

By His EXCELLENCY

WILLIAM GREENE, Esquire,

Governor, Captain-General, and Commander in Chief, of and over the State
of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations.

A P R O C L A M A T I O N.

W H E R E A S the Most Honorable the Continental Congress did, on the Seventeenth Day of November last, pass the following Resolve, to wit :

“ It having pleased Almighty God, through the Course of the present Year, to bestow great and manifold Mercies on the People of these United States; and it being the indispensable Duty of all Men, gratefully to acknowledge their Obligations to Him for Benefits received ;

“ RESOLVED, That it be and hereby is recommended to the legislative or executive Authority of each of the said States, to appoint WEDNESDAY the Thirtieth Day of December next, to be observed as a Day of public THANKSGIVING and PRAISE : That all the People may, with united Hearts, on that Day, express a just Sense of His unmerited Favours; particularly in that it hath pleased Him, by His over-ruling Providence, to support us in a just and necessary War for the Defence of our Rights and Liberties; by affording us seasonable Supplies for our Armies; by disposing the Heart of a powerful Monarch to enter into Alliance with us, and aid our Cause; by defeating the Councils and evil Designs of our Enemies, and giving us Victory over their Troops; and, by the Continuance of that Union among these States, which by His Blessing will be their future Strength and Glory.

“ And it is further recommended, That, together with devout Thanksgivings, may be joined a penitent Confession of our Sins, and humble Supplication for Pardon through the Merits of our Saviour: So that under the Smiles of Heaven our public Councils may be directed; our Arms by Land and Sea prospered; our Liberty and Independence secured; our Schools and Seminaries of Learning flourish; our Trade be revived; our Husbandry and Manufactures increased; and the Hearts of all impressed with unfeigned Piety, with Benevolence, and Zeal for the public Good.

“ And it is also recommended, That Recreations, unsuitable to the Purpose of such a Solemnity, may be omitted on that Day.

“ DONE in CONGRESS, this Seventeenth Day of November, 1778, and in the Third Year of the Independence of the United States of America.

“ Attest. CHARLES THOMSON, Sec'ry.

HENRY LAURENS, President.”

And whereas the Council of War of this State did, on the Seventh Instant, order, That the said Thirtieth Day of December should be observed throughout the same as a Day of public Thanksgiving and Praise, agreeable to the said Resolve, and recommended it to me to issue a Proclamation accordingly: I HAVE THEREFORE thought fit to issue this Proclamation, to make known the said Resolve of Congress, and Order of the Council of War; and do hereby call upon all the Inhabitants of this State to observe the said Thirtieth Day of December, as a Day of public Thanksgiving and Praise, agreeable to the said Resolve of Congress.

G I V E N under my Hand, and the Seal of the said State, this Eighth Day of December, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy-eight, and in the Third Year of Independence.

W. GREENE.

By his Excellency's Command,
HENRY WARD, Sec'ry.

G O D save the United States of A M E R I C A.