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Mr. Prince's

SERMON

On the taking of

CAPE-BRETON.
Extraordinary Events the Doings of God, and marvellous in pious Eyes.

Illustrated

In a

SERMON

At the

South Church in Boston, N. E.

On the

General Thanksgiving,

Thursday, July 18. 1745.

Occasion'd

By taking the City of Louisbourg on the Isle of Cape-Breton, by New-England Soldiers, assisted by a British Squadron.

The Second Edition in N. E. with some Additions.

By Thomas Prince, M. A.

And a Pastor of the said Church.

Psal. xcviii. 1, 2, O sing unto the Lord a new Song, for He hath done marvellous Things: His right Hand, and his holy Arm hath gotten him the Victory: The Lord hath made known his Salvation, his Righteousness hath he openly shewed in the Sight of the Heathen.

BOSTON:

Printed for D. Henchman in Cornhill. 1747.
To His Excellency

William Shirley, Esq;

Captain General and Governour in Chief, in and over His Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts-Bay in New-England, and Vice Admiral of the fame:

Our Excellency being, under the Divine Conduct, the principal Former and Promoter of the prosperous Expedition to Cape-Breton; of
DEDICATION.

of such vast Importance to the Trade, Wealth, and Power of Great-Britain, as well as Safety of Her American Colonies; and so much to the Glory wherewith GOD has crown'd His MAJESTY's happy Reign: The following SERMON is, in Gratitude and Justice, with all Submission, DEDICATED--

By

Your EXCELLENCY's

Most obliged,

Obedient

Humble Servant,

Thomas Prince.
To the
Power of
Safety of
and so
herewith
MAJES-
follow-
itude and
THO.

A

THANKSGIVING

SERMON.

PSAL. cxviii. 23.

This is the Lord's Doing! It is marvellous in our Eyes!

I THOU T any Reference to the prime and particular View of the Words; I shall now only observe and briefly clear the General Truth represented in them, and then apply it to the Special Occasion of the joyous Solemnity of the present Day.

For, the General Truth exhibited in the Text is this—that some extraordinary Events, without being properly term'd miraculous, have such lively Characters of their being the Doings of God, as they are evidently so to unprejudic'd and careful Observers, and appear marvellous in their pious Eyes.

By some extraordinary Events; I mean, some remarkable Ones in the natural and moral World, even in the present Ages as well as the former, which greatly affect humane Societies.
cieties or particular Persons, especially the People of God; and these Events connected with the various Means and Causes leading to them.

By Events not properly term'd miraculous; I mean, when God does not appear to work on his Creatures in a Manner contrary to the usual Ways of his Working, singly in themselves consider'd.

And by their having such lively Characters of their being the Doings of God, as they are evidently so to unprejudic'd and careful Observers; I mean, these Characters are distinguishingly bright and legible to such qualified Persons: Or if they are inadvertent, or under a Prejudice; they are not like to see them to be the Doings of God, much less admire them in a pious Manner, or yield him the Glory of them. See Psal. lxiv. 9, 10. cvii. 42, 43. xcii. 4.-6.

But to clear this Truth, we must consider these three General Heads, as the Time allows—

1. In what Manner may the sovereign God be said to operate usually among his Creatures.

2. When have his providential Operations such lively Characters of their being his Doings.

3. The pious Admirements they should raise up in us, and which they happily raise if we are duly disposed.

1. In what Manner may the sovereign God be said to operate usually among his Creatures.

And here we must needs observe; that as there are three Sorts of Creatures or created Substances, viz. Corporeal, Spiritual, and Compos'd of Both; so there is a different Sort of Operation of God upon and among them.

1. In his Operation on meerly corporeal or material Substances ---He not only by his continual Influence, preserves them in their Being, Nature or essentinal Properties of Solidity, Extension, &c., which he has been pleas'd to give them; but to this Influence he also seems to add his further usual Operation in these three different Manners, viz.
for the taking of Cape-Breton.

(1) In continually causing all material Substances to incline towards each other, in regular Proportions to their Quantities and Distances: Which is commonly called the Law or Power of Attraction or Gravity: Without which there would be no Rain nor Dew, nor flowing of Rivers, nor Pressure of Air into the Lungs of Animals; and if withheld, every breathing Creature would immediately die: On which Account, as well as others, the Apostle justly says of God in Acts xvii. 25, 27. He giveth Life and Breath to all; and in Him we live and move, and have our Being: For in the Pressure of Gravity, this Omnipresent Agent really presses every Breath into us.

(2) When they come to a certain Nearness, he by a contrary Operation moves them, in regular Proportions also, to fly off: Which is commonly called the Law or Power of Repulsion: Without which all material Substances on Earth would soon unite in one solid Body.

(3) When they are forced within a certain Nearness, he by a different Operation makes them move and join together in certain Degrees of Power: Which is commonly called the Law or Power of Cohesion: Without which there would be no such Thing as Union or Coherence in material Substances.

And these are called the three prime and general Laws of Nature in the material World; whereby he chiefly appears to govern it. But yet it is most evident, that he confines not himself to these: For he plainly operates in divers other Manners on the Planets, Comets, Rays of Light; as also in the Cases of Electricity, Magnetism, Cold, Heat, &c. Which are to many various Ways of his Operation, needful for the Schemes of Providence, and the blessing and chastising of the World. and all to great and important Accommodations shall have to And in the different Proportions of all the various Powers and Actions abovementioned, there is no Doubt amazing Wisdom; which I leave the Learned of Leisure, to consider.

To which we must likewise add, that for the perfect Government of all Things here below, in a due Accommodation between the material and the moral World; for the Latter of which the former is made, preserved and governed;—It is doubtles
doubles needful, that the absolutely sovereign, wise and omnipresent LORD, Proprietor, and Ruler of all, should reserve himself of the just Liberty, either mediately by brutal Animals, Men or Angels; or where their Powers are insufficient to answer his wife, Designs; by his immediate Influence, (which the unseen by Men may be seen by Angels,) to move and order all material Substances this way or the other, as He sees best for Himself.

And it seems absurd, that the infinite God, who is absolute and all-original, Life and Power, should constantly afford to Angels and Men, yea to the most minute Animacula, the Power of moving material Substances even contrary to the aforesaid Laws of Nature, every Moment; yea that he should be continually making Millions of Animals with such a Power as this; and yet confine himself from doing as much as they by his immediate Power. Thus, for Instance, he now affords me by a single Breath the Power of moving Millions of Atoms upwards against the Laws of Gravity: And can we imagine that this great and universal Agent has confined himself from doing as much upon all Occasions, by his immediate power, secret Influence? Or even infinitely more than this. As in raising, turning, allaying Winds and Seas, and numberless other Operations, where other Powers, inferior to his are insufficient to compass his Designs.

So, in Scripture, the vast Variety of Winds and Seas, of Clouds and Vapours, Snowy, Fire, Hail, and Rainy, Cold and Heat, and other material Substances, are represented continually directed by him, to fulfill his Pleasures. See Job, xxxvi., xxxvii., xxxviii., Psl. lxv., cxvii., cxviii., etc.

Nor may this be accounted properly miraculous. For 'twould be strange indeed that the huge Leviathan should by a Power derived from him, throw up a Cloud of Water into the Air; or even the most minute Animacula, by the Pad of a Fin, in a Moment, raise up Millions of watery Particles against the Laws of Gravity, without a Miracle. And yet for the great God to raise up a single Atom by his immediate Power, should be esteemed a Miracle. And as long as these are the usual, tho' the immediate Operations of Grace, they are no more miraculous than his immediate Imposition of Gravity on material Substances, or on any primary Substances, whereby this Imposition may be made on others.

2. In
2. In his Operation on Substances purely spiritual—He not only by his continual Influence preserves them in their distinguish Existance, Nature or essential Properties of Life, and Powers of Perceiving, Thinking, voluntary Motion, &c., he has been pleas'd to give them; but to this Influence He also seems to add his further usual Operations in these three Ways.

(1) By producing and continuing secret, inward Bents or Dispositions in them; as the holy Bents of holy Angels, and holy Souls departed, &c.

(2) By rising and continuing Ideas in their Imaginations, Memories and Understandings; as also impressing them with various Perceptions of Delight or Trouble: Whereby he chiefly seems to rule the moral World. So he continually gives the Millions of holy Angels his Directions; And they are constantly attending to him, and in every Part of the Universe accomplishing his Orders. And so he makes the holy Angels happy with Perceptions of pure Delight; and the sinful Angels wretched with Perceptions of Aniety.

(3) By awakening, sharpening, strengthening, guiding their intellectual Powers, to conceive and penetrate, compare, distinguishing and judge of Things, and contrive and form their Schemes; and by exciting their Pursuits: Whereby he secretly and wonderfully governs in the midst of numberless Contingencies among the Creatures.

And then,

3. With Respect to Creatures Compos'd of Substances both Corporal and Spiritual, as brutal Animals and Men; his Operations on them may be of all the various Kinds together, according to their several Natures and Capacities, we have in brief described; besides uniting them, keeping them united, and some peculiar Impressions of Pleasure, Pain, &c, suitable to their mystical Union.

And it seems highly reasonable to think, that where the Powers of inferior Creatures suffice not to accomplish his Designs, he employs the higher, or both together. And where they are all insufficient, He puts forth his Power above them; makes them instrumental as far as may be, and then acts by his own superior Influence.
As to brutal Animals---they no doubt receive their various Instincts from him: And he may by Angels often give them Ideas and rule them.

And as to Man---He no doubt inspires their various Geniuses; As also frequently, if not continually, uses Angels, the Holy by Permission, the Holy by Command, to suggest Ideas to them; and then uses them to suggest Ideas to one another: Which are instrumental Causes under his permissive, controlling and directive Influence, of numerous Passions, Appetites, Consultations, Projects, Resolutions, Actions and Events. He awakens, sharpens, strengthens, guides the intellectual Powers of Men: And where the Powers of Angels are insufficient to give compleat Ideas to perform his Schemes; He may secretly by his immediate Operation, utterly unknown to Men, suggest innumerable Ideas in them; and therewith infuse his exciting Influence of Zeal, Activity, Courage and Resolution to fulfil his Councils,

Nor may the unknown Suggestions of good Angels be accounted proper Inspirations; any more than the Suggestions of Satan when he raises up in our Minds Ideas of Scriptures, as he did in the human Mind of Christ; Or when one Man by Signs suggests Ideas to others, and excites their Courage. Nor are the Ideas and Excitations received from God, either mediately by Men or Angels, or immediately by Himself, proper Inspirations: Any more than his infusing Millions of Spirits every Moment into new Seeds or Embrios of Animals, making them alive and active; or infusing into them various Instincts or Geniuses; or impressing them with Pleasures, Pains, &c.

For, by Inspiration I mean the certain Revelation he has been pleased to give of Himself, and of his Will, and of Things past and to come, by Christ and his Prophets and Apostles of old, put into the Bible and confirmed by Miracles, as a definitive Rule of Faith, Worship, moral and religious Conduct. Every Kind of Idea and Excitation or Propension in us, whether arising meerly from our own Minds, or from evil or good Men and Ministers, or from evil or good Angels, or even immediately from God himself, are therefore all to be brought to this only inspired Rule, and tried thereby; for which End it was inspired and confirmed. And the true Origin of our Ideas
For the taking of Cape-Breton.

I. Ideas and Excitaments is kept concealed from us, (without any internal Criterion to judge from, whence they come, as the Prophets had of old) that by this known Divine Rule we might forever try them. In which, be careful to use our intellectual Powers: And being aware that, in the midst of all we need the Help of God, both in understanding the Rule and in the Application of it; to Him we must humbly and ever repair in Christ and seek for Guidance.

For Illustration—-I might easily bring a Multitude of Scriptures; but the Time would fail me. I shall only cite to Deut. xxxii. 1 Sam. ii. 2 Sam. xxii. 1 Chron. xxix. Job. x, xii. xxxii—xxxv. Psal. xxxiv, xlvi, civ. cvi. and cxi. Isai. xxviii and xliv. Dan. ii. and iv. Joel i. and ii. Mat. x. 29, 30. Acts xvii. 24—-28.

In short, all Nature, both inanimate and animate, both humane and angelical, is full of God; full of his perpetual, moving, guiding and over-ruling Influence; and as the Apostle perfectly expresses it, Eph. i. 11. Who worketh all Things according to the Council of his own Will.

But then I may not omit to observe, that agreeable to Scripture-Revelation, the Eternal Word of Son of God, who with the eternal Father & Spirit created all Things; in a perfect Union with those divine Persons, He also upholds and rules the World from the Time be made it: But from the Fall, He rules it also in the special Form of a Mediator: And upon the Exaltation of his Human Nature to Heaven, it is advanced to a wondrous Participation with his Divine Person, in his supreme Dignity, transcendent Glory and universal Empire. See John i. Eph. i. Col. i. Heb. i. &c.

And thus have we shewn in what Manner may the sovereign God be said to operate usually among his Creatures.

We now come more briefly to consider,

II. When have his providential Operations such lively Characters of their being his Doings, as they are evidently so to unprejudic'd and careful Observers.
Even the common Operations in the **merely material World** the more we search them, the more they appear to be the Doings of **God**. But there is such a natural Atheism, Blindness, and Prejudice in us, as we are averse to see it, and prone to ascribe them to **Nature only**, or any Thing else, than his ever acting Influence. A terrible Storm of Thunder and Lightning, or a more fearful Earthquake, or some extraordinary Danger or other, seems needful to bring us to see his Operations in **Nature**.

And so it is likewise in his mixt Operations of **Providence**. When there is only a Circle of common Occurrences, we are apt to imagine, there is only a Course of Nature, blended with the common Powers, Arts, Contrivances and Actions of Men; and the Doings of **God** appear not in them. We have therefore need of some extraordinary Work of **God** in **Providence**, to awaken our Minds, and more evidently shew his Doings. And this he graciously condescends to give us in the following Cases.

