

Commonwealth of



Massachusetts.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

JOHN BROOKS,

GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

A PROCLAMATION,

FOR A DAY OF

Public Thanksgiving & Prayer.

THE happiness of man being derived from the goodness of the Supreme Sovereign of the world, it becomes us, to recognize and adore the great source of all our enjoyments, and to express our obligations for the continued care and munificence of an indulgent Providence: And the many blessings, by which the current year has been distinguished, demand of the people of this State, corresponding expressions of gratitude and thankfulness:

I HAVE, therefore, thought fit to appoint, and, with the advice of the COUNCIL, do hereby appoint, THURSDAY, the Second Day of December next, to be observed as a Day of THANKSGIVING and PRAYER, throughout this Commonwealth. And the people of all religious denominations are requested to assemble in their respective places of public worship, on that day, that we may unitedly and devoutly render to Almighty God, the tribute of Praise and Thanksgiving, for His unmerited favours; for the uncommon degree of health which has been enjoyed among us; for the rich abundance with which He has been pleased to crown both the former and the latter harvest; for the general prevalence of harmony and good fellowship, and the continuance of our civil and religious privileges: That our country is enjoying the relations of peace and amity with other nations: That, although our commerce has suffered embarrassments, yet, that our fisheries have prospered, our fields have yielded a plentiful increase, and the efforts of industry have, generally, been liberally rewarded.

AND while we devoutly offer to the God of all our

mercies, the sacrifice of Thanksgiving, may we duly realize our own demerits; and, to a humble confession of our sins, add earnest supplications to the Throne of Divine Grace, through the great Saviour of men for their remission: That God will be pleased, in his Providence, to supply the poor with friends and subsistence: That He will regard with favor the cause of virtue and pure religion: That He will continue the tokens of his providential care over the interests of the United States: That He will bless and sustain the President in the discharge of the duties of his elevated station; superintend the deliberations of the General and State Governments; and preserve our Nation in peace: That He will bless our Judges and Magistrates, the Ministers of Religion, and the Instructors of Youth: That He will smile on the interests of learning, on our University, our Colleges and Schools, and all Institutions for improving the minds and morals of the rising generation: That He will be graciously pleased to succeed the efforts of all Societies calculated to discountenance vice, to promote piety, and to encourage the practice of humanity and kindness: And that, by the wisdom and goodness of an Almighty Providence, the time may be hastened, when the holy religion of the Gospel shall be universal, "and there shall be one Lord, and his name one," "over all the earth."

AND the people are requested to abstain from all labor and amusements inconsistent with the solemnities of the said day.

GIVEN at the Council Chamber, in Boston, the Eighteenth Day of October, in the Year of Our Lord, Eighteen Hundred and Nineteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the Forty-Fourth.

JOHN BROOKS.

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

ALDEN BRADFORD, Secretary.

God save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts!