

**ESSAYS, HISTORICAL,
MORAL, POLITICAL,
AND AGRICULTURAL**

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Essays, historical, moral, political, and agricultural by Christopher Manwaring

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CHRISTOPHER MANWARING

**ESSAYS, HISTORICAL,
MORAL, POLITICAL,
AND AGRICULTURAL**

From the author's H.
ESSAYS,
By: B. Barton.
HISTORICAL, MORAL,

POLITICAL

AND

AGRICULTURAL.

"Where '*rational*' liberty is, there is my country."
Franklin.

"In proportion as the structure of a government gives force to publick *opinion*, it is essential that publick opinion should be enlightened."
Washington.

"Reason and free inquiry are the only effectual agents against error."
Jefferson.

BY CHRISTOPHER MANWARING,

OF NEW-LONDON, CONN.

NEW-LONDON :

PRINTED BY SAMUEL GREEN, FOR THE AUTHOR.

1829.

DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT, ss.



BE IT REMEMBERED, That on the thirtieth day of March, in the fifty-third year of the Independence of the United States of America, CHRISTOPHER MANWARING, of the said District, hath deposited in this office the title of a Book, the right whereof he claims as Author, in the words following, to wit :

“ Essays historical, moral, political and agricultural, by Christopher Manwaring, of New-London, Conn.

“ Where ‘*rational*’ liberty is, there is my Country.”—*Franklin*.

“ In proportion as the structure of a government gives force to publick opinion, it is essential that publick opinion should be enlightened.”—*Washington*.

“ Reason and free inquiry are the only effectual agents against error.”—*Jefferson*.

In conformity to the act of Congress of the United States, entitled, “ An act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of Maps, Charts and Books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies, during the times therein mentioned.”— And also to the act entitled, “ An act supplementary to an act, entitled ‘ An act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts, and books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies during the times therein mentioned,’ and extending the benefits thereof to the arts of designing, engraving, and etching historical and other prints.”

CHARLES A. INGERSOLL,

Clerk of the District of Connecticut.

A true copy of Record, examined and sealed by me,

CHARLES A. INGERSOLL,

Clerk of the District of Connecticut.

M35

ADVERTISEMENT.

TO THE PUBLICK.

THE following Essays are extracts from productions, written between the years 1803 and 1825 ; not, however, with a design to the press : but on reviewing, it was thought they might be of *publick utility* ; and in revising, such parts have been selected, as were supposed to be most conducive to that *end*.

When speaking of different religions I have given that of Jesus Christ the preference. When speaking of sects, no distinction has been made. This is not the business of a politician. Indeed, it does not come within his province.

Against having any particular denomination established by law, the author has

taken a decided stand; viewing a national religion a national evil, unless all can agree to the same creed, without coercion.

Perhaps it may be thought, by some, I have borne too hard upon the British nation; but I wish to have it clearly understood, that what is said on this subject is of particular application to the government and administration. As a people I love them: their patriotism, manners, company and language, I prefer to those of any country, excepting my own. To give them their due, the English have carried the arts and sciences to a greater degree of perfection, than any other nation; while the ministry and administration have been tyrannical and oppressive, in the extreme.

The experiment is to be tried, whether the revolutionary principles, as exhibited in the declaration of independence, and the constitution of the United States, *will stand*: they, being the most conducive to the happiness of mankind, have a decid-

ed preference over monarchy and aristocracy. To accomplish the object, it is necessary to resort to *those* principles. It is in this way, and by instilling into the minds of youth ideas of rational liberty, that this best of all forms of government, and its excellent institutions, can be established for the benefit of the present, and from principle, habit, and education descend to succeeding generations.

In the title page, there are sentences selected from the writings of the most distinguished statesmen, that this country ever produced, and who were the most prominent leaders in the American Revolution. It is designed that every page of this work shall accord with the sentiments of these men, presuming that whatever has been written by Franklin and Washington, and approved of by Jefferson, must be deemed politically correct.

Conscious my design is good, I should extremely regret, should publick expectation be disappointed.

THE AUTHOR.

ESSAYS, &c.

ESSAY I.

DISCOVERY AND SETTLEMENT OF AMERICA.

IN the History of *North America*, there are four important periods, namely :

The Discovery.—The Settlement by Europeans.—The Separation from the Mother Country.—And the Establishment of a system of government differing from every other on earth.

So important an event as the first discovery, cannot be viewed as uninteresting ; especially, as the circumstances which led to it, are well calculated to enforce upon mankind the belief that America was the part of the Globe reserved by heaven as the asylum for the oppressed of

all nations. In this event we are forcibly struck with the interposition of Divine Providence, with respect to the discovery and its first settlement by Europeans.

North America was discovered in the year 1492. The reformation by Luther commenced in 1517—so that there is but the difference of twenty five years between the discovery and reformation.

During the long period of one thousand years, previous to the illustrious era of the reformation, the whole world was enveloped in ignorance. A period which has been justly termed by historians, the *dark ages* or the *night of time*. The papal church had extended her dominion throughout christendom—the religion of the gospel was not only corrupted, but the most monstrous absurdities, delusions and cruelties, were introduced and practised. The arrogance, impiety and extravagance of the Priests, could be exceeded only by the ignorance, credulity and blind submission of the *Priest rid-den* People.