

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

# Thomas Chittenden, Esq.

Governor, Captain-general and Commander in Chief, in and over  
the State of Vermont,

## A PROCLAMATION.

It being the indispensable duty of us as a people, to acknowledge our absolute dependence on the supreme ruler of the universe, by seeking for direction and success in all our affairs; and the approaches of spring more especially calling upon us to implore the divine blessing, on the concerns and occurrences of the ensuing year, and to humble ourselves for those sins, by which we have forfeited the divine blessing and favour:

I HAVE therefore thought fit, by and with the advice of the Council, to appoint, and I do hereby appoint WEDNESDAY, the 10th day of April next, to be observed as a day of Public Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer, throughout this State. And do hereby earnestly call upon all ministers and people, of every religious denomination, to assemble at their respective places of public worship on said day, to humble themselves before almighty God for their manifold sins, and with deep contrition and penitence of heart to confess and forsake them: to fervently supplicate the divine mercy to pardon, through the merits of Jesus Christ; that he would bestow on us every needed effect of his mercy: in particular, that he would bless and succeed the administration of civil government within this state; that he would bless the rulers of the people, direct their public councils and determinations: that he would ever secure to us our invaluable rights and liberties, which, by a long and calamitous war, he has bestowed upon us, and maintain peace and good order among us: that he would save our land from wasting sickness, pestilence, frosts, droughts, mildews, insects, and every other desolating judgment: that he would favour the business of agriculture, by shedding down the kind influences of the heavens, so that the earth may yield her increase: that he would graciously bestow his blessing on all schools and seminaries of learning, that they may be nurseries of piety, as well as human literature, and rendered eminently beneficial: that he would graciously bestow his richest blessings on the supreme magistrate of this nation, preserve his life, and render him more abundantly useful in his exalted station; that he would direct the national councils, affording them wisdom, integrity, firmness, and unanimity; leading them into all necessary measures for the public good: that he would preserve and strengthen the union among the states, bless their allies, and render the connection formed with them mutually beneficial: that he would ever afford the blessings of peace to this nation, defend our frontiers, and effect a happy lasting peace with the savage tribes: that he would prosper our trade, fishery, navigation and manufactures; cause industry, frugality, temperance, and all other moral and christian virtues more and more to prevail among us: that he would extend the blessings of freedom and liberty, civil and religious among all nations; put an end to tyranny and arbitrary power, the bulwark of satan's kingdom, and humble the proud oppressors of mankind: That God would mercifully shed down the influences of his holy spirit, put an end to error, revive decaying religion through this land, and the world; that he would for this end bless the ministers of his holy word, grant them more abundant measures of knowledge and grace; that he would build up churches in the faith, purity, and fellowship of the gospel, and advance the peaceful, glorious kingdom of God our Saviour throughout the world.

And I do earnestly recommend to the good people of this state, to abstain from all servile labour and recreation, inconsistent with the duties of said day.

Given under my hand at Williston, this 10th day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand, seven hundred and ninety three, and of our independence the seventeenth.

Thomas Chittenden.

By his Excellency's Command,  
Joseph Fay, Secretary.

GOD SAVE THE PEOPLE.