

which he ascribes to the Missionaries†. What the Doctor's Countenance is, I know not; but I wish he gave as good Proofs of a serious Heart, as the Missionaries in general do. That Religion wore a gloomy and uninviting Appearance amongst the Puritans there formerly, and now wears a more pleasing one among their Descendants, and that in part they have learnt this Alteration for the better from the Members of the Church of England, the Doctor, I presume, will not deny, though he will not permit an Episcopalian to say it; and Mr. *Apthorp* did not mean to say more on this Head.

What he saith in the next Place, of the Improvements lately made there in the speculative Doctrines of Religion, the Doctor endeavours to construe into a licentious Insult on their *Fathers* and Teachers, *living and dead*§; of which Mr. *Apthorp* had evidently no Intention, though he doth use a strong Expression or two, which probably were not meant even of the dead Teachers at large, but of the wild Sectaries with which that Country abounded. At least they cannot be meant of the living Fathers, because he both owns and pleads that the Faults, which he blames, are amended. And after abusing him for some Time, the Doctor himself allows, *it was too common a Thing for People in New England to express themselves in a Manner justly exceptionably upon these Points*; and that they may be *indebted to the Society or their Missionaries in some Degree*, for their doing otherwise now\*. So that in the main he agrees with Mr. *Apthorp*, at the same Time that he inveighs against him; and probably wishes that far greater Changes were made in the speculative Doctrines of his Brethren, than the Society and its Missionaries would approve.

Mr. *Apthorp* adds, that *Hypocrisy hath worn off, in Proportion as Men have seen the Beauty of Holiness*; that is, in Proportion as the Face of Religion hath become amiable, and its Doctrines have been rationally explained; the

† Page 74. || p. 75. § See *Humphreys's Account*, p. 36, 37, 38

• p. 78.