

Province of the  
Massachusetts  
Bay, &c.



By the HONORABLE,  
The Lieutenant GOVERNOUR,  
Council and Assembly.  
A Proclamation for a general  
THANKSGIVING.

**T**HIS Court taking into serious Consideration the many great and signal Mercies of a Gracious GOD, bestowed upon a sinfull and Undeserving people, in sparing and proving of us one Year more, notwithstanding our manifold grievous Provocations, and wifful backwardness in improving his repeated Judgments unto a thorough Reformation; Specially, in that he hath continued our civil and sacred Liberties thus far; that he hath in an unexpected manner afforded us a plentiful Harvest after several years of scarcity; that he hath continued such measures of Health among us, and prevented a contagious mortal Distemper from breaking in upon us when it twice threatened us in the Summer past; that he hath so far given check to the Rage of our heathen Adversaries; that he hath succeeded the Undertakings of our Sovereign Lord the King and made him the happy Instrument of an honorable Peace after so many years of a consuming War; that he hath put it into his Royal heart to engage in and strenuously to pursue Reformation; that under his conduct the three Kingdoms with the Dispersions of them doe enjoy the free Liberty of the True Religion, whilst the Faithfull in France, Piedmont, and other places, are suffering horrible Persecution for the Truth: Besides innumerable more Kindnesses of our Mercifull GOD calling us to signalize our Gratitude unto him.

Therefore it is Ordered, and this Court doth hereby Order and Appoint that Thursday the Fifteenth of December next, be kept as a Day of solemn THANKSGIVING throughout this Province; And that the Ministers and People address themselves to this heavenly Employment in such a manner, as that an acceptable Sacrifice of Praise may be offered to GOD through Jesus Christ. And all servile Labour is hereby forbidden upon said Day.