1. When in **Affairs of vast Importance**, there is a wonderful continued Train and timely Coincidence of innumerable Varieties of Means, both in the material and moral World together, without our Power and beyond our Prospect; all conspiring to some great Event, exceeding happy in its present Influence and future Tendency.

For tho’ in such extraordinary Works of **God** as these, the several Parts considered singly, are his usual Operations and don’t affect with Wonder, or strike our Minds with so clear and strong an Evidence of their being his Doings: Yet to see them all so perfectly adjusted, as to make up one great, wise, curious and consistent Scheme, to accomplish an Event of vast Importance; This yields sufficient Evidence of wise Design and superiour Management in **Him**, who has all the Powers of Nature, Men, Elements and Angels in his Hands, and over-rules them all to fullfil his Councils.

2. This yet appears with a stronger Evidence, and even still more wonderous; when among a great Number of surprizing and important Incidents, there are many so momentous and
for the taking of Cape-Breton.

and spiritual, that, if any one had not fallen precisely in it's special Place and Juncture, there would have been exceeding
great Embarrassments and Hindrances: And many others to
essential, that if all and every one had not come in exactly as
they did; the great Event had fail'd, and the main Scheme
with all its vast and curious Apparatus totally miscarried.

4. and lastly, When in this Conjuncture, the sovereign
God is more than usually acknowledged; looked to and
trusted in; an extraordinary Spirit of Prayer is raised up in
many; and all these surprising Incidents and Means, with all
our wonderful Salvations, Successes and Happiness, come in
peculiar Answers to many fervent and fiducial Addresses to Him.

I might mention other Cases and illustrate these; but the
Hour would fail me. And to make the larger Room for the
Application, we must be also short in ours.

1. III: General Hea d, which is to represent the most
Admiration which these extraordinary Appearances and Works of God
should raise up in us; and which they happily raise if we are
duly disposed, and the mind guided to apprehend it to
the great end of human knowledge and happiness.

Admiration is one of the highest Acts of a created Spirit.
It is the rising up of the Mind in a respectful View of
Something it sees and owns to be superior to it. And when
it rises to the reverent View of God, it rises to the highest
and most worthy Object, and pays him some of the Honour
in the highest Measure, eternally due to his transcendent Ex-
cellencies and Operations, and not contributed to by any
known cause to us. And so it shews us on which side to

And as this allwise Creator has made us capable of
this noble Action, and in our very Make infused a Disposition
to
to it on extraordinary Appearances; he therefore frequently
shews extraordinary Things in Providence, to awake our At-
tention and excite our Wonder; to give us more open Dis-
plays of his supreme Wisdom, Power and Government, and
raise our due and reverent Admiration of him.

In the heavenly World; from the inexhaustible Source of his
infinite Perfections, no doubt, there now are and will be eter-
nally surprising Displays of his Glories to the perpetuall and
enjoying Wonder of the happy Inhabitants. But as in
these lower Regions we frequently need them, he frequently
gives them. And if we were as observant as Eliphaz, we
should find abundant Cause to support in admiration of God
as He, Job v. 9. Who does great Things, and unsearchable,
m大理石 Things without Number.

But when the sovereign God is pleas'd, in distinguishing
 favour to us, to go out of his common Course; and show a
vast Conivances, and over-rule all Kinds of Causes, making them conpire to some great and happy Event;
or do something extraordinary for our Salvation; and vast Advan-
tage:—Then he more highly obliges us, and more loudly
calls us to consider his wondrous Works; to see How; i.e.
his superiour Hand and Excellencies in them, and pay our
due and distinguishing Admiration to him.

Then we should carefully lay aside every Prejudice: And
our obliged Souls should no way Atrophy; but see the vast
Evidence of the Operation; and Care of God; in all the Parts
of the Providence, and forming them all into an admirable
System. We should enlarge our Views to see the vast Im-
portance of his wonders, both to Ourselves and Others,
in all its Branches: And attentively mind the various Springs
and Incidents in the Run of the Whole, and how they all sur-
prisingly conpire to a prosperous Issue. Nor yet—content
with the bare viewing of these; but our grateful Minds
should see the Wisdom, Power, Justice, Holiness, Truth, and
Goodness of God illustrious in them: and then consider how
he should thus be working for Us, while we were unworthy
of the least of his Mercies. Lastly, in our admiring Views of
the whole Work of God, our Souls should rise into the high-
ext
left reverent Admiration of Him; and then break out in most thankful Praise, as the pious Psalmist—*It is the Lord's Doing! It is marvellous in our Eyes!*

And as all this is clearly most due to God on such Appearances, it is the lively Bent and Practice of unfeigned Piety.

But we must hasten on to APPLY these Things, in Pursuance of our first Design, to the great and extraordinary Occasion of this happy Solemnity.

For, the sovereign God, who ruleth by his Power for ever, and does what he pleases among the Sons of Men, has by a surprizing Course of Providence led us into a most adventurous Enterprise against the French Settlements at Cape-Breton, and their exceeding strong City of Louisbourg, for warlike Power the Pride and Terror of these northern Seas; and by a wondrous Series and happy Coincidence of various Means, deliver'd them into our Hands. And this, in a most signal Manner, is *The Lord's Doing in the present Day*; and is truly marvellous in every pious, yea, I may say, in every unprejudic'd and considerate Eye.

And here, I shall endeavour these two Things, as the Season allows.

1. In brief lay open to View the vast Importance of the Place; that we may more clearly see the Greatness of the Mercy in giving it to us: And then

2. Look into the wondrous Scenes of Providence, and see some of the various and surprizing Steps that led to the happy Acquisition.

I. In brief lay open to View the vast Importance of the Place; that we may the more clearly see the Greatness of the Mercy in giving it to us.

The Island belong'd originally to the British Empire: Was at first compriz'd in the general Name and grand Patent of New-England in 1620; but in the following Year set off and included
included in Nova-Scotia by a separate Patent; and since, in Nova-Scotia comprehended in the royal Charter of the Massachusetts Province in 1691.

It abounds in the best of Pit-Coal known in America: And so near the Surface of the Earth and Coast of the Sea, as to be very easily dug and put into Vessels. Yea, from 1703, Labontan had told us of the French Ships loading with and carrying the fame to Gaudalupe and Martinique, for the refining of Sugars, to their great Advantage. And it's commodious Harbours; with it's happy Situation in the Centre of our Fishery, at the Entrance of the Bay and River of Canada, and in the Wake of all the Trade from Europe to the British Colonies on the Main Land of America, and both from them and our West-India Islands to Europe; rendred the Place of such vast Importance—that I remember while in England, when we came to know the Tory Miniftry had by the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713, resign'd it to the French; all true-hearted Britons who knew the Circumstance of the Island, most grievously lamented the Resignation, as full of teeming Mischief to the British Trade, Wealth and Power, and as one of the most fatal Acts of that unhappy Miniftry.

