



By His EXCELLENCY

JONATHAN BELCHER, Esq;

Captain General and Governour in Chief in and over His Majesty's Province of
the *Massachusetts-Bay* in *New-England*.

A Proclamation for a general FAST.

UPON Consideration of the holy Anger of Almighty GOD evidently manifested in the various Judgments inflicted on us (more especially in sending among us a *mortal Sickness*, which has already greatly wasted our Numbers, and threatens yet more terrible Effects, unless prevented by the merciful Interposition of Providence;) upon Consideration likewise of our absolute Dependence on the Blessing of GOD for Success in the Interests and Affairs of the Spring and Summer ensuing;

I have thought fit, with the Advice of His Majesty's Council, to order and appoint Thursday the First Day of April next to be observed as a Day of solemn Fasting and Prayer throughout this Province; whereby exhorting both Officers and People religiously to attend the Duties of the said Day, by sincere and penitent Confession of their manifold Sins, whereby GOD hath been provoked to visit this People with sore and grievous Calamities; and by humble and earnest Supplications to the GOD of all Grace for averting the Tokens of his righteous Displeasure and conferring on us all needful Favours: In particular, That he would long preserve the Life of our Sovereign Lord the KING and our most gracious QUEEN, together with his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Duke, and the other Branches of the Royal Family; That he would grant his merciful Influence & Conduct to his Majesty's Councils for the Continuance of the Peace of his Kingdoms and Dominions, and for the restoring of Peace to Europe, under his Majesty's wise Mediation; That he would please to direct and bless the Administration of the Government of this Province; That he would give us a favourable Seeds-Time, and in due Season a plentiful Harvest; That he would prosper our Trade and Navigation, and maintain the Peace of our Sea-Coasts and Inland-Borders; and that he would compassionate our great Distresses under the wasting and mortal Sickness, by sanctifying this awful Visitation and restoring to us the Voice of Health; And above all, That he would grant unto us the plentiful Effusions of the HOLY SPIRIT, that the Sense of his righteous Displeasure against us may effect a general Repentance and Reformation throughout the Whole Land, and that the Kingdom of our Lord and Saviour JESUS CHRIST may come, and the Whole Earth be filled with his Glory: And all servile Labour and Recreations are hereby forbidden on said Day.

Given at the Council Chamber in *Boston*, the Twenty-sixth Day of *February*, 1735, in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord GEORGE the Second, by the Grace of GOD, of *Great-Britain, France and Ireland*, KING, Defender of the Faith, &c.

By His Excellency's Command,
with the Advice of the Council,

J. Willard, Secr.

J. BELCHER.

G O D save the KING.