

with an abundant harvest, and hitherto even the merciless winter has appeared to respect the defenceless condition of our poor, by passing away with unusual mildness.

To crown the singular felicity of our colonial state, while sophistry and sedition have been busily, and but too successfully at work, in other parts of the empire, we have lived to this day in all concord and loyalty. No factions have divided our people, or distracted our government. Clubs and cabals are unknown in our settlements. No one has dared to accuse another of disaffection. There has not been an information, far less an imprisonment, in consequence of seditious practices in any part of the country. Peace and unity have shed their happiest influences over the province, and our King and our Constitution continue to be the objects of our dearest regard.

In such a fortunate, may it not be said in such an enviable condition, are we not bound by all the ties of gratitude and duty to love and praise the Lord, and to walk uprightly in his commandments? No people were ever more highly favoured, or blessed with a better opportunity of becoming wise, and good and happy. Let not the kindness of Providence plead with us in vain. Enjoying safety in the midst of danger, let us observe the dispensations of judgment to other lands, and apply the instructions which they deliver to our own improvement. In a particular manner let us beware of the prevailing vices which have produced the perils of the time—infidelity, licentiousness, and a spirit of innovation.

And oh my friends, let not the parting admonition of the expiring year be lost upon you! It calls you to the exercise of repentance, and to an immediate and effectual reformation of your conduct. It speaks with earnest voice on the importance of these duties, and you will not hear it speak in this place again. The envious moments fly while we are talking of their speed; arrest them in their progress, and apply them to the business of your salvation. For though time be short, remember that procrastination is endless. Purposes of amendment indeed which indefinitely embrace