

Commonwealth of



Massachusetts.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

EDWARD EVERETT,

GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS:

A

PROCLAMATION

FOR A DAY OF PUBLIC THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE.

WHEREAS it has long been the established custom of the People of Massachusetts, toward the close of the Year, to unite in public expressions of gratitude to that GRACIOUS BEING, by whom the Earth is moved in its orbit through the Heavens, and the Seasons, each with its peculiar blessings, are brought forth in their order; I do, hereby, with the advice and consent of the Council, appoint THURSDAY, THE TWENTY-NINTH DAY OF NOVEMBER NEXT, as a day of PUBLIC THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE; and I do earnestly recommend that it be kept, according to the practice of our Forefathers, as a day set apart for solemn religious observance, for liberal remembrance of the poor, and for the cultivation of kindly affections among kindred and friends.

The people of the Commonwealth are accordingly invited to assemble on that day, in their usual places of worship, and to unite in a heartfelt tribute of thanks to ALMIGHTY GOD, for his numberless mercies:—

Especially for that watchful Providence, which, amidst a thousand causes of dissolution, has sustained the wonderful frame-work of our being:—

For that renewed exercise of creative power, which has again called forth, from the lifeless earth, the various productions of vegetable nature, appointed for the food of man; and for the abundance which, during the past season, has crowned the labors of the husbandman:—

For the absence of pestilential diseases, and the general prevalence of health throughout the country:—

For the preservation of peace with foreign nations, and the maintenance of order and quiet in our own community:—

For the prospect of returning prosperity in the various branches of active industry:—

For the continued enjoyment of the blessings of civil freedom, of constitutional government, and of equal laws impartially administered:—

For the increasing attention given to the great cause of Education:—

For the happy influence of benevolent efforts, made in the spirit of Christian Love, for the relief of every form of human want and suffering, the reformation of vice, and the moral improvement and elevation of the community:—

And above all, for the inestimable blessing of the GOSPEL OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST.

And, while we offer our ascriptions of praise to the Author of Good for these and all his mercies,—which, notwithstanding our unworthiness, are daily vouchsafed to us,—let our hearts be touched for the children of want. In no way can we so well show our thankfulness as by imitating, in our humble measure, the goodness of our Heavenly Father, and co-operating in the chosen work of divine Benevolence.

Given at the Council Chamber in Boston, this twenty-eighth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States the sixty-third.

EDWARD EVERETT.

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

JOHN P. BIGELOW, *Secretary of the State.*

God save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts!