

Commonwealth of



Massachusetts.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

LEVI LINCOLN,

GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

A PROCLAMATION

FOR A DAY OF PUBLIC FASTING, HUMILIATION, AND PRAYER.

THE People of this Commonwealth, devoutly recognizing their constant dependence upon the Superintending Providence of ALMIGHTY GOD, will especially seek His Favor and Blessing upon the opening prospects of a new Year.

In a deep and contrite sense of their own unworthiness, they will, with penitent Hearts, humble themselves before the Throne of Infinite Grace, imploring forgiveness of their Sins, that, of the riches of Divine Goodness, the Mercies, spiritual and temporal, which they need, may continue to be vouchsafed to them.

With the advice and consent of the Executive Council, I, therefore, invite them to give public expression to these sentiments of Penitence and Dependence, by unitedly observing THURSDAY, THE FIFTH DAY OF APRIL next, in offices of HUMILIATION, FASTING, and PRAYER. Let them assemble on that day, in their respective Religious Associations, to kneel together at Altars dedicated to the worship and homage of the MOST HIGH, and there, instructed in their duties and immortal destiny, by the Revelation of his Will, through the mission

and ministry of his Blessed Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, mingle their Confessions of transgression and Supplications for pardon, with solemn Resolutions of Amendment and future Obedience to his Law. May it be a season for faithful self-examination, and of effectual rebuke to the Follies and Vices of Individuals, and the Sins of the Land;—And, by the appropriate religious observance of the occasion, may private virtues be strengthened, and public manners and morals purified, elevated, and reformed.

And may there be fervent Prayer to Heaven, that through this year, we may have Peace in our Borders, Plenty in our Stores, and Health in our Habitations. That the frightful Pestilence, which has desolated other Countries, may not be permitted to reach these Shores, but that the Places, which, elsewhere, have been visited with the Destroyer, may speedily be delivered from his dreadful ravages:—That the labors of the People may be prospered in all useful enterprizes and occupations:—That the Union and Harmony of the States may be preserved, and a Divine Blessing rest upon the Administration of the Government, and all the interests of the Citizens.

Given at the Council Chamber, in Boston, this first day of March, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, and the fifty-sixth of the Independence of the United States of America.

LEVI LINCOLN.

By His Excellency the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Council.

EDWARD D. BANGS, Secretary.

God save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.