

Collected
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M. T. X

PROCLAMATION OF A DAY OF THANKSGIVING

BY THE

GOVERNOR OF COLORADO TERRITORY.

WHEREAS, Gratitude is one of the noblest and purest emotions of the human heart, and should be rendered, by nations and communities, as well as individuals, to God, for all of his benefits, for He is no less the King of kings and Lord of lords, than the Creator and Preserver of all men; and,

WHEREAS, The public observance of days of thanksgiving is a means of cultivating gratitude, and a beautiful manifestation of the purity of the popular heart; and,

WHEREAS, We, as a people, have the most abundant cause of thankfulness.

NOW, THEREFORE, I call upon all of the people of Colorado Territory, without distinction, to observe the TWENTY-SIXTH DAY OF NOVEMBER NEXT, as a DAY OF THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE to Almighty God, in accordance with the Proclamation of the President of the United States. Let us, with one accord, lay aside our usual avocations on that day, and in prayer and songs of praise, thank Him for the unnumbered blessings that have crowned the year. Let us be thankful that the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth, and that righteousness and judgment are the habitation of His throne. Let us be thankful that He upholds and sustains the wise and beneficent Government of our fathers by the strong arm of a loyal and courageous people, and that the eternal principles of truth, justice and liberty, still hold their place in the national heart. Let us thank Him, the God of battles, for the glorious victories that have crowned our national arms over the unholy war waged against us. Let us be thankful that the councils of the enemy are being confounded, and that their wicked machinations are made to recoil upon their own heads.

While desolation has come to many a hearth-stone, and deep sorrow has pierced the soul, because of the heroic dead, let us be thankful to God that He pours the balm of consolation in the hope that they who fall in our righteous cause are taken to their glorious reward on high.

Let us be thankful for the happiness and prosperity that pervades the loyal portions of our country, and especially that our own domestic avocations have been prospered during the year—that our mines have continued to yield more and more abundantly their golden treasures—that agriculture has liberally rewarded the hand of toil—that our flocks and herds have been so largely increased, and that the legitimate channels of commerce have flowed freely and brought a certain and liberal return.

And let us pray God to continue to smile upon us; that He will guide our rulers in wisdom, protect and energize our gallant soldiers on the field of battle, and if any fall, that they may fall into the arms of the Redeemer.

Let us pray for the speedy submission of every rebel to the rightful authority of the Government, and that the white-winged messenger of peace may again perch upon our banners as they wave in triumph from sea to sea and from shore to shore.

DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE ROOMS, in Denver, this, the twenty-eighth day of October, A. D. 1863.

[SEAL.]

JOHN EVANS.

By the Governor:

SAM. H. ELBERT,

Secretary of Col. Ter.