And the mischievous Consequence has since every Year been a growing Confirmation of their judicious Prospects. For the French, well knowing the vast Advantage of their Acquisition, have built a walled City on the most convenient Port; both for Trade and Fortification;—for these Thirty Years been adding to it's natural and artificial Strength; and by immense Sums and the utmost Art and Diligence, made it one of the strongest Fortresses in America if not in Europe: Such as was not like to be taken without a very powerful, skilful and resolute Army both by Sea and Land, or being starved to a Surrender. In short, it was the Dunkirk of North-America, and in some Respects of greater Importance.

For, by Means of this Island and Fortifications, the French have every Year enlarged their Fishery; and thereby their Trade, Wealth and Shipping: Supplying their West-India Islands, enabling them to make Sugars cheaper, and beating us out of that gainful Trade at foreign Markets: Yea, by Fishing cheaper than we, they have more and more commanded the Trade of
of Spain, Portugal and Italy; drawn away their Gold and Silver; and greatly diminished our Trade and Fishery, a principal Source both of the British Wealth and naval Power.

So pernicious a Settlement was this --- that for above these Twenty Years, it has seem'd to me, 'tware worth the while to engage in a War with France, if for nothing else but to recover this most important Island to the British Empire. Tho' a War was dreadful, the Necessity and Hazard seem'd every Year to encrease: The longer 'twas deferred, the more powerful and dangerous they grew, and the less our Hope of their being ever reduced.

Yea, from the Consideration of such a strong Defence, the Advantage of Wood, Sea-Coal, Fishery and Free gift Land in this and the neighbouring Islands, the Settlement of Thousands of People on them already, and the innumerable Poor in the Sea-Coast Towns of France, ever swarming and coming over to them; --- it seems highly probable, that if the Peace continued much longer, there would be in a few Years Time such a Multitude of French Inhabitants, as with the growing Numbers in the bordering Continent of Nova-Scotia and Canada, with the Addition of the Indian Nations, would exceedingly vex and waste, yea, endanger the Conquest of our English Colonies.

At Length, without our seeking, and in the most critical Time, the Lord was pleas'd to leave them to precipitate a War upon us. An unexpected Season opens to make the dangerous Trial, if the Almighty would please to prosper us. And now all the northern Colonies, and Our's especially began to feel their destructive Power and Influence: In a few Months Time, infesting our Coasts, taking our Shipping, ruining our Fishery and Trade, destroying Canco, invading Annapolis, reducing us to Straits, and carrying our People Captive into a Place almost impregnable.

And as it was a Source of Privateers and Men of War distressing to us; so it was also a safe Resort, both of their West & East India Fleets, to their great Advantage in returning Homeward.

Of such vast Importance was this strong Port of our Enemies; and this possess'd by one of the most enterprising, powerful and active of Nations.
But in the Wisdom of God, the stronger it grew, the better in the Issue for Us: The French having built a regular City, and laid out immanently more to render it both strong and commodious, than We should, if the Place had been in our Power. Yea, it seems most likely, that if they had not possest'd it, there would neither have been a Battery, nor even a House in the Port to this Day: no more than in many fine Harbours of Nova-Scotia; which tho' so near the Filthery, have been neglected by us for so many Years, from the Peace of Utrecht. But now in a few Weeks Time, the sovereign God has pleased to give us the Fruits of these Thirty Years prodigious Art, Labour and Ex pense of our Enemies: And this by Means of so small a Number, as about Four Thousand Land-Men, unus'd to War, undis ciplin'd, and that had never seen a Siege in their Lives. It is the Lord's Doing! It is marvellous in our Eyes!

II. Let us therefore look into the wondrous Scenes of Providence, and see some of the various and surprizing Steps which led to the happy Acquisition.

And these we may review under these Two Heads—

1. The remarkable Steps which led to the dangerous Enterprise: And
2. The surprizing Steps succeeding us therein.

2. The remarkable Steps of Providence which led us to the adventurous Enterprise.

I have already hinted at these Two Particulars—

1. Our Enemies being left of God, in Opposition to all the Rules of Policy, but in too early Confidence of their sufficient Growth of Power, while engag'd with the Queen of Hungary, to hurry into a War with us, in the Beginning of 1744; while their trading Ships were mostly abroad, their Navy not so well prepar'd, and ours by the previous War with Spain, equipt, and ready to employ it's Power for our Defence and their Annoyance: It seems in as happy a Juncture as we could wish for: Without which we should not have had the Advantage of Opportunity which they have opened to us.
for the taking of Cape-Breton.

2. The People of Cape-Breton early and suddenly last Year, seizing Cape, invading Annapolis, and M. De Vivier going to France for additional Forces by Sea and Land, to renew the Assault in the Spring of this Year; were improv'd by God as a Means of roasting us up with a Sense of Danger, and of exciting our Governor to implore the King for some naval Help: Without which it seems that Commodore Warren with his Three Ships of War had not been ordered from our West-India Islands to New-England; Tho' then, I suppose, without any special View to this important Enterprise.

3. By the Cape-Bretoners taking and carrying so many of our People into their Harbour and City, they were obliged to return them to us: Whereby we came to be more acquainted with their Scituation and the proper Places of landing and attacking: And at the same Time it is in the Ifue happy, they were not fully aware of the prodigious Strength of the Fortifications, or of the great Number of Men within and near them; or we never had presum'd on such an Enterprize: Yea, 'tis happy that so few, who better knowing the Place, gave the more exact Accounts and spake discouraging; yet we were so set on sending, they were not regarded.

4. God was pleased to give last Summer a great Plenty of Provision to our northern Colonies; whereby we were this Spring prepared to supply so great an Armament: And at the same Time cut short the Crops in Canada and the French West India Islands; whereby 'twas apprehended that Those at Cape-Breton were considerably strained, and that both the Canada-French and Indians were hindered the last Year from troubling our inland Borders.

5. By our Accounts of the Uneasiness of the Switzers There, for want of Pay and Provision; and the Call and Wants of their East and West-India Fleet in the Fall of the Year, and their Supplies with Men and Victuals, if not Ammunition; 'twas represented, the remaining French were further weakened; and we were the more encouraged. And 'twas further remarkable, that their Store-Ships from France in the Fall came so late on their Coast, and the Winter There set in so early and fierce, as to keep them out of their Harbour, and drive them off to Martinico.

6. From
6. From the sanguine Representations made by our returned Captives, of the Easiness of our taking the Place by an early Surprizal, before any Help could come, either from Canada, France or the West-Indies, God was pleased to lead our Governor, vigilant and active for our Safety and Welfare, into the Project; And early forming the Scheme; In the most timely Season. In the midst of Winter, when our Intercourse abroad was hinder'd, to move and press it on the General Assembly; and after, in convenient Time, on our Neighbouring Governments; and with wondrous Resolution, Circumpection and Affiduity to pursue the same.

