



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

For a general THANKSGIVING.



AS MUCH as, amidst the many Rebukes of Divine Providence with which we are righteously afflicted, more especially in the present expensive and calamitous War, it has pleased GOD to favour us with many great & undeserved Mercies in the Course of this Year; particularly, In the Preservation of the Life and Health of our Sovereign Lord the KING, of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke, and the rest of the Royal Issue; In protecting the Kingdoms and Dominions under His Majesty's Government; In His gracious Direction given to His Majesty's Councils and the Success granted to his Arms, and the Arms of his Allies in the present War; In the divine Assistance and Conduct vouchsafed to the Administrations of His Majesty's Government in this Province; In the Restraint hitherto given to the Indians inhabiting near the Frontiers of this Province from any Acts of Hostility against us; in defending our Sea-Coasts and Navigation from the Invasions of our Enemies; In granting us so good a Measure of Health, and not permitting any infectious and mortal Sicknes to spread among us; In granting us so great and extraordinary a Plenty of the Fruits of the Earth, and in continuing our invaluable Privileges Religious and Civil; with innumerable other unmerited Favours, which demand our most thankful publick Acknowledgments to Almighty GOD the Father of Mercies;

In Consideration whereof,

I have thought fit, with the Advice of His Majesty's Council, and at the Desire of the House of Representatives in the present Session, to order and appoint Thursday the Twenty-second Day of November next, to be observed as a Day of publick Thanksgiving throughout this Province, hereby directing both Ministers and People in their publick Assemblies, religiously to observe the same, by their thankful and devout Praises to our most gracious and merciful GOD for these and all other Instances of the divine Goodness; with their humble and earnest Supplications, that it would please GOD to continue to Us the Blessings We enjoy, and that we may be an happy People whose GOD is the LORD. And all servile Labour is forbidden on said Day.

Given at the Council Chamber in Boston, the Twentieth Day of October, 1744. In the Eighteenth 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, *Secr.*

W. SHIRLEY.

G O D save the KING.