

N<sup>o</sup> 378. *Wednesday, May 14.**Aggredere, O magnos, aderit jam tempus, honores. Virg.*

I Will make no Apology for entertaining the Reader with the following Poem, which is written by a great Genius, a Friend of mine, in the Country, who is not ashamed to employ his Wit in the praise of his Maker.

*M E S S I A H.*

A sacred Eclogue, compos'd of several Passages of *Isaiah* the Prophet.

*Written in Imitation of Virgil's POLLIO.*

**Y**E Nymphs of Solyma! begin the Song,  
To heav'nly Themes sublimer Strains belong.

The Mossy Fountains, and the Sylvan Shades,  
The Dreams of Pindus and th' Aonian Maids,  
Delight no more — O thou my Voice inspire,  
Who touch'd Isaiah's hallow'd Lips with Fire!

RAPT into future times, the Bard begun,  
A Virgin shall conceive, a Virgin bear a Son!  
From Jesse's Root behold a Branch arise, *Isaia, Cap.*  
Whose sacred Flow'r with Fragrance fills the *II. v. 1.*  
Skies.

Th' Æthereal Spirit o'er its Leaves shall move,  
And on its Top descends the Mystic Dove.

Ye Heav'ns! from high the dewy Nectar pour, *Cap. 45.*

And in soft Silence shed the kindly Show'r! *v. 8.*

The Sick and Weak, the healing Plant shall aid, *Cap. 25.*

From Storms a Shelter, and from Heat a Shade. *v. 4.*

All Crimes shall cease, and ancient Fraud shall  
fail;

Returning Justice lift aloft her Scale; *Cap. 9. v. 7.*

*Peace*

*Peace o'er the World her Olive Wand extend,  
And white-rob'd Innocence from Heav'n descend.*

Cap. 35.

v. 2.

*Swift fly the Years, and rise th' expected Morn!  
Oh spring to Light, auspicious Babe be born!  
See Nature hastes her earliest Wreaths to bring,  
With all the Incense of the breathing Spring:*

Cap. 40.

v. 3, 4.

*See lofty Lebanon his Head advance,  
See nodding Forests on the Mountains dance,  
See spicy Clouds from lowly Sharon rise,  
And Carmel's flow'ry Top perfumes the Skies!  
Hark! a glad Voice the lonely Desert cheers;  
Prepare the way! a God, a God appears;  
A God! a God! the vocal Hills reply,  
The Rocks proclaim th' approaching Deity.  
Lo Earth receives him from the bending Skies!  
Sink down ye Mountains, and ye Vallies rise!  
With Heads inclin'd, ye Cedars, Homage pay;  
Be smooth ye Rocks, ye rapid Floods give way!  
The SAVIOUR comes! by ancient Bards  
foretold:*

C. 42. v. 18.

Cap. 35.

v. 5, 6.

*Hear him, ye deaf, and all ye Blind behold!  
He from thick Films shall purge the visual Ray,  
And on the sightless Eye-ball pour the Day:  
'Tis he th' obstructed Paths of Sound shall clear,  
And bid new Musick charm th' unfolding Ear,  
The Dumb shall sing, the Lame his Crutch  
forego,*

Cap. 25.

v. 8.

Cap. 40.

v. 11.

*And leap exulting like the bounding Roe;  
No Sigh, no Murmur the wide World shall hear,  
From ev'ry Face he wipes off ev'ry Tear.  
In Adamantine Chains shall Death be bound,  
And Hell's grim Tyrant feel th' eternal Wound.  
As the good Shepherd tends his fleecy Care,  
Seeks freshest Pastures and the purest Air,  
Explores the lost, the wandring Sheep directs,  
By day o'ersees them, and by night protects,  
The tender Lambs he raises in his Arms,  
Feeds from his Hand, and in his Bosom warms:  
Mankind shall thus his Guardian Care engage,*

*C. 9. v. 6. The promis'd Father of the future Age.*

No



No more shall Nation against Nation rise,  
 Nor ardent Warriors meet with hateful Eyes,  
 Nor Fields with gleanings Steel be cover'd o'er,  
 The Brazen Trumpets kindle Rage no more;  
 But useless Lances into Scythes shall bend,  
 And the broad Falchion in a Plow-share end.  
 Then Palaces shall rise; the joyful Son  
 Shall finish what his short-lived Sire begun;  
 Their Vines a Shadow to their Race shall yield,  
 And the same Hand that sow'd shall reap the  
 Field.

C. 2. v. 4.

Cap. 65.

V. 21, 22.

The Swain in barren Deserts with Surprise  
 Sees Lilies spring, and sudden Verdure rise,  
 And starts amidst the thirsty Wilds to hear  
 New Falls of Water murmuring in his Ear:  
 On rifted Rocks, the Dragon's late Abodes,  
 The green Reed trembles, and the Bulrush nods.  
 Waste sandy Vallies, once perplex'd with Thorn,  
 The spiry Fir and shapely Box adorn:  
 To leafless Shrubs the flowering Palms succeed,  
 And od'rous Myrtle to the noisome Weed.  
 The Lambs with Wolves shall graze the verdant  
 Mead,

Cap. 35.

V. 1, 7.

Cap. 41.

V. 19. and

Cap. 55.

V. 13.

Cap. 11.

V. 6, 7, 8.

And Boys in flow'ry Bands the Tiger lead;  
 The Steer and Lion at one Crib shall meet,  
 And harmless Serpents lick the Pilgrim's Feet.  
 The smiling Infant in his Hand shall take  
 The crested Basilisk and speckled Snake;  
 Pleas'd, the green Lustre of the Scales survey,  
 And with their forked Tongue and pointless Sting  
 shall play.

Rise, crown'd with Light, imperial Salem rise!  
 Exalt thy tow'ry Head, and lift thy Eyes!  
 See, a long Race thy spacious Courts adorn;  
 See future Sons and Daughters yet unborn  
 In crowding Ranks on ev'ry side arise,  
 Demanding Life, impatient for the Skies!  
 See barb'rous Nations at thy Gates attend,  
 Walk in thy Light, and in thy Temple bend:

C. 60. v. 1.

C. 60. v. 4.

C. 60. v. 3.

See