

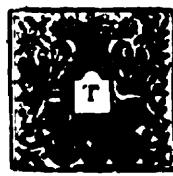
by the HONOURABLE

THOMAS FITCH, Esq;

Governor of his Majesty's English Colony of Connecticut, in New-England, in America.

A PROCLAMATION, For a Day of public F A S T I N G and P R A Y E R.

THE Continuation of a severe and dangerous War, in which the British Nation and Dominions, are engaged and involved, with a powerful and insupportable Enemy, strengthened by a surprising, unusual Combination, and fortified by important Advantages and Acquisitions, both in Europe and America, threatening at once, the Ruin and Destruction of the Protestant Cause, our Mother-Country, and these Plantations; The repeated Unsuccessfulness of the Measures concerted to annoy the Enemy, or dispossess him of his Possessions; The frequent deplorable Devastations, and afflicting Barbarities, perpetrated in the Frontier Settlements by a cruel and savage People; The great Inconveniences and heavy Losses, occasioned hereby to these Colonies; The contagious mortal Dilemma among our Soldiers and People; the early and distressing Drought in the last Summer; and the lamentable Carelessness, Incuriousness, and Prophaneness, the numerous profane Impieties, observable in the midst of Us, even while, these alarming Rebukes, these dreadful Tokens of the high Displeasure of Almighty G O D, are so awfully conspicuous, are such suitable and interesting Occasions for the most solemn Humiliation and united fervent Prayer, before the L O R D, abundant in Goodness, in Mercy and Favour.



THAT I have thought fit, by, and with the Advice and Consent of the COUNCIL, and at the Desire of the REPRESENTATIVES in General Court assembled, to appoint, and do hereby appoint *Wednesday the twelfth Day of April next*, to be observed as a Day of F A S T I N G and P R A Y E R: Exhorting, and strictly enjoining, all His Majesty's good Subjects in this Government, that (abstaining from all servile Labour and Employments) they do with the utmost Sincerity, Solemnity and Devotion, attend and observe the said F A S T; humbling themselves (as in the Dust) before the Most High, the Just and Righteous G O D, (whose tremendous Judgments are so visibly abroad in the Earth) for the many, the great, the

aggravated Sins and Transgressions to be found with us, a People highly privileged, the Professors of Christianity, the holy Religion of the blessed *Jesus*.

And to join in the warmest Addresses, and most importunate Supplications to the GOD of all Grace, that he would be pleased (through the Merits, and prevailing intercessions of His beloved Son, our Glorious Redeemer) to forgive us our Sins, our grievous Offences, thus ungratefully committed against Him: And to lead us, by the heavenly Influences of the divine Spirit, to hearty, sincere Repentance, and universal Reformation and Amendment of Life. That he would be pleased abundantly to bless his Sacred Majesty King G E O R G E the Second, his Royal Highness George Prince of Wales, the Princess Dowager of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, and the rest of the Royal-Family; to prolong the Life of our most gracious Sovereign, and support and strengthen him in his advanced Age, and to heal the affecting Breach made in his Royal-Family, by the Death of the Princess Caroline: To guide and especially direct his Councils in this dangerous Crisis: To inspire the Commanders of his Armies and Fleets with Skillfulness, with Prudence, Integrity and Fortitude; the Soldiery with Courage and Intrepidity; and to prosper them in their Enterprises, both by Land and Sea, for the Security and Defence of his just Rights and Dominions, and the Protestant Interest: To favour, encourage, and still succeed the Allies of the British Nation, engaged with him: And in great Mercy speedily establish an honourable, a safe and lasting Peace. That he would graciously remember, and appear for the English American Colonies, in this Time of Distress and Danger; defeat the Councils and Designs formed against them; save and protect the Frontiers from further Ravages and Depredations; compassionate and send Deliverance to such as are led away into a doleful Captivity; especially smile upon, and prosper the important Projection, for carrying the War into the Possessions of the Enemy, on this Continent, the next Campaign; preserve the Forces employed herein, in the Time of Danger and Battle, and crown them with Victory and Success. That he would be pleased still to be very merciful to his Colony, avert impending Punishments (the just Demerit of our Crimes,) continue to us the invaluable Privileges we yet enjoy; grant Wisdom, Resolution and uprightness of Heart to our civil Rulers, in the weighty Concerns devolved upon them; Knowledge, Zeal and Faithfulness to the Ministers of the Gospel, in the great Work committed to their Charge; an heavenly Blessing on our Schools of Learning, and abundant Effusions of divine Grace upon all Orders of Men; relieve us from the Calamities we groan under, and prepare his People for the happy Return of Tranquility and Peace; cause the Voice of Health to be heard in their Dwellings, and send them Prosperity in all their Interests and Concerns, in the City, in the Field, and abroad upon the Sea; bring forward the Springing of the Year, and crown it with abundant Fruits of his Bounty and Goodness. And I do hereby require the Ministers of the several religious Societies in this Colony to publish this Proclamation to their respective Congregations, immediately after divine Service, on one of the Lord's-Days preceding the said FAST.

G I V E N under my Hand, in the Council-Chamber, New-Haven the Twenty-third day of March, in the Third Year of the Reign of His Majesty George the Second, KING of Great-Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. Annoque Domini 1758.

THOMAS FITCH.

G O D Save the K I N G.