

purposes of giving thanks to God for the prosperity with which it has pleased him to bless both her and us, and of begging God's grace to enable us with fresh strength to run our Christian course in all the particulars of our duty.—Though he was undoubtedly a great man, particularly according to the notions of greatness prevalent in his days, we would not even regard him as a Saint in the sense in which the term is now understood in Scripture, much less would we think of placing him before us as a pattern for general imitation. He was still a man like ourselves, fallible, and liable to the infirmities both of the flesh and spirit.—In this respect we can be safe, only when we set before us for imitation, as we are directed, the spotless life of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, (1) who especially left us an example that we should follow his steps, who knew no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth, (2) who spake, as never man spake, and (3) who was, as the Apostle writes, holy, harmless, undefiled and separate from sinners.

To resume the thread of my discourse—When we review these and similar acts, to recount which even in our own days would require a hundred mouths,—a hundred tongues, are we not forcibly reminded of the beautiful language of the Prophet, and led to think, though with all humility, that in the Counsels of Divine Wisdom it has been reserved more especially for our venerated country to act upon its spirit? “Is not this the work that I have chosen? To loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thine house? When thou seest the naked that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh.” (4) Look at the extent of her commerce, the excellence of her manufactures, the seas covered with ships, some sent on the blissful purpose of protecting the weak against the strong, the innocent and defenceless against the fury of the oppressor; others carrying to all the known

(1) Peter 1, 21, 22.; (2) John 7, 46.; (3) Heb. 7, 26.; (4) Isaiah 58, 6, 7.