

Causes of Thanksgiving

The apostles charge to the church is still binding he says
In everything give thanks, for it is the will of God for you of course
this injunction is still binding on us all. In order to our yielding
obedience to this Evangelic injunction let the following objects be
attended unto: That what was made good, and made to do
good and to receive and enjoy God is absolutely true and a
primary object, he was to do was to collect the united obedience
of all Gods Creatures below and along with his own was to be
presented to him who was his Father his Lord and his portion
and the Sin has disabled him for yielding his united obedience
yet Sin does not dissolve the obligation his Father laid on him
yes to do so we are every day most firmly bound to assist
you in obeying the apostles injunction let the subsequent objects
be kept in view. 1. That the Supreme and Independent being did
make us the Subjects of reason of knowledge and of choice far
for Utility, thus lifts him many degrees above the animal
world, formed for high fellowship with his maker while all other
stand afar off and knowing as or enjoying the sweets of
fellowship which men enjoy in their God let us every day bless
God for this blessed distinction between them and all the animal world
2. Let our souls bless and praise him for the early manifestations
of his distinguishing love which is notably discovered when he said
I have loved you with an everlasting love this was not said to
fallen angels if was destined to fall on men to us it has been said
and not only said but fully proved in the person of a Saviour
and on the evidence of his providence toward the inhabitants of
British Isles he has declared these important objects to us his
everlasting love and the person and glory of the divine Son to us
in the Church's history

3rd Object calculated to exceed our praise to God is that we have
full evidence that the Lamp ordained for his anointed one was
appointed to radiate these benighted lands when our anointed
dwelt as how shone with bright rays on us then successions came
the new Son anointed from y^e Lamp has both enlightened and warmed
the hearts of some to seek entrance into the Enclosures of his Church
to walk in company with his people about Zion's walls to count
his towers and to hold fast that Zion's Gates are cast for ever
and the well on our right hand and our left some going away from
ways that are so pleasant yet he has kept us within these Walls
I see and fellowship with his people to y^e day y^e stems is our praise
4th Object which should prompt us to praise God y^e day is that tho
many and much varied dispensations of Providence has befallen
this department of the N^o S^o Church partly Encouraging and partly
discouraging sometimes gathering sometimes scattering yet he has preserved
some on the former grounds our Fathers commended upon on the
day when Covenanted Reformation prevailed and neither adversity
nor prosperity has been hitherto able to separate from y^e God work
our hearts preserved to open our eyes for his good Cause
our hands to his work his feet has about a covenanted Seed
to y^e day and that he and his work has done so let them have all
our praise this day - - -

5th Ground of Gratitude and Thanksgiving is the tokens of his loving
kindness and tenderness which both his Ministers Elders and
people have experienced on our late Sacramental occasions in y^e
particular and for the out blessings of his presence he has been amongst
those who minister unto us from one to another his Sanctuary
and those distances of his goodness w^o may have accompanied
the dispensations of the paper w^o we are on the rest of w^o have
all times have gladdened our hearts and encouraged us that
an Habod is not waste on the Sanctuary doors like y^e former
and more than y^e

a 6th Feeling Cause of Thanksgiving is taken from the manifesta-
tions of his Good in the late harvest more geometry & length of
leth on our borders but causing our lands to yield increase abun-
dantly for man and beast and granting some measure of harmony
in our Formless and in Societies to sit down and enjoy these
knowledges together and to go forward as pilgrims & knowledge
towards that better Country where everlasting peace is long
and our true Cause is taken from the aspect of Providence
as of light are emanating ^{from} those dark clouds that cover
ed the Church and by those rays we are enabled to see
that divine promises are fast fulfilling to our Iscariot
head on high the lowly Gospel marches forward into
the dark regions of paganism and before it false idolatry
disappears and multitudes are flocking round the redemptive
Standard lifted on distant Nations by these rays
enabled to see and these signs do confirm us that the
Millennial Glory is begun and will not cease until the
South be filled with this glory Amen

