



No wise man, at this period, will deny the justice of giving them freedom. To do this in a proper and valuable manner for individuals and society at large, is the important object.

The decorum observed in the African congregation of Philadelphia, does honour to them and their benefactors, who formed and founded that religious society. The school under the care of the minister of that church, who is an African, teaching only those of his own colour, is a specimen of the advancement, that Africans might be brought to, in the useful parts of literature, so intimately connected with their future usefulness and felicity.

The United Brethren, have preserved themselves from the inconveniences, resulting from making their master's kingdom a kingdom of this world, to increase their wealth, and promote wars and discord.

One of their own authors makes the following remark after presenting a brief view of their present constitution. "It will appear evidently from this account, that the constitution of the congregations of the Brethren, is in no wise suited to national churches, or established religions. It would be not only a folly, but highly blameable, if any one proposed, that the constitution of the Brethren, should be introduced, into any national church or religion. The kingdom of Christ would not only not gain any thing, but would certainly suffer much thereby." "The aim of the Brethren is alone directed to this, to further the kingdom of Jesus Christ, to be
" his

"his true and living congregations and to build themselves up to a house of God."

"All the congregations call themselves, the *Unitas Fratrum*, or Protestant United Brethren of the Augustan confession. They receive the holy scriptures of the old and new Testament as the only standard and rule, both of the doctrine and practice of the Unity."

"At a synod held at Marienborn in 1764 the doctrinal articles of the Augustan confession, were drawn up by the Protestant divines, and presented by the Protestant princes at the diet of the empire held at Augsburg, as their confession of faith. He further remarks that at the reformation in England, this confession was used as the ground-work to the thirty-nine articles, as is evident when they are compared, and all the Protestant churches in Germany both Lutheran and Reformed accede to it, so that it contains the doctrinal system of the Protestant churches."

"They have agreed in their synods, that no doctrines shall be delivered in the congregations of the Brethren, which are repugnant to the Augustan confession. Should any teach opposite doctrines, he cannot have or retain the office of a teacher in the Unity."

"It is not their custom to dispute together on any point, on which people of different religious persuasions, so frequently enter into controversies. This arises from a conviction, that such contentions are fruitless, and not because of any prohibition." "They avoid school-wrangling and wars about words, for the sake of the chief point, happiness in Jesus Christ."

As

As Liturgies generally contain a compendium of the faith of those who use them, and curiosity, or some nobler motive, may prompt the reader to examine the Church Litany, as it is called by the Brethren, and is used by them; it is reprinted in this work as follows.*

Lord,	<i>Have mercy upon us!</i>
Christ,	<i>Have mercy upon us!</i>
Lord,	<i>Have mercy upon us!</i>
Christ,	<i>Hear us!</i>

Lord God, our Father, which art in heaven, *Hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them, that trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.*

Ch. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Lord God Son, the Saviour of the world,
Own us to be thine!

Lord

* The petitions printed in *Italics* are prayed by the whole congregation, the rest by the Liturgus. And the *Italic* Initials standing before the lines, are to indicate the following variations in singing: *Ch.* is sung by the Chorus: and *C.* by the Congregation.

Lord God Holy Ghost,
Abide with us forever!

C. *Most holy blessed Trinity,*
We praise thee to eternity!
Amen, Hallelujah;
Hallelujah,
Amen, Hallelujah!

Our Lord Christ Jesus,
Be gracious unto us!

O thou God and Father of the Church,
Prêserve us in thy love!

Thou Searcher of the hearts, God Holy Ghost,
Maintain thy temple in sanctification and honor!

C. *Thou slaughter'd Lamb, our God and Lord!*
To needy pray'rs thine ear afford,
And on us all have mercy!

From all coldness to thy merits and death,
From all error,
From all loss of our glory in thee,
From unhappily becoming great,
From all self-complacency,
From needless perplexity,
From confusions,
From misunderstanding and hypocrisy,
From light-minded or dark fanaticism,
From tumult and sedition,

From

From the murdering spirit and devices of Satan,
From the deceitfulness of sin,
From all sin,

Preserve us, gracious Lord and God!

With thy human birth,
With thy first blood-shedding,
With thy meritorious tears,
With all the troubles of thy life,
With thy great poverty,
With thy having taken upon thee the form of
a servant,
With thy being despised and rejected,
With thy griefs and sorrows, (Isa. liii. 4.)
With thy temptations,
With all the perplexity and anguish of thy soul,
With thy agony and bloody sweat,
With thy being bound, buffeted, and reviled,
With thy scourgings and crown of thorns,
With thy ignominious crucifixion,
With thy sacred wounds,
With thy precious blood,
With thy meritorious death,
With thy coming again to thy Church,
or our being call'd home to thee,
Comfort us, gracious Lord and God!

C. Most holy Lord and God!

Holy Almighty God!

Holy and most merciful Saviour!

Thou eternal God!

Grant that we may never

Lose the comforts from thy death!

Have mercy, O Lord!

With

With all the merits of thy life,
Bless us, gracious Lord and God!

With thy child-like obedience,
With thy diligence at work,
With thy humility, meekness, and patience,
With thy watching and praying,
With thy dying words,
With thy rest in the grave,
With thy victorious resurrection,
With the last days of the Son of Man,
With thy glorious ascension,
With thy sitting at the right hand of God,
With thy powerful intercession,
With thy holy sacraments,
With thy divine presence, (Matt. xxviii. 20.)
Bless us, gracious Lord and God!

We poor sinners pray,

Hear us, gracious Lord and God!

Rule and lead thy holy Christian Church;
Increase the knowledge of the mystery of
Christ, and diminish misapprehensions;
Teach us how to receive those that are weak
in the faith, but not to doubtful disputations;
(Rom. xiv. 1.)
Make the word of the cross universal among
all those, who are called by thy name;
Unite all the children of God in one spirit,
(John xi. 52.)
Abide their only shepherd, high priest, and
Saviour;
Send faithful laborers into thy harvest;
Give

Give spirit and power to preach thy word;
 Preserve unto us the word of reconciliation
 till the end of days,

And through the Holy Ghost daily glorify
 the merits of thy life, sufferings, and death;

That we thy sacraments and word, may to
 our end keep pure, O Lord!

Prevent or destroy all designs and schemes
 of Satan,

Bruise him under our feet, (Rom. xvi. 20.)
 and defend us against his accusation;

For the sake of that peace which we have
 with thee, may we, as much as lieth in us,
 live peaceably with all men, (Rom. xii. 18.
 Heb. xii. 14.)

Grant us, to bless them that curse us,
 And to do good to them that hate us;

Have mercy upon our slanderers and perse-
 cutors, and lay not that sin unto their charge;

Hinder all schisms and scandals;

Put far from thy people all seducers;

Bring back all that have erred, or have been
 seduced;

Grant love and unity to all our congrega-
 tions;

Help us blessedly to execute thy last will;
 (John xvii.)

That we, as Christ's members, be joined
 together in unity, and truly love each other.

Hear us, gracious Lord and God!

Thou light and consolation of all the Gentiles!
 Watch over thy messengers both by land
 and sea;

Accompany

Accompany the word of their testimony,
 concerning thy blood, with spirit and fire;

Bless our congregations gathered from among
 the Heathen,

Preserve them as the apple of thine eye!

*C. From Satan's vile temptations,
 Or lying accusations,,
 Preserve them, gracious Lord and God!*

As thou hast visited the Negroes, Green-
 landers, Indians and Esquimaux, so visit all
 other Heathen;

Hear us, gracious Lord and God!

Ch. O praise the Lord, all ye Heathen!

C. Praise him, all ye nations!

Deliver the people of Israel from their
 blindness,

And bring all nations to the saving knowl-
 edge of thee.

Hear us, gracious Lord and God!

Give to thy people tents to dwell in, and open
 doors to preach thy Gospel,

And set them to thy praise on earth;

Grant all overseers, pastors, and ministers of
 the church, soundness of doctrine and holiness
 of life, and preserve them therein;

Sprinkle all the servants of thy congregation
 with thy blood;

Help all elders to rule well;

I

Keep

Keep our episcopacy precious before thee, to feed the church of God, which thou hast purchased with thine own blood ;

Bless and protect the nursing-fathers and nursing-mothers of thy church, together with their ministers, (Isa. xlix. 23.)

Watch graciously over all kings, princes, and governments ;

Grant and preserve unto them thoughts of peace and concord,

And hear our intercessions for them all ;

[We beseech thee especially, to pour down thy blessings in a plentiful manner upon our gracious Sovereign King *George*, the Queen, the Prince of Wales, and upon all the Royal Family.

Grant, that our King may enjoy a long and happy reign over us, preserve him in thy faith, fear and love, that he may walk before thee as thy servant, and protect thy true religion in these nations ;*]

Guide and protect the magistrates of the land wherein we dwell, and all that are put in authority under them,

That we may lead under them a quiet and peaceable life, in all godliness and honesty !

Hear us, gracious Lord and God !

Teach us to submit ourselves to every ordinance of man for thy sake !

And to seek the peace of the places where we dwell ;

Grant

* To be varied in different countries, according to the nature of their respective governments.

Grant them blessing and prosperity ;

Prevent war, and the effusion of human blood ;

Preserve the land from distress by fire and water, hail and tempest, plague, pestilence, and famine !

Let this earth be like a field which the Lord blesseth ;

Give peace and salvation, O God ! to thy land, and to all orders of men therein !

Hear us, gracious Lord and God !

They that go down to the sea in ships, they see thy wonders !

Bless and protect our brethren and sisters who travel by land or sea.

*C. Command thy Angel, Lord, that he
Watch o'er thy flock by land and sea.*

Care also for the necessities of the church ;
Bless our diaconies ;

Let all things be conducted among us in such a manner, that we provide things honest, not only before God, but also before men ;

Let our commerce and trade be holy unto thee ;

Bless the sweat of the brow, and the faithfulness in handicraft business ;

But let none entangle himself with the affairs of this life ;

Nor let in any labor be perceived the after-taste of sin.

Hear us, gracious Lord and God !

O that