

Mary Gardner 2.
Her Book



Mr. Hall's

Thanksgiving Sermon,

UPON THE

Reduction of CANADA.



MARY GARDNER

Her Book

Israel's Triumph.

It concerns the People of God to celebrate the Divine Praises, according to all his wonderful Works.



A

S E R M O N

Preached at SUTTON

ON A

Publick Thanksgiving,

October 9th. 1760.

For the entire Reduction of

C A N A D A.

ALSO, Delivered afterwards, with some Alteration, at *Hollis, in New-Hampshire*, on a private Thanksgiving, observed there *November* the 20th following, upon the same Occasion.

AND now Published at the repeated Desire of many of the Hearers.

By *David Hall, A. M.*

Pastor of the First Church in Sutton.



Pfal. 93. 2. Thy Throne is established of old. — Thou art from Everlasting. The Floods have lifted up, O Lord, the Floods have lifted up their Voice. — The Lord on high is mightier than the Noise of many Waters. —

Pfal. 92. 4. For Thou Lord hast made me glad, through thy Work : I will triumph in the Works of thy Hands.



B O S T O N :

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A

Thanksgiving Sermon,

F O R T H E

Reduction of *CANADA*.



E X O D. 15. 1.

*-----I will sing unto the Lord, for He
hath triumphed gloriously.-----*

WE have here the pious Resolution of *Moses*, the Man of God, by singing to celebrate the Divine Praise. Singing is a Faculty, implanted by the God of Nature : He hath formed us with a Tongue to sing, as well as with a Mouth to speak. Thus we give vent to the Joys we feel in our Hearts, *Isai. 65. 14. Behold my Servants shall sing for Joy of Heart.*

It is a triumphant Song which *Moses* is here entering upon ; and his Reason is given, *God hath triumphed gloriously.* This is the Way of all the Saints : What God doth for them, they will admire ; and when He leads them to Triumph, they will give all the Praise and Glory to Him. *Psal. 115. 1. Not unto us : Not unto us ; but to thy Name give Glory, for thy Mercy and Truth sake.*

As

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As our Text stands, it will serve as a Preamble to the most wonderful Things. It here points at something observable and extraordinary, as the particular and special Instance of Divine Providence had in View. The Sentence next following our Text, is the Summary, *The Horse and his Rider hath He thrown into the Sea. Pharoah*, with all his Horses and Chariots, had warmly pursued the trembling Tribes : But, happy for them, they were the Seed of *Abraham*, God's Friend, and of *Israel*, whom he had chosen. And when they cried to God, God heard them, and remembered for them his holy Covenant ; and in a very striking and astonishing Manner He saved them from *Pharoah*, and from his Armies, whom God had now cast into the Deeps of Ruin. Upon this Occasion, *Moses* pens this Song : And all *Israel*, who jointly partook of this great Salvation, in harmonious wise conspire to celebrate the Triumph.

AND now, Brethren, we are here present before the Lord this Day, on a like joyful Occasion. Our inveterate, our perfidious and barbarous Enemies, the *French* People of *Canada*, (patronized by their Nation ; noted for Massacres, and famed for shedding the Blood of Protestants ; together with their black and barbarous Tribes of Savages, cruel as the Evening Wolves ;) have conspired to disinherite us ; to cast us out of this good and pleasant Country, given in Possession to our Fathers ; yea, to shed our Blood like Water ; to dash in Pieces the Mother, with the Children ; and as to the Residue, to subject them to Tyranny, Slavery and Misery ; to throw down the Churches of God in the Land ; to take away our Bibles ; & deprive us of all that is dear and sacred : In Sum, to make us a Desolation, that we might forever cease from being a People. We began

began to hear their loud Threats, and in various Instances to feel their Cruelties : We beheld their Rage reaching up to Heaven. To God have we cried in our Troubles, and under our Fears ; and he hath in a wonderful and glorious Manner appeared for our Help : He hath broken their Power ! He hath dashed in Pieces the Enemy ! He hath delivered us from the Hand of them that hated us, and fought our Life ! And finally, He hath subjected them to the *British* Arms, in a surprizing and glorious Manner.

AND NOW, *Brethren*, 'tis as truly the Lord's Doing, as was *Pharoah's* Overthrow ; and it is marvellous in our Eyes, though wrought by natural Means. These are a Part of Jehovah's Ways. Thus, when his People were oppressed by their Enemies in ancient Times, God was wont to raise up Deliverers for them ; as *Gideon*, *Jephthah*, *David*, and others. And such an one, eminently, was *Moses* in *Egypt*. Salvation has been effected for the People of God, in a Variety of Ways and by a Variety of Instruments : But is ever through the Agency of the same divine and superintending Being, who improves, directs, and succeeds Instruments as He thinks proper. The same God who saved by *Moses*, saved also by *Gideon* and others ; tho' at the Red-Sea the Way and the Manner was wholly miraculous ; whereas God usually in the succeeding Ages wrought for his People in a natural Way ; and instead of wielding the Waters of the Sea, has been wont to wield the Sword in the Hands of his Servants, to rid his People from the Power of their Enemies.

HERE then we find *Israel's* God working Wonders for them at the Red-Sea, by the Hand of *Moses* : For God had said, *I have surely seen the Affliction of*
of

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*of my People which are in Egypt, and am come down to deliver them.** Now when this Work of God, in their Favour, was compleated, *Moses* utters this Song.

IN like Manner upon so glorious an Event, the Subject of this Day's Exercise—An Event so wished for, prayed for, and pursued, as of the vastest Consequence to the present, and future Ages : An Event wherein the Finger of God is so clearly seen, and the Brightness of his Power, tho' wrought by natural Means : You may perceive the Suitableness and Propriety of assuming the Words of that Man of God, as here in our Text ; and upon this joyful Occasion, that we all conspire to celebrate the high Praises of our God, who hath wrought such Wonders for our Help.

MOREOVER, as *Israel* in their Song to the Lord, mention their particular Matter of Thanksgiving and Praise, in like Manner have we to consider all the moving Circumstances of this Day's Triumph, in Honour of the same Almighty Helper, who delivers us from the Hand of our Enemies, that we might serve Him in Righteousness and Holiness all the Days of our Lives.

WE have this Point of Doctrine before us, as resulting from the Text.

THAT, when God delivers his People from the Pressure of their Enemies, it is their Duty to celebrate his Praise ; and to ascribe the Glory and the Victory, and all the moving Circumstances of their Triumph, to Him.

* Exod. 3. 7, 8

So did *Moses*, and his Song sweetly founded thro' the Armies of *Israel*. The female Company also echoed back the solemn Matter of Joy, and Triumph, *Ver. 20. 21.* And *Miriam* the Propbetess, the Sister of *Aaron*, took a *Timbrel* in her Hand; and all the Women went out after her, with *Timbrels* and with *Dances*. And *Miriam* answered them, Sing ye to the Lord, for He hath triumphed gloriously.

HERE are two Things I have in View in discoursing from this Point. In the first Place, To consider how the divine Praise on such joyful Occasion, is to be celebrated by a religious People. And then I mean to assign some special Reasons for doing this.

THE first Thing, then, will be to consider, How, and in what Manner a religious People are, on such Occasion, to solemnize the Divine Praise. And in pursuance of this Point, as I pass along, I shall make some mention of the special Matter and Circumstances of our present Rejoicings.