7. Tho' when the Affair was first propos'd to the General Court, the Difficulties seem'd so great and the Expence so linking to this poor People, that they saw no Light to venture without a powerful, previous Help from England; yet upon further Representations, that the Season would likely be loft for ever, &c, the Affair was unexpectedly reconsider'd: And the sovereign God so over-rul'd the Absence of divers worthy Representatives, who judged it too vast an Undertaking for us; that 'tis said the final Resolution for it on Jan. 25, was just carried but by one Majority: And even that and other Votes had been lost, if the superiour Greatness of the Expence had been then imagined; it soon abundantly exceeding their Expectations.

8. When the General Court had agreed on this great Enterprise, it is surprizing to think, with how profound a Secrecy, so many Members in the Centre of so populous, observing and inquisitive a Town as this, for so many Days, kept their Consultations; till the various Parts of the Plan were settled, Committees chosen, and all Things ripe for enlisting Soldiers, hiring Vessels, buying Materials and Provisions: And as surprizing to see with what a general Silence all these Things were done in this City and Land; and the Army and Fleet equippt and ready to sail, while the rest of the World had scarce any Intelligence of our Preparations.

9. As soon as ever the Design was known among us, it was a marvellous Thing, that when this Resolution had lately loft so many Hundred Men slain in the late Expedition to Carthagena, not One in Ten being alive to return, their Wives left Wives; it was hard to forbear thinking, that such.
for the taking of Cape-Breton.

dows and their Children Orphans; yet to see so many likely Men, and I conclude the most of them Owners of Lands and Houses, or Heirs of the same, and many Religious, in all our Towns, readily lifting even as private Soldiers; with the small Wages of Twenty-five Shillings, New Tenor, a Month, to leave their gainful Farms and Trades, as well as Parents, Wives and Children; all as free Volunteers, to serve their God, their King and Country, in this hazardous Enterprise: Yea, more to lift than the Court desired; And that so many Men of distinguished Figure should cheerfully offer themselves—every Fourth of his Majesty's Council for this Province, among them the Hon. William Pepperrell, Esq. the first of the Council; as also the Hon. Deputy-Governour Wolcott of Connecticut Colony; and divers Others of publick Esteem and Character.

10. It was wonderful also to see, that during those Two usually stormy Months of February and March, the only Season for our Preparation, God was pleased to give us such a constant Series of moderate and fair Weather, as in that Time of the Year has scarce ever been known among us: So that there was hardly any Impediment to our Officers going about and enlisting, or our Soldiers in marching, or our Vessels in fitting, or our Coasters in bringing us Provision, or our Committee of War in their various Preparations, till all were ready to sail.

11. The extraordinary Tho't, Contrivance, Order, Management and quick Dispatch, not only of His Excellency, but also of our Council of War, seems wonderful—that Gentlemen unus'd to such Affairs, should in Two Months Time, think of and get ready every Thing suitable for so great and various an Armament by Sea and Land: So that nothing proper seems to have been omitted. And I have heard some express themselves with Wonder to see how Things would happen:—Jaff they wanted some Kinds of Materials or Provisions, an unexpected Vessel would come in and bring them.

12. It was also wonderful—that tho' the Small-Pox, which has been so fatal and dreadful to us, came into this Town and Harbour, as our Troops were coming in both by Land and Water, and continued all the Time they were quartering and anchoring here, very few of the Officers or Soldiers having had
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A THANKSGIVING-SERMON

had it, and we were full of anxious Apprehensions; yet it
rather hinder'd them, nor did the dangerous Infection spread
among them; which in that critical Juncture would, after all,
have wholly overthrown the Enterprize.

And now our Army of 3250 Massachusetts Soldiers, besides
Commission Officers, with all Kinds of Stores being ready to
fail from Boston about the 20th of March, in about 100 Vessels;
besides 516 Connecticut Soldiers more including their Of-
cicers ready at New-London, and 304 New-Hampshire Soldiers
including Officers ready at Portsmouth;—we had almost every
gloomy Prospect to make us tremble.

For our inland Borders were now left bare of a great Part
of their Strength, by the lifting of so many of their able
Men Volunteers in the Expedition. And if the Enterprize suc-
ceded, the heavy Debt would almost sink us. But if, for our
Offences, God were carrying forth a great Part of the Flower
of our Country to be destroyed; a most dismal Scene of Ruin
seem'd to follow! They were to sail above Five Hundred
Miles to the Enemies Island, in a raw and stormy Time of
the Year. And if the fear'd Infection had taken Place, and should
break out among them, especially after their Landing; what a
general Terror would seize them from the Hand of God
which there was no resifting, and in what a miserable Case
would they be! A naval Power with Stores and disciplin'd
Troops were also early expected There from France, to con-
quer Nova-Scotia: And after all the Labours of our unwearied
Governour, to obtain some Men of War from our neighbouring
Colonies and East-India Islands, to come and protect and help
us; our hopeful Prospects seem'd to dwindle away—and we could
see no other but that, if Two Sixty Gun Ships of our Enemies,
which were early expected, should arrive before we took the
Place, they would soon make our Fleet and Army Captives:
—And then what would become of this Country!

So they must run the most desperate Hazards. The Hearts
of many of the wisest abroad now seem'd to fail. Some re-
pented they had voted for it, and others that they had ever
promoted it. Some judged it best after all for every Man
to go Home; and the Th'outful among us were in great Per-
plexity.
plexity.---But yet a Wonder it was to see, that those who were venturing into the Danger, seem’d to be full of Trust in God and Courage. Many fill’d their Vessels with Prayers; and asking Ours, they threw themselves into the divine Protection, in the Name of God they set up their Banners, and away they failed. Pray for us, and we’ll Fight for you---was the valiant and endearing Language wherewith they left us.

Thus have we traced some of the remarkable Steps which led to this dangerous Enterprise. We now come

2] To view some of the more surprizing Steps of Providence succeeding therein to the happy Accomplishment.

And as these are more in Number than can be reckon’d, I may here but mention a few---

1. As it was very encouraging to think how many pious and prayerful Persons were embarqu’d in the Cause, which we accounted the Cause of God and his People; it gave further Ground of Hope, to see such a Spirit of Supplication given to many in this Town and Land on this Occasion. For besides the solemn Days of publick and general Prayer appointed by these three Governments; there were particular Days observed in several Congregations. There were also in divers Towns religious Societies, some of Women as well as others of Men, who met every Week, more privately to pray for the Preservation and Success of their dear Countrymen: And I have been well informed of their extraordinary Fervency, Faith and Wrestlings, as so many Jacobs, in this important Season. Psal. cviii. 10.—13. was usually among our Petitions: As also, That God would preferve, direct and spirit our Friends; surprize and terrify our Enemies; and make them yield without much Blood-fhed, and in such a Manner as the Work and Glory might appear to be his alone.’

