


By His Excellency
JOHN SULLIVAN, Esquire,
PRESIDENT OF THE STATE OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

A P R O C L A M A T I O N,
F O R A
G E N E R A L T H A N K S G I V I N G.

It being the indispensable duty of States as well as Individuals, to take notice of the mercies of our Divine Benefactor and express a grateful sense of the same ;

 HAVE thought fit, by and with the advice of Council, agreeably to the unvaried practice of the founders of this state, and to the general sentiments and wishes of the people, over whom I have the honor to preside, to appoint, and do hereby appoint THURSDAY the twenty-third day of November next, to be observed as a day of public and solemn THANKSGIVING throughout this state : that ministers and people of every denomination, in the same, may assemble on said day, and with united hearts and voices, celebrate the praises of the universal Governor, and rejoice in the contemplation of his supreme dominion over all his works.

Is particular, to praise him for the great things which he hath done for us as a nation, that we are continued in possession of an extensive territory, which, under due cultivation, will yield us all things conducive to our natural and civil necessities, comfort and happiness ; that our federal union hath hitherto been preserved ; that our settlements are extending on the western territory, and the sword of the wilderness hath been in a great measure restrained, and the savage tribes on our borders disposed to peace ; that though our commerce and navigation have met with some checks from the insolence of foreigners, yet that we have had a sufficiency of imported commodities, and that our fishery has been unmolested ; that by the blessing of heaven our land has yielded her increase, and the present year is crowned with goodness.-----That the constitution of government, happily framed by the free and united voice of the people of this state, for the security of our sacred rights and liberties, hath been preserved ; that the wholesome laws of the land, and the courts of justice have been duly honoured and respected ; that the people at large, have shewn themselves disposed to a just and animated support of government ; that we have had so much health in our habitations, and that mortal, and pestilential sickness hath been prevented from becoming general ; and above all, that the gospel of JESUS CHRIST is continued among us, and that a spirit of free enquiry, mutual forbearance, and christian charity is increasing and prevailing under the happy auspices of religious liberty.

AND while we are in the exercise of gratitude to God for these inestimable blessings, let us confess, and implore the divine forgiveness of our past transgressions ; acknowledge our unworthiness of the smiles of Providence, and sincerely endeavor, by divine assistance, to cultivate that peaceable, virtuous, and obedient conduct, which shall be the most sure indication of the perpetuity of divine blessings. Let us earnestly intreat the continuance of the favor of GOD, that he would still be the health of our countenance, and establish the work of our hands ; that our present necessities may give a spur to industry and frugality, the native sources of improvement ; that he would dwell in all our towns ; bless our seminaries of learning ; multiply grace, mercy and peace to the churches of our LORD JESUS CHRIST ; inspire the great council of the nation and our rulers with wisdom, directing all orders and ranks to a strict adherence to the constitution, and continuing to restrain the wrath of man when pointed against government.

ALL servile labour is forbidden on said day.

GIVEN at the Council-chamber in Exeter, this twenty-sixth day of September, in the year of our Lord, one thousand, seven hundred and eighty-six, and in the eleventh year of the independence of the United States of America.

JOHN SULLIVAN.

By his Excellency's Command, with advice of Council.

JOSEPH PEARSON, Secretary.