AND here—that we may this Day, and in this joyful Situation, suitably solemnize the Divine Praise, it is exceedingly seemly—

1st, THAT we devoutly mention our Relation to God; and express our Exults and Glorifying in the Honours and Priviledges of it. Every Nation will walk in the Name of their God. Such as bow down to the Stock of a Tree, pay it Homage, and stupidly glory in their senseless Idol. I was assured by one that saw it, That when *Ticonderoga* the last Year was taken by our Forces, on a great Cross at the Gate of their Fort; and where passing they worshipped; there was found engraven'd in Latin, upon a Plate of Brass or Copper, part of the 33^d Psalm, * *Make their Nobles like Oreb and Zeeb:*

B

Yea

* *Pone Principes eorum, &c.*

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Yea all their Princes as Zeba, and as Zalmuna, &c. Now, had they gained their Purposes, and obtained their Will upon our Nobles and Armies, according to this Prayer which they had put up, how had they praised their Royal Cross, and done Homage before their grand Idols? Like them, *Dan. 5. 23. They praised their Gods of Silver and Gold, Wood and Stone.* But then, our Rock is not as their Rock; and should not we much more acknowledge, adore and worship before our God, and the God of our Fathers, who is the only living and true God? — How doth *Moses* and *Israel* here exult in the Name of their God? *Ver. 2d. The Lord is my Strength and my Song, and he is become my Salvation. My God, and I will prepare him an Habitation; my Fathers God, and I will exalt him.* And *Ver. 11. Who is like unto Thee, O Lord, amongst the Gods? Who is like Thee, glorious in Holiness, fearful in Praises, doing Wonders.* GOD is great, and greatly to be praised by his People: And it becomes them to acknowledge his Greatness and his Goodness; and to express their deep Sense of it: And more especially to do so when He appears for their Help, in a remarkable Manner. *Isai. 25. 9. And it shall be said in that Day, Lo this is our God; We have waited for him, and he will save us: This is the Lord, we have waited for him; we will be glad, and rejoice in his Salvation.* In like Manner the pious Psalmist, *Psal. 118. 27, 28. God is the Lord, which hath shewed us Light: Bind the Sacrifice with Cords, even to the Horns of the Altar. Thou art my God, and I will praise thee; Thou art my God, I will exalt thee.*

2dly. It is fitting a religious People should ascribe to God the particular Acts, which his benign and tender Providence hath ordered out unto them.

Moses

for the Reduction of CANADA. II

Moses in his Song is very full of this, as *Ver. 3d. 4th, 6th. The Lord is a Man of War : The Lord is his Name. Pharoah's Chariot and his Host hath be cast into the Sea. Thy right Hand, O Lord, is become glorious in Power : Thy right Hand, O Lord, hath dashed in Pieces the Enemy.* And thus we find David (who was an Israelite indeed, and whom God exalted to the Kingdom over his People) in the most warm and elevated Strains, praising God, and ascribing to Him all the Glory of his Successes *. In numberless Psalms his Saints have made his Praise glorious, tho' frequently non-plus'd, and swallowed up with Views of the Divine Power and Glory : Hence that *Psal. 106. 2. Who can utter the mighty Acts of the Lord ? Who can shew forth all his Praise ?*

Now Brethren, we have this Day to celebrate the like wonderful Mercies. And allow me here to suggest, That our Colonies, in many Respects, bear a very high Resemblance to the Tribes of *Israel*. No People under Heaven, I believe, have been attended with so many similar Circumstances.

OUR Fathers left their native Country in a Time of great Oppression. What they had in View was to set up God's Worship in the Purity of it. They pass the Sea—They enter the Wilderness—God removeth the Heavens before them ; and his Temple is set up where Satan's Seat was. In order to all this, God often appeared for them, and remarkably helped them. A Scene of Wonders open in the History of our Fathers ; how God in *New-England's* Infancy, dandled them upon the Knees of his indulgent Providence : And I hope, with good Grounds, it may be said, that God hath ever since owned us to be his People. Yet many a Time have our Sins procured Correction ; and God hath

* See Psalm 18.

often suffered our Enemies to afflict us.—Our Enemies, who for our Religion have abhorred us, and fought our Destruction. And it is now some Time since their Malice hath arose to the highest Pitch of Revenges : Their Pit been made deep which they digged ; and all their Plans became pregnant with Ruin.