2. God then began in a remarkable Manner to hear our Prayers: In that when so many Vessels fail’d from Hence on March 24, and about the same Time from New-Hampshire and Connecticut, in such a turbulent Season of the Year, thro’ a Course of Five Hundred Miles on the Ocean; they every
one arriv’d at Canfo, the Place of Concourfe, about sixty Miles
on this Side Cape-Breton;—New-Hampshire Troops on the
last of March, ours on the 4th of April, and Connecticut on the
25th;—without the Loss of more than One Soldier and Three
Seamen, and but Fifteen sick; and Time enough to meet together
and refresh themselves, and get into order for their Descent at
Louisbourg.

3. It was very remarkable; that when the 500 Connecticut
Men were near embarking in 7 Transports at New-London,
'twas fear'd their Colony Guard-Sloop of 100 Men was not a
sufficient Convoy: That their Governor Law sent to Gov-
ernour Green of Rhode-Island for their Colony Guard-Sloop of
90 Men to come and join them: That this being done; when
they came off Cape-Sable Shoar, eplyng a Ship making towards
them, the Rhode-Island Sloop went to discover, and found her
the Renomee a very nimble French Ship of War, of 34 Guns,
300 Sea-Men, and 50 Marines: That the Sloop being a prime
Sailer and hailing close to the Wind, wisely led her off from
the Fleet, drew her in Chace all Day, and got clear at Night,
the others failing to Canfo: Or, Both the Guard-Sloops cou'd
not have withstood her; and had the Connecticut Forces only
their own Guard-Sloop, they wou'd have been probably ruined.

4. It was remarkable also, that God was pleas’d to keep
our Enemies Shoar and Harbour in viron’d with Ice longer than
usual: So that none of their Vessels could enter nor go forth
for Intelligence, 'till our Twenty Gun Cruizers (which our Go-
vernour sent above a Fortnight before the Rest of the Fleet) came
thither: And that some of their Vessels coming early to them,
both before and after the Harbour was open, were happily inter-
cepted and taken by Ours; whereby our Enemies within fail’d
of their Supplies, and We were recruited by those without.

5. That by a most gracious, seasonable and wonderful Di-
rection of God, thro' our Governour’s Sollicitations the Fall
before, the brave and active Commodore Warren, a great
Friend to these Plantations, is ordered by the Government in
England, to come immediately with Three Men of War from
Antego to Boston: That on his Voyage hither near Cape-Sable,
he, on April 12th, met with a Fisherman, who inform’d him of
of our Victuals, which he had on board, and of our Men, who had
suffer’d so long without meat, and void been so long without
shoes, and our Men having so wretched Costumes and women
wearing such garb, that the Climate of the place had affect’d
some of our Men very lively, and after there had been a
med of us, instead of our going directly to Louisbourg, we
sall in through New-Hampshire: And Men and Women had been

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of our Army's being gone to Canso the Week before: That on board the Fisherman there was One of the best of Pilots, who had got out of the Way of our Committee of War, to avoid being press'd for the Service: That tho' the Commodore wanted fresh Provisions and Cloaths for his Men in so cold a Climate and Season; he wisely consider'd the necefitous Cafe of our Army, took the Pilot, generously tack'd about, went after them, overtook them at Canso, to their great Joy; and instead of stopping, pass'd on to watch the Harbour of Louisbourg, that no Supply from Canada, Martinique or France might flip into it: Without all which a 64 Gun Ship with near 600 Men and full of Stores, had enter'd, and this great Affair had been soon defeated.

6. That the Commodore, by the Fishermen, sent his Orders for the King's Ships that should be found in these Parts, forthwith to follow him: That the Fisherman timely arriving, our Governor immediately sent the Order to the Eltham a 40 Gun Ship at Fisquetqua ready to convoy the MaftFleet for England: And that he was got to Sea, yet by a Boat the Order reach'd her; and sending her Fleet into Harbour, she bore after the Commodore, arriv'd at Canso April 22, and the Commodore the Day after. So that our Army before they fail'd from Canso, had the Comfort of 4 Men of War, under God to protect and help them.

7. That tho' our Massachuseths and New-Hampshire Fleet and Army staid above three Weeks at Canso, within 20 Leagues of Louisbourg, and within Sight of their Island; yet the People there knew nothing of it, till early in the Morning April 30, when they were so surpriz'd to see us, that they had no Time to get in the fresh Provison and Force of the neighbouring Country to help them. It seems very wonderful, that none of the French or Indians near to Canso, should happen to see us, and give our Enemies Intelligence of us: And when our Fleet and Army were compleat and ready, the Ice went off at once; our Fleet set sail the 29th, and the Winds and Weather conspi'red to favour our Descent on the Island, on the following Day.

8. It is also remarkable, that the French had made no Fortification at the Place of our Landing, tho' 'tis said they design'd
it, and were preparing for it: And tho' they had 600 regular Troops, and above 1400 other Men in the City, that yet they should send no more than 150 to oppose our Landing: That God so encourag'd and help'd the few, but 100 of Ours who landed at first and engag'd them, as to beat them away with the Loss of Six or Eight of their Men slain, several wounded, and Ten taken captive, without the Loss of One of Ours: That thereby he struck a Terror into our Enemies: And tho' our People were so eager of Landing, they were even ready to quarrel to get into the Boats, and the Surf ran high; yet all our Army landed safely, viz. 2000 the same Day, and the Rest the next, i.e. May 1, without overletting a Boat or losing a Man.

9. That he mov'd them to improve the Time and forthwith to march up five Miles, thro' a thickety, rocky, hilly, and boggy Country, and enclose the City. That in the Night after May 2, he led some of our Soldiers, thro' strange Places to the Storehouses near the Grand-Battery, which was strongly fortified with Walls and Ditches, and at each End a very thick Bomb-proof Tower: That the Storehouses full of combustible Matter, being set on Fire, burnt and flash'd in a horrible Manner, and in the Night encres'd the Enemies Terror: That the Wind also bearing a prodigious black Smoak upon them, in which expecting our Army to enter, they were every Soul frighted out of it into the City: And that in the Morning May 3, but 13 of our Men observing there was neither Flag flying, nor Chimney smoaking, nor Person appearing, but the Gates open, &c. ventur'd in and took Possession.

10. That yet the Enemy aware of their fatal Error, soon after came with Forces in many Shallows to recover it: But 8 of the 13 going out of the Battery and meeting with about 8 more of our Friends, run to the Water-Side; and on the open Beach expos'd to the Cannon from the Town and Mouquets from the Boats, yet so plied the Boats with Small-Arms, as damp'd and hinder'd them, till seeing more of our Forces coming, the Boats turn'd back to the Town again: And if they had come but one Hour sooner, they had regain'd the Battery before we had found it deserted. And thus this strong Fortres of 30 great Cannon, 28 of them 42 Pounders and 2

18 Pounders
18-pounders, which might alone have maintained itself against all our Army, the Lord deliver’d into our Hands, without the loss of a Man, or Shot of a Gun, and before we demanded it: Whereby he at once fav’d us both Time, Toil and Blood, and surprizingly gave us a great Power over the Harbour, as well as so many of the largest of the Enemies Cannon, with a great Number of their own Balls and 380 of their Bombs to improve against them.

