

It is possible, though it is strange, that when he wrote his *Observations*, he might misunderstand the Society's Intention, both in sending Missionaries to *New England* and desiring *American Bishops*. I hope it is now sufficiently cleared up; and if he is still dissatisfied, I intreat him to consider, for all Men ought, *what Manner of Spirit he is of**. He hath very good Abilities, and a Zeal that would be highly commendable, if it were duly tempered with Charity. But he seems to have naturally a most vehement Spirit, and to have imbibed, perhaps in his early Days, equally vehement Prepossessions against the very Name of Bishops, and every Thing connected with them. I am sensible that these Things plead in his Excuse: for they have often hurried Men, who on the whole meant well, not only into great Unfairness of arguing, but far worse Faults. And though I have made use of some Freedom in setting forth his Mistakes and Partialities, yet if such Treatment, as he hath given Mr. *Apthorp*, was designed for the *benevolent End of shewing him to himself*†, surely my Treatment of Him will not be imputed to any unkind Motive. If he amends upon Admonition, he will deserve much Respect; if not, much Pity.

But however he may take what I have written, I hope others, particularly the Dissenters, both *English* and *American*, as many as happen to see it, will consider it calmly: and neither indulge Fears without Foundation, nor affect Fears which they have not, in order to hinder their episcopal Brethren from enjoying what they have a Right to. Our Inclination is to live in Friendship with all the Protestant Churches. We assist and protect those on the Continent of *Europe* as well as we are able. We shew our Regard to that of *Scotland* as often as we have an Opportunity, and believe the Members of it are sensible that we do. To those who differ from us in this Part of the Kingdom, we neither attempt nor wish any Injury. And we shall gladly give Proofs to every Denomination of Christians in our Colonies, that we are Friends to a Toleration even of the most Intolerant, as far as it is safe; and willing that all Mankind should possess all the Advantages, religious and civil, which they can demand either in Law or Reason. But with those, who approach

* *Luke ix. 55.* † *Pag. 145.*