BEFORE the last War they made an open Shew of their Perfidy, and of the most murderous Designs, in destroying *Canso* to the East of us, in Time of Peace ; and when, at the same Time, as a late Author assures us, * the Bishop of *Quebec* sent Orders to the French People of *Nova-Scotia*, absolving them from their Oath of Neutrality ; and to the Intent they might fall upon all the English in those Parts, and murder them.

We had but a short Breathing between the last, and the present War : Which now to the Southward of us, was perfidiously opened in the most shocking Scenes of Slaughter and Blood. The French Incendiaries pushing forward, hiring and aiding their bloody Tribes of Savages, on the Borders of *Maryland*, *Pennsylvania*, and the Parts adjacent : Where, in a Time of Peace, and from their covetuous, malicious and murderous Principles, they attacked our People ; murdered vast Numbers, old and young, male and female ; burnt and ravaged their Settlements : Captivated many ; some of which they tortured and treated with the most savage Cruelty. Thus they barbarously laid waste the Borders of our neighbouring Colonies, for two or three Hundred Miles together. And what would they not have done, were it in their Power ? And had not that God by whom Kings reign, made

* A late Piece, entitled, “ The Present State of NORTH-AMERICA.

made the Heart of our King and his Nobles tender towards us ; and rouz'd the British Lion for our Help. Reprizals now made ; and their Fleets being every where in Danger ; *Canada* fail'd of those numerous Troops they expected from their Mother-Country ; and the Plan laid for our Ruin, has hence proved abortive.

THE paternal Care of the best of Kings hath been most conspicuous in the Times of our Distress ; to whom we owe the sincerest Gratitude, Loyalty, and Love. Generals have been raised up excellently qualified to head our Forces ; and Warriors, whose Faces were as Lions. Our Hearts may well be towards them, in very grateful Regards, who came from far to jeopard their Lives in the War ; and have wrought with God. Our Heart also is towards our *American* Sons of *Zebulon*, who offered themselves willingly, from Year to Year ; and on sundry Occasions have been honoured as Instruments of checking the Pride of the Enemy, and of stopping the Progress of their Arms. God owned and crowned their Effays in the Province of *Nova-Scotia* Five Years ago ; and also at Lake *George*, where the French General *Dieckau*, with a considerable Army, sustained a very signal Defeat by their Valour : And two Years ago, the Reduction of *Frontinac* was mostly by their Means.

BUT then as the Heart of Kings and of all Men are in the Hands of the Lord, so neither Prince nor People can be more to us, than God gives them to be. It is the great God hath given Vigour and Success to our Armaments. It is the Lord of Hosts that hath rid forth upon the Heavens for our Help, and in his Excellency upon the Skies : Hence our Enemies have been made weak ; and our Warriors now tread upon their High Places, with Laurels of Victory.

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Victory. Therefore in the Name of our God we will set up our Banners ; for through Him our Armies have done valiantly. Praise ye the Lord.

WHAT could not our Enemies do ? 'til our God arose to take our Part against them. *Braddock*, famous at Arms, received a disastrous Foil ! While *Jacob's* God with-held his Help. Our Forces at *Oswego* were driven as Sheep ; the Scorn of their Vanquishers ! — Fort *William-Henry* was battered and taken. — *Amos* 7. 2. *By whom shall Jacob rise, for he is small ?* — — Nevertheless the Perfidy of our Enemy there was odious to God : And their cruel Carnage after our surrender, unsufferable. And the great God now arose for our Help, to take our Part, against them that destroyed us, and to punish them for all their Cruelties. Indeed it was after this that we again suffered the Divine Rebuke at *Ticonderoga*. — There fell the invaluable Lord *Howe*, which clouded that Day's Glory, and was followed with a heavy Slaughter of our mighty Ones. —

HOWEVER, the Enemies Triumphant was but short : An emphatical Check soon attending them at *Oswego* ; where they sustain the Loss of *Frontenac*, by Means of an alert, but very small Number of our Forces, to their vast Loss of Baggage and Stores. And the great God now causeth the bright Light of Success to arise in the East ; which since extending to the West, with a prevailing Lustre, hath replenished our *New-England* with its Glory.

