

no Charge to the Crown. — In these and many other Respects, the first Generations of this People experienced very signally the Care of an indulgent Providence. “Have I been a Wilderness unto Israel?” the Lord may now say, as to his People of old.

And “the Goodness of God endureth continually”. We of the present Generation, though “risen up in our Fathers Stead an Increase of sinful Men”, yet have not been forsaken of our Fathers God; but he is still in some Measure with us, as he was with them. Though he has not left us altogether unpunished for our growing Degeneracies, which so defile and expose the Land, yet neither has he left himself without a Witness, that He remembers the Love of our Espousals, and hath still a Kindness for the Posterity of a People who had suffered for Righteousness Sake. — We enjoy to this Day the great Privileges of God’s Word and House and Day, of the Ministry and Church-Order: nor are without those spiritual Blessings, which shew that God’s SPIRIT remaineth among us. — We still enjoy the Benefits of Magistracy, good Laws, and civil Liberties, hedg’d about with our Royal Charters. — We still enjoy the Advantage of Schools, and Means of Education, truly of inestimable Consequence. — Superadded to all, God is causing his Goodness to pass before us in a Variety of secular Enjoyments, terrene Blessings, and temporal Salvations, which are so many Evidences of a continuing Providential Care for our Safety & Happiness. Surely, Salvation is nigh to us; and in some desirable Measure, Glory still dwelleth in our Land. God has been crowning these latter Years with his Goodness, in very remarkable Instances. What Years of general Health have we seen, in our Dwellings, in our Garrisons, in our Armies, in our Fleets, without those wasting Sickneses that might have brought a Cloud on all our Affairs! — What Years of Plenty, what fruitful Seasons, what superabundant Harvests, by the Blessing of God upon our extensive Plantations, furnishing us for large Exportation, while Enough has been left for a generous Home-Consumption! — What a remarkable Protection on our Borders, East and West, even where they were

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