

1829

Commonwealth of



Massachusetts.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

LEVI LINCOLN,

GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

A PROCLAMATION,

FOR A DAY OF PUBLIC FASTING, HUMILIATION, AND PRAYER.

With the advice and consent of the Executive Council, I appoint *Thursday, the ninth day of April next*, to be observed throughout this Commonwealth, in **FASTING, HUMILIATION, and PRAYER.**

May the People of every Class and Denomination assemble with deep religious feelings, on that day, as much in the pious spirit of their Ancestors as in imitation of their example of social worship, unitedly to offer to the **AUTHOR** of their existence, the **SUSTAINER** of their lives, and the **SOVEREIGN DISPOSER** of their future destinies, penitent confessions of Sin, and Supplications for Pardon and Divine Favor.—May the day be consecrated to solemn meditation, and to a faithful and responsible review of the past;—that Offences of private commission, and Defaults and Transgressions of public character, may be remembered in contrition, and repented of, with effectual resolutions of amendment;—And may the occasion, especially be improved, to rebuke those vices of Profanity and Intemperance, violations of moral duty, and disregard of religious obligation, which are alike baneful to Individuals, and destructive of the peace and happiness of the Community.

And as, by the opening of the Spring, we are more directly reminded of the kind Providence of Heaven, in preparing means for the supply of human wants, may we not be insensible of our dependence upon the Divine Blessing

for the rewards of human labor, but humbly ask in Prayer, that the succession of the Seasons may continue to be ordered to us, in mercy.

Imploring the favor of Almighty God upon the Land in which we live, and upon all the interests of the People;—upon the respective States of the Union, and upon the Government of the Nation, let us also commend to his care and protection, and to the guidance of his wisdom, those who are called to the Administration of the public affairs. May we seek, with devout and earnest Supplication, that our Institutions of a Civil, Literary, and Religious character, may be preserved in their purity, and enjoyed with an increased and wide spreading usefulness;—that, through their instrumentality, Knowledge, and the Charities of social fellowship and kindness, may be cultivated, and the People, justly appreciating their Rights, and sensible of the precious worth of their Privileges, may be animated to the faithful discharge of the duties of Citizens, and to a fulfilment of the obligations, which bind them to a higher and more solemn accountability, as Christians.

The People of the Commonwealth are requested to abstain from recreation and unnecessary labor, on the day of the appointed Fast;—And, through Divine Grace, may the appropriate religious observance of the occasion be eminently blessed, to their temporal and spiritual improvement.

Given at the Council Chamber in Boston, this twentieth day of February, in the
year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-nine, and the fifty-third of the Independence of the United States of America.

LEVI LINCOLN.

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

EDWARD D. BANGS, Secretary.

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts!