

A few words will suffice to account for the appearance of the following Sermon in print.

Having been restrained, by considerations alluded to in the foregoing Note, from yielding to the desire of the Church-Committee, to have the sermon which I preached on Thanksgiving-day, published, I am anxious to prevent misapprehension, in the mind of any one in the Congregation, in respect to my reason for not complying with the Committee's request. Thus feeling, I have determined to send a copy of my answer to the Chairman's Note abroad amongst the congregation; and to embrace the opportunity which the occasion affords, to present my people with one of my discourses, from the press, as a small testimony of my solicitude not to appear indifferent, either to their wishes, or to their opinion,—and as a memorial of my labours amongst them in holy things.

In choosing a sermon from my manuscripts, I have preferred a *common* to an *occasional* discourse,—judging that one of the former kind will more readily and forcibly remind the reader of my manner and strain of preaching, than one of the latter.

With regard to the *particular sermon chosen*, I wish it to be understood, that in my choice of the *following one*, I have been determined by the circumstance of its being the last written and delivered by me. To those who hear me statedly, it can matter little, which of my discourses they are presented with. The aged, and others, who, through bodily infirmity, are prevented from waiting upon God in his House, will find the one offered for their acceptance peculiarly suited to their circumstances, and the perusal of it, I hope, profitable and consoling.

In reference to the *subject* of the discourse, I may add, that it was suggested to me, by the death of a late aged member of the church, who had waited, with earnest longings, her release.

Manse, Pleasant Street
December 8, 1837

J. S.