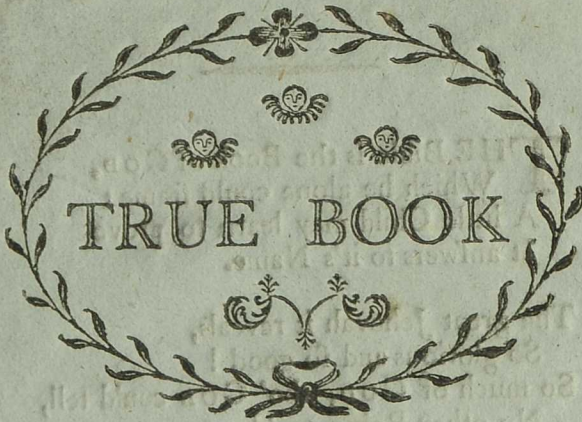


A

NEW HISTORY

O F A



I N V E R S E.

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A
NEW HISTORY
OF A
TRUE BOOK.

- 1 **T**HE Bible is the Book of GOD,
Which he alone could frame;
A little Child may learn to prove
It answers to it's Name.
- 2 The great Jehovah it reveals,
So glorious and so good!
So much of GOD, tho' GOD could tell,
No other Being cou'd.
- 3 The wisest Men, that never saw
This Book, when they have try'd
The Character of GOD to draw,
His Glories have deny'd.
- 4 Some made a spotted Bull their God,
And some to Serpents pray'd;
Idols of Metal, Stone, or Wood,
They call'd upon for Aid.
- 5 The Bible shews *one* GOD alone;
Right Reason joins in this:
Tho' Reason *now* in fallen Man
The glorious Truth might miss.
- 6 First, best, and greatest, Cause of all;
A Character complete!
How glorious is JEHOVAH's Name,
Where all Perfections meet!

- 7 This Book contains his holy *Law*,
 Th' eternal Rule of Right;
 How happy must all Creatures be,
 Would they herein unite.
- 8 All Duty in one word is summ'd,
 That one sweet Word is "LOVE"
 How short, how holy, just, and good!
 May I this Law approve!
- 9 "To HIM, who is supremely good,
 Supreme Affection's due:
 Deal by your Neighbour as you'd have
 Your Neighbour deal by you.
- 10 None else but GOD, who knows the Heart,
 This Sacred Book could pen,
 Which does detect the inward Thoughts
 And secret Lusts of Men.
- 11 *But what avails to know our Ail,
 Unless we know the Cure?
 This is a melancholy Tale,
 That endless Woe is sure.*
- 12 *Can none escape the Wrath of GOD?
 Are ail condemn'd to Hell?
 Who can but dread that dark Abode?
 Who can with Devils dwell?*
- 13 The same blest Book reveals the Way
 To Life above the Skies;
 The very chief of Sinners may
 Receive so rich a Prize.
- 14 *Will GOD revoke his firm Decree,
 That he who sins must die?
 And disannul his Law for me,
 And lay his Anger by?*

- 15 His Law can never be repeal'd,
It is too just and good:
Better a Thousand sinful Worlds
Should perish, than it should.
- 16 *But how can Sinners satisfy
The Law, which once they broke ?
Will Penitence for Payment stand,
And so keep off the Stroke ?*
- 17 No, all the Sinner's Efforts here
Would fruitless be and vain ;
Nor streams, nor floods of flowing Tears,
Could wash away the Stain.
- 18 A SURETY must be found, to pay
The debt which Sinners ow'd ;
He must the holy Law obey,
And bear our heavy Load.
- 16 *But where shall such an One be found ?
What Creature is so kind,
Of all who dwell on earthly Ground :
Or what angelic Mind ?*
- 20 Mankind are all involv'd in Sin ;
Nor would an Angel dare
So great a Work to undertake,
Or such a Load to bear.
- 21 No Creature truly can suffice ;
But GOD's eternal SON,
For this, descended from the Skies,
And put our Nature on.
- 22 Jesus, I say, th'incarnate WORD,
Did all the LAW obey ;
And thus its Honour was restor'd,
Which Sinners took away.

- 23 He bore his People's countless Sins,
And dy'd that they might live ;
And all poor Sinners shall be fav'd,
Who in his Name believe.
- 24 *Had GOD the SON more Love to Man
Than GOD the FATHER had ?
Or did he come to die because
He thought the Law too bad ?*
- 25 No! GOD so lov'd a ruin'd World
He sent his Son to die ;
Then rais'd him up again, to sit
On his right-Hand, on high.
- 26 Christ meant to magnify the Law,
And ransom Sinner's too :
He dy'd that we, with Joy and Awe,
Might Grace and Justice view.
- 27 Now GOD is just, yet justifies
Each Sinner who believes,
Sin is condemn'd, the Law secur'd,
GOD all the Praise receives.
- 28 God's Glory highly is advanc'd,
And Peace on Earth proclaim'd ;
Good Will is shewn to sinful Men,
From Satan thus reclaim'd.
- 29 We ought, indeed, with rapt'rous Joy,
To hear this joyful Sound :
But, Oh ! in our apostate Race,
What Wickedness is found !
- 30 All Men are so in Love with Sin,
They will not from it part,
Nor let the blest Redeemer in
To their ungrateful Heart.

- 31 A free Salvation they despise;
They scorn to be forgiv'n:
This empty World they idolize,
And have no Taste for Heav'n.
- 32 *Will none then own their wretched State,
And humbly sue for Grace?*
No, not till GOD renews the Mind,
And doth his pride abase.
- 33 Thus we as much GOD'S SPIRIT need,
Our spirits to renew,
As that his Son for us should bleed,
To give the Law its Due.
- 34 *And can the Spirit by his Pow'r,
Renew the Man afresh?*
Yes; he removes the Heart of Stone,
And gives a Heart of Flesh.
- 35 *Are none so good, but what they need
An Interest in his Grace?*
Not One by any other Means
Can see the FATHER'S Face.
- 36 *Are none so bad, but that he can
Their Load of Guilt remove?*
There is no Limit to his Pow'r,
No Limit to his Love.
- 37 When did the Saviour condescend
To die for wretched Man?
It was about Four Thousand Years
Since Time on Earth began.
- 38 Near Eighteen Hundred Years are past
Since Jesus Christ was seen,
On Jewish Ground, in mortal Flesh,
Appearing poor and mean.

- 39 No worldly Pomp did he assume ;
 He did false greatness scorn ;
 Conceiv'd in a poor Virgin's Womb,
 And in a Stable born.
- 46 He pass for humble Joseph's Son,
 But was the Son of GOD ;
 The Earth itself might well be proud
 That he upon it trod.
- 41 He once a Carpenter was call'd,
 Who built the Earth and Skies :
 Proud men would not their Maker own
 In such a low Disguise.
- 42 *How could they think that this was He,
 The Saviour all divine ?
 Strange that his Godhead was not known
 By some undoubted Sign !*
- 43 The Saviour did not come to reign,
 In gaudy pomp below ;
 But the Law's Honour to maintain,
 And GOD's free Love to shew.
- 44 He came to cleanse away our Sins,
 By his most precious Blood ;
 And liv'd, and dy'd, and rose again,
 For our eternal Good.
- 45 Long time before, had GOD foretold
 His Advent and Design ;
 Which all the Prophets witness'd to,
 Inspir'd by Light divine.
- 46 They nam'd the Nation, Tribe, and Race,
 From which he should descend ;
 Said Beth'lem was his natal Place ;
 Shew'd how his Life should end.

- 47 The antient Prophets now were dead ;
 The Jews their Tombs adorn'd ;
 But Him, to whom those witness'd,
 They all abhor'd and scorn'd.
- 48 Thus they who kept the Prophecies,
 Those Prophecies fulfill'd,
 Rejected HIM, the Prince of Life,
 And crucify'd and kill'd.
- 49 They hop'd a King with mighty Pow'r,
 And purple for his Robe,
 Would elevate their Nation high
 Above a conquer'd Globe.
- 50 Victorious Arms, triumphal Cars,
 Sceptres, and Crowns, and Thrones,
 Guards, Courtiers, Palaces, and Feasts,
 And Gold, and precious Stones :
- 51 Such pompous Baubles fill'd their Minds ;
 These Tokens, they expect,
 Must point the great Messiah forth ;—
 So Jesus they reject.
- 52 No Crown of Gold the Saviour wore ;
 They crown'd him, once, with Thorn :
 No Sceptre, in his Hand, he bore ;
 They gave a Reed, in Scorn.
- 53 He had no Place to lay his Head,
 Much less a Palace proud ;
 Was hungry, thirsty, hard-beflead,
 His Guards a vulgar Crowd.
- 54 His Steps poor Fishermen attend,
 With neither Place nor Pay ;
 Nor had he ready Cash, at Hand,
 The Tribute to defray.

- 55 The shameful Cross he made his Throne,
And there resign'd his Breath;
The Sepulchre was not his own,
Which held him after Death.
- 56 O who could think this low Disguise
Conceal'd Heaven's glorious LORD,
By Hosts angelic, in the Skies,
Surrounded and ador'd.
- 57 His Throne is Heav'n; his Footstool Earth:
In Robes of Light array'd;
Clouds are his Car; his thundering Voice
Makes all the Earth afraid.
- 58 They best his boundless Riches know
Who live with him, above,
Where Springs of Bliss for ever flow,
And banquet on his Love.
- 59 Immortal Honours, endless Joys,
He for his Saints prepares;
Made, by him, Kings and Priests to God,
His Children and his Heirs.
- 60 His Birth seem'd mean on Earth below;
But Angels, at it, sang;
While all the Firmament around
With heav'nly Music rang.
- 61 The Jews their new-born Prince disown;
But wise-men from afar,
To visit our Redeemer came,
Conducted by a Star.
- 62 No flatt'ring Nobles cring'd around;
But Patients, who apply'd,
Healing for Soul and Body found,
Nor once was one deny'd.

- 63 He made the Dumb his Praises sing ;
The Lame, for Joy, to leap ;
His Word restor'd the Blind to Sight,
And wak'd the Dead from Sleep.
- 64 No armed Guards, nor gaudy Slaves,
His followers were made :
But Health and Sickness, Life and Death,
His potent Word obey'd.
- 65 The cruel Devils, at his Word,
Were forc'd to quit their Prey ;
Death and the Grave confess'd their Lord,
And durst not disobey.
- 66 He not on fine-wrought Carpets trod,
But walk'd upon the Sea ;
Th' obedient Waves confess the GOD,
And the tam'd Winds agree.
- 67 Thousands, repeatedly, were fed,
When Jesus made the Feast ;
He pray'd, and a few Loaves of Bread
Supply'd a full repast.
- 61 Tribute from him when Men demand,
Obedient to his Wish,
The Sea conveys it to his Hand,
And sends it by a Fish.
- 69 Ev'n in his Death his Glory shines ;
The Sun, in black array'd,
Abhors the monstrous Crime, which makes
The trembling Earth afraid.
- 70 Tho' Men, ungrateful and unjust,
His Agonies deride,
The Rocks were rent, the Graves were burst,
When Jesus groan'd and dy'd.
- 71 Boast

- 71 Boast, O devouring Grave, that He
Was once thy Captive made ;
Or, rather, own thy Conqueror,
Who did thy Realms invade.
- 72 The King of Terrors lost his Sting,
When Christ triumphant, rose ;
And now his dying Saints may sing,
And smile at all their Foes.
- 73 To chosen witnesses, he prov'd
His Resurrection clear ;
Their former Cowardice remov'd,
And banish'd all their Fear.
- 74 Endu'd with Power from on high,
They publish'd in his Name,
Pardon for Souls condemn'd to die,
To all where'er they came.
- 75 Unlearn'd before, with ready Skill,
They speak with different Tongues ;
They use no arms, but Faith and Love,
And Patience under Wrongs.
- 76 Their Doctrine they confirm'd by Signs,
Wrought all among their Foes,
And Miracles of Pow'r Divine,
Which no one could oppose.
- 77 Like Sheep amidst a Host of Wolves,
They venture undismay'd :
For GOD they act ; for GOD they bear
The Suff'rings on them laid.
- 78 Their Lives, all holy, well confirm
The Doctrines that they preach ;
Their constant Deaths, as plainly, prove
The blessed Truths they teach.
- 79 And

- 79 And still, by Earth and Hell oppos'd,
These truths maintain their Ground ;
Their blest Effects, from age to age,
By Thousands have been found.
- 16 Satan has vary'd his assaults,
But never could prevail ;
The Church is founded on a Rock,
A Rock which cannot fail.
- 81 The Jews, who, for their Unbelief,
Were scatter'd all abroad,
Are kept from all the World distinct,
And shew the truth of GOD.
- 82 But *Christians* know the sweetest Sign
To prove the Bible true,
Who feel its Energy Divine
Their passions to subdue.
- 82 O that the SPIRIT may impart
This heav'nly Light to me :
That I may feel a soften'd heart,
And GOD's own Glory see.
- 14 My Soul thereon shall daily feed,
Nor Honey taste so sweet ;
Thy Precepts, Lord, my steps shall lead,
Thy Promise be my Meat.
- 85 Thy Statutes here shall be my Song,
While I remain below,
Till I shall join the blissful Throng
Who in thy presence bow.
- 86 For, when my Heart and Flesh shall fail,
Thy Word shall stedfast stand :
Thy Saints, thy faithfulness shall tell
To all th' Angelic Band.