

**Commonwealth of**



1828  
**Massachusetts.**

**BY HIS EXCELLENCY**

**LEVI LINCOLN,**

GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

# **A PROCLAMATION**

**For a Day of Public Thanksgiving and Praise.**

THE ingathering of the fruits of the earth has annually been recognized by the Citizens of this Commonwealth, as a fit occasion for public acknowledgements to Almighty God, for the bounties of his Providence, and for united expressions of pious gratitude, for the manifestations of his sovereign power and grace.

ON the completion of another revolution of the seasons, I do, therefore, with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, appoint **THURSDAY, THE TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY OF NOVEMBER NEXT**, to be celebrated with **THANKSGIVING and PRAISE**, throughout this Commonwealth, for the various and rich enjoyments of the past year. And I do recommend to Ministers and People of every religious denomination, to assemble in their respective congregations on that day, that, with hearts animated by offices of social worship, to a sense of their dependence upon the Creator and beneficent Ruler of the Universe, they may offer to Him the adoration and homage, which are due to his holy name and attributes.

It becomes them, more especially, on such an occasion, to recount the favors which they have received, of his unmerited goodness.—That life is rendered dear by the many blessings with which its bestowment and preservation are accompanied.—That the cultivation of a moral capacity is encouraged, by those higher and nobler views of intellectual attainment, which Science and Learning and Religion unfold.—That the Revelation of the will of God, through the mission and ministry of his Son Jesus Christ, gives assurance of immortality, offers of pardon, and hopes of salvation to the undying spirit of man.

WITH devout and fervent gratitude may we bless the Lord, for the unusual health which has prevailed through the season; for the abundant harvests which have rewarded the labors of the Husbandman; for the prosperous condition of the great interests of the country; for the peace of the nation; and for the enlarged means and multiplied advantages for moral and christian improvement, and for the promotion and enjoyment of social happiness.

AND while, with thanksgiving, we commemorate these testimonials of divine goodness, may we be duly sensible of our own unworthiness, and repentant of our many neglects and transgressions. In prayer and supplication may we approach the throne of infinite mercy, seeking forgiveness and favor. With our personal desires and wants, may we commend also, the interests and prospects of our beloved country to the care of Heaven, imploring of Him, who directs the destinies of nations, that He would preserve our domestic tranquillity, give strength to our Union, bless the General and State Governments, and those who, from time to time, are called to administer them; that our Institutions, and the rights and privileges which they secure to us, may be maintained inviolate, for an inheritance, to the latest posterity.

By sympathy for the afflicted, and in deeds of charity to the poor and the distressed, may our piety, at all times, be approved; and on the day of this appointed Festival, abstaining from amusements and labors inconsistent with its religious observance, may the fervency of our devotions manifest the sincerity of our ascriptions of praise.

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

**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!**