

Commonwealth of



1832
Massachusetts.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

LEVI LINCOLN,

GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

A PROCLAMATION

FOR A DAY OF PUBLIC THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE.

IN the period of apprehension and impending danger, the People of this Commonwealth, with a pious sentiment of confidence in the Divine Superintendence over the condition of men, prostrated themselves, in penitence and prayer, before the Infinite Source of all GOODNESS, imploring protection and safety. And now, in the day of their deliverance from affliction, and the fear of evil, it no less becomes their sense of dependence upon ALMIGHTY POWER, to render the tribute of Acknowledgment, Gratitude, and Praise, to the SOVEREIGN DISPOSER of Events, the BENEFICENT GIVER of all their enjoyments.

With the advice and consent of the Executive Council, I, therefore, appoint THURSDAY, the TWENTY-NINTH DAY OF NOVEMBER next, to be observed, throughout the Commonwealth, as a Religious Festival of THANKSGIVING to Almighty God, for the Bounties of his Providence, during the past year. And I invite the People of every Christian Denomination, to repair, on that day, in their respective Associations, to the Temples dedicated to the worship of the MOST HIGH, and, with the fervency of devotion, enkindled in hearts sympathizing with each other, under a full impression of the blessings which they have experienced, present their united offerings of Adoration, Homage, and Praise.

May they be especially sensible to the manifestations of Divine care in the sure promise of Seed-time, and the unfailing product of Harvest, and, although some of the fruits of the Earth may this year be gathered in less than usual abundance, may they be thankful, that

of every necessary to subsistence there is a competent supply for their wants. And more nearly and deeply touched with a contemplation of the awful visitations of a mysterious Providence, in the appearance and prevalence of a frightful disease, in many parts of our Land, may they rejoice in that outstretched arm of MERCY which has spared their lives, set bounds to the ravages of the Destroyer, and is restoring the healthful countenance of the People, in places which have been afflicted with the Pestilence. In these and unnumbered Causes for Thanksgiving to God, may they also see and recognize, through faith in the dispensations of his Grace, by the mission and ministry of our Blessed Saviour, Jesus Christ, a Government of unerring Wisdom, infinite Goodness, and eternal Justice, over the Moral Universe.

And, with Thanksgivings, may Supplications also be offered to the Throne of Heaven,—that our Beloved Country may rest in the smiles of a protecting Providence;—that the union and harmony of the States may be disturbed by no destructive scheme of division;—that the Departments of the Government, and the Administration of the Laws may be maintained in their Constitutional independence, purity and power;—that the great interests of the People may find security and permanency;—and that, by a spirit of patriotism and of public virtue, influencing the minds of the Citizens, and manifested in the exercise of their civil privileges, the precious inheritance of Free Institutions, which came to us from our Fathers, may be continued to our enjoyment, and transmitted improved and confirmed to the latest Posterity.

Given at the Council Chamber, in Boston, this nineteenth day of October, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, and the fifty-seventh of the Independence of the United States.

LEVI LINCOLN.

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

EDWARD D. BANGS, Secretary.

God save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.