to lament in tears his exit.

These two empires continued to progress in their improvements <& population> & to rival each other in prosperity during the reign of Ten successive Emperors on the Throne of Sciota— Peace & harmony and a friendly intercourse existed between them— No wars took place to disturb their tranquility except what arose from the surrounding Savages, who sometimes disturbed the frontiers in a hostile <manner> for the sake of gaining plunder. But these attacks were generally repelled & defeated without much loss of blood— They were in fact of such trifling consequence as to make no perceptible impediment to prevent the population, improvements & prosperity of both Empires— & happy, thrice happy would it have been for them if they had still continued to have pursued the amicable & benevolent principles, which first marked the commencement <&> progress of their institutions.

[p. 93]

Chat— —X
Military <forts.> arrangement.
amusements. <Custom.>Extent
of the Empires

The Customs & amusements of a Nation evince the state of Society which exists among the people— When the two Empires of Sciota & Kentuck had commenced their new career on the plan which was formed by Lobasko—they adopted this as a true maxim, that to avoid war it was necessary to be in constant preparation for it— It was the wise policy of of the two governments to make such military arrangements as never to be surprized by an enemy unprepared. In every City, town & vilage the people were required to provide military impliments & to deposit them in a secure place ~~place~~ These magazines were to contain a sufficient quantity <of arms of warlike impliments>, to furnish evry man who <Should be destitute> ~~was able to bear arms.— In order that evry man might have sufficient skill to use them to advantage, great pains was taken to prepare him by teaching <him> the art of war.~~

The knowledge of military tackticks as ~~they~~ <it> was then attainable, was likewise defused among the people— Young men from sixteen to twenty ~~five~~ years old, were required to take the field four times in each year & to spend sixteen days during each time in learning the military art & in building fortifications— And evry able bodied man was required to spend eight days in each year in the same employment.—

[p. 94] In consequence of these regulations a revalship existed among the different sexions of the empires to exceed each other in skill & dexterity in ~~their~~ military manoevers— Hence it was a general Custom in evry part of the Country for different bodies of men to meet— ~~to engage in feigned Battles~~ once evry year, in order to make a display of their improvements in the art of war— Premeums were

What - ⁴⁷
Military arrangements, amusements, & extent of the Empire
The Customs & Amusements of a Nation
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place. ~~These magazines were to contain a sufficient~~
~~quantity to furnish every man who was able to bear~~
~~arms.~~ ^{Should be deposited}
In order that every man might have sufficient
skill to use them to advantage, great pains was taken
to prepare him by teaching ^{him} the art of war.
The knowledge of military tactics as they were then
attainable, was likewise diffused among the people.
Young men from fifteen to twenty five years
old, were required to take the field four times
in each year & to spend sixteen days during
each time in learning the military art &
in building fortifications. And every able
boored man was required to spend eight days in
each year in the same employment.

given to those who were the most expert in shooting the Arrow or in managing the spear & the sword.

Their Amusements were generally of the athletick kind—calculated to improve their agility & strength— & prepare them for warriors. Wrestling, slinging & throwing stones at marks—leaping ditches & fences & climbing trees & precipices were some of their most favorite diversions— And as they took great pains to perfect themselves in these exercises, it would astonish spectators of other nations to observe the improvement they had made & the extraordinary feats of agility & strength which they exhibited.—

Other diversions, which had not tendency, to fit them for war, they seldom practised, except when in <the> company of women— Being taught by their religion the social virtues they manifested a great regard for the rights of the other sex & always treated them with attention, civility & tenderness— Hence <when in company of the fair Sex—> it was curious to observe, that ~~when in <the> company of women~~—they easily exchanged the ~~warriors~~ rugged & ~~bold~~ attitude of the <bold> warrior, for the complasent & ~~tender~~ deportment of the <affectionate> Galant— The amusements which were pleasing to [p. 95] the female mind were equally pleasing to the men whenever they held their social meetings for recreation.— These <meetings> were frequent among the younger class of Citizens, whether married or single— Various kinds of amusements would frequently be introduced at such times for their <mutual> entertainment—but that which held the most conspicuous place was dancing— But their manner of dancing was different from that of the polished Europeans.—

Gracefulness & easy attitude were not so much studied in their movements as sprightliness & agility & those tunes which admitted the greatest display of activity & sprightliness were generally the most ~~pleasing~~ fashionable— Hence those whose Bodies were formed for the quickest movements, if they kept time with the music were the most admired.—

In small assemblies, it was fashionable to amuse themselves ~~with~~ at playing with peices of parchment— This they denominated the Bird Play. Each peice of is of an oval form & of convenient length &

width—& on each one is portraied the likeness of a Bird— All the birds of Prey that came within their knowledge, have the honour of being represented on these peices of Parchment—on the other peices are portraied other Birds of different kinds— The whole number of the peices amount¹ to about sixty— These are promiscuously placed in a pack & dealt of to the company of Player [p. 96] whose number does not exceed six— The person then, who has the greatest number of carniverous Birds—by a dextrous managment, may catch the greatest number of the other Birds—& thus obtain the victory.—

During these enterviews of the different sexes—& even in their common intercourse with each other they are always very cheerful & sociable & often display that fondness & familiarity, which in Europe, would be considered as indicative of a lacivious character—but in this country are considered as harmless, as what good manners required.— Nothing rude, nothing indecent or immodest according to their ideas of the meaning of these terms are admissible in company—& absolute laciviousness would meet the most severe reprehension.—

When a young man wishes to settle himself in a family State he proclaims it by wearing a red feather in his Cap. This is considered as an admonition to <the> young women who would not receive him for a husband to avoid his company—whereas those whose inclinations towards him are more favourable admit his attention— from this number he selects one as the object of his addresses— He obtains an enterview & proposes a a courtship— If the proposition accords with her wishes, they then agree on a time, when he shall make known the affair to her parents—whose approbation being obtained, he is then permitted to viset her ten times in sixty days. At the expiration of this time, the bargain for matrimony must be finished. Otherwise there must be <a final termination or> a postponement of the courtship for the term of one year; ~~or else a [—] The parties are [p. 97] at liberty during this postponement to~~

But if the parties are pleased with each other, the contract is made & the time for the ~~celebra~~ performance of the nuptial ceremonies is appointed— An entertainment is ~~made~~ <provided>— friends are

¹ The letters “am” have been erased before “amount.”

invited—& the Bridegroom & Bride present themselves in their best apparel— The company form a circle & they take their stand in the center— The father of the Bride speaks, For what purpose do you present yourselves— They answer, To join hands in wedlock, Our hearts are already joined & we have made a solemn ~~contract~~ ^{covenant} to be true & faithful to each other.— The Company then all exclaim—“Blessings will attend you, if ye fulfill— but Curses, if ye transgress.— They are then conducted to a Log round which, a Rope is tied— The Bridegroom takes hold of one end ^{of the rope} & the Bride the other—& being commanded to draw the Log into the house, they pull in opposite directions with all their might. Having worried themselves for some ^{time} to no purpose, to the great diversion of the company, the parents of both parties step forward—& giving them a severe reprimand command them to draw in the same direction— They instantly obey—& the Log is easily drawn to its destined place.— The rest of the time is spent with great cheerfulness & merriment.— They partake of the entertainment & conclude with customary amusements.—

[p. 98] The Bridegroom & Bride are now desirous to form a family by themselves— If their parents are of sufficient ability they furnish them with a convenient house & such furniture as will be required for family use & such other property as they ~~will~~ need, to enable them to obtain a comfortable living. But if their parents are poor they receive assistance & contributions from relation & neighbours & are placed in such a situation that with ^{proper} industry & economy, they can ~~live~~ ^{live above indigence &} enjoy life agreeably.

At the time they enter their new habitation, they are attended by a Priest & by their relation & friends— They kneel in the center of the Room—& the Priest places his right hand on the head of the Bridegroom & his left on the head of the Bride— After explaining & enjoining in the most solemn manner, the various duties of the marriage state he concludes his injunctions with these words— My dear Children, I conjure you, ~~as you regard your own peace & felicity as you would wish to acquire wealth & respectability— & set an~~

~~example worthy of emitation, that as you are now yoked together to draw in the same direction.~~

They then rise & he presents each with a peice of Parchment on which is written— Draw in the same direction. All the duties of the conjugal state, in their opinion, are comprized in this ~~injunction~~. Command.

~~As the Priests & the Censors were vigilant & careful to required to see that parents restrained the vices of their children & instructed them in the knowledge of their religious principles—the effects were very conspicuous.— Parents~~

Having been early taught to ~~restrain~~ the govern their passions & to regard the practice of virtue as their greatest good, it was generally the case, that love, friendship & [p. 99] harmony existed in families. ~~& when parents were treated by their children with great tenderness & respect.—~~

Parents manifested an anxious sollicitude for the future welfare & respectability of their Children.— & in their turn, children treated their parents with respect & reverance.— Nor did they forsake them in old age—but ~~paid~~ provided liberally for their support— &

But we are not to suppose that in the most virtuous age of the nation, all were virtuous— Far from this. But with such punctual exactness were the laws executed, in the most prosperous state of the nation, that vice & impiety had but few advocates & the wicked were ashamed of their own characters.— Tho' evry vice was prohibited by Law, yet the penalties were not severe— Murder alone was punished with death— with respect to other Laws, they were calculated to wound the pride & ambition of the transgressor, & produce shame & regret—

Adultery ~~was~~ <is> punished by obliging the Culprit to were a pair <of> Elk-horns on his shoulders six days & to walk thro' the City or vilage once each day, at which times the boys are² at liberty to pelt him with rotten eggs.— The thief is compeled to make ample restitution— For the third offence he is covered with tar & feathers & exhibited as a specticle for laughter & ridicule. Pugilists or boxers, if they are equally to blame for fighting are yoked together at least one

² The word "are" is written over "were."

day—& in this situation are presented to the view of the multitude. They must were the yoke until the quarrel is settled.

[p. 100] Such being the nature of their penal Laws & such the punctuality of executing the penalties on offenders, that crimes were far less freequent in this country, than in Europe where the Laws are more severe—& offenders more often escape punishment. Tho' learning, civilization & refinement had not arived to that state of perfection in which they exist, in a great part of the Roman Empire—yet the two Empires of Sciota & Kentuck during their long period of peace & prosperity were not less happy.

As luxury & extravagance were scarcely known to exist, especially among the common people, ~~an happy equality was~~ hence there was a great simularity in their manner of living, their dress, their habbits & manners.— Pride was not bloated & puffed up with enormous wealth— Nor had envy fewel to influme her hatred & malice— As the two empires were not displeased with each others prosperity & happiness.— ~~& the two goverments had no thirst~~ nor jealous of <nor jealous of> each others power—& as the goverments were not infected with a thirst for conquest, peace <of consequence> waved her olive branch— & the malignant passions lay dormant—

As avarice & corruption did not contaminate the ruling powers nor bribery infect the seats of justice the people felt secure in the enjoyment of their rights, & desirous to raise up families to partake of the same blessings which they enjoyed.—

We can now trace the causes of their increase & prosperity. [p. 101] ~~Such~~ To a religion, which presented powerful motives to restrain vice & impiety & encourage virtue— To the defusion of a competant share of learning & knowlege to enable the people to understand their rights & enjoy the pleasures of social intercourse— To the establishment of political institutions, which garded property & life against oppression injustice & tyranny— to the knowledge which the people obtained of <agriculture &> the mechanical arts & their habits of industry & econimy— To the mild nature of their laws & the certainty of executing the penalties upon transgressors— & to such an equality of property as to prevent the pride of wealth & the extravagance of Luxury— To such causes may be asscribed the rapid

increase of population & the <apparent> contentment & felicity which extended thro evry part of ~~the Country~~. ~~<of both Empires>~~— We might add likewise the long peace that continued & the friendly intercourse that existed between the two rival Empires— A peace which had no interruption for the term of near five hundred years— During this time their vilages & cities were greatly enlarged— new settlements were formed in evry part of the country which had not been inhabited— & ~~towns~~ a vast number of towns were built— which rivaled as to number of inhabitants, those which existed, at <the time> their imperial goverments were founded.— Their settlements extended the whole length of the great River <Ohio> to its confluence with the Mississippi, & over the whole country on both sides of the Ohio River, which are watered by streams which empty into it.— And also along the great Lakes of Eri & Meshigan [p. 102] & even some settlements were formed in some part of the country which borders on Lake Ontario.— Such was the vast extent of the country which they inhabited— & such the fertility of the soil that many milions were easily fed & supported with such a plenty & competence of provision, as was necessary for their comfort and happiness—

During the time of their rising greatness & tranquility, their policy led them to fortify the country in evry part, the interior as well as the frontiers this they did partly for their own safety, provided a war should take place & they should be invaded by an enemy— & partly to keep alive ~~a military~~ & improve a warlike spirit & the knowledge of military Tacticks. Near every vilage or City they constructed forts or fortifications— These were generally of an oval form & of different dementions according to the number of inhabitants who lived in the Town.— The Ramparts or walls, were formed of dirt which was taken in front of the fort. A deep canal or trench would likewise be formed— This would still encrease the difficulty of surmounting the walls in front.— In addition to this they inserted ~~sticks~~ <peices> of Timber on the top of the Ramparts— These peices were about seven feet in length from the ground to top which was sharpned— The distance between each peice was about six inches— thro which they could shoot their arrows against an Enemy. Some of their fortifications [p. 103] have two Ramparts, which run

parallel with each other built in the same manner, with a distance between of about two or three perches— Their gates are strong & well constructed for defence— Within these forts are likewise a number of small houses—for the accomodation of the army & inhabitants in case of an invasion—& likewise a storehouse for the reception of provision & arms.

A country thus fortified—containing so many million of inhabitants, hardy & robust & with habits formed for war—might well be supposed as able to defend themselves against an invading Enemy— If they were beat from the frontier, they could still retreat back to the fortifications in the interior & their make a succesful stand— But <what> avails all the wisdom, the art & the works of men—what avails their valour, their strength & numbers when the Almighty is provoked to chastise them & to execute his vengence in their overthrow & destrucition—

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have two Ramparts, which run paralel with each other⁵² built in the same manner, with a distance between of about two or three perches - Their gates are strong & well constructed for defense - Within these forts are likewise a number of small houses - for the accomodation of the army & inhabitants in case of an invasion - & likewise a storehouse for the reception of provision & arms. A country thus fortified - containing so many millions of inhabitants hardy & robust & with habits formed for war - might well be supposed as able to defend themselves against an invading Enemy - If they were beat from the frontier, they could still retreat back to the fortifications in the interior & there make a successful stand - ^{what} But avails all the wisdom, the art & the works of men - ^{what} avails their valour, their strength & numbers when the Almighty is provoked to chastise them & to execute his vengeance in their overthrow & destruction -

Chat 351 -

As the Siotans & the Kentucks had maintained with each other an uncorrupted & friendly intercourse for the space of four hundred & eighty years it seems almost incredible, that a cause, which was of no great importance to either nation should excite their resentment against each other & produce all the horrors of war. - But such were the unhappy effects of an affair, which had no regard to a single person, except the imperial families of the two empires & the King of Siota. -

Chat [H] XI—

As the Sciotans & ~~the~~ Kentucks had mantained with each other an uninterrupted <peace> & friendly intercourse, for the space of four hundred & eighty years, it seems almost incredible, that a Cause, which was of no great importance to either nation, should excite their resentment against each other & produce all the horrors of war.— But such were the unhappy effects of an affair, which ~~had~~ no regard to a single person, except the imperial families of the two empires & the King of Sciota.—

[p. 104] As these families ~~had~~ <were> descended from the great Lobaska. they had, during the reigns of all their Emperors been in the habit of visiting each other, but as each Emperor & his children were required not to mary out of their respective dominions, no inter-mariages had taken place.— They however claimed relationship & still continued to each other, the appellation of our dearest & best beloved Cousen.—

A Cousen of this discription, who was <the> eldest Son of Hamboon the Emperor of Kentuck arived at the City of Golanga with a small but splended Retinue of Friends.— At that time Rambock, who was the fourteenth Emperor, was seting on the throne of S<c>iota— He received the young Prince with apparant sensations of the highest pleasure & spared no pains to manifact towards <him> by his treatment, the greatest esteem & friendship. The Emperor had an only son, whose name was Moonrod— He ordered him to attend the young Prince & to treat him with evry token of affection & honour.

They spent their time in receiving visets from the officers of the goverment— in viewing curiosities, & in the assemblies of the first Class of young <citizens>, who met for recreation.— Elseon, for this was the name of the young Prince, was, soon after his arival, introduced to Lamesa, the eldest daughter of the Emperor.

She was a young Lady of a very fair & beatiful countenance. Her features & the construction of her person, were formed to please the fancy, whilst the ease, the gracefulness & modesty of her deportment were very pleasing to all her acquaintance— Her mind was replen-

ished with the principles of knowledge & virtue— & such was her vivacity & the ease with which she expressed <her ideas> that all were delighted with her conversation—

[p. 105] No wonder that this fair imperial damsel attracted the attention of Elsion— & at their first enterview, enkindled a spark in his boosom— which he could hardly prevent from being discovered thro his blushing countenance & the embarishment he felt in conversation.. He strove to erase those tender impressions which she had made on his heart— but in vain— evry renewed <enterview> only served ~~only~~ to fix her image deeper in his mind. ~~with~~ & to make the flame of Love more difficult to extinguish. He reasoned on the obstacles in <the> way <of> obtaining this young Lady for his partner— but instead of cooling ~~only~~ ~~ser~~ it only encreased the ardor of his passion & produced a resolution, that with the consent of Lamesa, nothing should prevent the attainment of his wishes.— To a mind thus ardent, which possessed the native courage resolution & perseverance of Elseon, the most gigantic obstacles would vanish into vapour.— Nor was it long before he found that a correspondent passion was excited in her breast. The moment she first saw him her heart palpitated— her face was covered with crimson.— She turned her eyes & attempted to speak— her tongue stopt its motion in the middle of a period— She hamed— sat down & observed that she was not well.— A discription of this scene is painted by a Sciotan Bard in poetic numbers— he represents the young Lady as recovering in a short time from this state of agitation & confusion & as being afterwards composed, & of having a better command of her passions. To follow this Poet in the description which he gives of Elseon, to whom he attaches a countenance & figure superior to other mortals— & qualities, which produced ~~the~~ <universal> esteem & admiration, would not comport with the faithful page of history. Suffice it say that Lamesa was captivated with his person, & was impressed with those ideas & sentiments that her happiness fled, except when she either enjoyed or antici[p. 106]pated his company. After Elsion had firmly determined to marry Lamesa he was impatient for a private enterview with her to disclose his sentiments— This occured in a short time; They were together in one of the apartments of the Emperors palace—

the company had all retired.— I have said he in a low voice to Lamesa, —conceived that opinion of you, that I hope you will not be displeased if I express my feelings with frankness & sincerity.— You must, she replied be the best judge of what ~~it~~ is proper for you to express— I am always pleased with sincerity. As the sun, says he my dear Lamesa when he rises with his radiant beams, dispels the darkness of night, so it is in your power to dispel the clouds of anxiety which rest upon my soul— The Crown of Kentuck will be like a Rock on my head, unless you will condesend to share with me the glory & felicity of my reign. Will you consent to be my dearest friend & companion for life? There is nothing she replies would give me more pleasure than a compliance with your request, provided it shall meet the approbation of my Father— But how can he consent, when our Constitution requires that his daughters should marry in his own dominions? Besides my father intends that I shall reseceive the King of Sciota for my husband. By performing says he, the cerimonies of Mariage at Talanga, we shall literally comply with the imperial constitution, as Talanga is within the dominions of your Father— But as for this King of Sciota do you sincerely wish to have him for a husband? No, she quickly ~~replies~~ speak[s] anger sparkled in her eyes— No! The king of Sciota for my husband! his pride, his haughtiness— the pomposity of all his movments, excite my perfect disgust. I should as leave be yoked to a porcupine.

§ ~~Several~~ These Lovers, as you may well conjecture, said many things too tender & endearing to please the taste of the common Class of Lovers— In this enterview, which [p. 107] lasted about four hours, they exchanged the most transporting expressions of Love— made the most solemn ~~protes~~ vows of sincerity & perpetual friendship— & finally agreed that Elseon should make known to the Emperor their mutual desire to be joined in wedlock.

The next day he wrote to the Emperor as follows—

May it please your most excellent Majesty. Permit me to express my most sincere gratitude for the high favours & honour which, thro' the beneficence of your majesty, I have injoyed in your dominions— I am likewise impelled to request a favour, which to me would be the most precious gift that is in the power of your majesty to bestow—

~~the~~. Having contracted an acquaintance with your most amiable daughter Lamesa & finding that a correspondent affection & esteem exist in our hearts towards each <other> & a mutual desire to be united by the solemn covenant of marriage, I would therefore solicit your majesty's permission, that such a connection may be formed.—

Such a connection, I conceive, may in its effects be very salutary & beneficial to both Empires— It will unite the two imperial families ~~in a~~ nearer in the bond of consanguinity & fix upon them an additional obligation to cultivate friendship, peace & an amicable intercourse— It will strengthen the sinues of both governments ~~& promote~~ & promote an happy interchange of friendly offices.— As to the objection which might arise from the constitution requiring, that the Emperors daughters should marry in his own dominions— This according to its literal meaning can have respect only to the place where the Emperors Daughters shall marry— If by your Majesties permission I should marry your daughter Lamesa, in your dominion, [p. 108] it will be a literal fulfilment of the constitution. From this ground therefore I conceive no objection of any weight can arise—

Will your majesty please to vouchsafe ~~me~~ an answer to my request.

Signed. Elseon, Prince of Kentuck.

This Letter was presented to the Emperor, by Helicon an intimate friend of Elseon.— The Emperor read it—assumed the aspect of deep consideration—walked the room a few moments, then took a seat & told¹ Helicon, that he might inform the young prince—that he should receive an answer within Ten² days.—

But why Ten³ days—a long time for two ardent Lovers to remain in suspence— But the Emperor must consult his Counsellors, his priests—& the last & most fatal councillor of all this King of Sciota, who presumed to claim the hand of the fair Lamesa— The affair became public— The popular sentiment at first favoured the connection— The Emperors Councillors & his priests were at first inclined

¹ The word "told" is written over "informed."

² The word "Ten" is written over "six."

³ The word "Ten" is written over "six."

to recommend an affirmative answer. But <the> interest of the Sciotan King soon prevailed— This produced a different view of the subject— The Councillors perceived that such a connection would be a most flagrant violation of the true meaning & spirit of the constitution & the Priests considered that it would be an act of the greatest impiety, as it would transgress an explicit injunction of the great founder of their government & religion. This opinion had vast weight on the minds of a great majority of the people. The more liberal sort vindicated the cause of Elseon— This produced great debate, altercation & confusion thro' the City— All were anxious to know the Emperors decision⁴—

[p. 109] On the tenth day the Emperor transmitted <to the prince> the following answer to his Letter—

To our best beloved Cousen Elseon, Prince of Kentuck. The Letter we received from your Highness has impressed our hearts with a deep sense of <the> honour & benefits which you intended our family & impire.—

At first we were inclined to accept of the alliance you proposed— But having ~~examined &~~ considered the subject with great seriousness & attention we ~~that~~ find; that to admit your Highness, who is not a citizen of our Empire, to marry into our family, would be a most flagrant violation of the true meaning & spirit of our Constitution & an impious outrage on the sacred memory of its Founder.— For these reasons we must solicit your Highness, not to insist on our compliance with your request.

Signed Hambock Emperor of Sciota

As Elseon had been informed of the complexion which his affair had assumed in the court & thro' the City he was prepared for the answer which he received.—

Without manifesting the least <chagrine or> Resentment, he appeared to acquiesce in the decision of the Emperor. He displayed ~~his~~ in his countenance, his conversation & deportment his usual cheerfulness & vivacity. He continued his amusements, & associated with company with the same ease, gracefulness & dignified conduct

⁴ The letters "ci" are written over "ssi."

which he had done before.— At the same time his determination was fixed to transport the fair Lamesa into his fathers dominions.— The first interview which he had with her after he received the Emperor's Letter, he informed her [p. 110] of its contents.— She trembled, paleness began to cover her face, & had not Elseon received her into his arms, perhaps she would have fallen from her seat— However by a few soothing words & caresses, she was restored to her former composure & recollection.— Believe me, quoth he—my dearest Lamesa—you shall be mine— This heart shall be torn from my bosom & these limbs from my Body, nothing else shall prevent our union & compleat enjoyment of happiness.— Can the ancient scribbling of a great sage or the decree of an Emperor prevent the streams from uniting with the Ocean—with the same ease & propriety can they prevent the union of our hands since our hearts are united.— with your consent, you shall be mine! Is it possible, she replies, is it possible O Elseon! <to> disregard the authority of an indulgent & beloved Parent & disobey his command— This I never did— What if he should command you <says Elseon> to marry the King of Siota, would you obey.—

He might she replies, with more regard to my happiness command me to plunge a dagger into my heart— I can not indure that supercilious bundle of pride & affectation.

At this moment her Maid entered the room & gave her <a> Letter. I received this <Letter> she says, from your Brother, who told me it was from the Emperor.— Lamesa opened the Letter & read— My dearest & best beloved Daughter—

Having the most tender & affectionate regard for your future welfare & felicity we have concluded a treaty of marriage between you & Sambul the King of Sciota— This alliance will be honourable to our family—& be productive of many benefits to the Empire. On the tenth day from this time the nuptial ceremonies will be ~~celebrated~~ <consummated> in our Palace— You will be in readiness & yield a cheerful compliance with our will.—

Signed. Rambock, Em^r.—of Sciota.

Had the Lightning flashed from the clouds & peirced her heart, it could not have produced a more instantaneous effect— She fell into

the arms of Elseon—the maid ran for a cordial.— Elsion rubbed her temples & hands & loosened the girdle about her waist. Within about [p. 111] an hour the Blood began to circulate— Elseon to his inexpressible joy, felt her pulse beginning to beat & perceived flashes of colour in her face—

With a plaintive groan she opened her eyes once more to the beams of day—& in a kind of wild distraction exclaimed— Ah cruel, cruel Father—why have you doomed your daughter to a situation the most odious & disgusting— As well might you have thrown her into a den of porcupines, opossums & serpents— With such animals I could enjoy life with less disgust & torment, than with this mighty King of Sciota— ~~and~~ An alliance with him an honour to our family— an honour to the descendants of the great Lobasca!— What wicked councillors have deceived my father & induced him to thro' me into the arms of this hateful monster— Ah whether shall I fly & escape my barberous destiny.— I am your Protector, says Elseon—I am your friend & will conduct you beyond the loving & gigantic grasp of Sambal.— His loathsom arms shall never incircle my dear Lamesa— Consent to my request & we will be within ten <days> at the City of Gamba— There you will be esteemed as the brightest Orniment of my Fathers Empire. No longer, she replies, O Elseon can I refuse my consent to your proposal. When a compliance with my fathers command will entail wretchedness & misery thro' life, Heaven will pardon my disobedience— Yes Elseon I will go with you—& place my happiness in your power— I would share with you the worst of fortune, rather than fall into the hands of this haughty Sambal. ~~What could she say more, to express the feelings of a heart struggling under the operation of different passions & opposite motives— She has taken her resolution— Love has gained the preeminance over evry obstacle.~~

~~At this resolution Elseon was transported with joy— he now proceeds to form his plan for their flight. On the fourth day after, he called upon the Emperor & requested his permission to depart to his own Country— The Emperor importuned him to tarry & be one of the guists at Lamesa's weding— But he declined by urging as his apoligy the <anxiety &> impatience of his father for his return.—~~

~~Permission was granted, & the Emperor aded that he should do himself the honour to furnish the Prince with an escort when he left the City— Elseon replied that as he was not fond of much parade, he could wish the escort might consist of the Emperors Children [p. 112] <only> his friend & his daughter & with each of them a friend. These says he are my dearest & best beloved cousens, for whom I shall ever retain the most sincere friendship— Nothing can afford me more pleasure says the Emperor than to comply with your request.—~~

~~Elseon took an affectionate leave of the Emperor & on the second day after, being prepared for his journey, he sat off with his three friends & their servants— Moonrod, prince of the empire & Lamesa, with her two sisters— with <each> of them a friend attended him on his journey about twenty miles— They all tarryed at a vilage over night—~~

Imagination alone can paint the pleasant & happy scene— Elseon was transported with joy— He prest her to his bosom with all the Ardor of inthusiasm & she yielded to all his tender & innocent embraces, with a grateful sensibility & modest resignation.

The invention & ingenuity of Elseon must now be employed in forming a plan for their flight to his fathers dominions— As he appeared to acquiesse in the decision of the Emperor & had maintained the same cheerful deportment, none were suspicious of his design— The Emperor & the whole Court, still manifested towards <him> evry token of high respect & sincere friendship— Without any hisitation, the Emperor cheerfully complied with his request, that his dear Cousens—the son & the three daughters of <the> Emperor, with <each> of them a friend, should accompany him about twenty miles, on his return to Kentuck— The ritenue of the young Prince consisted of four of his most intimate friends & their servants— He took care to send their bagage on by two servants one day before they set out.— The morning arived—the sun shone with radiant <spendor>—not a cloud intervned or was seen to float in the Atmosphere— It was the fourth <day> after Lamesa [p. 113] had received the Letter, which doomed her to the embraces of Sambal— The Emperor, his Counsellors, his Priests & principal officers assembled—& having invited the young prince & his friends to meet them, they entered the circle

with great ceremony. The Emperor then addressed the Young Prince, thanked him for the honour of his visit & expressed his firm determination to maintain a sincere friendship & an inviolable peace with the government of Kentuk. Elseon replied—that those sentiments would meet the cordial approbation of his Father—who retained the same sentiments of friendship & peace towards the government of Siota— He then thanked the Emperor & whole assembly for the high respect they had shewn him— This was done with that frankness—& apparent sincerity that the whole assembly were highly pleased— The Emperor then embraced him & gave him his blessing— Customary ceremonies were mutually exchanged by the whole company—& even tears were seen to drop from every eye.

