

God, the Vouchsafement of which we are now joyfully and gratefully acknowledging. On former Occasions, when we were dispirited by a Series of Disappointments; when our Councils were divided and distracted; when our Expeditions and Enterprizes by Sea and Land were unsuccessful; when our Trade was declining, and our Enemies insulting, and our Hope as the giving up of the Ghost; with what gloom on our Countenances, with what heaviness and pain at our Hearts did we then assemble in the Sanctuary of God! With what Fervour and Importunity did we then wrestle at the Throne of Grace, for the Divine Blessing on a Land which appeared almost to be devoted to Destruction! With what Humility and Contrition did we then confess those crying Sins, which had exposed us to the severest Judgments; and how did we promise—Oh! how solemnly and repeatedly did we promise, that *if the Lord would turn again our Captivity**, and deliver us out of the Hands of our Enemies, we would serve him in Holiness and Righteousness all the Days of our Lives †; and that the Blessing of a Nation ready to perish should come upon him ‡! This

* Psa. cxxvi. 4.
xxix. 13.

† Luke, i. 74, 75.

‡ Job,