

to commercial prosperity, and will be at least, a mitigation of our distress. Every bushel of wheat, is so much real, substantial wealth. Whereas had the harvest this year, proved a failure, there seems reason for the opinion, that the country would have been reduced to a condition from which, many of us might never have seen it recover. There is a two-fold benefit then, to be devoutly recognised. Our bodily wants have been supplied, and the prospect is afforded of returning prosperity ; which we trust will be so used, that under the blessing of the most High, it will redound at once to His glory, and our good. But further, to be suitably impressed with a sense of the goodness of God, let us remember our own inexpressible unworthiness. We often see one very comfortably situated, and we say he richly deserves it. A servant enjoys an advantageous position ; but he is only receiving his due: He is invaluable to his master. The angels in heaven are transcendently blessed ; but they have done nothing to forfeit the favour of God. How is it with us ? We are laden with iniquity ; we deserve indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish. If God were to deal with us after our sins, or reward us according to our iniquities, how appalling would be our condition ! Wherefore, let us highly admire every manifestation of His love. One other idea must be brought into view, namely, the awfully holy character of God. He loves righteousness, and hates iniquity ; He is glorious in holiness ; He is a jealous God, and sin is the abominable thing which He hates. How amazing then is His goodness in lavishing kindness on man which drinketh iniquity like water ! In crowning the year, His goodness has been gloriously displayed.

Let us proceed, in the second place, to say a few words in the way of practical improvement. The question of the Psalmist will readily occur, "What shall I render unto the Lord, for all His benefits towards me ?" And that will suggest another ; What will the Lord graciously condescend to accept ? Surely nothing that will please Him, can be withheld. First of all then, let us habitually cherish sincere and fervent inward gratitude. Without this, all professions must be hypocritical and offensive. Man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart. His demand is, "My son, give me thine heart." Next, let us warmly express our gratitude in the ordinances of religion, and in our intercourse with our fellow men. We have assembled to-day, specially for the purpose ; but there is no necessity for restricting our thanksgiving to this occasion. Opportunities present themselves at our ordinary meetings in the house of God ; we trust too, you have in your families a domestic altar, at which you call on the name of the Lord ; and that you enter into your closet, and shut your door, and pray to your Father in secret. When so engaged, see that you give thanks to the Father of mercies, for every good and perfect gift. And why should we in our social communion with neighbours and friends, be ashamed, reverently to acknowledge our obligations to a bounteous Providence, for the good we enjoy ? Again, let us be care-