As the whole of this parade indicates no flight, of Elseon & Lamesa, we must now view them, with their select company of friends setting out on a short journey. All mounted on horses, they rode about twenty miles to a village where they halted. An elegant supper was provided—they were cheerful & sociable—none appeared more so, than Elseon & Lamesa.—

The next day Elseon requested the company of <his> dear cousins a short distance on his journey— When they <had> rode about two miles they halted & proposed to take their leave of each other. Lamesa & her friend without being perceived by the Company rode on— It was a place where the road turned & by riding <one> road they could not be seen.— The rest of the company entered into a short conversation & passed invitations for reciprocal visits & friendly offices— They then clasped each others hands, & bowing very low took an affectionate farewell— But where are [p. 114] Lamesa & her friend— During these ceremonies their horses move with uncommon swiftness—her heart palpitates with an apprehension that she might be overtaken by her Brother— But now a friend more dear, her beloved Elseon, with his companions, outstrip the wind in their speed.— & within one hour & half they overtake these fearful Damsels. They all precipitate their course casting their eyes back every moment to her pursuers. But pursuers had not <sufficient> time to overtake them— They safely arrive on the Bank of the great River— Elseon & Lamesa were the first that entered the Boat.— the Rest

follow— & such was Elseon's engagedness & anxiety to secure his fair prize, that he even seized an Oar & used it with great strength & dexterity—

As their feet <stepped> on the opposite shore—Elseon claped his hands & spoke aloud— Lamesa is mine; she is now beyond the grasp of a pompous Tyrant—& the controul of a father, whose mind is blinded by the sordid advice of a menial junto of Councillors & priests.— She is mine—& shall soon be the princis of Kentuck. Their movement is ~~no~~ slow thro' the remaining part of the journey.— They at length arive at the great City of Gamba.

We may now contemplate them as having new scenes to pass trough. Not to delineate the parade which was made at the court of Hamboon, for the reception of his Son, Lamesa & their friends—nor to describe the joy that was exhibited in evry part of the City <on their arival>—& the universal surprize occationd by the <story of the> flight of these two Lovers— suffice <it> to say that those who beheld Lamesa did not blame Elseon.—

As Hamboon was not very punctilious in his regard to the Constitution, being possessed of very liberal sentiments, Elseon found no difficulty in obtaining his consent to marry Lamesa— On the fourth day after their arival, Elseon & Lamesa with each of them a friend, appeared appeared on a stage which was erected on the public square of the City— The Emperor & empress with his councillors, his priests, his officers [p. 115] & all his relation with the principal Ladies of the city, formed a procession & surrounded the stage— The common citizens being a great multitude took their stands as they pleased— The Emperor & Empress then mounted the stage & united Elseon & Lamesa in the bond of wedlock according to custom— And as pulling the Log was an indispensible cerimony, one was provided with a rope round it on the stage— The Bridegroom & bride played their parts <in puling the Rope> with such dexterity & gracefulness— that the whole assembly were most pleasingly entertained. When all was ended—The wole assembly claped their hands & cried, long live Elseon & Lamesa—& giving three huzzas the common citizens <dispersed>— The rest repaired to a sumptuous entertainment &

spent the remaining part of the day & evening in conversation, singing & recreation.—

114 58
All his relation with the principal Ladies of the city, formed a pro-
cession & surrounded the stage - The common citizens being a great
multitude took their stands as they pleased - The Emperor &
Empress then mounted the stage & united Elfeon & Samefa
in the bond of wedlock according to custom - And as pulling
the Log was an indispensable ceremony, one was provided with
a rope wound it on the stage - The Bridegroom & bride played
their parts with ^{in making the knot} great dexterity & gracefulnes - that the
whole assembly were most pleasingly entertained. When
all was ended - The whole assembly claped their hands & cried long
live Elfeon & Samefa - & giving three hurraes the common
citizens ^{disposed} she next repaired to a sumptuous entertainment &
spent the remaining part of the day & evening in
convagation, singing & recreation.

Chap. III.

The Reader will recollect that Elfeon & his friends
left Moonroo and his friends in a very pleasant
mood without the least suspicion, that Same-
meja & her friend had deserted them. When
they had arrived at the village, what was ^{their} surprise
when they found Samefa & her friend were not in
company - nor had any one any recollection of her
being in company after they had stoped to take their
leave of Elfeon & Moonroo & the other Gentlemen im-
mediately rose back with the greatest speed to the place where
they had halted, & not finding any traces of ^{Sameja} her, the con-
clusion was then certain, that she had prefered the company
of the young Prince & was on her way to Mentruer.

Chap XII.—

The Reader will recollect that Elseon & his friends left Moonrod and his friends in a very pleasant mood without the least suspicion, that Lamesa & her friend had deserted them. When they had arrived at the vil*l*age, what was ~~their~~ surprize when they found Lamesa & her friend were not in company—nor had any one any recollection of her being in company after they had stoped to take their leave of Elseon— Moonrod & the other gentleman immediately rode back with the greatest speed to the place where they had halted, & not finding any traces of ~~her~~ <Lamesa>, the conclusion was then certain, that she had prefer the company of the young Prince & was on her way to Kentuck—

[p. 116] Pursuit would be in vain—their only alternative was, to hasten back & carry the doleful intelligence to the Emperor. Their speed was nearly equal to that of Elseon.

Without waiting to perform the customary ceremony of entering the palace Moonrod immediately rushed into the Emperors presence & exclaimed, your daughter Lamesa has been seduced by Elseon to leave our company unperceived & has gone with him to Kentuck.— Nothing but the pencil of the Limner could paint the Astonishment of the Emperor— He rose, stood motionless for a moment, then stairing fircefully on Moonrod he spoke—is ~~it~~ possible, is it possible—are you not mistaken my Son.— I am not, says he, my most excellent father, I am not mistaken.— This morning we attended Elseon a small distance from the vilage where we lodged—when we halted to take our leave, & our attention was all engaged, she & her friend ~~she & her friend~~ rode off unperceived by any of our Company—nor did we miss her until we arrived again at the vilage— we have made full search & enquiry & find that she has absolutely gone with the young prince to Kentuck. What an ingrate says the Emperor, what a monster of hipocracy— Did the honourable attention we have shewn him demand such treatment? How has he insulted the dignity of our family & outraged the high authority of our government.— This affair will demand the most <serious> consideration.— O Lamesa

<Lamesa>—my darling, my best beloved Child was it possible for you to be so deceived by that artful prince, was it possible¹ to disobey the command of your indulgent father. [p. 117] as they stepped on the covering <top> of the canal, the thin peices of timber broke & they all p<l>unged in, & found themselvs in an instant at the bottom of the Canal.— Surprised & terrified they soon found themselvs in no situation to vindicate their exclusive right to wear blue feathers in their caps— They were compleatly in the power of their enemies, who retuned quick upon them— They demanded quarter & & surrendered themselvs prisoners of war. And giving up their arms, their demand was granted— In the meantime, a party of the Sciotans who lay in ambush on the side of the Hill rushed down upon the reserved Corps, of the Kentucks who being filled with consternation at the direful disaster of their companions surrendered themselvs prisoners of war without a struggle— Thus in a few moments by persuing the stratigim or plan of Lobaska an army of thirty thousand men were captured— & the pride & haughtiness of a mighty Prince was humbled.— Not a drop of blood was shed to accomplish the whole—²

& bring upon our family such wrechedness & dishonour. [p. 118] Fame with her Her <thousand> Tongues commenced her pleasing employment—& as swift as the wings of Time <she> wafted the enteligenge thro' the City with many distorted & exaggerated particulars—all was astonishment confusion & uproar. Resentment enkindled her indignant sparks into a flame—& the general cry was revenge & war. The Sciotan King was walking in his parlour feeding his immagination with the pleasing prospect of his future glory & felicity. I am, quoth he to himself, honoured above all the other princes of the empire—& even above the heir apparent to the imperial crown of Kentuck. Who could be admited except myself to marry the fair Lamesa, the eldest daughter of the Emperor the most amiable, the <most> accomplished & the most honourable Lady in the universe. This is a distinction <which> will place me on equal ground with the

¹ The words “it possible” are written over two indecipherable words.

² This material, which takes up most of p. 117, is apparently a draft of, or a proposed rewrite of, the material Spaulding wrote on pp. 76–77 of the manuscript.

Emperor himself—& command from all <my subject> the homage of their highest respect & reverence— Besides I have a soul that can relish the charms of the beautiful Maid— She will adore me as her Lord & think herself highly honoured & exceeding happy to submit to <my> most endearing & affectionate embraces.— But ah mighty Sambal you little thought how soon this delightful prospect would be reversed—& that your soul would be filled with chagrene, indignation & revenge.— A messenger burst into his parlour & anonced the astonishing Tidings of Lamesa's elopement.— She has absolutely gone says he to become the wife of Elseon & the empress of Kentuck.— Not the tremendous <& instantaneous> roar of ten thousand thunders, ~~instantaneously thro' the Atmosphere~~—could have produced greater surprize— His countenance was all amazement— It was for a moment covered with paleness his lips quivered—his knees smote together & his gigantic body tremled like the shaking of a tower under the effects of an earthquake— But soon, ~~after a little silent~~ <his> reflections—<& cogitations> caused the blood to return with a tenfold velocity into his face— ~~it assumed the colour of redness & clinching~~ He assumed the attitude of terrific majesty & poured forth his feelings in a voice more terrible than the roaring of a volcano.— How have I been insulted, abused, dishonoured & outraged. [p. 119] How have my prospects of glory been instantaneously blasted & my character ~~become~~³ become the ridecule of a laughing world— What felicities of enjoying the imperial maid in my arms adoring me for her husband are now vanished— And by whom am I thus disgraced, insulted & injured? By the mock prince of Kentuck—an effeminate stripling—a cringing & plausible Upstart. He has robed me of the fairest ornament of my kingdom ~~she~~ <Lamesa, who> was mine⁴ by solemn contract—& must he now revel in her charms, which are mine, & pride himself in those deceitful arts by which he has seduced her & stolen her from my enjoyment. No ungrateful & insidious monster—your triumph shall be of short duration, & this arm shall viset your crimes upon your head with a tenfold vengeance— Having

³ The word “become” is written over two illegible crossed-out words.

⁴ The word “mine” is written over the erased word “my.”

poured forth a torrent of the most dreadful imprecations & menaces, he left his parlor, & walked forth to consult his principal officers on the best plan to obtain revenge—

In the mean time, the Emperor less haughty & indignant, & possessed of sentiments more humane & benevolent, sent an invitation to his Councillors to attend him— They were unanimous in the opinion that the offence of Elseon required reparation— But should war be the consequence, if he refused to return Lamesa? On this question, two of the Councillors contended that an <humble> recantation would repair the injury done to the honour of the imperial family & The authority of the goverment The other two insisted—~~<that>~~ ~~that would not be sufficient~~ ~~<they should demand in additon>~~ ~~But~~ that <they> should demand <in addition> ten Mammoth which would be an adequate compensation— But they all deprecated the horrors of war. In the midst of their debates which were managed with great coolness & impartiality Sambal presented himself. I have come forward say he, may it please your most excellent majesty, to demand the fulfilment of that solemn Contract which you made to deliver me your eldest daughter in marriage— She has been surruptitiouly carried off ~~the~~ by the young prince of Kentuck— She is mine by contract & your majesty is bound to deliver her to me— ~~I demand~~ Let her be immediatly demanded, & if the Emperor, the father of the young prince shall refuse to return her—this will [p. 120] implicate him in the same crime & be a sufficient cause of war. In that case war will be indispensable to vindicate the honour of our respective Crowns—& the rights of the Empire. I should then give my voice for war & would never sheath my sword until torrents of blood had made an expiation for the ingratitude baseness & perfedy of the young prince.— An humble recantation or the delivery of ten mammoth— would this be a sufficient reparation for ~~se~~ an offence so flagitious—so enormous.— No the very proposal would be an insult on the dignity of our goverment— Can any thing short of the repossession of the fair object stolen—of the invaluable prize feloniously taken from us be an adequate compensation— Nothing short of this can heal our bleeding honour—appease the indignation of our subjects & reinstate friendship & an amicable intercourse between both

Empires— Let this then be your demand that Lamesa shall be returned— Let a refusal be followed by an immediate declaration of war— Let the resources & energies of the nation be called forth— Assemble your armies & pour destruction upon all who shall oppose the execution of our revenge— I myself will lead the van & mingle my arm with those who fight the most bloody battles— Heroes shall fall before us,—their towns shall be laid in ruins, & carnage shall glut our indignant Swords.—

When further deliberation had taken place, the Emperor & two of his Counsellors adopted the advice of Sambal ~~to demand Lamesa~~— & an Envoy was immediatly dispatched to the Emperor of Kentuck with the following Letter.

May it please your most gracious Majesty.

Nothing could have given us more pleasure than the disposition you manifested in sending, Elseon the heir apparent to your Crown, to visit our family. We treated him as our dearest Cousen & as our most intimate Friend— He was invited to associate with our children & to consider himself whilst he tarried as a member of our family— Such being the confidence we [p. 121] placed in his rectitude & honour, that he assumed the liberty to contract the most intimate acquaintance with Lamesa our eldest Daughter— This produced an agreement betwen <them> that with our consent they would be united in marriage.— Nothing would have been more pleasing than such a connection. But we found that it would be a most flagrant violation of the true meaning & Spirit of our Constitution & an impious outrage on the memory of its great founder.— For these reasons we signified our pleasure that Elseon would not insist on our compliance with his request.— He appeared to acquiese in our descicion—& we afterwards contracted with Sambal, king of Sciota to give her in marriage to him.—

But the after conduct of your Son, may it <please> your most gracious majesty, did not correspond with the <high> confidence we placed in him.— With deep regret & the most painful sensations we are compeled to declare that he has commit<ed> a crime, which has disturbed our peace & happiness, dishonored our family, & outraged the authority of our goverment & the rights of our empire— He has

formed a plan to transport Lamesa into your dominions— To accomplish this ~~he made use of the most insidious arts~~— He took advantage of our clemency & condescension & the high respect we manifested towards him—& without <our> consent & contrary to our will, he has succeeded ~~in transporting to the City of Gamba.~~—in his <perfiduous> design.— Lamesa is doubtless with you in the City of Gamba. A crime ~~which~~ of such malignity—committed against the honour & interest of our family, goverment & empire, demands reparation— Your majesty will perceive that the only adequate reparation which can be made—will be, the return of Lamesa to our dominions.— We therefore demand that she <be> conveyed <back> with all possible expedition.

[p. 122] No other alternative can prevent the interruption of that confidence, friendship & peace which have long continued between both empires—& save them from the horrors & calamities of war.—

Signed. Rambock Emperor of Sciota.

When Hamboon had received this Letter, he immediately invited his Counsellors⁵ <to attend him>, & laid it before them. & as it was a subject of vast importance to the empire he likewise invited his priests & principal offercers to join them in council. The various passions appeared to opperate in the course of their consultations. To avoid Hostilities with all its attendant callamities was what they most ardently desired—& some contended that if no other alternative could be agreed upon it would be for the interest of the Empire & the best policy to return the princes.— but others reprobated this measure as pusilanimous & cowardly, & advised, if no other reparation would be received—to retain the princis & maintain the conflict with a manly & heroic firmness.—

What say they, do not honour & justise require, that we should defend the rights of the imperial Family— If the Sciotan goverment should demand, that we should send them our Emperor or Empress, would not honour impel us to spurn at the demand & reject it with indignation— Their present demand is as preposterous, & as insulting.— No satisfaction will they receive for the supposed injury—

⁵ The words “his Counsellors” are written over some erased and indecipherable words.

except that we should seize the princis of the Empire, tare her from the bosom of her consort & transport her to Sciota— Are we capable of an act so unjust & inhuman—so base & disgraceful? As the debates were proceeding, Elseon rose— May I says he claim your attention a moment.—

Undaunted by the cruel demand & haughty menace of the Sciotan goverment, I am willing to abide your decision— If transporting Lamesa into our dominions, [p. 123] when she had been most unjustly & inhumanly denied me for a companion, is a crime ~~so perfiduous & flagicious~~ as of such mighty magnitude, then inflict a punishment that shall be adequate to the offence— But if the Almighty whose benevolence is infinite, has designed the union of hands where hearts are united—I have then transgressed no divine law, but have obeyed the divine will— I am therefore innocent of any crime I have an undoubted right to retain Lamesa for my wife—& no goverment on earth have any authority from heaven to tear her from my bosom.—

Nor will I submit to such an event—so long as the life-blood circulates thro' my heart & warms my Limbs— If war must be the consequence of my proceedings, ~~which transgressed no principles of honour justice or humanity. were both innocent & honourable, it will give me the most painful feelings~~— I shall deplore its calamities, but will never shrink like a Dastard from the Conflict.— The Sciotan King, who is at the bottom of all the mischief shall never behold me fleeing before his gigantic <sword> or sculking to avoid a single combat with him.— You have therefore no other alternative but either first to slay your prince & then like cowards to send back your princes to Sciota—or else to make immediate preparation to meet their threatned vengence with fortitude & courage. This speach of the young prince united the whole <council> & they unanimously agreed to reject the demand of the Sciotan goverment. A Letter was written & an Envoy dispatched with instructions to attempt a reconciliation.

He precipitated his journey to <the> court of Rambock & when he arrived he delivered him the following Letter.

[p. 124] May it please your most excellent Majesty.—

Next to the welfare & prosperity of our Empire we should rejoice in the welfare & prosperity of yours. It is therefore with extreme regret that <we> view the unhappy difference which has arisen, & which threatens to involve the two empires in the calamities of war—

Had you demanded a reparation <for the supposed injury> which ~~which~~ would consist with the principles of justice & the honour of our crown & government, it should be given you with the utmost cheerfulness— But to return you Lamesa—who has <now> become the princis of Kentuck, would be tearing her from the arms of an affectionate Husband & breaking the bond of solemn wedlock— As a compliance with your demand will subject us to the commission of such injustice & cruelty, it must threfore be our duty to declare, that we will not return the young princes— And as such an event would destroy her happiness as well as that of her affectionate Consort, we shall permit her to tarry in our dominions & grant her protection.— We are, however desirous that an honourable reconciliation may take place—& a good understanding be restored— To effect this most important & very⁶ desirable <object>, we have given full authority to Labanko our beloved Brother, the Bearer of this Letter, to negotiate a settlement of our difference, provided you will receive any thing as a substitute for ~~the object~~ <what> you have demanded.—

Signed Hamboon Emperor of Kentuck.

The mind of Rambock was not formed for the perpetual exercise of Resentment & malice.— And having con[p. 125]versed a considerable time with Labanco, who appologized for the conduct of the young prince with great inginuity—his anger abated & he felt a disposition for the restoration of friendship.— but the indignation & malice of Sambal encreased with time—his dark soul thirsted more ardently for revenge & nothing would satisfy but blood & carnage. He employed instruments to assist in fanning the sparks of resentment & blowing them into the flames of war. Not content to represent facts as they existed—& in their true colours—monstrous stories were fabricated & put in circulation—calculated to excite prejudice & rouse the re<se>ntment of the people against Elseon & <the> whole

⁶ The words “& very” are written over the erased word “object.”

empire of Kentuck. He had recourse to a class of men, who were denominated prophets & conjurors to favour his design.— They had for many ages a commanding influence over the minds of a great majority of the people— As they pretended to <have art of investigating> ~~understand~~ the councils & & designs of the heavenly Hierachy & to have a knowledge of future events, the people <with pleasure> listened to their predictions ~~with vast pleasure~~— & thought it impious to question or doubt their fulfilment. A small company of these necromancers or jugglers assembled on the great square of the City & mounted a Stage which was provided for them.— The Citizens attended. It was a prodigious concourse of all classes. ~~of citizens~~ ~~The~~ of all descriptions, both wise & simple, both male & female.— They surrounded the Stage & were all attention, All anxious to learn the hidden decrees of Heaven, & the future destinies of the empire.— Drofalick their chief prophet extended his arms & cast up his eyes towards Heaven. Quoth he—Heaven unfolds her massy gates & opens to my view a prospect, wide & vast— The seven sons of the great Spirit seize their glittering Swords & swear these shall not be sheathed till blood in torrents run & deluge the fair Land of Kentuck I behold armies martialing on the celestial plain—& hear warriors & heroes cry—avenge the Crime of Elson— I hear a thundering [p. 126] voice proceeding from the great Throne of him who rules the world— proclaiming thus—corn shall not grow on the Sciotan fields, nor mamouth yield their milk—nor fish be taken in the snare but pestilence shall roam—unless Sciota shall avenge the Crime of Elseon. Drofalick ended his prophesy— Hamack then arose & in his hand he held a stone which he pronounced transparent—Tho' it was not transparent to common eyes.— Thro this <he> could view things present & things to come—could behold the dark intrigues & cabals of foreign courts—& ~~behold~~ <discover> hidden treasures, secluded from the eyes of other mortals. He could behold the galant & his mistress in their bed chamber & count all their <moles> warts & pimples. Such was the clearness of his sight when this transparent stone was placed before his eyes. He looked fircely & stedfastly on the stone & raised his prophetick voice.— I behold Hamboon with all his priests & great officers assembled around him—with what con-

tempt he declares he despises all the Sciotans—they are says he cowards & poltroons—they dare not face my brave warriors—

Here I see four men coming forward bearing an image, formed with all the fetures of ugliness & deformity— This they call Sambal the king of Sciota— The whole company break forth into boisterous Laughing— Ah see & they are cutting off his head with their swords yes—& are now kicking it about the palace— Here is a pole it is stuck upon that & carried thro the City.— O my loving Sparks Elseon & Lamesa—what makes you so merry—why Elseon says he has outwited the sciotans—he has got the prize & he little regards their resentment.— Ha<mack> was proceeding with such nonsensical visions when the whole multitude interrupted him with a cry— Revenge Revenge— We will convince the Kentuckans, that we are not cowards or poltroons— Their heads shall pay for their sport in kicking about the ~~head~~ the pretended head of our beloved King.— We will avenge the crime of Elseon— The great & good Being is on our side & threatens us with famine & pestilence unless we avenge the crime of Elseon.

The arts of these Conjurers, were the consummation of Sambal's plan to produce in the minds of the multitude an inthusiasn & rage for war.— He now repairs to the Emperor & sollicitis him to assemble his councillors immediately proclaim war & concert measures for its prosecution. The Emperor replies that they should soon be assembled— But as to war it was a subject which required great consideration.—

[p. 127] Early on the next day his councillors, priests & principal officers all meet him in the council Room— He laid before them the Letter of Hamboon—& ~~added~~ observed, that tho' the goverment of Kentuck had refused to return Lamesa—yet they had offered to make a to our goverment a recantation for Elseon's Crime & to pay us almost any sum as a reparation for our injury.— The council sat silent for some time—at length the venerable Boakim arose—

I must beg, says he, the indulgence of your Majesty & this honourable council a few moments— Never did I rise with such impressions of the high importance of our deliberations as what I now feel— The great question to be decided is peace or war— If peace

can be preserved with honour—then let us maintain peace—but if not, then let us meet war with fortitude & courage.—

As to the great Crime of Elseon, no one presumes to present an apology— Even their own government by offering to make reparation implicitly acknowledge that he has been guilty of a great Crime.— But is it of such malignity as to require the conflagration of towns & Cities & the lives of millions to make an expiation— ~~Can no other reparation consistent with justice & humanity be received~~— Or must we ~~compel~~ in order to have an atonement made for the Crime of Elseon, compel the government of Kentuck to commit another crime, to separate, to tear from each others embraces the husband & wife.— Such a reparation as this we cannot in justice expect.— Shall we then accept of no other? Cannot our bleeding honour be healed without shedding blood—without laying a whole empire in ruins— Such refined notions of honour may prove our own ruin, as well as the ruin of those on whom we attempt to execute vengeance— The calamities of war have a reciprocal action on the parties. each must expect to endure a portion of evils—how large a portion would fall to our share, in case of war, it is not for us to determine— While thirsting for revenge, we contemplate with infinite pleasure, their armies routed & their [p. 128] warriors bleeding under our swords—their <helpless> women & children expiring by thousands & their country in flames— But reverse the scene—suppose the enemy have as much wit as much stratagem courage strength & inhumanity as what ~~you~~ <we> possess, & such may be ~~your~~ situation. When the flood gate is once opened, who can stop the torrent & prevent devastation & ruin— ~~We ought therefore~~ It was never designed by the great & good Being that his children should contend & destroy that existence, which he gave them— They all have equal rights—& ought to strive to maintain peace & friendship— This has been the maxim of our fathers & this the doctrine taught by the great founder of our government & religion— Under the influence of this maxim our nation has grown to an immense multitude—& contentment & happiness have been universal.— But why can we not enjoy peace with honour? what insurmountable obstacles are there to prevent.— ~~Why truly, a recantation & [—] property are no compensation for the injury? For other~~

~~offences these are accepted— & why must the offence of Elseon be singular—~~

The Emperors daughter we presume is happy—nor can it be a disgrace to the imperial family that she has married the son of an Emperor, the heir apparent to his crown— ~~But she was to have been the wife of Sambal the king of Sciota?~~ We can therefore with honour to our government accept of the reparation offered—& thu[s] preserve the blessings of peace. But if we suffer resentment, pride & ambition to plunge us into a war—where will its mischiefs—where will its miseries end— As both empires <are> nearly equal as to numbers & resources I will ventur[e] to predict their eventual overthrow & destruction.

[p. 129] Boakim would have proceeded,— but Hamkol rose. & interrupted— It was impudence in the extreme—but he had much brass & strong lungs—& could be heard further than Boakim.— “Such sentiments says he may comport with the infirmities of age—but they are too degrading & cowardly for the vigor of youth & manhood— If we suffer insult, perfedy & outrage to pass of with impunity—we may afterwards bend our necks to be troden upon by every puny upstart & finical coxcomb— No— Let us march with our brave warriors into the dominions of Hamboon. His effeminate & luxurious Court will tremble at our presence & yeild the fair <Lamesa> into our possession— But if they should still have the temerity to refuse—we will then display our valour by inflicting upon them a punishment, which their crimes deserve— Yes our valiant <sons>⁷ shall gain immortal renown by their heroic exploits:— ~~& by the destruction of all shall who.~~ Sciota will ever after have the preeminance over Kentuck—& compell her haughty sons to bow in our presence— Let war be proclaimed—& evry kingdom & tribe from the River to the Lakes will pour forth their warriors—anxious to revenge our country’s wrongs.—

Scarce had he done speaking— And Lakoonrod the High Priest arose— ~~He was in the instrest of Sambal & had married his Sister. He had taken great umbrage at Elseon for saying that the priesthood had too great an assendence of the court of Ramboek.~~— And lifting

⁷ The words “sons” and “Warriors” are written atop each other.

up his sanctamoneous eyes slowly towards heaven & extending his right reverend hand a little above an horizontal position he spoke.— When the Laws which are contained in our holy religion are transgressed, it is my duty as high Priest of the empire to give my testimony [p. 130] against the transgression— Elseon, the heir apparent to <the> imperial throne of Kentuck has been guilty of Robbery & impiety within our dominions— He has robed this empire of an invaluable treasure & as this crime is a most flagitious transgression of our divine Law—it must have been committed in defiance of the high authority of Heaven—therefore it <is an> act of the greatest impiety.

The injury, the insult & outrage has not been committed against us alone—if this was the case perhaps we might accept of reparation—but it is committed against the throne of Omnipotence & in defiance of his authority.— No reparation can of consequence be received <except> it be a return of the stolen treasure—or the Blood of the Transgressor— Nothing else can satisfy the righteous demand of the Great & good Being— He therefore calls upon the civil power to execute his vengeance—to inflict an exemplary punishment— And as it is his cause—& you are employed as his instruments you may be assured that his almighty arm will add strength to your exertions & give you a glorious victory over your enemies.—

The mighty achievements of your warriors shall immortalize their names—& their heads shall be crowned with never fading laurels— & as for those who shall die, gloriously fighting in the cause of their country & their God, they shall immediately receive ethereal Bodies—& shall arise quickly to the abodes of increasing delight & glory— He said no more—he had discharged some part of his malice against Elseon for saing, that the priesthood had too much influence in the court of Rambock—

The door now opened & it was seen that Sambal, at the head of a great multitude of Citizens had taken their stand in front of the house—all crying with a loud voice Revenge & war— — Long live the Emperor & King. We will avenge their wrongs: This uproar & the haran[g] of the High Priest determined the wavering mind of the Emperor— — ~~But the venerable Boakin, & Bilhawa opposed the torrent, & stood as stood firm. They boldly affirmed that a war was~~

~~impolitic & unjustifiable—But the [p. 131] Their opposition however was in vain—The popular voice was against them—& the other two Councillors—Hamkol, & Gannaek gave their vote for war urged, with great vehemence that war should be declared—~~

In vain were all the reasonings of the venerable Boakin & Bilhawan— The other two Councillors Hamkol, & Gamanko joining the Emperor they proceeded to make out a declaration of War— It was in these words— —

War is declared by the government & empire of Sciota against the government & empire of Kentuck—

The Sciotans are required to exterminate, without destinction of age or sex all the inhabitants of the empire of Kentuck—they are required to burn their houses & either to destroy, or to take possession of their property for their own use & benefit. This destruction is commanded by the great benevolent Spirit & by the government of Sciota.—

Signed Rambock Emperor of Sciota—

A copy of this declaration was given to Labanco the brother & evoy of Hamboon— He demanded a guard to defend him against the rage of the common people—who discovered a disposition to plunge their swords into the heart of every man, whose fortune it was to be born on the opposite side of the River— Labanco was garded as far as the River & conveyed across in safety— He repaired to Gamba, & ~~there he proclaimed the inteligence—of the declaration of War.—~~ & there made known all the proceedings of the Sciotan government.

[p. 135⁸] Habolan, King of Chiauga was the next proud chief who appeared at Galanga with a chosen band of warriors. He had fifteen thousand who boasted of superior strength & agility— Their

⁸ A draft or copy of a letter is all that appears on p. 132. The text, written vertically in large, neat letters, reads:

Fond Parents

I have receivd 2 letters [—] jun 1812. the last mentiond Mr Kings dismission from you—wich no doubt is great trial to you— Christian Minnister is great loss to any ~~to any~~ people—teaches us the uncertainty of all Sublinary enjoyments & where to place our better trust & happiness

countenances were fierce & bold, being true indications of their hearts which feared no danger— They were always obedient to the orders of their king who always sought the most conspicuous place for the display of his valour.— Possessed of gigantic strength & of astonishing agility he was capable of performing <the most brilliant> achievements ~~which would almost~~ exceed belief— His mind was uncultivated by science & his passions were subject to no restraint— His resentment was quick & fiery & his anger knew no bounds ~~for expression~~— Nothing was concealed in his heart—whether friendship or enmity—but always exhibited by expressions ~~by expressions~~ strong & extravagant.— He had a soul formed for war— In the bustle of campaigns, in the sanguine field where heroes fell beneath his conquering sword, his ambition was gratified & he acquired the highest martial glory.

Ulipoon King of Michigan received the orders of the Emperor with ~~with~~ great joy— War suited his niggardly & avaricious soul— As he was in hopes to obtain great riches from the spoils of <the> Enemy— Little did he regard the miseries & destruction of others if by this means he could obtain wealth & aggrandize himself— A mind so contracted & selfish was not capable of imbibing one sentiment of generosity or humanity—or even of honour— None however were more boisterous than he for war— None proclaimed their own valour with so loud a voice— Yet none were more destitute of courage, & more capable of treachery, baseness & cruelty— — Yet with the sounding epithets of patriotism, honour & valour—he proceeded, with great expedition, to collect a chosen band of ~~dauntless warriors—~~ ~~the consisted of~~ Eighteen thousand warriors.— Their <martial> appearance intitled them to a command of more generosity & valour, than the niggardly & treacherous Ulipoon.

Nimapon, the King of Cataaugus ~~made no~~ was prompt to comply with the imperial Requisition.— ~~Tho' he preferred the scenes of peace—~~ & Being very fond of Study & of the mechanical arts his mind was replenished with knowledge & he took great [p. 136] pleasure in promoting <[—]> works of ingenuity. He was famed for great wisdom & ~~subtlety~~ penetration of mind. was capable of forming great plans & of prosecuting them with vigor & perseverance— He

was deliberate & circumspect in all his movements ~~but was always quick, on any sudden immergence, to concert plans & to determine~~— had the full command of his mental powers in evry situation—& even when dangers surrounded him could instantly determine the best measures to be pursued. He prefered the scenes of peace—but could <meet> war with courage & firmness.— At the head of a select Band of six<x>teen Thousand men, all compleatly armed & anxious to meet <the> foe he marched to join the grand army.

Not far behind appeared <Ramack> the King of Geneseo= ~~With~~ Furious & resolute, he had made the utmost expedition to collect his forces— Nor did he delay a moment, when his men were collected & prepared to move— At the head of Ten thousand bold & robust warriors he appeared at the place of general rendezvoz within one day after the King of Cataaugus had arrived.— He bosted of the rapidity of his movements & tho' he commanded the smalest division of the grand army, yet he anticipated, distinguished laurels of glory—not less than what would be obtained by their first commanders.

When these Kings with their <hopes> had all <arrived> at Galanga, <the Emperor> Rambock ordered⁹ them to parade on a great plain. They obeyed & and were formed in solid collums. The Emperor, then, attended by: son Moonrod, his Councillors & the high Priest, presented himself before them— His garments glittered with ornaments—& a bunch of long feathers of various colours were placed on the front of his Cap. His sword he held in his right hand, and being tall & strait in his person, & having a countenance grave & bold, when he walked his appearance was majestic. He was the commander in chief— & such was the high esteem & reverance with which the whole army viwed him, that none were considered as being so worthy of that station. Taking a stand in front of the Army, he brandished his sword— All fixed their eyes, upon him & gave profound attention.— He thus made [p. 137] an address.— Brave warriors. It is with the greatest satisfaction & joy that I now behold you assembled to avenge ~~one~~ of the most flagitious Crimes, of which man was ever guilty.— Ingratitude & perfedy, seduction, Robery & the most daring impiety against heaven have been perpetrated within

⁹ The word "ordered" is written over the word "commanded."

our dominions— The young prince of Kentuck, is the monster who has been guilty of these Crimes— Our most amiable daughter Lamesa he has seduced & contrary to our will has transported her into his own country— wishing to avoid the effusion of human blood we offered to withhold our revenge if the Emperor of Kentuck would restore our Daughter. But he has refused— He has implicated himself & all his subjects in the horrid Crimes of his Son— Their whole Land is now guilty—& evry man woman & child are the proper objects of severe chastisement.— The great & good Being is indignant towards them. ~~& views them with the utmost detestation & abhorrance~~— As we have received our power from him he requires, that we should not only avenge our own wrongs, but likewise execute his vengeance on those perfiduous ingrates & monsters. ~~of wickedness & impiety~~— That this is his divine will has been clearly investigated by our holy prophets & priests—who have <given us> the most ~~indubital~~ <possitive> assurance that success shall attend our arms—that we <shall be> enriched with the plunder of our enimies—that <Laurels of> immortal fame, will crown the atchievments of our warriors—& that they shall be ~~gloriously~~ distinguished on the plains of Glory like suns & stars in the firmement of heaven— Our cause is just—the celestial powers above are on our side—they have brandished their swords & sworn—that blood shall deluge the fair Land of Kentuck. You have done well my brave warriors, that you have assembled around the standard of your Emperor— I will conduct you to the field of Battle & direct your mov<e>ments— My son Moonrod, whose arm like mine is not enfebled by age, will mingle with the boldest Combatants & lead you on to victory.— By the most valorous exploits [p. 138] by blood & slaughter we will convince our enimies, that <we> are not Cowards & poltroons— Their ridecule & derision shall be turned into mourning & lamentation—& we will teach their effeminate & luxurious Goverment, not to¹⁰ dispise the hardy & brave sons of Sciota—

In full confidence that we shall gloriously triumph & <add> immortal lustre to our names, we will now march forward— ~~we will~~ <&> avenge the injuries done to the honour of our imperial goverment

¹⁰ The words “not to” are written over the words “of Sciota.”

& the rights of our empire—& <all> the celestial beings above shall rejoice in <the> execution of divine vengeance.

He said no more—the whole army with one voice proclaimed Long live the Emperor— We swear that he shall never find us Cowards & poltroons. The Emperor then ordered them to march by divisions & each King to lead on his own subjects. They began their march towards the land of Kentuck— ~~Each~~ Their provisions & bagage were born on the backs of Mammouth Each man had a sword by his side & a spear in his hand—& on their breasts down to their hips & on their thighs they wore peices of mamouth skins to guard them from arrows & the weapons of death—& on their Caps they wore bunches of long feathers. Their garments were short, so as not to encumber them in battle.— Thus equipt & ornimented they moved on in¹¹ exact order until they arived at the great River— Here they halted to provide boats to transport them across— ~~Their bagage & provisions were borne¹² on the backs of their mam¹³ mammouth which carried prodigious loads.—~~

And here we will leave <them> for the present & take a view of the proceedings in Kentuck. . .

When Labanco had presented to Hamboon the Emperor of Kentuck the declaration of war & related the proceedings of the Sciotan goverment, he immediatly assembled his Councillors, who unanimously agreed to make the most active & vigorous preparation for war.— The Emperor sent forth his mandates to all the princes of <his> empire requiring them¹⁴ [p. 139] to assemble the most cou<ragious warriors in their respective kingdoms, & to march to the City of Gamba.— All the princes of the empire were quik to obey the requisition of their Sovereign. Their army assembled and paraded on a great plain before the City— Hamboon, attended by his two sons, Elseon & Hanock & by his councillors & three of his principal Priests walked out of the City & presented himself before his Army.—

¹¹ The word “in” is written over “with.”

¹² The word “borne” is written over “carried.”

¹³ The letters “mam” are written over “which carried pr.”

¹⁴ At the bottom left of p. 138, “Dear B” was written vertically before this page of the narrative was written.

His garments were of various colours & his Cap was adorned with a bunch of beautiful Feathers, which waved high in the wind— In his left hand he held a spear & in <his> right a sword— His countenance was bold & resolute—& such was his gracefulness & elocution, when <he> spoke, that all eyes were fixed upon him & all ears were attention.

~~Brave warriors~~ <My brave Sons>, says, he; I extreamly regreted the necessity of calling you from your peaceable employments to engage in the bloody scenes of war— But such is the violence the malice & ambition of the sciotan goverment that nothing will satisfy them but hostilities between the empires— They have proclaimed war, even a war of extermination against our dominions— Nor was it in our power to prevent this most dreadful calamity unless we tore assunder the bond of wedlock between the prince & the princis of the Empire & transported her like a Culprit into their dominions. This was the only alternative which they offered to accept—to prevent this terrible Crisis—& why the rigor of this demand— Was it because the young prince had violated any Law either human or divine— No— it was because the King of Sciota had fall<en> in love with the princis—& wished to have her for his wife— But as she view<ed> him with the utmost hatred & disgust, he has been disappointed— To gratify his malice & revenge he has roused the Sciotans to take arms— & threatens to deluge our lands with the blood of our citizens & to lay our country in ruins. It is a war on their [p. 140] part to gratify malice & revenge—& nothing will satisfy their malignant passions but our complete extermination—

On our part it is a war of self defence—of self preservation a defence which will extend to our wives & our children & to all the blessings & endearments of life. We must either submit to behold ~~our dearest friends expiring in agonies~~, our property torn from us, & our houses in flames—& our dearest friends expiring in agonies, & ~~even~~ like cowards suffered them without resistance to cut our own throats.— or we must meet them like men determined to vindicate our rights—& to retaliate all their intended mischiefs.

Nor need we fear the event of the contest— Infinite <benevolence> will regard our situation, & grant us that assistance which will

give success to our efforts— You my brave sons will be inspired with courage—your hands will be strong for the Battle & their warriors will fall before you, like corn before the reapers sickle— With all their mighty boasting, & high confidence in their superior cunning & prowess—they are men formed of the same materials which we possess— Our swords will find a passage to their hearts—& the vital blood gushing forth, they <will> fall prostrate at our feet— Let us march then with courage to meet the implacable foe—determined either to die gloriously fighting—or to obtain victory.—

Have<ing> thus spoken= The w<h>ole army, <with a loud voice> replied— Victory or death— Lead us on to victory. At the head of this Army, which consisted of one hundred & fifty thousand <men> he march<ed> towards the great River— They arrived on the Bank & beheld the Sciotans, all busily employed in making preparation to cross the River.—

The Empress—the princis Lamesa, & the Emperors daughters attended by a few friends & their servants: arived at the place where the army was encaped.— As soon as Elseon heard the news of their [p. 141] arival, he hastened to the place. & found the company had alighted ~~at an house~~ & that Lamesa & her friend Holiza were in a room by themselvs— As soon as he entered Lamesa arose— The gloom & anxiety which for a number of days were ~~displayed~~ <visible in> in her, countenance, at his appearance were dispelled— He received her into his arms with an affectionate embrace—& expressed the greatest pleasure at seeing her once more. The tears ran down her cheeks—for a moment she was silent— She raised her head & replied—O Elseon were it not for you I should be the most wretched being in existence & yet my love for you has been the cause of all my present affliction.— If I never had seen you, those horrid prospects, which now present themselvs to my view, would never have been— But you are innocent—nor am I guilty of any crime. But how can I endure <to behold> the calamities which must fall upon both nation[s] in consequence of our connection?— Two empires at war, spreading carnage & ruin—warriors bleeding on the field of Battle— innocent¹⁵ women & children screeching in the agonies of death— & towns &

¹⁵ The word “innocent” is written over the erased word “helpless.”

cities in flames= Ah horrid prospect— Have you & I my dear Elseon produced these dreadful calamities? ~~Is our conduct the cause which must.~~ We are not, says he my dear Lamesa, responsible for for the horrid effects of malice & revenge, which may be occasioned by our innocent conduct. If men will be so indignant towards each other, because we do right, as, to massacre & do all the mischief they can, we may deplore their weakness & depravity—but have no more reason, to make ourselves. unhappy on the account, than if these effects were produced by some other cause— They alone are responsible for their crimes—& have reason for unhappy reflections.—

But how can I endure says she, to behold my dearest friends, become each others implacable enemy? To see them mutually engaged to destroy each others life?— My Father, for whom I ever had the greatest affection—& my only Brother are now at the head of one hostile army— And your Father, & you my dearest husband are at the head of the other— When these armies meet would ~~not~~ you not plunge your sword into the heart of my father & my brother—& would they not do the same by you if in their power? When such scenes present themselves to my view [p. 142] they pierce my soul like daggers—& produce the keenest anguish— O <that I> could fly to my father, & on my bended <k>nees implore forgiveness.

Yes says Elseon, & when you have done that, he will give you to the mighty Sanbal for his wife—

No never <says she>, never would I submit—I abhor the monstre more than ever— He is the <most> malignant scoundrel in existence— To gratify his revenge whole empires must be laid in ruins.— What punishment more just than that he himself should fall in battle, & endure the agonies which his vengful soul is bringing on others.— But as for my father & my brother, they have, by <his> artifices been deceived— I conjure you, if you have any regard for my happiness, not to take their lives if in your power.—

Their lives says he are safe from my sword— <Rather than that my hands should be stained with <the> blood of your dearest friends I will present my bosom to their swords> But hark—there is an alarm= An express arived & informed him that the Scitan Army had found means to get their Boats down the River <in the night> unper-

ceived—& had landed, without opposition, about three miles below, ~~them~~ the Kentuckean encampment.— Elseon then embracing¹⁶ his wife & Said¹⁷ ~~he~~, when your protection & my¹⁸ ~~own~~ honour call, I must obey.— He left her in tears imploring heaven to protect him—& ~~he~~ runing swiftly to the army, he took his station.

¹⁶ The letters “ing” are written over “ed.”

¹⁷ The letter “d” is written over “yi.”

¹⁸ The letter “y” is written over “ine.”

Chap— XIV

Hamboon mounted on an elegant Horse richly caparosed, rode thro' the encampment—proclaiming aloud ev<e>ry man to his Station, seize your arms & prepare for battle= All his princes quik to obey their Commander, instantly repaired to their respective divisions—& gave orders <to> form the men into solid columns— When this was done—they marched a small distance ~~to the pl~~ & per<r>aded on the great plain of Ge<he>no— They were now prepared for the hostile engagement— Their officers of the highest Ranks marched along ~~the~~ in front of their divisions—& by their speeches ~~they~~ inspired the men with boldness & courage— They ardently wished to behold their enemies—& to have an opportunity of displaying their valour in their destruction. Hamboon then commanded his principal officers to assemble around him— When they were collected which was in front of the army, he thus addressed them.— I wish for your opinions, my brave [p. 145¹] & heroic Commanders, had each a chosen band of warriors, who were ordered as soon as the battle should begin to march between the divisions & charge the enemy. ~~in order to break their order & throw them into confusion.~~— The design of this arrangement was to break their Ranks & throw them into confusion.

