

1845

State of New Hampshire.

A PROCLAMATION,  
FOR A DAY OF FASTING AND PRAYER.

BY THE GOVERNOR.

The chilling blasts of winter are fast passing away, and the season of the year approaches, when it has been customary for the Executive of this State to issue his Proclamation inviting the inhabitants thereof to join in a day of Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer—rendering thanks to the author of all good for the many mercies he has shown to them—humbling themselves before him—acknowledging their unworthiness—imploping his forgiveness for past transgressions, and humbly seeking his aid for the future.

In conformity with this ancient and venerated custom, I do, by and with the advice and consent of Council, appoint THURSDAY, the seventeenth day of April next, to be observed as a day of HUMILIATION, FASTING and PRAYER, throughout this State; and I do earnestly and solemnly recommend to each and every inhabitant thereof, to observe that day as a day appropriated and set apart for each and every one to search the deepest recesses of his own heart, and to compare his own past conduct with the precepts of the meek and lowly Jesus—to cast the beam out of his own eye, ere the attempt is made to remove the mote from his brother's—to humble himself instead of his neighbor—to forgive, ere he can reasonably hope to be forgiven—and, in short, to reform himself; and the more effectually to do this, let each one, ere he rises from his pillow, or enters upon the open duties and trials of the day, earnestly beseech his Maker, not only to forgive his past transgressions, but to give him strength to resist temptation, and not leave us to condemn others, until we have perfected ourselves. Thus, and thus only, can we reasonably hope to resist or escape from the worst of tempters, our own evil passions. And when we are assembled at our usual places of public worship, let us there join together in one united resolve to mend our ways—to seek and promote each other's welfare—to cherish and maintain peace, order and concord—and, in short, to resolve, while here below, to do our whole duty, resting assured that, if we do so, we shall meet again in the realms of bliss, where envy, malice and hatred cannot enter; and where we shall be greeted with, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

*Given at the Council Chamber at Concord, on this eighteenth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-five, and of the Independence of the United States the sixty-ninth.*

JOHN H. STEELE.

By His Excellency's command, with advice of Council—

THOMAS P. TREADWELL, *Secretary of State.*