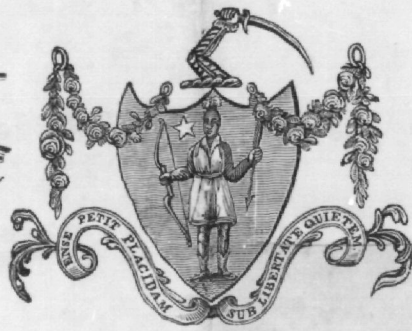


Commonwealth of



Massachusetts.

BY HIS HONOR

**SAMUEL T. ARMSTRONG,**

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

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# PROCLAMATION

**FOR A DAY OF PUBLIC THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE.**

THE heart, filled with grateful emotions, finds relief in expressions of praise. The joys and hopes which animate us are imparted by the beneficence of our Father in Heaven: to whom our ancestors, who founded our religious and civil institutions by their wisdom, defended them by their valor, and preserved them by their forecast, resorted in all their perplexities. We are come to the possession of a rich inheritance, the fruit of their toils, sacrifices and prayers. It was God who endowed them with the needed qualities; and He crowned their labors with success. Let us then come before His presence with the voice of thanksgiving. What people have received so liberally of His bounteous goodness as the people of Massachusetts? There have been days of darkness, and seasons of despondency; but light has burst forth, and hope soon appeared. The spring of the year, now closing, returned to us with beauty and songs. The earth, in summer, was arrayed in its glory. Our garners are filled in autumn. The employments of the fisherman, the artizan, and the merchant, have yielded gainful returns. The cause of charity, temperance and piety is advancing. The fountains of knowledge, yielding a full supply, their streams flow freely abroad among all classes. The rich and the poor meet together; and the liberal are still devising liberal things. Our soil, unpressed by the foot of a slave, is the abode of freemen. The laws are respected; justice is dispensed in mercy; quietness is in all the land; the voice of health is heard throughout our borders; and death asks but few victims. In circumstances so happy, and under obligations so great, are

the people of this Commonwealth called upon to observe a day of **THANKSGIVING, PRAYER AND PRAISE.**

**THURSDAY, THE THIRD DAY OF DECEMBER NEXT,** is hereby appointed for that purpose. And all the good people of this Commonwealth are affectionately and earnestly invited to engage in such religious and charitable services, as are customary, and befitting a people enjoying the public, domestic, and personal benefits which are allotted to us. While our hearts glow at the recital of the blessings, religious and civil, which we possess, or which we hope for, let us not forget to implore the favor of **ALMIGHTY GOD** upon our National and State Governments; upon all portions of our fellow countrymen; and upon the people of all Nations; and, uniting works with faith, do such things as "are good and profitable unto men." In a former age, similar seasons were distinguished by deeds of mercy and forbearance. The land rested from the plough; the servant from his labor; the debtor was released from his bondage, and the poor man was restored to his inheritance. Let us cherish that fraternal regard for all men, which is inculcated and illustrated in the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour **JESUS CHRIST.** Let us fear to light up the flame of discord and commotion. Let us shun every deviation from right principles, holding fast to law, order and religion; nor, in our prosperity and greatness, neglect to fear and serve the God of our fathers: but let us keep his Sabbaths, and reverence his Sanctuary, lest we also become as those Nations whose light is extinct, and whose glory is in the dust.

**Given at the Council Chamber in Boston, this third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-five, and the sixtieth year of the Independence of the United States of America.**

**SAMUEL T. ARMSTRONG.**

By His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, with the advice }  
and consent of the Council.

**EDWARD D. BANGS, Secretary.**

**God save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.**