



BY HIS EXCELLENCY
MATTHEW GRISWOLD, ESQUIRE,
Governor and Commander in Chief, in and over the State
of CONNECTICUT, in *America*;
A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS it hath pleased Almighty GOD, in Years past, for the Punishment of our manifold Offences, to permit the Calamity of a distressing War to take Place in this Land :--- And though in great Mercy, the omnipotent Arm of the Great JEHOVAH was extended for our Deliverance, and an honourable Peace is established between the contending Powers; yet, such is the Ingratitude of this People, that in numerous Instances, many of them indulge themselves in prophan Swearing---Sabbath-breaking---Neglect of attending public Worship---and many other licentious Practices, to the Dissonour of their great Benefactor and Sovereign :--- By which ungrateful Return for important Benefits received, the People have rendered themselves liable to suffer heavier Judgments than they have yet seen or felt; which call aloud for sincere Humiliation, Repentance and Reformation.

THEREFORE, I have thought fit to appoint, and with the Advice of the Council of this State, do hereby appoint, WEDNESDAY, the twentieth Day of April next, to be observed by the Inhabitants of this State, as a Day of FASTING, HUMILIATION and PRAYER: ---earnestly exhorting both Ministers and People of every Denomination, to humble themselves before the Supreme Governor of all Worlds, and implore his Mercy, to grant the Forgiveness of all our Offences, and land-defiling Iniquities; ---that he would graciously afford such Influences of the Divine Spirit, and Measures of restraining and effectual Grace, as to lead the People into all Truth, and enable them to avoid all such Practices as are dishonourable to GOD, and ruinous to the spiritual and temporal Interest and Welfare of the People; ---that the Most High would cause the Means of Grace to be happily succeeded in the Continuance of a preached Gospel; ---that he would smile on all our temporal Concerns---cause the Earth to yield her Increase---prosper the Labour of our Hands, our Trade and Fishery---continue Health in our Habitations; ---that a Blessing might attend our Councils and Deliberations in the United States; also our Negotiations abroad; ---that our Allies might be smiled upon, and their Alliances be happy and successful to us and them; ---that Animosity and Contention to the ends of the Earth might cease, and that we might enjoy the Blessing of Peace, with a lively sense of our constant Dependence on Divine Providence for all our Enjoyments; ---that the Gospel might spread to the Heathen Nations---cover the Earth as the Waters do the Sea---the Redeemer's Kingdom be advanced every where, and the whole Earth be filled with the Glory of GOD.

All servile Labour is forbidden on said Day.

GIVEN under my Hand at Hartford, the second Day of March, in the Year of Our LORD, One Thousand seven Hundred and eighty-five, and in the ninth Year of the Independence of the United States of America.

MATTHEW GRISWOLD.