

Province of the
Massachusetts-
Bay in New-
England.



31 (v)

By His EXCELLENCY,
Richard, Earl of Bellomont,
Captain General and GOVERNOUR in Chief
of the said Province, &c.

A Proclamation for a general OF A S T.



WHEREAS the holy and Righteous GOD, is awfully threatening to interrupt and take away the present Peace, and Tranquillity of this Province, by fresh Molestations, and troubles feared to arise from the Heathen; which with divers other Solemn Considerations, of the apparent just Provocations found in the midst thereof: And the sore and bitter persecutions wherewith the People of God in France, and in some other parts of Europe, are grievously harrassed and oppressed, for the profession of Christ, and His Truth, do call upon us to deep Humiliation, with humble Confessions, and Supplications unto God.

I Do therefore by and with the Advice and Consent of His Majesty's Council, and at the desire of the Assembly now Sitting, Order and Appoint, That a General FAST be kept throughout this Province, upon *Thursday* the *Twenty-fifth* of *April* next. And that therein humble Confessions, with earnest and fervent Supplications be offered up unto Almighty GOD, by all Ministers and People within the same, in their respective Congregations, and Assemblies: That God would be graciously pleased to blast and defeat the Evil designs, and purposes of all that hate Zion; Bless all Counsels and Means that have been or shall be taken and used, for averting and preventing of the present threatened Danger: That Peace may be continued and Confirmed: That the Gospel may obtain great Success: That the Husbandry, and other Affairs of this Province may be Smiled upon in the ensuing year: That our Gracious Lord the KING may be Preserved, and Blessed with long Life, to be a Glorious Instrument of further Advancing the Prosperity, and Reformation of the Kingdoms, and Dominions under His Rule and Government: That the Kingdom of our Blessed Lord and Saviour JESUS CHRIST, may be Enlarged throughout the Earth; and a Glorious Salvation and Deliverance, Speedily arise to His poor Distressed and Persecuted Church. And all Servile Labour on said Day is hereby forbidden.

Given at the Council-Chamber in *Boston* the *Twentieth* Day of *March*, 1699. In the *Twelfth* Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord, *WILLIAM* the *Third*, by the Grace of GOD, of *England*, *Scotland*, *France*: and *Ireland* KING, *Defender of the Faith*, &c.

By Order of His Ex-
cellency & Council. —
Isaac Addington Secr.

BELLOMONT.

GOD Save the King.