

Commonwealth of



Massachusetts.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

JOHN BROOKS,

GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

A PROCLAMATION,

For a Day of Humiliation and Prayer.

AS we are dependent upon the Providence of God for our sustenance and support in this state of our existence, and upon His gratuitous mercy and favor for future happiness, it highly becomes us, as creatures, and as offending beings, devoutly to seek the Great Source of all good, for competent supplies of his bounty and grace :

I have, therefore, and in conformity to the laudable example of our venerable Forefathers, thought fit to appoint, and with the advice and consent of Council, I do hereby appoint THURSDAY, the SECOND DAY OF APRIL next, to be observed as a Day of Religious Meditation, Humiliation and Prayer, throughout this Commonwealth. And the people of all religious denominations, are requested to assemble on that day in their respective places of public worship, unitedly to supplicate the smiles of Divine Providence on all their interests, lawful employments and enterprizes ;—On their husbandry, that the land may yield its increase ;—On their navigation and fisheries, their manufactures and commerce ;—On the National Government, and especially on the President of the United States, that he may be the Minister of God for good

to this people ;—On the Nations with whom we have a necessary intercourse, that they may continue to be amicable and peaceful ;—On all Judges and Officers of Justice ;—On the Ministers of Religion, and the Instructors of Youth ;—On the means of preserving health, prolonging life, and multiplying the sources of rational and innocent enjoyment ;—On our Schools and Colleges ;—On our University and other Institutions for improving the human mind, and refining the public morals. And above all, humbling ourselves before God, and in the presence of each other, for our past ingratitude and transgressions, implore His free and unmerited grace for the pardon of all our sins through the redemption of His SON our great High Priest : That He will be pleased to implant in the hearts of this people the principles of Christian Charity, lead to and preserve us in the obedience of faith—and that he will finally cause the religion of JESUS to be spread through the world, that the whole earth may be filled with the glory of God.

And the people are requested to abstain from all labor and recreation incompatible with the solemn services of the occasion.

Given at the Council Chamber in Boston, this Second Day of March, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighteen : and in the Forty-Second Year of the Independence of the United States of America.

JOHN BROOKS.

By His Excellency's Command,
with the advice and consent of the Council, }

ALDEN BRADFORD, Secretary.

God save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts!