



By His EXCELLENCY

JONATHAN BELCHER, Esq;

Captain General and Governour in Chief in and over His Majesty's Province of
the *Massachusetts-Bay* in *New-England*.

A PROCLAMATION for a general *FAST*.

UPON Consideration as well of our Dependance on Almighty GOD for his Blessing on our Affairs and Interests, particularly in the Year ensuing, and the Duty incumbent on us, in a publick Manner to seek his Favour therein, as also of the many Frowns and Rebukes of Heaven upon this People in the Judgments with which we are now and have been long visited, and the sad Prospects of other Calamities impending;

I have thought fit, with the Advice of his Majesty's Council, to order and appoint Thursday the twenty third of April next, to be observed as a Day of Fasting and Prayer throughout this Province, exhorting both Ministers and People to solemnize the same in a religious and devout Manner, by deep humiliation, under the Sense of the divine Displeasure and sincere Repentance of all our Sins, by which we have provoked the Anger of GOD, and rendered ourselves obnoxious to his righteous Judgments, and by humble & importunate Supplications to the divine Majesty for all necessary Blessings; particularly, That our Sovereign Lord the KING, and the Kingdoms and Dominions under his gracious Government may be always under the divine Protection and Favour; That his Majesty's Councils may be directed, and his Arms in the present War prospered; & more especially, That it would please GOD to give Success to the important Expedition against the King of Spain's Dominions in the West-Indies; That their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the rest of the royal Family may be preserved and blessed; That the Government of this his Majesty's Province may be under the divine Influence and Direction in all their Administrations and just Enterprises; That the Designs of our Enemies may be defeated, and our Frontiers and Sea-Coasts secured against any Attacks or Impressions from them; That health may be continued where it is now enjoyed, and restored to such places as are visited with Sickness, especially that awful Scurvy, whereby so many of the Children of this People have been cut off; That our Trade and Navigation may be defended and succeeded; and that GOD would grant us convenient Seasons for our Husbandry, & in due Time a plentiful Harvest; and prosper the Works of our Hands; And above all, That he would pour out his holy Spirit from on high upon us; and that we may be a penitent and reformed People; and that the Kingdom of our Lord JESUS CHRIST may be hastned: And all servile Labour and Recreations are forbidden on the said Day.

Given at the Council Chamber in *Boston*, the Twenty-seventh Day of *March* 1741. In the Fourteenth Year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord *GEORGE* the second by the Grace of GOD, of *Great-Britain, France, and Ireland*, KING Defender of the Faith, &c.

By Order of the Governour, with the Advice and Consent of the Council,
J. Willard, Secr.

J. Belcher.

GOD save the KING.