

THE LORD GOD OMNIPOTENT REIGNETH, LET THE EARTH REJOICE.

WHERE the belief of the Supreme Being is, there should exist gratitude for his manifold mercies. To God Supreme, we owe life, and all the blessings of life. It is incumbent on individuals, at all times, to acknowledge the favor of Heaven. It is highly becoming us as a people, after the custom of our pious ancestors, at that stated season, when the Earth has yielded its increase, and Goodness and Mercy have crowned the Year, to assemble in our several places of religious worship, there to adore the Omnipotent, to acknowledge his attributes, to pour out our souls in gratitude for his goodness, and with contrite hearts to confess our innumerable transgressions :

I DO, therefore, by and with the advice of COUNCIL, and at the request of the GENERAL ASSEMBLY, appoint THURSDAY, the THIRD DAY of DECEMBER next, to be observed, throughout this State, as a day of public THANKSGIVING and PRAISE ; recommending to Public Teachers, and People of every denomination, to convene on said day, in their respective Religious Assemblies, devoutly to celebrate the praises of the Great Benefactor of all created being.

As one People, may we prostrate ourselves before the Throne of God, to thank him for public and private mercies : That HE hath been pleased to reward the labors of the Husbandman, with an abundant harvest : That HE has prospered our Commerce : That HE hath preserved us from mortal and contagious Disease : That HE hath continued unto us the rich blessings of Free Government : And above all, to bless and magnify his Great and Holy Name, that HE hath bestowed upon us, the Great Fountain of all Mercies, even his only beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

And at the same time, with singleness of heart, to implore the continuance of Divine favor : To beg of God that HE would be graciously pleased to pardon our sins ; to continue unto us Health, Peace, Prosperity, and the enjoyment of good Government : That HE would bless our Colleges, Academies, Schools, and other Seminaries of Learning : That HE would bless, with a Father's blessing, the rising generation, and teach them in the days of their youth, the things that belong to their peace : That HE would variate his Mercies to Human Calamity : That HE would support the Aged and Infirm, protect the Widow, the Fatherless, and the Orphan ; comfort the Sick and Distressed, and give consolation to ALL : That HE would preserve us from Foreign War, and Domestic strife ; and bind our citizens in the Bonds of Social Affection.

And, that HE would be graciously pleased to bless the President of the United States ; to endow him with Wisdom to discover, and Firmness to pursue, the best Interest of our Nation : That HE would protect the National Government ; and pros-