GOD now sends us Generals, Instruments whom he will own : — An *Amberst*, wise and valorous ; who, with the Sedateness of an Angel, holds the Reins as with a double Bridle, while the red Horse moveth forward ; and the furious Blasts of War roars with raging Destruction : — And a *Wolfe*, brave and heroick ; resolute and undaunted ; in Battle rapid

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rapid as the Whirlwind ; — yet in his Trust, to the last, firm as a Rock ; who feared not the threatening Battalions of *France*, in their most formidable Array ; their black Wings, nor bloody Heraldry. *

By These God first gives us the Key of their Country, *Cape-Breton* : And then unlocks the Iron Gates of *Quebec*. — And tho' the latter of these Worthies dies without her Walls, his Memory is embalmed with sweet Odours : And none of *New-England's* Sons will cease to bless God for what was wrought through his bold Adventures.

AND NOW, O *Louisbourg* ! How art thou fallen ? Thy lofty Walls are confounded, and thy strong Barrs are broken ! Thy Fate, like the ancient *Jericho*, is to be built no more for ever.

O *QUEBEC*, thou *Queen* of the North ! cast out thy perfidious and corrupt Episcopacy ; and cleanse thyself from the Mother of Harlots : Thy Builders have been made weak thro' her Crimes ; and are fallen thro' her Abominations : In vain have they relied upon their Numbers, seeing the Lord hath rejected her. Our God shall possess the City.

BUT this Day's Triumph is eminently on Account of the more full and compleat Conquest of *CANADA* ; upon the Surrender of *Montreal* to the British Arms, which was on the Eighth Day of last September. — This has been the Enemies dernier Resort since the Reduction of *Quebec* ; but now the English Flag is there flying, *Amberst* and his Army in full Possession of the City.

THIS is the Day which the Lord hath made ! that we might be glad and rejoice therein ||. — 'Tis the
the

* The Savages on each Wing of their Army, whom they often suffered to act the most bloody Scenes of Cruelty. upon such as fell into their Hands.

|| Psalm 118.

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the Day which both our Fathers and we have desired to see ; have wished for, and prayed for :—The Day which our Heroes,—which our Mother-Country,—which our gracious King ;—and, what is more,—which our good God hath blessed us with :—That we might rejoice in its chearful Light.—Hail then the happy Day !—And supream Thanks to that God, whose right Hand hath given us the Victory. Many other strong Holds have been reduced during these Scenes of glorious Successes ; which, were they particularly mentioned, would exceed the Limits of a Sermon. May our English Victors dignify them with better Names : And God grant they may be improved to better Purposes : That the Sanctuary of our God may have Place therein, and his golden Candlesticks shine within their Gates.

A VAST and fertile Country is now subjected to the *British* Sovereignty ; if our Ingratitude and Crimes do not provoke God to deprive us of the joyful Prospects : May it prove a happy Seat of the Redeemer's Kingdom, whose Dominion shall never have an end.—And the Lord hasten the Day when the Gospel shall run and be glorified ; that it may prevail from the East to the Western Ocean ; and from the Rivers to the utmost Limits of our *North-America*.

BELOVED, You see we are this Day placed on elevated Ground. We are called to consider God's Hand of Power in subduing our Enemies : He hath broken in upon them like a Flood ! In some fort we may assume, and say as *Moses*, *The Horse and his Rider hath He thrown into the midst of the Sea !* And thus God will before long demolish mystical Babylon ; and as a Mill-Stone she shall sink and rise no more forever. * Amen. The Lord hasten his Word to accomplish it.

BUT

* Rev. 18. 21.

BUT are we now on elevated Ground? Be we watchful, be we humble, and be we reformed: O-therwise, as fair a Day as we now have of it, it may quick shut down for a Storm, and be attended with Massacres and Slaughters. *The Foot of Pride standeth in a slippery Place, and shall slide in due Time* *.

3dly. It is fitting on such a Day, and in such joyful Situation, that all the Triumph be ascribed to God. Saith our Text, *Thou hast triumphed gloriously*. Far away let be all Self-glorying: Far away let be all Ascription to the Creature; as if by Might that is human we had done this: Nay; *But let him that glorieth glory in the Lord*. † The Lord hath fulfilled his own Purposes: He hath done that which seemed good in his Sight. Our Eyes are strangely holden, if we see not the Brightness and Glory of the divine Presence in these wonderful Events. When God, by the Hand of *Gideon*, would save *Israel* from *Midian*, in a Way that should secure the Glory to Himself, *He suffers but a few Men to go with him*. †

It looks beyond the reach of Chivalry what our English Hero assay'd when *Quebec* was taken the last Year.—For so small a Number, and under such Disadvantages, to engage against an Army so vastly more numerous; and when they should retire under the Cannon of their City, or betake themselves within the Walls to defend it; to think to carry all by Storm, seem too much, humanly viewing Things, to imagine. But as the Lord would deliver them the City in such a Way and Manner as might evidently manifest his own glorious Power therein; so He excites and crowns the Assay. This General had said, that a victorious Army find§ no Difficulties:§

C

And

* Deut. 32. 35. † 1 Cor. 1. 31. † Judges 7. 4.

§ In his Letter to Mr. PITT, printed here Feb. 7. 1760.

And so it proved : — The happy Conqueror surmounting what, to Appearance, was insuperable.— And tho' he dies, it is in the Bed of Honour ; 'twas on the Borders of Triumph. And blessed be God, who did not leave our Army void of valiant Chiefs, when our Hero fell. And exalted be the Lord our Rock, who lives forever, to be our Refuge. Thro' his Strength our Army took the Field, and won the Day ;—vanquishing the Enemy. “ O Lord, at thy Rebuke they fled : At the Voice of thy Thunder they hasted away. * At the Light of thine Arrows they went ; and at the shining of thy glittering Spear. Thou didst march thro' the Land in Indignation : Thou didst thresh the Heathen in Anger. Thou wentest forth for the Salvation of thy People.” † So Context, *Ver.* 9, 10.—A Threatning *Pharaoh* must feel what Almightyness can do.— “ The Enemy said, I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the Spoil : My Lust shall be satisfied upon them : I will draw my Sword, my Hand shall destroy them. Thou didst blow with thy Wind ; the Sea covered them : They sunk as Lead in the mighty Waters.

MOREOVER, The same superintending Being, who hath inspired our Forces with uncommon Resolution, hath at the same Time intimidated and disheartned our Enemies. They might to all human Appearance have recovered the City, had ordinary Boldness and Courage attended them, in that Day of God's Rebuke, when nigh a third Part of our fighting Men there, in one Battle, were cut off. The Lord hath both given us, and kept the City for us ; or in that hazardous Situation the last Spring, *Quebec* had ceased to be our's. In which Case it is scarcely probable our Forces had recovered it this War.

* Psa. 104. 7. † Habak. 3. 11, 12, 13.

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War. The Hand of Heaven is to be acknowledged in that Instance, in which the following Successes much depended.

“ How did thine Arm O God of Hosts ?

“ How did thine Arm shine wond’rous bright ?

“ Their Men of Might had left their Hands,

“ And Men of Blood forgot to fight ! * . .

ONCE more, The closing Enterprize, (which God hath so crowned, in the Reduction of *Mont-Real*, by which Means the Conquest of *Canada* is made perfect.) The Attempt was bold : And as it was their last Resort, it threatned much Blood : The Enemies Tameness was probably from their Fears : The Terrors of God were upon them, perceiving the Lord had fought for our Armies. And this affords us Matter of more glorying in God, that this City was gained with so little Bloodshed.

