

By His EXCELLENCY

# John Taylor Gilman,

GOVERNOR of the STATE of NEW-HAMPSHIRE ;

## A Proclamation FOR A PUBLIC THANKSGIVING.

THE Sovereign LORD, and Benevolent Parent of the Universe, having been pleased to continue to the citizens of this State, the invaluable blessings of civil and religious liberty, so that there is none to molest or make us afraid when we would publickly assemble to worship him ; and the many unmeritted favors bestowed on us as a people, demanding our public acknowledgments and highest praise :

The Legislature have appointed *Thursday* the thirteenth day of *November* next, to be observed as a day of PUBLIC THANKSGIVING throughout this State, and I have thought fit, by and with the Advice of Council, to issue this Proclamation, exhorting Ministers and People of every denomination, religiously to dedicate said day, and to spend a reasonable proportion thereof in their respective places of public worship, calling to mind the many unmeritted favors we have experienced, and with hearts filled with gratitude, to praise the name of Almighty GOD, our Supreme and Bountiful Benefactor, as the free Giver of all Good which we enjoy.

In particular, that he hath been graciously pleased to prevent contagious and mortal disorders from spreading among us :—That health is so generally enjoyed throughout this State :—That the hope of the husbandman hath been so far realized, as that we are favored with a comfortable supply of the precious fruits of the field :—That we are so highly favored in the enjoyment of means for promoting useful knowledge : But above all, that the good tiding of great joy, which shineth to all people, is still continued among us, and for the hope we have of future happiness. And together with our thanksgiving, let us with humble and penitent hearts, implore pardon for our transgressions, and entreat the Father of Mercies, that he would be pleased to continue to us, the blessings we now enjoy, and bestow such favors as we may stand in need of :

That he would keep the Government of the United States, of the several States, and of this in particular, under his holy protection :—That our Rulers may be inspired with that wisdom, prudence and integrity which is necessary to direct them in the discharge of the duties of their respective stations, and with all the people, lead quiet and peaceable lives in all godliness and honesty :—That it would please GOD to over-rule the wars and tumults among nations, so as to subserve his own glory, and the peace, liberty and happiness of mankind :—That if it may be consistent with his holy will, a speedy end may be put to the wars on our frontiers, the opposition (now existing in some parts of particular States) to the laws and government of the United States, cease, and all further hostile measures be prevented.

That it would please the LORD our Creator, Preserver and Bountiful Benefactor, to compassionate the whole world of mankind :—That ignorance, superstition, hypocrisy, and every thing contrary to virtue, may be dispelled and done away :—That the divine charity of the gospel, may be more generally understood, and more universally practised :—That a true knowledge of the LORD may operate so powerfully on the minds of all, as to produce the most ardent love to him, and good will to our fellow men :—That there may be nothing to hurt or destroy, but all unite with grateful hearts in proclaiming, *The LORD reigneth let the Earth rejoice.*

*And it is recommended and expected, that all persons religiously abstain from all servile labour, and such recreations as are unbecoming the solemnity of the day.*

*Given at the Council-Chamber in Exeter, this, 29th day of September, in the year of our LORD, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-four ; and of the Sovereignty and Independence of the United States of America, the nineteenth.*

JOHN TAYLOR GILMAN.

*By His Excellency's Command, with Advice of Council.*

JOSEPH PEARSON, Secretary.