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Saul, An Oratorio
Jennens, Charles

London, 1738

Scene IV.

urn:nbn:de:gbv:45:1-4271

[13]

Sin not, O King, against the Youth,

Who ne'er offended you:

Think, to his Loyalty and Truth

What great Rewards are due!

Think, with what Joy this God-like Man

You saw, that glorious Day!

Think, and with Ruin, if you can,

Such Services repay.

SAUL.

As Great Jehovah lives, I fwear,
The Youth shall not be slain:
Bid him return, and void of Fear
Adorn our Court again.

JONATHAM,

From Cities storm'd, and Battles won,
What Glory can accrue?
By this the Hero best is known;
He can himself subdue.
Wisest and greatest of his Kind,
Who can in Reason's Fetters bind
The Madness of his angry Mind!
Appear, my Friend.

SCENE IV.

Enter DAVID.

Saul. No more imagine Danger:

Be First in our Esteem; with wonted Valour
Repel the Insults of the Philistines:

And, as a Proof of my Sincerity,

(O Hard

[14]

(O Hardness to dissemble!) instantly
Espouse my Daughter Michal.

DAVID.

Your Words, O King, my Loyal Heart
With double Ardor fire:
If God his ufual Aid impart,
Your Foes shall feel what you inspire.
In all the Dangers of the Field,
The Great Jehovah is my Shield.

[Exeunt Dav. and Jon.

Saul. Yes, he shall wed my Daughter! — but how long Shall he enjoy her? — He shall lead my Armies! But have the Philistines no Darts — no Swords, To pierce the Heart of David? — Yes, this once To them I leave him; they shall do me Right!

[Exit.

SCENE V.

DAVID and MICHAL.

Mich. A Father's Will has authoriz'd my Love:

No longer, Michal, then attempt to hide

The Secret of thy Soul. I love thee, David,

And long have lov'd. Thy Virtue was the Caufe;

And that be my Defence.

DOET.

Mich. O Fairest of ten thousand fair, Yet for thy Virtue more admir'd! Thy Words and Actions all declare The Wisdom by thy God inspir'd.

David,