

But we have suffered great Loss our selves for this Gain; a worthy, and a valiant General, who in this distant Land has appeared as zealous, active, bold and intrepid, as though the Cause was his own, or that in which he was personally and very deeply interested.— When *Abner* fell Slain by the baseness of *Joab*, *David* is deeply affected with it, even on a joyful Day. “ Know ye not, says he, that there is a Prince, and a great Man, fallen this Day in *Israel*, and I am *this Day* weak, *though appointed KING.*” So we, tho’ we have gotten the Victory, and this Day rejoyce in our Acquisition, can do no less than drop a Tear over the Urn of our great Commander, and the many valiant Men besides, who fell in the Cause. Moreover,

2. Let our Joy be modest. In the religious Exercises of this Day, whether public or private, let us be sincere; let us be upright: And let the Mirth we may indulge, be civil and rational.

Men are prone to run into Extravagancies upon such Occasions: And such, I conceive, is commonly the Case, in the tumultuous Joy, with which Victories are celebrated. And ’tis melancholly to reflect upon it, “ That Men should take Notice of public Mercies in such a Manner as to affront the great Author of them. Thus the Jews at length got to abuse the Feast of *Purim*, ordained in our Text, after the religious Service in their Synagogues. “ It is observed, they have done with Religion and Piety, and spent the two Days, in Idleness, eating and drinking.”

They say in their Books. “ Their Rest is kept “ so sacredly, that they will not so much as set or “ sow any Thing in their Gardens in these Days,
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