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BY HIS EXCELLENCY,  
**JONAS GALUSHA, Esquire,** 1811

GOVERNOR, CAPTAIN-GENERAL, AND COMMANDER IN CHIEF IN AND OVER THE STATE OF VERMONT,

## A PROCLAMATION.

WHEN we survey the vast heavens, and contemplate the extensive globe, on which we dwell, we are struck with wonder and astonishment at the sublime works of creation ; and if our hearts are rightly affected, we are led to reverence, and adore that Supreme Being, who has created all things, who presides over the works of his hands, and by the blessings of his providence, bountifully provides for the creatures he has made. Being entirely dependant on him for life, and every present and future enjoyment, it highly behoves us to acknowledge his right of government, and in a public and social manner, offer up solemn ascriptions of praise and thanksgiving to him, for the many and distinguished favors, he has graciously bestowed upon us ; and especially for the blessings, which have crowned the preceding year ; that he has caused the earth to yield her increase in a great abundance : and he has permitted us to enjoy the inestimable blessing of peace ; and above all, for the beneficent influence of his Holy Spirit, on the hearts of men.

I have therefore thought fit, by and with the advice of the Council, and at the request of the General Assembly, to appoint, and I do hereby appoint THURSDAY THE FIFTH DAY OF DECEMBER NEXT, to be observed as a day of public Thanksgiving and Prayer throughout this State. And I hereby earnestly intreat ministers and people of every religious denomination to assemble at their respective places of public worship on said day ; and there with profound reverence, offer up their united prayers and praises to Almighty God, for the numerous favors and mercies, bestowed upon us : and particularly for the blessings of the past year : that he has succeeded the labor of the husbandman, and replenished our store-houses and barns with the rich product of a bountiful harvest : that he hath caused peace to reign within our borders, while dread commotions have shaken the nations of Europe, and sanguinary wars, have drenched their plains, with human gore : that while the belligerent powers have deprived us of the common benefits of the seas and the just rights of neutral commerce, he has been pleased to prosper our infant manufactures, and excite a patriotic ardor for internal improvement and a diminution of foreign dependence. May we at all times, but especially on the day thus dedicated, divest ourselves of selfishness and hypocrisy, and unfeignedly render to our God, a just tribute of praise, for his guardian care over this highly favored land ; and with gratitude call to mind his tender mercies to our ancestors, in the first settlement of our country then an uncultivated wilderness : for his kind protection against savage barbarity and all surrounding evils : for the blessings which have ever since attended their offspring : that he has increased our numbers and enlarged our borders : that he has been our defence in war and our support in times of peace ; and has at length established us, an independent nation under a government of our own choice ; a government, which while its principles are strictly adhered to, will secure to us all the blessings of civil and religious liberty, and that while many other nations are groaning under the galling chains of despotism, or groping in heathenish darkness and superstition, we are permitted to enjoy the fruits of our labor, and worship God according to the dictates of our consciences.

Let us bless and praise his holy name, that he has prospered the means of education : that he has endowed us with the invaluable gift of the holy scriptures in our own language : that he has favored us with the preached gospel, and of late crowned the labors of his ambassadors with abundant success : that in several parts of our state, he has caused a serious attention to the weighty concerns of religion ; and as we humbly trust, brought many to a saving knowledge of the all important truths of the gospel. But above all, may we magnify and adore him, for the infinite display of his goodness in the gift of his Son, to restore lost and sinful man. And while we thus review his past favors with sincere expressions of gratitude, may we with true contrition of heart, under a due sense of our unworthiness, repent of our sins, and earnestly implore the continuance of his unmerited favors. That he would prolong unto us the blessings of peace : that he would humble us under the tokens of divine displeasure, and avert his impending judgments ; that he would cause the arts and sciences still to progress, and improve the state of society ; that he would bless the preached gospel, and inspire his ministers with a true evangelical spirit, that their doctrines and examples may be such, as shall meet the approbation of their divine Master, and they receive many souls as seals of their ministry ; that he would succeed all benevolent endeavors to disseminate the knowledge and salutary influence of divine revelation in heathen countries ; take the missionaries under his peculiar care, and grant their lives and healths to be precious in his sight, and their eye single to his glory : that he would bless the citizens of this and the United States : cause party prejudices and every obstacle opposed to their union and happiness, to be removed, and friendship and national harmony restored : that he would bless the President of the United States, and grant him all the wisdom and prudence, requisite to the faithful discharge of his important trust ; that he would graciously regard the Congress of the United States, that their deliberations may be dispassionate, all party motives laid aside and they actuated solely by a patriotic zeal for the best good of their constituents and the highest honor and interest of the nation, that all in authority in the general and state governments may ask and receive wisdom, from him who giveth liberally, and upbraideth not. And finally : that he would cause wars and contentions to cease : that man may no longer be arrayed against man, or nation against nation ; but all learn that happiness consists in rendering others happy : and that the pure religion of our benevolent Savior, may prevail throughout the habitable globe, and the kingdoms of the world, become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ. And I do hereby recommend to the people of this State to suspend all recreation and unnecessary labor on said day.

GIVEN under my hand at Montpelier, this 21st day of October, in the year of our Lord Christ one thousand eight hundred and eleven, and of the independence of the United States the thirty-sixth.

By his Excellency's command.

R. C. MALLARY, Secretary.

JONAS GALUSHA.