

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

ISAAC TICHENOR, ESQUIRE,

1806

GOVERNOR, CAPTAIN GENERAL AND COMMANDER IN CHIEF IN AND OVER THE
STATE OF VERMONT,

A PROCLAMATION,

FOR A DAY OF PUBLIC THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE.

Being wholly dependent on our Divine Creator, and deriving from his goodness all these benefits which we enjoy as individuals and as a community, it becomes us at proper seasons, to unite in offering to him, with humility and love, the tribute of grateful and obedient hearts.

TO this end I do by and with the advice of the Council, and at the request of the General Assembly, appoint THURSDAY, the seventh day of DECEMBER, next, to be observed as a day of PUBLIC THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE throughout this state. On such an occasion we are invited and called upon by the Providence of God, to acknowledge with the deepest sense of gratitude, his goodness to an undeserving world, in granting the light of nature, the gift of a SAVIOR, and the blessings of the Gospel: the favors bestowed by him on the land of our nativity, in protecting and preserving its inhabitants, in securing their freedom, and opening to them the treasures of knowledge, with all the means of moral and political improvement:

IN particular we have abundant reason to celebrate the praises of God, for his goodness to this State; that he has raised it to power and respectability—that he has preserved the citizens the year past as in the hallow of his hand, guarding their lives from the pestilence that walketh in darkness, and the arrow that wasteth at noon day:—That he has caused the voice of health to be heard in our habitations, and crowned with success the labors of the husbandman.

WITH devout expressions of gratitude it is becoming that, in our petitions, we should implore the favor of Almighty God, that the spirit of justice, freedom and pure religion may pervade all the nations of the earth: That the divine blessing may rest on the President and People of these United States; that science and virtue may increase, and those means of improvement be cultivated, which will tend to secure the peace and advance the glory and prosperity of the nation.

IT behoves us particularly to intreat the parent of mercies to grant, that his divine influences may rest on the inhabitants of this state; that he would protect their lives and health; that he would prosper those who are concerned in husbandry, the productive arts and useful professions; that the aged may be examples of piety and virtue, and the youth educated in the fear of the Lord, and the love of their country: that our civil rulers may diligently discharge their duties, and the people faithfully respect the constitution and laws of their country. That our colleges, academies and schools may be nurseries of science, religion and patriotism; that the ministers and teachers of the Gospel, may be encouraged in their important labors, and successful in their pious endeavors; that all corruption in moral principles and practice may be eradicated; and that benevolence, good order, industry, and all those virtues may prosper, which, under Divine Providence, will ensure the peace, the glory, and the happiness of our state.

SUCH are the considerations which call upon us to present our offering of unfeigned gratitude, to the Parent of Mercies. I do therefore recommend to ministers and people of every christian denomination, to assemble, in their respective places of public worship, on the appointed day, with GLADNESS and JOY, with THANKSGIVING and PRAISE.

Given under my hand at Middlebury, this third day of November, in the year of our Lord 1806, and of the Independence of the United States the thirty first.

ISAAC TICHENOR.

By the Governor's Command,

WILLIAM PAGE, jun. Secretary.