4thly. ANOTHER Thing I have to observe to you is this, That as to this Day’s Rejoicing, the Manner of it must be spiritual, which is the reverse of carnal Joy. Carnal Joy is what has in View the Fulfilment of the Inclination and Desires of the Flesh. From this View an ungodly World rejoiceth in their outward Acquisitions : They are pleased with the Prospect of Wealth and Ease, and the Indulgence of their Lusts, And there is still a more evil Kind of Rejoicing, which is, in the Devastation and Ruin of our Enemy, simply considered : Which is a kind of drinking of their Blood. If God hath for their Sins cast out our Enemies, and destroyed them before us, we must beware we do not rejoice in the Work of his Judgment, as such considered. But carefully distinguish between the Work of God, as necessary to our Preservation, our Religion, our

Lives,

* Dr. Watts’s *Hor. Lyr.*

Lives, and all that is dear to us : And as it is a Work of Judgment, making miserable any of our Fellow-Men ; our blessed Master hath taught us to love our Enemies ; and surely then we may not rejoice in their Ruin simply considered.

AND there is one Thing may very properly come into our Thoughts ; namely, that this Overturning of their Government may prove of the most unspeakable Advantage to them : The pure Gospel by this Means coming to their Knowledge ; which in *St. Paul's* Esteem, over-ballances every Thing. This we should wish for, pray for, and endeavour, from that sincere Love we owe to all Men, even to our Enemies. But that spiritual Joy, which must qualify this Day's Rejoicing, to speak positively to the Point, hath God and his helping Hand for its Object, affording us Relief under our Sorrows, and performing a Work which his own Glory and our Good was concerned in, so far as we can apprehend.

To add no more : Our Rejoicing this Day before the Lord cannot end happily, unless it be attended with the most devout Purposes, that we will forever cleave to him in the Way of our Duty. We have seen his Wonders in our Favour ; it will now concern us to praise him in the whole future Tenor of our Life. In order whereto, it now becomes us most sincerely and believingly to give up ourselves to him to be his People : That we may happily, and by well grounded Experience, know that important Truth, *Rom. 2. 4. The Goodness of God leadeth unto Repentance.*

And thus we have considered, How the Divine Praise, on such joyful Occasions, is to be celebrated by a religious People.

II. The second Thing proposed is, To mention some Reasons for doing this, which I mean to do very briefly ; and then to shut up my Discourse.

Now when God helpeth his People from under the Pressure of their Enemies, that they conspire to celebrate his Praise is a most reasonable Duty. All Praise is due to God on Account of his glorious Perfections. All the Angels of Light are incessantly employed in his Praises ; and yet they fall infinitely short of the Glory that is his Due. Feeble then must be our utmost Attempts : But 'tis just and reasonable that Men should make Assays to the utmost of their Power to join the Hosts above, in ascribing Salvation to our God. Have we tasted his Love ? Yea, hath he put such an extraordinary Cup of Salvation into our Hands, and shall we not praise and thank Him for it ?

We have deserved the heaviest Rebukes, for various, heinous and numberless have been our Provocations : But God hath not dealt with us after our Iniquities. Now when He hath saved us from deserved and threatned Evils, crowned us with admirable Successes, and enlarged our Hopes of great Tranquility, our Souls should bless Him, and our Lips and Lives praise Him, as a most reasonable Return. In Creation we were made for his Glory : Redemption doubles the Duty : And every Mercy increaseth the Obligation. Cheerfully then should we arise to this our so great Benefactor, and pay Him all Reverence, together with the most solemn Thanks and Praises : And from the most grateful Considerations to fix our Resolves, henceforward to be his devoted Servants. This is Nature's Voice, *Psal. 97. 1. The Lord is King : The Earth may be glad thereof : Yea, the Multitude of the Isles may be glad thereof.*

AGAIN

AGAIN : It is the only fit Return we can make to God, and therefore a concerning Duty. The God of Salvation hath directed his People to call upon Him in the Day of Trouble ; and upon deliverance, that they should glorify Him. Now his Word tells us, *to offer Praise is to glorify Him* *.— That we should *chant forth the Honour of his Name* : That we should *worship : Sing unto Him ; and make a joyful Noise unto God*.† And this is the only proper Return we can make for his infinite Benefits : For all created Being is His ; and all possible Being is within the Compass of his Power.

