

By his Excellency,
JONAS GALUSHA, Esquire,
Governor, Captain-general and Commander in Chief, in and over the
STATE of VERMONT,
A PROCLAMATION.

THE works of creation, the dictates of reason, and the light of divine revelation, all concur in manifesting the existence of a Supreme Being—who pervades and governs the universe—on whom we are dependent for our existence, and for all the powers and faculties we possess. Upheld in life through his sparing mercy, supported by the bounties of his providence, dependent on him, through grace in Jesus Christ, for peace, pardon, and eternal life, and for all personal and national favors, and justly accountable to him for our conduct, it is highly reasonable that we should acknowledge his right of government, humble ourselves before him, under a deep sense of our unworthiness, publicly confess our sins, and implore his forgiveness and merciful protection.

Although we ought at all times to feel and to acknowledge our dependence upon God, yet in a land of husbandmen, when the opening spring calls forth the laborers into the field, it is peculiarly proper, that we should deprecate the displeasure and implore the favor of that Being without whose blessing the sower soweth in vain.

I HAVE therefore thought fit by and with the advice of the Council, to appoint, and I do hereby appoint Wednesday the eighteenth day of April next, to be observed as a day of **PUBLIC FASTING, HUMILIATION and PRAYER** throughout this state, and I do hereby recommend to ministers and people of every religious denomination, to refrain from all recreation and unnecessary servile labor, and to assemble at their respective places of public worship on said day, unitedly, humbly, and with contrite hearts to adore and worship that Almighty Being, whose superintendance is over all the works of his hands, and who determines the destinies of individuals and of nations.

Let us then as a people, with solemn fear and reverence, in the name of our Divine Redeemer, approach the throne of his grace, confess our manifold and aggravated transgressions, and implore the forgiveness of God whom we have so often offended. And while we gratefully call to remembrance the numerous favors and blessings which he has bestowed upon us, as individuals, as a state, and a nation, may we lament and mourn, under a sense of our ingratitude, and resolve to break off our sins by righteousness, and turn unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon us, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Let us raise our fervent prayers and beseech Him, that all profanity, hypocrisy, and irreligion may cease, that the pure and undefiled religion of the Gospel may prevail; that his holy Sabbaths may be suitably regarded; that he would bless the ministers of the gospel, succeed them in their labors, and grant that their doctrine and example be such as becomes the ambassadors of our benevolent Saviour; that he would bless the means of education, and cause our colleges and schools to diffuse knowledge, morality, and piety among us; that he would prosper our mechanics and manufacturers, support the husbandman in the labors of the field, and crown the year with a plentiful harvest.

That he would teach and enable us to bear with humility his chastening hand, in the present unusual scarcity of bread, and incline the hearts of the wealthy to consider the wants of the poor and distressed; and that he would bless all orders and conditions of men; prosper all useful institutions; and make us that happy people whose God is the Lord. That he would graciously regard and bless the President of the United States, with all those who are engaged in conducting the important concerns of our general and state governments; that he would endow them with wisdom and prudence, so to conduct, as that the citizens of this and the other United States, may enjoy to perpetuity, the blessings of rational liberty, founded on principle, seconded by wholesome laws, and guaranteed by a republican form of government.

That he would prosper the commerce, fisheries, and manufactories of the United States; that he would dispose the belligerent powers of Europe suitably to regard our neutral rights and national independence; that he would stay the further effusion of human blood, in that unhappy land, and dispose the contending nations to a firm and lasting peace; and finally, that he would, in his mercy, bring on the happy era when wars shall cease, and when the peaceable kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ shall prevail, through the habitable world, and the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Given under my hand, at Shaftsbury, this eighth day of March, Anno Domini, one thousand eight hundred and ten.

JONAS GALUSHA.

By his Excellency's command,
R. C. MALLARY, Secretary.