

In Provincial Congress.

Cambridge, February 16, 1775.

WHEREAS it has pleased Almighty GOD, the just and good Governor of the World, to permit so great a Calamity to befall us, as the present Controversy between Great-Britain and these Colonies, and which threaten us with the Evils of War :

And whereas it has been the annual, and laudable Custom of this Colony, at the Opening of the Spring, to observe a Day of FASTING and PRAYER, to humble themselves before GOD for their Sins, and to implore his Forgiveness and Blessing :

It is therefore **RESOLVED**, as the Sense of this Congress, that it is highly and peculiarly proper, and a Duty incumbent upon this People ; more especially at a Time of such general Distress, that a Day of publick FASTING and PRAYER should be observed and kept throughout this Colony, not only on Account of the present Calamity, but also in Conformity to the laudable Custom of our Ancestors : And it is accordingly recommended to the several religious Assemblies in the same, that **THURSDAY** the Sixteenth Day of *March* next, be observed as a Day of FASTING and PRAYER, to humble ourselves before GOD, on Account of our Sins, to implore his Forgiveness, to beg his Blessing upon the Labours of the Field, upon our Merchandize, Fishery and Manufactures, and upon the various Means used to recover and preserve our just Rights and Liberties : And also that his Blessing may rest upon all the British Empire, upon **GEORGE** the Third our rightful KING, and upon all the Royal Family, that they may be great and lasting Blessings to the World ; to implore the Outpourings of his Spirit, to enable us to bear and suffer, whatever his holy and righteous Providence may see fit to lay upon us ; and also humbly to supplicate his Direction and Assistance, to discover and reform whatever is amiss, that so he may be pleased to remove these heavy Afflictions, these Tokens of his Displeasure ; and may cause Harmony and Union to be restored between *Great-Britain* and these Colonies ; and that we may again rejoice in the free and undisturbed Exercise of all those Rights and Privileges, for the Enjoyment of which our pious and virtuous Ancestors braved every Danger, and transmitted the fair Possession down to their Children, to be by them handed down intire to the latest Posterity.

Signed by Order of the Provincial Congress,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.