

By His EXCELLENCY

**WILLIAM SHIRLEY, Esq;**

Caprain-General & Governour in Chief, in & over His Majesty's Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay* in *New-England*.

## A PROCLAMATION for a publick *FAST*.



IT being our indispenfable Duty to acknowledge GOD in all our Ways, and by Prayer and Supplication with Thanksgiving to make known our Requests to Him; And the present afflicted State of our Nation and Land, in the Continuance of an expensive and destructive War, as well as our Dependence on Almighty GOD for Succes in all the Enterprizes and Operations thereof, and for His Blessing upon us in all our other Affairs and Interests in the ensuing Year, requiring at this Season our publick and solemn Supplications;

**I** have thought fit, with the Advice of his Majesty's Council, to appoint Thursday the Twenty-eighth of April next to be observed as a Day of Fasting and Prayer thro'out this Province; hereby calling upon Ministers and People with the deepest Contrition and Humiliation to confess and bewail their own Sins and the Sins of this People, and to acknowledge the Righteousness of GOD in all the Calamities he has brought upon us, and to adore his infinite Patience and Goodness in mixing so much Mercy with his Judgments; and earnestly to implore his Compassion towards us, that he would pardon our many heinous Offences & turn away his Anger from us and graciously visit us with his Favour, Particularly, That it would please GOD by Whom Kings Reign, to bless our most gracious Sovereign with long Life and Health, to direct and prosper the Counsels and Administrations of the civil Government of our Nation, and to give Succes to his Majesty's Arms and the Arms of his Allies for reducing the Power of our Enemies, and for restoring a just, safe and honourable PEACE; That the divine Blessing may always rest on their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke and the other Branches of the Royal Family, and that the Protestant Succession in that illustrious House may descend to the latest Posterity, and all Attempts against it blasted; That GOD would grant his gracious Protection to all the British Colonies and Provinces in America, and more especially to this Province; That he would secure our Sea-Coasts and Inland-Frontiers from Invasions, and defeat all the Designs of our Enemies against us; That he would direct the Administrations of the Government of this Province in their difficult and important Affairs, especially those that relate to the War, and lead us into such Measures as may promote the publick Tranquillity; That he would mercifully grant us suitable Seasons for the Husbandry of this Land, that so every Part of the Year may be crowned with his Goodness; That he would continue our Health and prevent mortal Sickness from breaking in and spreading among us; That he would protect our Navigation & prosper our Trade; And above all, That the Christian Religion, in its Purity & Power, may be greatly advanced in our Nation and Land, and that all Nations may be brought into the spiritual Kingdom of our Lord and Saviour JESUS CHRIST, and that the whole Earth may be filled with His Glory. And all servile Labour and Recreations are forbidden on said Day.

Given at the Council-Chamber in BOSTON, the Twenty-fifth Day of *March* 1748. In the Twenty-first Year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord GEORGE the Second, by the Grace of GOD of GREAT-BRITAIN, FRANCE, and IRELAND, KING, Defender of the Faith, &c.

By Order of His Excellency the Governour,  
with the Advice of the Council,

*W. Shirley.*

J. WILLARD, Secr.

**GOD Save the KING.**

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