

# STATE OF VERMONT.

By his Excellency

**EZRA BUTLER,**

Governor and Captain-General, and Commander in Chief in and over the State of Vermont,

## *A PROCLAMATION.*

IF the inspired Psalmist deemed it important to pay his vows of thanksgiving and praise unto the LORD, IN THE COURTS OF THE LORD'S HOUSE, AND IN THE PRESENCE OF ALL THE PEOPLE, for the individual blessings which he had received, how much more becoming is it for a whole community, when they enjoy common blessings, to unite at one time and with one consent, in publick and social acts of thanksgiving and praise, to the common Author of all their mercies ! Such common blessings are enjoyed by us as a commonwealth, and therefore, such social acts of praise, such a concert of thanksgiving highly becomes us as a community.

### IN conformity, therefore, with the usage of our forefathers, and

with the fullest conviction of the fitness of that usage, I do hereby, at the request of the General Assembly, and by the advice of the Council, appoint THURSDAY, THE SIXTH DAY OF DECEMBER NEXT, to be observed, throughout this state, as a day of PUBLICK THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE. And the people of this state are hereby earnestly requested, to refrain from all recreations and unnecessary labour, on said day, and assemble at their respective places of worship, and unite sincerely and cordially, in grateful acknowledgments to the God of providence and grace, for all the multiplied and varied mercies of the past season ; that he has been pleased to continue to this state, as also to the nation generally, the blessings of his providence, causing the earth to bring forth a competent supply for man and beast ; that he has favoured our people with usual health, and crowned our various labours and interests, with increasing success ; and is giving to our free political institutions, a firmness and a perfection, which it is hoped, will render them perpetual.

And as religion is the foundation and safeguard of these institutions, as well as the only substantial solace of life, and earnest of Heaven, all are especially exhorted to render thanks to the God of all grace, for the many spiritual blessings with which we are favoured ; that he has been pleased to raise up, among different sects of professing Christians, many faithful and useful labourers, in the glorious cause of humanity, morality and religion, who, forgetting measurably the former distinctions that then divided them, are uniting their exertions for the common good, and their labours are crowned with great and increasing success.

And since gratitude always implies a sense of *unmerited* favours, we shall in this exercise, be led by a natural connexion and association, to reflect on our own native unworthiness, heightened by our many individual and publick sins ; for which, with brokenness of heart and contrition of spirit, we ought to exercise the most unfeigned repentance towards God, and sue for forgiveness, through faith in our LORD JESUS CHRIST.

With the spirit of thanksgiving, stands connected also, a sense of dependance, and a conviction that all our future blessings must come from the same merciful hand, that has hitherto supplied us. Our praises, therefore, should be mingled with prayer, that the God of love would, for the sake of his Son JESUS CHRIST our LORD, still continue his favours ; that he would continue to bless our state, its officers and its citizens ; that he would bless the United States, the President, and all the officers of the general and several state governments ; that he would bless and prosper the cause of political liberty, in this and the other hemisphere ; and especially, that he would bless the gospel of his Son, and extend and strengthen its influence through the whole earth, until the Kingdoms of this world, shall become the Kingdom of our LORD and SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST.



GIVEN under my hand, in Council Chamber, at Montpelier, this twenty-fifth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven ; and in the fifty-second year of the Independence of the United States.

**EZRA BUTLER.**

BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

DANIEL KELLOGG, Secretary.