The command of these bands were given to Elseon, Labanko, Hanock, & two Counsellors of the Emperor Hamul & Taboon.= The momentous period had arived— Each grand Army were now ready—were anxious for the Combat, & sanguine in their expectations of obtaining a glorious victory.— Musicians with instruments of various kinds, were now playing thro' every dvision of both Armies— They blowed horns, pipes & a kind of Trumpet— & beat with sticks on little tubs whose heads were formed of parchment.— The melody was truely martial & calculated to inspire each warrior with an ardent desire for battle & the most daring heroisms—

All was husht— The Musicians fell back in the rear— There was a perfect silence thro' both armies.— Each Emperor with their swords

¹ The leaf containing pp. 143–44 is missing.

that they pierce my soul like dagers - & produce the keenest anguish - O
 could I fly to my father, & on my bened' knees implore forgiveness.
 Yes says Elfeon, & when you have done that, he will give you
 to the mighty Saurbal for his wife -
 & never, never would I submit - I abhor the monster more than
 ever - He is the malignant fiend, & in existence - To gratify his
 revenge whole empires must be laid in ruins. - What punishment
 more just than that he himself should fall in battle, & endure the
 agonies which his vengful soul is bringing on others. - But as for
 my father & my brother, they have by ^{his} artifices been deceived - I
 conjure you, if you have any regard for my happiness, not to take
 their lives if in your power. ^{before to their sword} I will present my
^{oath that my hands should be stain'd with blood of your dearst friends} ^{if they are safe from my sword} - But hark - there is
 an alarm - ^{and} express arriv'd & inform'd him, that the
 Sistan Army had found means to get their boats down the River
^{in the night} ^{unperceived} - & had land'd without opposition, about three miles
 below ~~the~~ the Thenturkean encampment. - Elfeon then em-
 bracing his wife & said to, when your protection & wife own ho-
 nous call, I must obey. - He left her in tears imploring heaven
 to protect him. ^{and} moving swiftly to the army, he took his station.

Chap - XIV

Hamboon mounts on an elegant Horse richly caparosed,
 rode thro' the encampment - proclaiming aloud, Victory over to his
 station, give your arms & prepare for battle. - All his prin-
 ces quick to obey their Commander instantly repaired to their respective
 divisions. & gave orders to form the men into ^{two} columns. - When this
 was done - they march'd a small distance to ~~the~~ & pitched on the
 great plain of Gens. They were slow prepar'd for the hostile engage-
 ment. Their officer of the highest Rank march'd ^{along} the
 front of their divisions. & by their speeches they inspir'd the men
 with boldness & courage. They ardently wish'd to behold their
 enemies. & to have an opportunity of displaying their valour in their
 destruction. Hamboon then command'd his principal officers to ap-
 pear on his front. - When they were collect'd ^{at} which was in front of
 the army, he thus address'd them. - I wish for your opinion, my brave

brandishing ~~rode~~ were in front & facing their respective armies. Near three hundred thousand spears were glittering with the reflection of sun beams— Not a Cloud to be seen in the east— The sun shone with his usual brightness— In the west a dark Cloud began to arise & distant thunder was heard to rumble.— Rambock proclaimed with a voice which was heard from the right to the left— March—march, my brave warriors & fight like [p. 146] heroes.— Hamboon saw them beginning to move—but not changing his countenance which was placid & bold—he proclaimed— Stand firm my brave sons— Let your arrows <fly thick> against your enemies as they advance—& finish with your spears &, your swords their destruction.— The Musick again played & both armies gave a tremendous shout— ~~Spears & swords~~

When the Sciotans had advanced, with a firm & moderate step, within a small distance of Hamboons Army ~~they~~ both armies discharged arrows ~~with~~ with such unerring aim & celerity, that many brave warriors on both sides fell prostrate— Others were sorely wounded & retired back in the Rear— Their places were immediately supplied & the second Rank closed & took their stations in the front— Each man fixing his spear horizontally & about as high as his breast, the Sciotans rushed forward with heinous yells & horrible shouting & made a most tremendous & furious Charge upon the Kentucks— They received them with firmness & courage— Spears met spears—& many were bent or broken—& others were thrust, on both sides into the bodies of Heroes, whose blood gushing forth, they fell with <horrid> groans, pale & lifeless on the sanguine plain. Neither Army gave back but being nearly equal as to strength & numbers, they poured forth upon each other with a lavish hand, <the weapons the implements> death & destruction.—

[p. 147] Determined to conquer or die, it was impossible to conjecture which Empe<ror> would have gained the victory had the divisions [—] or bands in <the> rear of each <army> remained inactive. But anxious to ~~mingle~~ <engage> with the boldest warriors,² the Kentuck-Bands, led on by their heroic princes, rushed between the divisions of the grand army & made a most furious charge upon the Sciotans— They broke thro' their Ranks—peircing with deadly

² The word "warriors" is written over an illegible word.

wounds their indignant foes—heroes fell before them—& many of the Sciotans being struck with surprize & terror began to retire back— But the bands in the rear of their Army instantly rushed forward & met their furious combitants— The battle was now spread in every direction. Many valiant chiefs who commanded under their respective Kings were overthrown—& many thousand robest & brave warriors, whose names were not distinguished by office, were compeled to receive deadly wounds & to bite the dust— It was Elseon, fortune to attack the division led by the valiant Rancoff— He broke his ranks & killed many warriors—while driving them furiously before him— he met Hamkol at the head of many thousand Sciotans— Hamkol beheld the young Prince & know him & being fired with the greatest rage & thirst for revenge, he urged on the combat with the most daring violence

[p. 148] Now he thot, was a favourable chance to gain immortal renown— Elseon says he shall feel the effects of my conquering sword— The warriors on both side charged each other with incredible fury—& Elseon & Hamkol met in the center of their divisions— I have found you says Hamkol perfiduous Monster— I will teach you to rob our empire of its most valuable treasure— He spoke & Elseon replied— Art thou Hamkol the Councillor of Rambo[ck.] Your advice has produced this blood & slaughter— Hamkol raised his sword & had not Elseon defended himself from the blow, he never would have spoken again— But quick as the lightning Elseon darted his sword thro' his heart— ~~Hamkol~~ <he> knashed his teeth together & ~~with a groan~~ & tumbling headlong, with a groan expired.—

The Battle raged— Labanko attacked the division of Sambal— His conquering Sword had kiled two daring chiefs—& his Band performed the most brilliant exploits— Sambal met him & like an indignant panther, he sprang upon him, & while Labanko was engaged in Combat with another chief, Sambal thrust his sword into his side— Thus Labanko fell lamented & beloved by all the subjects of the empire of Kentuck ~~Hanoek~~ His learning wisdom & penetration of mind—his integrity, firmness & courage had gained him universal respect & given him a commanding influence over the Emperor & his other Councillors— He was viewed with such respect & reverance,

that the death of no man could have produced more grief & lamentation—& excited in the minds of the Kentucks a more ardent thirst for revenge.— The officers of his phalanx exclaimed revenge the death of Labanco— Even lightning could not have produced a more instantaneous effect.— With tenfold [p. 149] rage & fury his warriors maintained the conflict & redoubled their efforts in spreading death & carnage— ~~Even~~ The mighty Sambal trembled at the slaughter of his ~~subjects~~ warriors & began to despair of victory— ~~he began to~~ fear<ing> that his int<end>ed revenge was turning upon his own head.— During this slaughter of Sambals forces Hanuck was engaged in battle with Habelen king of Chiauga— No part of <the> war raged with a more equal balance— Warriors met warriors with such equal strength & courage that it was impossible to determine on which side was the greatest slaughter—even their heroic chiefs prudently avoided a combat with each other & employed their swords in overthrowing those of less distinction. The field was covered with the bodies of heroes, bismear³ed with blood, which was spread thick on every side.— In the mean time Hamul & Taboon who led on the other reserved bands of the Kentucks were fiercely engaged in spreading the war thro' the ranks of the sciotans. Hamul compelled ~~to~~ the division commanded by Sabamah to fall back—but still they faught, as they slowly retreated—& being reinforced by a body of troops in their rear they continued the conflict & maintained their position.— The slaughter was emence & each party boasted of the most brilliant atcheivments.—

Taboon made his attack on the division of Ulipoon commanded by Hamelick— Their <sciotan> ranks were broken & they must have fled in confusion had not Rameck supported them with his ~~division~~ <warlike band>— The contest now became ~~bloody~~ furious—& equal feats of ~~heroism~~ <valour> were displaid by contending heroes. The thirsty earth was overspread with the dead & dying bodies of thousands & sated ~~their~~ <its> thirst by copious draughts of human blood.— Hamelick himself was slain—But not until after his sword was crimsoned with the blood of enimies. ~~But~~ The dubious war appeared at last determined— Hambock beheld his army giving

³ The letter "i" of "bismear³ed" is written over "e."

ground on every part— He rode [p. 150] throughout their divisions & endeavoured to inspire them with persevering courage— But in vain they could not withstand the impetuosity, the numbers & strength of their Enimies—aided by the advantage they had obtained by the arrangement ~~they had made~~ to manage the conflict— The Sciotans began to retreat—& such was the situation of both armies that ~~they~~ <the Sciotans> must ~~have~~ principally <have> been overthrow & destroyed if the Kentucks had been permitted to continue the havock & slaughter they had begun. But how often are the most sanguine expectations disappointed by the decrees of Heaven?— At this awful period—whilst the Atmosphere was replete with the multifarious sounds of the clashing of swords & spears—the ~~playing~~ <melody> of ~~the~~ martial musick—the shouts of the conquerors & <the> shrieks & groans of the dying, <even then> the heavens were overspread with clouds of the most sable hue, which had blown from the west— The thunders roared tremendously—& the flashes of Lightning were incessant, The wind began to blow from the west with great violence—the hail poured down from the clouds & was carried with great velocity full in the faces of the Kentucks— They were unable to see their enemy or continue the pursuit.—

Rambock & his princes immediately rallied their retreating forces, & facing round encouraged them to fight courageously since the great & good Being had miraculously interposed in their behalf. The Kentuck Army ~~were~~ were unable to continue the conflict.— They were obliged in their turn to retreat. But such was the violence of the storm that the sciotans could not take any great advantage of the confusion of their enemies— They however pursued them <to> the hill, which had been in the rear of the Kentucks—overthrowing & killing some in the pursuit.— But as the hill was overspread with trees which broke the violence of the wind, Hamboon commanded his men to face their pursuers— The Sciotans finding that their enemies had the advantage of the ground & ~~being intolerably fatigued with a battle which had lasted~~ <near> four hours, retired a small distance back—& as soon as the storm abated they marched beyond the ground which [p. 151] was strewn thick with the slain.— ~~Thus ended the great battle on the plains of Geheno.~~— ~~Both~~ There they encamped— And

as the storm had now subsided both armies proceeded to make provision to refresh themselves, being nearly exhausted by the ~~fate~~~~<a>~~gue fatigues of a most bloody Contest which had lasted nearly five hours. That day afforded them no time to bury their dead— The Sun did not tarry in his course but hid himself below the Horizon & darkness spread itself over the face of the earth.— The warriors with their spears in their hands extended themselves upon the earth, & spent the night in rest & sleep— Next morning they arose with renovated vigor. Their tho'ts were immediatly turned to the sanguine field— Many warriors say they lie there, pier<c>ed with <mortal> wounds & covered ~~with~~ with blood— Their spirets have assumed etheriel bodies & they are now receiving the rewards assigned to the brave on the plains of glory—but they demand of us that we should secure their remains from the voracious jaws of carnivorous ~~animals~~ Beasts by intering them in the earth. But how can this be done unless both armies will mutually agree to lay down their arms during the interment of the remains of their respective warriors. Hamboon dispatched a Messenger to Rambock, who agreed to an armistice for the term of two days & that ten thousand men might be employed from each Army in burying the dead.—

It was indeed a meloncolly day— The Contest was not desided— Neither Army had gained a victory or had reason to boast of any superior advantages obtained or any heroic atcheivments, which were not matched by contending warriors! An emence slaughter was made. Near One hundred thousand were extended breathless [p. 152] on the field— This was only the begining of the war— & what must be its dreadful calamities if it should continue to rage— if a few more battles should be faught. & the infuriated Conqueror should turn his vengful sword against defencless women & children & mingle their blood with the blood of heroes, who had fallen bravely fighting in their defence. When both armies viewed the the emence slaughter that had been made of their respective friends—instead of cooling their ardor for the war, it only served to encrease their malice & their thirst for revenge.—

~~Ten Thousand men from each army, without arms, marked to the field were <the> battle was fought & having selected the⁴ <dead> bodies⁵ of their respective warriors they carried rains they as many of them together as what could be done with convenience— & then digging into the ground about three feet deep & throwing the dirt around in a circular form upon the edge of the grave they then deposited the bodies in it, covering the ground over which they had dug with the bodies— & then placing others upon them until the whole were deposited— they then proceeded to thro' dirt upon them & to raise over them a high mound— In this manner they proceeded until they had finish<ed> the interment. The bodies of the Chiefs that were slain, were carried to their respective armies— & performing many eustomary solemnities of woe, they were intered & prodigious mounds of earth were raised over them— After the feneral rites were finished & the armistice had expired, the hostile Emperors must now determine on further plans of operation.~~

[p. 153] The field was wid<e>ly strewed, & in many places thickly covered with human bodies—extended in various positions—on their sides their backs & faces— ~~some with their arms & legs widely spread some with their mouths open & eyes stairing—~~ mangled with swords spears & arrows & bismead with blood & dirt— Most hedious forms & dreadful to behold! Such objects excited horror & all the sympthetic & compassionate feelings of the human heart.—

As both Emperors had agreed to the suspension of arms for the purpose of burying the Remains of these ~~of the~~ heroic warriors ten thousand men from each army entered the field & began the mournful employment— They dug holes about three feet deep & in a circular form & of about twenty or thirty feet diamiter. In these they deposited the bodies of their deceased heroes & then raised over them large mounds of earth— The bodies of the Chiefs who had fallen were carried to their respective armies & buried with all the sollelnities of woe— over them they raised prodigious mounds of earth— which

⁴ The word "the" is written over "their."

⁵ The word "bodies" is written over at least one illegible word.

will remain for ages, as monuments to commemorate the valiant feats of these heroes & the great Battle of Geheno.—

After the funeral Rites were finished—& the armistice had expired, the hostile Emperors must now determine on further plans of operation.

Rambock requested the advice of his principal Officers, who were unanims in opinion that it was their best policy to retire back ~~to retire back~~ to the hill which was opposite to the place where they landed—& there wait for reinforcements. This they effected the next night without being perceived by their Enemy.—

Hamboon the next day marched towards them—but not thinking it good policy to attack them at present, took possession of a hill in plain view of the Sciotans & there encamped with his whole army.

As the Sciotans sallied out in parties to plunder & to ravage the country, these were pursued, overtaken or met by parties of the Kentucks— Many bloody skirmishes ensued with various success & many feats of heroism were displayed on both sides. Wherever the Sciotans marched devastation attended their steps—& all classes of [p. 154] people without distinction of age or sex, who fell into their hands became the victims of their infuriated malice— The extermination of the Kentucks appeared to be their object, not considering that it might soon be their turn to have such horrid cruelties retaliated upon themselves with a threefold vengeance. They likewise <had> a further object in view, which was to provoke Hamboon to attack the main army, whilst posted in an advantageous situation.—

But it was Hamboon's policy by placing garrisons in different stations & by patrolling parties to prevent the sciotans from plundering & destroying his towns—& from getting provisions from his country—& in this way to compel them to cross the River or to attack his army in the position he had taken.—

While the Two Emperors were thus manoeuvring—& seeking by various arts & stratigems to gain an advantage over each other, a very extraordinary ~~<intance> of heroism & the display of the most sincere & ardent friendship, transpired <were displayed transpired> which is wort<h>y a place on the historic page.~~— instance transpired of heroism & friendship—

In the dominions of Hamboon there lived two young men who were bred in the same vilage— Having minds formed for the exercise of the noblest principles & possessed of congenial tempers they early contracted the greatest intimacy, & formed towards each other the strongest attachment.— They joined the standard of Hamboon & in the great battle of Geheno they faught side by side & performed exploits equally bold & heroic.— They eat at the same board & drank of the same cup—& in all their excursions they attended each other & walked hand in hand.— As these two friends were seting in their tent one evening— Kelsock⁶ who was the oldest, says to Hamkon, something whispers me; that this night we can perform a most brilliant Exploit— The Sciotans have held a great festival & until midnight they will be employed in music & dancing & in various diversions— Being greatly fatigued, when they lie down to rest, their sleep will be sound— We may then enter their Camp ~~by slyly geting round their by their Centinels~~ unperceived & make a most dreadful Slaughter.— Your plan, replied Hamkien, is excellent, it is worthy the character of an hero.— I will join you—& will either triumph with you in the success of the enterprize or perish in the attempt. Perhaps we may atcheive a glorious deliverance to our Country, by destroying our cruel enimie[s.] [p. 155] They both taking their swords & tome-hauks> repaired towards the camp of the Sciotans in order to reconoiter & find where they could enter & not be perceived by the Centinals— The Moon shone bright but would set about three O Clock in the Morning—this was the time they had fixed upon to begin the massacre of their enimies— At length all became silent—the Moon disappeared & these young heroes had accomplished their plan in geting into the Camp of the Sciotans unperceived. They found them lying in a profound sleep—for the fatigues of the day & revels of the night had bro't weariness upon them—& considering, when they lay down that the vigelence of their guards would secure them from surprize, they slept with unusial soundness, but their vigelence could not prevent an unsuspected destruction. The Tomehauks & swords of these daring youth, soon caused hundreds to sleep in eternal slumbers—& so anxious were they to finish the destruction of their

⁶ The name "Kelsock" is written over a different, illegible name.

enemies, that the day began to dawn before they had cleared themselves from their Camp ~~of their enemies~~— Scarce however had they past the last Centinal, & the alarm was given— The Sciotans beheld a most terrible slaughter of their warriors & being fired with indignation sallied forth in parties in every direction—

Kelsock & Hamkoo, had nearly gained the encampment of the Kentucks & Haloon with a party of the Sciotans had overtaken Hamko— Kelsock was so far in advance, that he was now safe from all danger—but turning his eyes round he beheld Hakoon seize his friend, who was attempting to defend himself against the party— Kelsock turned instantly, & ruing furiously back cried, spare O spare the youth, he is innocent— I alone contrived the slaughter of the Sciotans.— too much love to his friend induced him to join me in the enterprize— Here is my bosom—here take your revenge— Scarce had he spoken & Haloon plunged his sword into the heart of Hamko— The young hero fell—& with a groan expired— Kelsock instantly rushed upon Haloon & darted his sword thro his heart—prostrate he tumbled at the feet of Hamkoo but Kelsock could not long survive— A spear peirced him in the side—he cast his eyes on <the lifeless Body of> his friend & fell upon ~~his lifeless body~~ it— he embraced it & never breathed again. Ah heric youths in friendship ye lived—& in life & death ye were joined.—

[p. 156] Forty days had now expired since the two armies had taken their different positions— Each received large reinforcements which supplied the places of the slain. Experience had taught them to use stratagem instead of attacking under great disadvantages, & yet to remain long in their present situation could not possibly, terminate the war succesfully on the part of the Sciotans.— Rambock considering the obsticles, which attended the prossecution of every plan, at last, by the advice of Sambal & Ulipoon, determined on a most rash & desperate enterprize— An enterprize which would in a measure sacciate their revenge, provided that it should even produce the annihilation of their Army.— As soon as darkness had overspread the earth at night— Rambock marched his whole Army towards the City of Gamba—& such was the stillness of their movments that they were not perceived—nor was it known by Hamboon that they had marched

until the morning light.— As soon as the Kentucks perceived that the Sciotans had abandoned the place of their encampment & <found> the direction they had gone they immediatly pursued them with the utmost expedition.— But too late to prevent the intended slaughter & devastation. The Sciotans without delaying their <march> by attacking any forts in their way, merely entered the vilages, killing the inhabitants who had not made their escape & burning their houses— They arived before the City of Gamba— Great indeed was the surprize, The consternation & terror of the Citizens— Many fled to the fort— A band of about three thousand resolute <warriors> seized their arms, determind to risk their lives in the defence of the City. The leader of this band was Lamo<ch> the eldest son of Labanko— He inherited the virtues of his excellent Father & even thirsted to revenge his death by sacrificing to his manes <the blood of> his cruel enimies. He posted his warriors in a narrow passage which led to the City.— The Sciotan Emperor immediatly <formed> his plan of attack— A large host selected from all the grand devisions of his army marched [p. 157] against them— They were commanded by Moonrod— He led them on against this gallant & desperate band of Kentucks & made a most furious & violent charge upon them, But they were resisted with a boldness, which will forever do honour to their immortal valour.— Many hundreds of their Enimies they perced with their deadly weapons & caused heaps of them to lie prostrate in the narrow passage.— Such prodigious havock was made on the Sciotans by this small band of valiant Citizens, who were driven to despiration & whose only object was to sell their lives dear to their enimies, that even Moonrod began to dispair of forcing his march into the City thro' this narrow passage— Being informed by a trecherous Kentuck of another passage, he immediatly dispatched a party of about four thousand from his band to enter the city thro' that passage & to fall upon the rear of the Kentucks— This plan succeeded— These heroes now found the war to rage both in front & rear & part facing <their new assailants> they attacked them ~~new assailants~~ with incredible fury— What could they do? resisistance was now in vain. They could no longer maintain the bloody contest against such a mighty host. Lamoch then commanded the survivors of his little Band to

break thro' the ranks of his last assalants & to retreat. ~~to the fort.~~ It was impossible to withstand the violence of their charge—they broke thro' the ranks of their enemies & made a passage over the bodies of heroes, thro' which they retreated & marched to the fort— About seven hundred with their valiant leader thus made their escape & ~~arived safe in the fort~~— The remainder of the Three thousand sold their lives in defence of their friends & their Country— This Battle checked the progress of <the> enemy which prevented an emence slaughter of Citizens— As the greatest part <had opportunity> by this mains ~~had~~ <to> ~~gained~~ the fort.—

[p. 158] As soon as all resistance was over come & had subsided, the Sciotans lost no time—but marched into the City & commenced a general plunder of all articles which could conveniently be transported. Ulipoon, tho careful not to expose his person to the deadly weapons of an enemy—was however very industrious in this part of the war— None discovered so much engagedness as himself to grasp the most valuable property in the city.— But expecting the Kentuck Army to arive soon they must accomplish their mischief with the utmost expedition— The City they sat on fire in various places—& then retired back & encamped near the fort, intending on the next day, unless prevented by the arrival of Hamboon with his Army, to storm the fort, & massecre the whole multitude of Citizens which were there collected.— Behold the conflagration of the City,—the flames in Curls assend towards heaven—& as the darkness of the Night had now commenced—this added to the horror of the scene— The illumination spread <far &> wide & <distant> vilages beheld the red<n>ing light assend—as a certain pioneir of their <own> conflagration, should the war continue to rage. But mark the sorrow & lamentation of the poor Citizens now incircled by the walls of a fort— Happy that they had escaped the intended massacre of a barberous unrelenting Enemy—but indignant & sorrowful at beholding the ruins of all their property.—& even filled with the greatest anxiety lest Hamboon should not arive in season to prevent the storming of the fort.— But their anxiety soon vanished.

When the shades of evening began to overspread the earth, Hamboon and his Army had arrived within five miles of the city. They

beheld the flames begining to assend. The idea was instantly realized that an indiscriminate slaughter had taken place.— ~~What were the distracted outcries of the dwellers of the City—Fathers & mothers—Brothers & sisters, wives & children.~~

[p. 159] In addition to the distrucktion of all their property, they now had a reallizing anticipation of the massecre of their dearest friend & relation. Such was their anxiety to precipitate their march that it was scarcely in the power of their commanders to retard their steps so as to prevent them from breaking the order of their ranks. They made however the utmost expedition—determined if they found their enemy to take ample vengeance. But when they arrived & found that the greatest part of the Citizens were safe in the fort this afforded no small alleviation to their anxiety & grief— But their thirst for revenge & their ardent desire to engage the enemy in battle did not in the least abate.

Determined that the Sciotans should have no chance to improve the <darkness of the> insuing night to make their escape—every preparation was made to attack them the next morning.— This was expected by the Scitans, who were wishing for another opportunity to measure swords with the Kentucks. & as soon as the morning light appeared <they marched> a small distance to <a> Hill & ~~paraded~~ their Army paraded in proper order for battle.— Scarce had they finished their arrangements when they beheld Hamboon's Army marching towards them— He halted within about half a mile of the Sciotans— & sent out a small party to reconoiter & discover their situation— In the mean time he ordered Hanock ~~his son~~ to march with twelve thousand men round the Sciotan Army & ~~to~~ lie in ambush in their rear in order to surprize <them> with an attack after the battle should commence.

As the two armies were paraded in fair view of each other the expectation was that a most bloody engagement would take place immediately.— The cowardly mind of Ulipoon was not a little terrified when he beheld the number & the martial appearance of the Enemy— But his inventive genius was not long at a lost for an expedient, which he immagined would extricate himself from all danger— He repairs to Hambock & addressed him to this effect. May

it please [p. 160] your ~~your~~ majesty. During the first battle it was my misfortune to be prevented by sickness from being at the head of my brave warriors & displaying my valour.— It is my wish now to perform feats of heroism which shall place me on equal ground with the most valiant princes of your empire— With your permission I will lead on my division & storm the fort of the Kentucks— This will fill their warriors with consternation & terror— You may <then> obtain an easy victory—& and destroy them with as much facility as you would so many porcupines.— Besides by attacking the fort at this time when they are not suspecting such a manoever—the imperial family will be prevented from making their escape & I shall then be able to restore to your majesty your daughter Lamesa.— The Emperor being pleased with the plan granted to Ulipoon his permission to carry it into effect.— — Ulipoon did not wait a moment—But immediately returned back & commanded his forces, which consisted of about seventeen thousand to march— He was careful at the same time to see ~~that~~ that they carried with them all the plunder they had taken in the City of Gamba—& particularly that portion which had been set apart for himself.— But nothing was farther from the heart of Ulipoon than to fulfil his [—] promise— He had no intention to risk his person in the hazardous attempt to storm the fort—but his determination was to march with the utmost expedition to his own dominions & to carry with him his rich plunder Having marched towards the fort until they had got beyond the view of the Sciotan Army= he then ordered them to turn their course towards the great River—to the place where they had left their Boats.—[p. 161] In this direction they had not proceeded far when they were seen by a number of pioneirs, whom Hanock had sent forward to make discoveries.— As his band were not far distant they soon gave him the inteligence—He immediately dispach an express to Hamboon—informing him that he should pursue them as their object probably was to ravage the country—& recommending not to attack the Sciotans until further information from him.— Hanocks devision were not discovered by Ulipoon—& of consequence he proceeded in his march without suspecting any anoiance from the Enemy, happy in the reflection that he had greatly enriched himself by a prodigious mass of plunder, & not in the <least> troubled

about his fellow warriors, whom he had deserted on the eve of a most hazardous engagement.— Hanock pursued him, but was careful not to be discovered— Whe<n> the sun was nearly down Ulipoon halted & encamped.— During the Night Hanock made his arrangements—he formed his men into four Divisions & surrounded the Enemy. Their orders were as soon as the morning light began to appear, to rush into Ulipoon's encampment & to massacre his warriors without discrimination.— The fatal moment had arrived, & punctual at the very instant of time the Attack was begun on every part—& such was the surprize & terror which it produced that the Sciotans were thrown into the utmost confusion—& it was impossible for their Officers to form them into any order to make defence— Every man at last attempted to make his escape—but wherever they rushed forward in any direction they met the deadly spears of the Kentucks= It is impossible <to describe the> the horror of the bloody [p. 162] scene ~~for even humanity recoils at beholding~~ Humanity—sympathy & compassion must drop a tear at beholding the uproar & confusion, the distress & anguish, the blood & carnage of so many thousand brave warriors <who> ~~was great misfortune was to have a Coward for their Commander~~—who, were reduced to this dreadful situation by the cowardize & ~~niggardly~~ & avaricious disposition of their Commander. But on<l>y three thousand made their escape. As for Ulipoon he was mortally wounded & laid prostrate on the field— After the slaughter was ended in passing over the ~~field of~~ the Slain, Hanock beheld this illfated prince—an object truly pitiable to behold— In the agonies of death & wreathing under the most acute pain, he exclaimed. Alas my wre<c>thed situation— It was avarice, cursed avarice which induced me to engage in this horrid war—& now ~~my~~ the mischief & cruelties I intended as the means to acquire wealth & agrandizement, are justly turned upon my own head— He spoke & deeply groaning, he breathed no more

The galant Hanock, dropped a tear—& feeling no enmity towards the lifeless remains of those, who had been his enemies, he ordered three hundred men to ~~bury~~ remain on the ground & commit their bodies to the Dust— This says he is the will of him whose compassion is infinite. He then directed Conco his chief Captain to pursue the survivors of Ulipoon's Army & to destroy them if possible.—

With the remainder of his own troops, he returned, back to carry into effect the Order of Hamboon—. Conco overtook & killed about a thousand of the wretched fugitives—the remainder escaped to their own Land—except about fifty who fled to the Army of Rambock—& gave him the dreadful intelligence of Ulipoons destruction.—

Great were the amazement & consternation of Rambock & [p. 163] & his whole Army. They now beheld their situation to be extremely critical & dangerous & saw the necessity of the most vigorous & heroic exertions. What says Rambock to his princes, is our wisest Course to pursue?— Sabamah, Rancoff & Nunapon Advised him <to> retreat without loosing a moment, for say they, we have taken ample revenge for <the> Crime Elseon.— To effect this we have thrown ourselves into the heart of their Country.—have lost a large division of our army—& are so weakned by our losses that we are in the utmost danger of being defeated & even annihilated.—

It must therefore be the height of folly & madness to prosecute the war any farther in this Country.— But Sambal & the other other princes condemned this plan as pusilanimous & disgraceful & proposed to steal a march on the Kentucks & to storm their fort before ~~before~~ they should be apprised of their design. This last advice met the approbation of the Emperor; “Nothing says he can save our Army from destruction, but the most daring atcheivments. That they might gain the fort without being perceived by the Kentucks It was necessary that they should march some distance in the direction, where Hanock had encamped, in order to cooperate with Hamboon, when he should commence the engagement— When <the> night had far advanced Rambocks <forces> were all in readiness & began their march for the fort. They proceeded about two miles—& a small party in advance, discovered Hanocks warriors— This discovery produced an alteration in Rambock’s plan— He directed Sambal to proceed against the fort—whilst he, as soon as the light should appear, would attack Hanock— Sambal was highly pleased with this command— as a victory would ensure him the capture of Lamesa—& afford him an opportunity to obtain revenge. He arrived at the fort just as the blushing morn began to appear.— ~~Great indeed was the surprize which his arrival produced~~— [p. 164] On three sides he stationed

small parties, who wer[e] ordered to massacre all the Citizens who should attempt to make their escape— With the main body of his Army he made an assault upon the fort—

Amazement & terror seized the minds of the whole multitude of Citizens: ~~in the fort— This enterprize of the seiotans was unexpect-~~
~~ted— As they were~~⁷ were unprepared to defend the fort against such a formidable force. Lamack however placed himself at the head of about one thousand warriors & attempted to beat them back from the walls & prevent their making a breach. But it was imposible with his small band⁸ to with stand the strength of such a mighty⁹ Army— They broke down part of the palasadoes & entered the fort thro' the breach—And immediatly began the massacre of the defenceless <multitude> without regard to age or sex— Sambal being anxious to find Lamesa rushed forward with a small <band> & surround<ed> a ~~small~~ block-house— He then broke down the doar & entered— Here he beheld all the Ladies of the imperial family & many <other> Ladies of distinction— He instantly sprang towards Lamesa in order to seize her—but was prevented by Heliza who stepped betwen them & falling upon her knees implored him to spare the Life of Lamesa— Scarce had she spoken when the cruel monster buried his sword in her bosom & she fell lifeless before the eyes of <her> dearest friend— Lamesa gave a scream, & looking fiercely on Sambal she exclaimed. Thou monster of [p. 165] vilainy & cruelty, could nothing sacciate your revenge but the death of my dear friend,—the amiable, the innocent Heliza Here is my heart—I am prepared for your next victem.—

Ah no, says Sambal, your life is safe from my sword. I shall conduct you to my palace & you shall be honoured with me for your partner. Insult me not, says she, thou malicious bloody villain—either kill me or be gone from my sight—my eyes can never indure the man who is guilty of such mostrous Crimes.—

Set your heart at rest says he my dear Lamesa— I <will> convince you that I am a better man than your beloved Elseon—his head shall soon sacciate my revenge & then you shall be the Queen of

⁷ The words “As they were” are written over “As the Kentucks.”

⁸ The word “band” is written over an illegible word.

⁹ The word “mighty” is written over an illegible word.

Sciota.— At this Instant a loud voice was heard— The Kentucks are marching with a prodigious Army towards the fort.— Sambal turning to his warriors present ordered them to guard the women in that house & not permit any of them <to> escape—for says he I must go & destroy that army of Kentucks. Great already had been the slaughter which the sciotans had made of the Citizens in the fort— Those who had attempted to escape thro' a gate which was thrown open were met & massacred by the Sciotan warriors on the outside— But their progress was arested by the appearance of Elseon at the head of thirty thousand warriors— They had marched with the greatest speed—for they were infomed by an express that the Sciotans had invested the Fort. When Sambal beheld them he instantly concluded to draw his army out of the fort & to try a battle with them in the open field.—

His orders were immediatly spread thro' every part of the fort where his men were employed in killing the de[p. 166]fenceless & in fighting <Lamoch>¹⁰ the little band of desperate heroes ~~whom Hanock commanded.~~— The Sciotans were soon formed & marched out of the fort & paraded in proper order—for battle.— Elseon observing this, commanded his ~~to~~ men to halt, & made his arrangements to rush forward & commence the attack— Having brandished his sword as a token for silence he then Spoke. My brave warriors. The glorious period has arrived ~~for arrived us~~ to display our valor in the destruction of our enimies.— What monstrous cruelties have they perpetrated— Behold your City in ruins—listen to <the> cries of your murdered friends whose innocent blood calls for vengeance— consider the situation of those who are surround by the walls of yonder fort. How many thousands are massacred—& how many must share their fate unless you fight like heroes— By our valour we can effect their deliveranc, & rid our country from the most ferocious band of murderers that ever disgarced humanity— ~~Their standard is that of the Sciotan King— whose malice & vengful disposition have produced this horrid war. Urged on by his malignant passions he has engaged undertaken a most desperate & mad enterprize— He has thrown himself & his army into a most critical & dangerous situation—~~ Fight as you did at the great Battle of Geheno & your enimies

¹⁰ The name "Lamoch" is written over "Hanock."

will lie prostrate in the dust—& your names shall be illustrious. Rush forward my brave warriors—& let your motto be victory or death. Not a moment, when his warriors were stimulated for the Combat did Elseon tarry—but marched with precipitation, prepared to make a most furious charge. Sambal was ready to meet him—& marched forward with equal boldness & celerity. The charge was tremendous. Not the dashing <against each other> of two mighty ships, in a hurricane upon the ~~boistrous~~ ocean, could have been more terrible. Each warrior, fearless of danger, met his antagonist, determined to destroy his life or loose his own in the contest— —

[p. 167] The battle extended thro' every part of both armies— As warriors fell in the front ranks, their places were supplied from the rear—& reserved Bands rushing betwen the divisions were met by others of equal strength & valour.— Helicon the intimate friend of Elseon beheld Sambal—who was encourageing his warriors to fight bravely, as no other alternative remained for them but victory or death.— When Helicon beheld him his youthful mind felt the impulse of ambition—he sprang towards Sambal & chalenged him to the Combat. Sambal gave him no time to repeat the chalenge, but rushed upon him, with more fury than a tiger, & with his sword he struck Helicon's head from his body.— Thus fell the brave, the amiable youth whose thirst for glory impeled him to attempt an exploit too rash & daring—

Warriars fell on every side & the field was covered with dead & dying heroes— A messenger ran & told Elseon of the fate of Helion who commanded the left wing of his army & that Sambal had broken their ranks & was making indisribable havock of his warriors— What intelligence could have been more shocking? Elseon could not refrain from tears for a moment— Ah Helicon says he, thou hast been more dear to me than a brother— He<a>ven demands that I should revenge thy cruel death. He instantly selected a small band & marched, with the utmost speed to the left wing of his Army— He rallied his retreating warriors & ingaged in the conflict with tenfold fury— Soon he beheld the mighty Sambal whose sword was crimsoned with the blood of his friend, & Sambal cast his eyes upon him & as he beheld him his malice instantly inkindled into such a furious flame, that his

~~reason fled for a moment,~~ & he raved like a madman.— Both heroes [p. 168] sprang towards each other— Their warriors beheld them & being mutually inspired with the same sentiments the respective bands retired back & left the two indignant Champions in the space between.— Ah <exclaimed Sambal> ingrate Robber & perfidious scoundrel after seducing the Emperors daughter <who was> & my wife & tranporting her from our dominions, have you the temerity to meet my conquering sword.—This Sword which perceid Labanco. & cut off the head of Helicon & which has destroyed hundreds of warriors more mighty than your self—shall be plunged into your cowardly heart—& your head shall be carried in triumph into the city of Talangos—& there it shall be preserved as a ~~trophy~~ trophy of my superiour strength & valour.—

Vain Boaster, says Elseon—I rejoice to meet you. ~~that~~ The Benevolent Being will now terminate your carere of bloody crimes— This sword shall peirce your malignant heart & cut of that head, which has ploted the ruin of my Country—— Sambal eager for revenge, could hear no more, He sprang forward & aimed a thrust of his sword at Elseons Heart but Elseon turned the point of his sword from him with his own—& then darted his sword into his left arm which caused the blood to gush forth— Sambal was now more indignant than ever—& raising his sword he threw his whole strength into one mighty effort, with an intention to divide his body in twain. But Elseon, quck as the Lightning sprang back & Sambals Sword struck the ground with a prodigious force, which broke it in the middle.— He himself had nearly tumbled his whole length—but recovering & beholding his defencless situation, he ran a small distance, & seising a stone sufficiently big for a common man to lift he threw it at Elseon— It flew with great velocity & had not Elseon bowed his head his brains must have quited their habitation— his Cap however was not so for[p. 169]tunate; having met the stone as he bowed it was carried some distance from him & lodged in the ground. Elseon regardless of his Cap, ran swiftly upon Sambal whose feet having sliped when he threw the Stone had fall<en> upon his back & had not recovered— Terror now seized his mind— Spare, O Spare my life says he & I will restore peace to Kentuck & you may enjoy Lamesa.—

No peace sais Elseon do I desire with a Man, whose sword is red with the blood of my friends He spoke & plunged his sword into Sambals heart.—

The Sciotans beheld the huge body of their King pale & lifeless— Consternation & terror seized their minds They fled in dismay & confusion— Elseon pursued them with his warriors & overthrew & killed thousands in the pursuit— About two thousand made good their escape—& carried the doleful tidings of Sambals deaths & the emence slaughter of his Army to their own Land. And indeed their escape was owing <to> the great anxiety of Elseon & <his> warriors to viset their friends in the fort & to ascertain the extent of the massacre that Sambal & his Army had made.— After pursuing the Sciotans <about six miles> Elseon & his Army returned in great haste & entered the fort.— Great, inexpressably great was the joy of the Citizen when they beheld them returning with the laurels of of Victory & when they were informed of the destruction of so many thousand of their enimies.— But as great was the grief & lamentation, when they beheld & reflected on the vast number of citizens & of Elseon's warriors, who had fallen by the sword of the Sciotans— ~~But~~ No death produced such universal regret & sorrow as those of Helecon & Heliza. The one was the intimate friend of Elseon & the other of Lamesa.— They both possessed hearts which wer[e] [p. 170] formed for the most ardent friendship & love.— Their acquaintance produced the most sincere attachment— They exchanged vows of perpetual fidelity & love to each other—& only waited for the termination of the war to fulfil their mutual engagement to unite their hands in wedlock— But their pleasing anticipation of conjugal felicity was destroyed by the cruel Sword of Sambal— Naught availed the innocence & the amiable accomplishments of the fair Heliza? She must fall a victem to sacciate the revenge of a barbarous Tyrant— Had Hilicon <known> when he attacked the savage Monster, that he had assassinated¹¹ his beloved Heliza, it would have inspired him with the most ardent desire for revenge & added vigor to his arm & keenness to his sword.— ~~Ah said~~ A Kentuk Bard represented the erial form of

¹¹ The words "that he had assassinated" are written over several other words, mostly illegible.

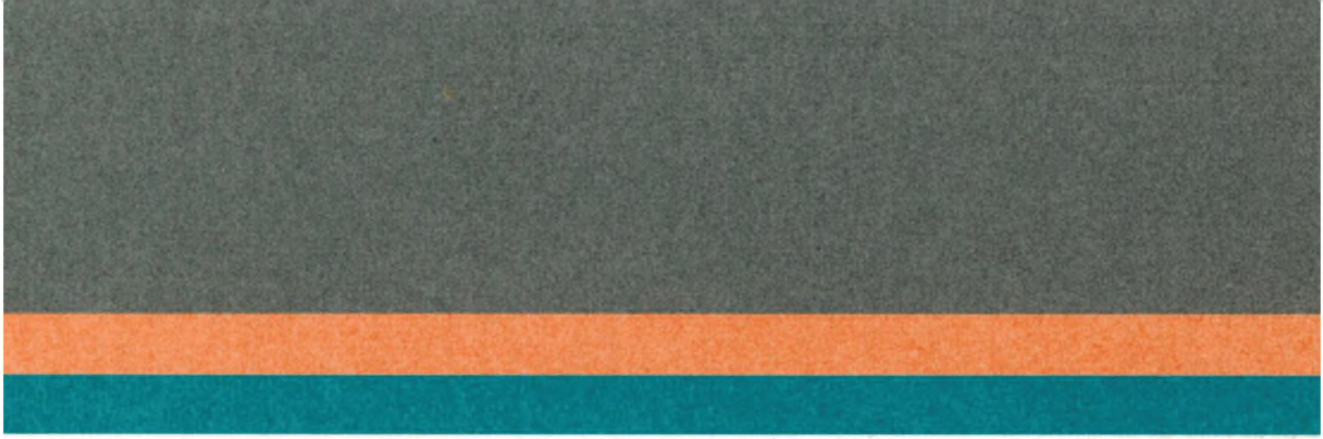
Heliza as arriving on the celestial plain—& being told that she must wait a short time—& Helicon would attend & conduct her as his partner to a delightful Bower which was surrounded by the most beautiful flowers & delicious fruits—& where the singing of musical Birds would charm them with their melody.—

When Elseon had entered the fort, he found that Lamock with the survivors of his little band of warriors had made prisoners, of the Sciotans whom Sambal had left to guard the imperial Ladies—& that these Sciotans had done them no injury nor even insulted them with words— Says Elseon for this honourable treatment of my friends I will shew these enemies compassion— Go says he to them, return in peace to your own land—& tell your friends that Elseon will not hurt an Enemy, who has done him a favour.—

The time of Elseon was precious— He spent but a few moments with Lamesa, in which they exchanged mutual congratulations—& expressions of the most tender [p. 171] & sincere affection.— She conjured him to spare the life of her father & brother & not to expose his own life any farther than his honour & the interest of his country required. I shall cheerfully says he comply with every request. which will promote your happiness. He embraced her & bid her adieu.—

As the situation of Hamboon's Army might require his immediate return, he lost no time to regulate matters in the fort— but leaving five thousand men to bury the dead, & defend the Citizens, he marched with the remainder, which consisted of about twenty thousand, towards Hamboons encampment.—

When Sambal marched with his division against the fort it was Rambock's intention to have attacked Hanock the next morning— but perceiving that Hamboon had been apprized of his movement, & was then within a small distance ready to cooperate with Hanocks, <division> Rambock altered his plan & determined to wait for the return of Sambal. As for Hamboon he concluded to wait until Elseon's return,— These determinations of the hostile Emperors, prevented in this interval of time, any engagement between the two grand armies.— But when the fate of Sambal's division was decided—& Elseon had returned with the joyful news of his victory, the Kentucks were all anxious for an immediate Battle.



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