ONCE more, It may be recommended, as the most sweet and pleasant Exercise. The Saints are joyful in Glory, while they abundantly utter the Memory of his great Goodness. *They make a joyful Noise when they sing his Praises ; they shout aloud upon their Beds.* ‡

And what shall I say ? 'Tis Heaven's Employ : It is Angels Triumph : The blissful Realms are fill'd with extatic Raptures, while they shout their Hallelujahs, and sing the Song of Moles and of the Lamb. And nothing this Side Heaven can so refresh the Souls of God's People, under a warming Sense of God's Mercies, as to vent their unbounded Joys in Hallelujahs and Songs of Praise. The Spirit of Christ in them is a Spirit of Glorifying : And in their militant state, a Sense of his watchful Eye, protecting Arm, and helping Hand, and the punctual Performance of his Word, in the Salvation of his People, in every Period of the Church ; as he goeth on to open still brighter Scenes in their Favour, and thereby brightens their Joy : So doth He, in due Proportion, fill them with Love and Praises, and ripens them for Heaven.

To

* Psal. 58. 23. † Psal. 66. 1, 2. ‡ Psal. 149.

To close my Discourse, Let us take to our Hearts what God hath wrought : And be we filled with the most devout Raptures of Thanksgiving and Praise. Let the Divine Goodness melt down our Hearts, and lead us to the most steady Practice of Gratitude. God hath heard our Supplications, and for this shall not our Resolves be, that we will call upon Him as long as we live ?

LET us bless God that we are under a Protestant Government, which God hath so signally owned ; and so wonderfully protected : And let us fervently pray down a Blessing on the Protestant Establishment.

LET us praise God who hath set our Affairs under so wise, powerful and faithful an Administration ; and who hath so evidently been with our Armies, spirited them with Valour, guarded them with Strength, and crowned them with Success.

“ ZION heard and was glad, the Daughters of Judah rejoiced, because of thy Judgments, O Lord.* “ It is the Lord that hath founded Zion.” † “ Tis the Lord that preserveth the burning Bush from being consumed : — That checks the Rage of the Heathen. — Wisdom and Strength are his.” — “ Praise ye the Lord, all ye his People ; sing unto the Lord, and bless his Name. † ”

“ Praise Him, ye Ancients of the Land. } †

“ Praise Him, ye young Men and Maidens. } †

“ Praise Him, ye Babes and Sucklings.” } †

“ Let the Fields be joyful, and all that is therein. — Then shall all the Trees of the Wood rejoice.” —

“ Yea, § Let the Heavens rejoice, and let the Earth be glad : Let the Sea roar and the Fulness thereof, and universal Nature echo to our Song before the Lord, for He cometh, for He cometh, to judge the

* Ps. 97. 8. † Isai. 14. 32. † Ps. 96. 2. † Ps. 145.

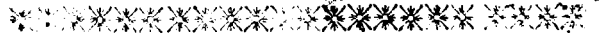
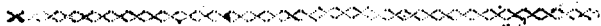
§ Ps. 96. 11, 12, 13, —

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the Earth : He shall judge the World, in Righteousness, and the People with his Truth.

FINALLY, May the Lord strengthen what He hath wrought for us, and establish us before Him as his People forever.

AND now to the King eternal, immortal and invisible, the only wise God, be all Honour, Glory, Thanksgiving and Praise ascribed, henceforth and forever. AMEN.



F I N I S.

