

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Esquire,
Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the State of Connecticut.

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

For a Day of P U B L I C T H A N K S G I V I N G .

WHEREAS it hath pleased Almighty GOD, in the course of his holy government, to pour down upon this land an extensive shower of divine goodness, in the abundant blessings of his common providence, the year past, as well as in the recent salvation and protection granted to us in a series of events, successes and victories, which have terminated the late war in the restoration of PEACE and public tranquillity : it highly becomes us as a religious people, to acknowledge his beneficence, rejoice in his loving kindness, piously to ascribe the glory to him, and with hearts warmed with the animating recollection and review of the divine goodness, unitedly to render the tribute of public gratitude to our supreme Benefactor.

I HAVE therefore thought fit, by and with the advice of the Council, and at the desire of the Representatives, to appoint, and do hereby appoint THURSDAY, the twentieth Day of NOVEMBER next, to be set apart and religiously observed as a day of public THANKSGIVING and PRAISE to GOD, in all the religious Assemblies throughout this State : hereby exhorting both Ministers and People, with grateful hearts to celebrate the praises of our gracious Benefactor : to review the events, occurrences and revolutions in the divine moral government, and to recount so many of the countless instances of the interpositions of Heaven, as may lead us to a heart-felt conviction of the superintending Providence of the MOST HIGH, and his influential government in all events ; and especially in the public and personal blessings, which he hath made us the subjects of : and particularly to acknowledge his goodness to his people in the continuance of that singular and very general health, which for several years past hath been remarkably granted to the inhabitants of this State and of this Land : to thank him for his smiles and blessings on the labour of our hands, for the great increase of our substance, for the flourishing and fertile season of the summer past, for the plentiful supply and present abundance of the fruits of the earth, whereby we are enabled to remember and send portions to the poor, and to come before him with a meat-offering, and a drink-offering, on the day of our joyful solemnity ; to adore him for the blessings of the gospel of peace, and for any tokens of his presence with the churches : with unfeigned gratitude and joy to recognize and shew forth the greatness of his power in the course of the war, in prospering our foreign negotiations, in conciliating the friendship and alliances of the first Potentates in Europe, in filling our army with valour, in extricating us from the greatest distresses and dangers, in rescuing from imminent danger, and preserving and protecting the person of our illustrious General the commander in chief of the American Army, in carrying the United States successfully through the war, and establishing them in INDEPENDENCE and LIBERTY, an honorable PEACE.

And also to offer up fervent prayers to God, for the stability of our Republic, for the continuance of all our inestimable privileges both civil and sacred : for his blessing upon this State and the civil magistracy thereof, upon the Congress, and upon the whole confederation of the United States ; that he would bless our allies, and give success to our negotiations in the courts of Europe, and in distant empires, whither commerce may carry us ; that he would be pleased to continue our public Health, bless our agriculture and manufactures, prosper our trade, navigation and commerce ; that he would restore government and laws to their former energy, bless and perpetuate the union of the States, suppress jealousies and animosities, conciliate and harmonize the citizens, inspire them all with PATRIOTISM, JUSTICE and the love of one another ; that he would be pleased to pour out his spirit upon the people, give success to the gospel of JESUS, cause that pure religion and good literature may flourish in the College, and preserve the succession of a learned evangelical ministry in the churches ; and make us a reformed and holy, that we may be a happy people.

All servile Labour forbidden on said Day.

Given under my hand in the Council Chamber at New-Haven, the 29th Day of October, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-three, and in the Eighth year of

the Independence of the United States of America.

J O N TH T R U M B U L L .

By His Excellency's Command,
GEORGE WYLLYS, Sec'ry.