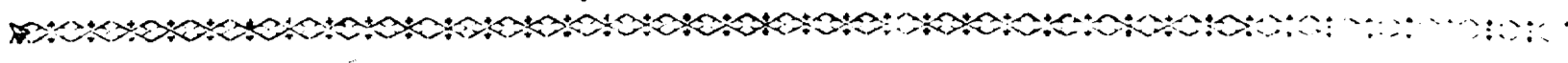


Manuscript
1788



By His EXCELLENCY

J O H N L A N G D O N, Esquire,

CAPTAIN-GENERAL and COMMANDER in CHIEF in and over the STATE of NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

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

FOR A GENERAL THANKSGIVING.

SOCIETIES, as well as Individuals, being dependent upon, and protected by Divine Providence, and deriving all their blessings from the same source; it is both their indispensable duty, and high privilege, at stated seasons, to make their grateful, and public acknowledgements to their Supreme Benefactor therefor: And, as the God of all our mercies has, in the course of the last year, loaded us with his benefits, we ought with devout hearts, and elevated strains of praise and thanksgiving, to magnify his great and glorious name.

I have therefore thought fit, by and with advice of Council, agreeably to a vote of the General Court, to appoint THURSDAY the *Twenty-seventh Day of November* next, to be observed as a Day of Public Thanksgiving throughout this State; earnestly recommending to Ministers and People, of every denomination, to assemble on that day, to adore and praise the GOD of our lives:—devoutly to offer up their sincere thanks for the continuance of His mercies—while our ungrateful returns for the same have justly merited His indignation: To thank Him for the general health, and remarkable plenty of the fruits of the earth, the present year;—for His smiles on our commerce, and the rising prospect of its increase and extension;—for His blessing, on the administration of Government—that so much peace, order, and harmony, have prevailed among the People; and that the inestimable privilege of civil and religious liberty, is continued, and enjoyed;—for the signal display of His goodness, inclining the citizens of so many States, to adopt the Constitution of Federal Government, happily calculated to secure and perpetuate to them, all the blessings of PEACE and INDEPENDENCE—humbly imploring the Fountain of all Wisdom, to diffuse a spirit of harmony and union, among the People of the United States, and to prevent every occasion of alienation;—above all, to bless, and glorify His venerable Name, for the unspeakable gift of His Son, to save a ruined world;—for the means of grace, and the hope of eternal glory—with hearts penetrated with a sense of divine benefits, and glowing in the recollection of His manifold acts of kindness, to supplicate the GOD of all Grace, to rain down righteousness upon us;—to grant us the influences of His spirit;—to inspire us with virtue, and restrain us from vice;—that He would be pleased to protect, strengthen, and establish, this new, rising Empire;—that the choice of Federal Rulers may be under the auspices of Heaven, and be endowed with wisdom, integrity, and patriotism, adequate to the important design of their appointment: Particularly, that GOD would bless this State, prosper its civil Government, encourage the means of Literature, succeed a preached gospel, and spread the glories of His name, and the triumphs of His grace, from the rising to the setting sun.

And it is hereby recommended to the People of said State, that they abstain from all servile labour and recreation on said day.

Given at the Council Chamber at Portsmouth, the Tenth Day of October, Anno Domini, One Thousand, Seven Hundred and Eighty-eight, and of the Sovereignty and Independence of the United States of America the Thirteenth.

J O H N L A N G D O N.

By His Excellency's Command,

J O S E P H P E A R S O N, Secretary.

G O D S A V E T H E S T A T E.

