



By His EXCELLENCY

WILLIAM SHIRLEY, Esq;

Captain-General and Governour in Chief in and over His Majesty's Province of the *Massachusetts-Bay* in *New-England*.

A PROCLAMATION

For a general Thanksgiving.



FORASMUCH as we are under the greatest Obligations duly to observe the various Dispensations of Divine Providence towards us; and more especially with thankful Hearts to acknowledge the many undeserved Blessings both of a publick and private Nature which GOD is continually conferring upon us; and forasmuch as the Favours and Mercies of the Year past do at this Season require our publick grateful Commemoration thereof;

I have therefore thought fit, with the Advice of His Majesty's Council, to order and appoint Thursday the First of *November* next, to be observed as a Day of publick Thanksgiving thro'out this Province, hereby calling upon both Ministers and People to solemnize the same by celebrating the Praises of Almighty GOD for his great Goodness and Bounty vouchsafed to a sinful and unworthy People; particularly, in granting unto us a plentiful Harvest in a great Abundance of most of the Fruits of the Earth; in continuing Peace on our Borders; in the general Health enjoyed in most of the Towns of the Province thro' the Course of the Year; in protecting our Trade and Navigation from the Injures of Pirates; in directing and succeeding the Administrations of the Government of this Province; and in prolonging our Religious and Civil Liberties and Priviledges: In preserving the precious Life and Health of our Sovereign Lord the KING, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and the other Branches of the Royal Family; in succeeding His Majesty's Counsels for the Continuance of the Peace of EUROPE: And to join their earnest Supplications to Almighty GOD that these and all other Instances of the Divine Goodness may have an effectual Influence for working a general Reformation in all Orders of Persons among us, that so we may be that happy People whose GOD is the LORD. And all servile Labour is forbidden on the said Day.

GIVEN at the Council-Chamber in Boston, the Ninth Day of October 1753, in the Twenty-seventh Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord GEORGE the Second, by the Grace of GOD, of Great-Britain, France and Ireland, KING, Defender of the Faith, &c.

By His EXCELLENCY's Command,
with the Advice of the Council,
J. Willard, Sec^{ry}

W. Shirley.

G O D save the KING.