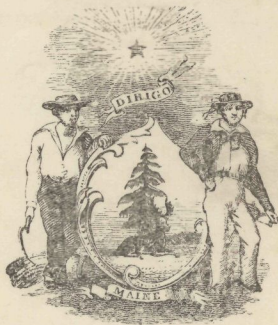


State of Maine.

BY THE



GOVERNOR.

A PROCLAMATION

FOR A DAY OF

PUBLIC THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE.



IN times of calamity and trouble, our fathers did not neglect to celebrate their annual festival of Thanksgiving ; and in this hour of the country's sorest trial, when bereavement and anguish have been brought to so many hearts, their children will find strength and profit in its beautiful rites, its hallowed associations, and its gracious influences.

By advice of the Council, I appoint THURSDAY, THE TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY OF NOVEMBER NEXT, to be observed by the people of this State as a day of Public Thanksgiving and Praise.

And may they all regard it as a day consecrated to emotions of gratitude and good will—to deeds of benevolence and love. Abstaining from all employments and pursuits inconsistent with a proper observance of the occasion, I invite them to repair to their temples of religious worship, and there, and in all places, may they be led to a devout and cheerful recognition of the many favors and privileges which have been lavished upon them during the year whose great, eventful history is so nearly made up ; may they be unfeignedly thankful for the blessings of material prosperity and of health, which have been so largely vouchsafed to them—for the exhibitions of constancy, fidelity and manly virtue in their countrymen, which have so often illustrated the dignity of human nature and the capacity of man for self-government—for the Christian charity and brotherly kindness which a better acquaintance with, and a more sensible dependence upon, each other, growing out of a common cause and a common danger, have developed and cultivated in their hearts ; and, especially, may they be moved to praise and bless their Heavenly Father, the Lord of all, that He has put it into the heart of the Chief Magistrate of the Nation, to promulgate, in the fulness of time, a Decree of wisdom and uprightness, which shall make their beloved land strong, united, prosperous, peaceful, just, and forever free !

Given at the Council Chamber, at Augusta, this seventeenth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-seventh.

ISRAEL WASHBURN, Jr.

By the Governor :

JOSEPH B. HALL, Secretary of State.