

# *State of New-Hampshire.*

BY THE GOVERNOR,

## **A PROCLAMATION,**

### **FOR A DAY OF THANKSGIVING.**

**THE** expression of our gratitude to God for his beneficence towards us, by acts of adoration and praise, is a duty to which we are incited by every generous emotion of the heart, and by the plainest injunctions of religion. It is a duty alike incumbent upon individuals for personal mercies, and upon societies and nations for favors bestowed upon them in their social and civil relations. As we are distinguished by the choicest gifts of Heaven, of a natural, social, civil and religious kind, we owe corresponding obligations of gratitude to their Divine Author.

That we may render our tribute of praise to Him in that united and social manner, which the nature of many of the mercies received render so peculiarly proper, I have thought fit to appoint, and do hereby, with advice of Council, appoint THURSDAY THE NINTH DAY OF NOVEMBER NEXT to be kept as a day of *Thanksgiving and Prayer* throughout this State. I recommend to the ministers and people of every religious persuasion to assemble on that day in their several places of public worship, and with humble and devout hearts to recall to mind and thankfully acknowledge the parental kindness of Almighty God to our country; That it has at all times experienced the protection of that superintending providence, which governs the destinies of individuals and nations; That our ancestors were inspired with that love of liberty, that virtue, piety and enlightened regard for the best interests of their posterity, which laid the foundation of those institutions and habits, which, by the blessing of Heaven, have given us a system of government, under which we enjoy the most exalted privileges; That all the designs of tyranny against us have been frustrated and so overruled as to eventuate in the greater security and uninterrupted enjoyment of our rights; That we have a constitution which guarantees equal liberty and protection to all its citizens, and provides for their permanent enjoyment by all the safe-guards, which human wisdom can devise; That we have been blessed with an unusual degree of health through the past year, and that the earth has again yielded us a comfortable supply of the necessaries of life; That with temporal mercies so great, we enjoy the light of revelation, and of that gospel, which can alone afford to man the precious and assured hope of immortality and future happiness, which teaches our duty to God and man by plain and unerring rules, which shows us that the path of duty leads to happiness, and that we serve God acceptably by respecting the rights and promoting the happiness of our fellow men.

With expressions of gratitude, let us join fervent supplications to a Merciful God that He would look with compassion on our infirmities and pardon our transgressions; That He would awaken and strengthen in our hearts sincere desires and purposes of repentance and amendment of life; That He would prosper the means of instruction in religion and useful science, that our youth may be imbued with sound principles of knowledge, virtue and piety, and be thus prepared for faithful exertions to secure to their country the unimpaired enjoyment of her civil and religious rights, and to themselves the favor of Heaven; That He would enlighten the Government of this State and of the United States, and direct them to the adoption of such laws and measures as may best promote the prosperity of the people; That He would graciously prosper our citizens in all the pursuits of their laudable industry, shield them from every impending danger, and guide them in the way of truth and righteousness.

The people of this State are requested to abstain from all worldly occupations and unbecoming amusements on that day.

Given at the Council Chamber at Concord the seventh day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty, and of the Independence of the United States the forty-fifth.

**SAMUEL BELL.**

BY HIS EXCELLENCY'S COMMAND, WITH ADVICE OF COUNCIL,

*Richard Bartlett* DEPUTY SECRETARY.