II. That our Army was preserv’d from the dangerous Infection: And tho’ being open to the Air, Fogs and Dews, upon the Melting of the Ice, in a raw Climate and Season of the Year; having thro’ their extraordinary Fatigues worn out their Choaths and Shoes, being barefoot and almost naked;—the Camp Dysentery seiz’d many, there being 1500 down at once, which then look’d very threatening;—yet some of our Physicians in their Letters signified, that it look’d almost miraculous, they should so soon and generally, without Means, recover.

12. That they should be inspir’d with wondrous Courage, Eagerness, Activity and unfainting Strength: Be supported under their extraordinary and constant Toils, Fatigues and Labours, in carrying Stores, drawing Cannon over Hills and Valleys, among Rocks and thro’ Morasses, up to the Knees in Mire; and in digging Trenches, raising Batteries, firing Shot and Bombs almost incessantly both Day and Night against the City: And that God so speedily taught their Hands to war, and their Fingers to fight, as presently to throw them with great Exactness, and do continual Execution among our Enemies; dismounting their Cannon, beating down their Houses, Gates, Walls, Flankers, and greatly distressing them.

13. That when the Vigilant, a new 64 GunShip from France with near 600 Men, and great Quantities of Arms and Stores, came so near the Mouth of their Harbour and before a fair Wind, that two Hours more would have given her Entrance on May 19; she was happily discover’d by some of our smaller Ships, who led her along to the larger and soon made her strike: Tho’ after near two Hours close Engagement in fight of the Camp; wherein ’twas wonderful, she lost above 30 Men,
Men, and they but 5. And tho' by the Fog in the Night they loft her, yet in the Morning they happily recover'd her; to the growing Difcouragement of the Befeiged, and our en-
creasing Strength and Benefit.

14. That tho' to fhew our Dependance on God continually, he was pleas'd to suffer the barbarous Indians, twice to fur-
prize and murther some of our fragling People; ---about 18
at one Time and 9 at another; yet in several Land-Encounters
both with the French and the Indians, in divers Parts of the
Island, He was pleas'd to give us the Victory: Our Scouts
and Cruizers taking about 300 Prisoners.

15. That by Means of the extraordinary quick Dispach
of a Mefenger, our Governour in February sent to the King
for naval Help; GoD was pleas'd to fend so many Men of War
successively, as by the 12th of June, with the 64 Gun Prize,
and those who were there before, to amount to Eleven; to
the finking Fear of the Enemy, and the rifting Joy of our Fleet
and Army; as also to prefervc a happy Harmony between our
various Officers.

16. That God was pleas'd to humble us in defeating
our Attack in the Night after May 26, on their ftrong Island-
Fort, when we had about 60 Men killed and drowned; yet
He happily guided and with furprizing Strength, Agility and
Quicknefs helped us to hoift up fome of the heavifft Cannon
and our largest Mortar on the Light-Houfe Cliff of Rocks, which
overlook'd that Fort in which they trusted to hinder our entering
into their Harbour; it being built on a Rock, having
thirty 28 Pounders, 7 Swivels, 2 Brafs 10 Inch Mortars, and
180 Men: And then on June 15, affifted in fhooting our
Bombs fo exactly, as after the two firft, to throw in every One
of the ref, and with our Cannon do fuch Execution, as quickly
beat them out of this ftrong Hold they tho't impregnable,
and frighten the City to a quiet Surrender.

17. That God fhou'd move 'em to it on June 16, in that
critical Moment, when the Navy and Army had juft agreed on a
genereal, desperate and fierce Assault both by Land and Water;
which was like to be exceeding bloody and of doubtful Con-
sequence:
for the taking of Cape-Breton.

To illustrate the sequence: For upon the Capitulation, when our Forces entered the City June 17, and came to view the inward State of its Fortifications; they were amazed to see their extraordinary Strength and Device, and how we had like to have lost the Limbs and Lives of a multitude, if not have been all destroy'd. And that the City surrendered, when there was a great Body of French and Indians got on the Island, and within a Day's March, to molest us.

18. That in all our close and constant Assaults and Skirmishes, some of our Batteries being within Pistol Shot of the City, and receiving such a vast Number of Balls and Bombs almost continually by Day and by Night, we should have lost than 20 slain at all our 5 Batteries, and not above 101 in all; in so raw a Climate and Season, and under such Fatigues, not loose above 30 more by Sickness; and of so many Vessels transporting and cruizing, in so many Storms in March and April, loose but One; tho' this a Cruiser of 100 Men, supposed to overseat, is a grievous Loss.

19. That in the Time of the Siege, there were many other surprizing Events in our Favour—such as timely Supplies to our Army, either by Transports or Prizes, as we were near to want them—That the very Balls from our Enemies Cannon were of no small Service, being as fast as they fell, catch'd up and put into Ours, and return'd with Advantage—that our largest Mortar of 13 Inches bursting May 25, which greatly damp'd them; on the same Day another unfert on, of the same Dimensions and the only one at our Castle in Boston-Harbour, was, by a Tho't of our Governor, put on board; and went so quickly as to fupertrise with Joy, and play in the Place of the other on the 8th Day after; and was the same which afterwards diff'red the Island-Battery and bro't on the timely Surrender—-That digging a Trench to protect our Men, and meeting a Rock in the Way we could not remove; just as we had left it, a Bomb from the Enemy came down in the most suitable Spot, and without hurting any, remov'd it for us, &c.

20. That from the Army's leaving Cape, April 29, to their landing April 30, and during all the Siege, there should be such
a continual Series of fair Weather, as was never known in the Place before at that Time of the Year, ’till their entering into the City, June 17; and then the Clouds to gather Blackness and pour down Rains for Ten Days together: Which would have spoil’d our Batteries, fill’d our Trenches, and greatly hinder’d and disbled us!—It seem’d to close the Scenes of Wonder!—As if the sovereign God would suspend the hurtful Operations of Nature, ’till he had quite accomplish’d his great Design, deliver’d the Fortrefs into our Hands, and led us into a Place of Shelter.

21. In the mean while, it is also remarkable, that the NorthAmerican Coasts have been unmolested by both the French and SpanishWest-India Privateers, ’till this great Affair was ended. And that by Means of Du Vivier’s Project of taking Annapolis in the Spring or Summer, both our French and Indian Enemies have been all this Time diverted from our exposed inland Borders; they being drawn to Menis, and to make a transient Show at Annapolis: So he was guided into his mischievous but fruitless Project, and to go even to France, to promote our Safety, and give us an unmolested Season for the taking of Louisbourg.

Lastly, That tho’ our Governor, our General Court, the Council of War, the General, the Commodore, the Officers and Soldiers, both by Land and Sea, have display’d a wondrous Wisdom, Zeal, Courage, Resolution, Diligence, and unwearied Application; yet they have the eminent Honour in receiving these from God, and in his employing them to achieve and bring about such a glorious and happy Addition to the British Crown and Empire: Nor without his numberless other Directions would all their Skill, Care, Toil and Diligence, have availed any Thing: And to Him be therefore all the Glory. For the infinitely inferiour Brightness sparkling in them, is wholly deriv’d from Him, both by his original and continual Influence; like the Glitters of Diamonds from the Morning Sun; when he wholly hides his Light, they vanish; but when He shines, they display their Lustre.

And thus have we seen this Passage of Scripture, in a remarkable Manner exemplified in the present Day.

And
And now who can in common Reason deny a particular Providence in this great Affair? Who can in Reason imagine that such a Multitude of various and contrary running Wheels, both of material Causes and spontaneous Agents, should all be made to work together, and in the midst of Thousands of Difficulties and Contingencies, in the happiest Seasons coincide, to accomplish this great Event; without a supream Contriver, Mover and Director? We may a thousand Times more confidently apprehend the most curious Engine in the World to be made without Design, and to work without a moving Power.

Yea, Those who own not These to be the Operations of God, as a wife, sovereign, free and actual Ruler among Men and Elements; must not only deny the Scriptures, but even the very Foundations of all Religion, or Adoration of this supream Governor. For they must deny there is any Need, or Duty, or Wisdom, of fearing Him, or praying to Him, or hoping on Him in any Emergencies; or of acknowledging, admiring, praising, loving, or thanking Him, for the greatest and most marvellous Salutations.

But as for Us—In the Name of God, our God in Christ, yea in the Name of the Son of God, as supream Lord and Ruler of Heaven and Earth, of Men, Angels and Elements, we lifted up our Banners: To Him we looked and prayed: In Him we put our Trust and fought: And now, He has heard and prosper'd, to Him we will ascribe the Praise.

Whatever Instruments or Means He us'd, we will blest Him for them; we fee them form'd, endow'd, excited by Him; we see them in his mighty and all-active Hands, deriving Strength and Guidance from Him, and employ'd continually to fulfill his PLEASURE. We will own, the Work is his in the highest Sense: It was all comprehended in his sovereign View, Design and Providence; begun, carried on, accomplished by his all-governing Wisdom, Power and Efficacy; and the Whole together is marvellous in every serious Eye.

When the Tydings came on our Commencement-Morning July 3, of surrendering the City, we were like them that dream: Our Mouth was fill'd with Laughter, and our Tongue with Singing: Even the Heathen said, The LORD hath done great Things for them; and We—the LORD hath done great Things for us, whereof we are glad. Not unto us,
O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy Name give Glory:
Our God hath done whatsoever he pleased: The Lord hath been mindful of us: And we will bless the Lord, from this Time forth and for ever. Thine O Lord is the Greatness, and the Power, and the Glory, and the Victory, and the Majesty: For all that is in the Heaven and in the Earth is thine; thine is the Kingdom O Lord, and thou art exalted as Head above all: Both Riches and Honour come of Thee, and thou reigneft over all, and in thine Hand is Power and Might; and in thine Hand it is to make Great, and to give Strength to all: Now therefore our God, we thank Thee and praise thy glorious Name. Give Thanks to the Lord, call on his Name, make known his Deeds among the People: Sing unto Him, sing Psalms unto Him, talk ye of all his wondrous Works: Declare his Glory among the Heathen, his marvellous Works among all Nations.

O that we have sang his Praises, we may not ungratefully forget his Works, or return to Sin; which is to rob Him of his deferred Glory and fly in the Face of our great Preserver and Benefactor: It is the vilest Degree of Ingratitude and provoking Bafeness: It is to fight against Him, who has been marvellously fighting for us, and given us a wondrous Series of great Salvations. Yea, this will be the dangerous Way to move Him to turn our Enemy; to change the Course of his lighted Dispensations, and give the Place into our Adversaries Hands again, with a more dreadful and mischievous Increase of Power than ever, to punish us. And the Sins of Drunkenness, Prophanation of the Name and Day of God, Uncharitableness, Injustice, Oppression, Contempt of Christ, and Oppression to the Purity, Power and Practice of his holy Religion; are some of the highest and most dangerous Provocations and Preparatives to ruinous Judgment.

Yea, distinguishing Appearances of God to save and prosper us, are distinguishing Obligations, not only to distinguishing Degrees of Joy and Praise, but also to distinguishing Degrees of Pity: i.e. of active Gratitude and Love to God, of perpetual Contrivances and Labours to promote his Glory and holy Kingdom in Ourselves and Others, and a constant Life of Service to His Cause and People. And as the Failure of this, will not be a rendring to Him according to his signal Benefits, but a most ungrateful Treatment of Him; His Eyes are always on us, to observe us now, and to judge and Repence us here or hereafter.
But let us rejoice, not only in our own Salvation, the Salvation of all our Colonies, and some of the most important Branches of the British Trade;—But let our Joy rise higher, that hereby a great Support of Antichristian Power is taken away, and the visible Kingdom of Christ enlarged. Methinks, when the southern Gates of Louisbourg were opened, and our Army with their Banners marching in; the Gates were lifted up—the Gates were lifted up—and the King of Glory went in with them. Even the Son of God, the Lord of Hosts, the Lord strong and mighty in Battle—having gain'd the Conquest, he rode in in Triumph and took Possession. He set up his Standard, proclaim'd his Gospel of Peace, the Glad Tidings of Salvation, open'd the Prisons, redeem'd his Captives, and began to receive his grateful Incense of pure Adorations. O that there, in Purity of Worship, Doctrine and Conversation, in the Power of his Grace and in the Glory of his Holiness, He may reign and shine to all the Islands round about, as long as the Sun and Moon endure.

And as 'twas one of the chief Disgraces of Queen Anne's Reign, to resign this Island to the French; it is happily one of the Glories of King George the Second's, to recover it to the British Empire. O that it may remain united thereto for ever, and so perpetuate the Glory. O that under the Influence of British Liberties, in a happy Constitution of Civil Government, and the divine Care and Blessing, even Louisbourg itself with Cape Breton, and all Nova Scotia, may revive and flourish. May they have religious, wise and generous Governors, that may be as nursing Fathers to them; encourage them in Piety, Virtue and good Order, promote their Trade, and protect them in their Properties and Liberties.

Lastly, may this happy Conquest be the Dawson EARNEST OF OUR DIVINE REDEEMER'S carrying on his Triumphs thro' the Northern Regions; 'till He extends his Empire from the Eastern to the Western Sea, and from the River of Canada to the Ends of America. Then from the uttermost Parts of the Earth shall be heard Songs, even Glory to the righteous God: They shall lift up their Voice, they shall sing for the Majesty of the Lord, they shall cry aloud from the Sea; they shall glorify the Lord in the Woods and Valleys, on the Lakes and Rivers, in the Mountains, in the Islands: And the Heavens and the Earth shall be filled with his Glory, and echo with his Praise: A.M.E N.