

BY HIS EXCELLENCY
JONAS GALUSHA, ESQUIRE,

CAPTAIN-GENERAL, GOVERNOR, AND COMMANDER IN CHIEF, IN AND OVER THE STATE OF VERMONT,

A PROCLAMATION.

THE silent language of Nature bespeaks a GOD. The visible operations of his hand evince that he superintends the affairs of men. An inward consciousness teaches our accountability to Him. His tender mercies are over all his works, and on his boundless goodness, our lives, our hopes and our happiness depend. Hence, nothing is more obvious from reason itself, than our duty to reverence and worship him. But, favored with the pure light of Revelation, enjoying the peculiar indulgence of Heaven, our obligation is greatly enhanced. As individuals we owe a grateful tribute; as a people our highest praises are due; for, to none have Divine favors been so signal; upon none have blessings, both temporal and spiritual, been more richly bestowed. Then, while we bear in fond recollection former mercies, and with them associate late deliverances; especially, while we feast upon the bounties of another harvest; nothing can be more suitable, than unitedly to offer public and humble acknowledgements of Divine goodness, and engage in the social and sincere worship of GOD.

I HAVE, THEREFORE, Thought fit, by and with the advice of Council, and at the request of the House of Representatives, to appoint, and I DO HEREBY APPOINT, *THURSDAY*, the SEVENTH day of December next, to be observed as a day of public THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE throughout this State: And I hereby request Ministers and People, of every religious denomination, to assemble at their respective places of public worship on said day, and with humble and devout hearts approach the Throne of Divine Grace, and, in the name of our precious REDEEMER, unite in solemn ascriptions of praise and adoration to the Almighty and most merciful GOD, whose richest blessings we have abundantly shared, and whose peculiar favors we still enjoy.

LET not dull formality and cold indifference characterize our performances; but may the tribute of our tongues be accompanied with the liveliest emotions of gratitude; and through the quickening influence of the Divine Spirit, and the merits of a Saviour, may our offerings and supplications be attended with the approving smiles of Heaven.

WHILE we thus draw near to GOD, let us render thanksgiving and praise for his guardian care and fatherly kindness which has been over our country in former times; that of a small and feeble people He has made us a great nation; that He aided us in our revolutionary struggles, and secured to us the full enjoyment of all the rights and privileges of civil and religious liberty; that under the guidance and protection of His kind and fostering hand, we enjoyed a long interval of peace and unrivaled prosperity, insomuch, that our country became an asylum for the oppressed, a land of plenty, a nursery of science, an abode of the highest earthly happiness; that when, for the abuse of His favors, He visited us with pestilence and the sword, in the midst of wrath he remembered mercy and took not his loving kindness from us, but caused the expectation of our enemies to fail and peace once more to smile upon our country, and health again to enter our habitations; and that in our present repose we enjoy a fulness of national and individual blessings.

LET us also tender the most grateful acknowledgements for Divine favors to us as a State; particularly those of the present year; that the labors of the husbandman have not been in vain; that health and plenty have been the general and happy portion of our citizens.

ABOVE all, let us adore the Father of Mercies, that, by the Gospel, he has brought life and immortality to light; that while millions have groped by the dim light of nature, which cannot penetrate the shades of death, we have been illuminated with the healing beams of the Sun of Righteousness; that the SAVIOUR has spread the triumphs of his cross through our land, and great and benevolent exertions are used, in this and other christian countries, to spread the light of the Gospel in the dark regions of the East.

WHILE we bless and praise the LORD for past and present favors, let us, with the deepest humility, acknowledge our ungrateful abuse of his mercies, resolve to break off our sins by righteousness, and in the name of the blessed REDEEMER, supplicate the continuance of Divine blessings; that he would maintain and increase our political union, and cause party spirit and discordant feelings to cease forever; that he would preserve our national independence and all our civil and religious rights to the latest generation; that he would bless the President of the United States, and all entrusted with the important concerns of the nation, and endow them with all that wisdom and prudence requisite to the right discharge of their duties; that he would give all in authority in the State Governments the spirit of their stations, and bless the persons and labors of every class of our citizens in their various occupations, for their own happiness and the general good; that he would abundantly prosper the means of education; that he would give success to the benevolent efforts of all the faithful Ministers of CHRIST, and cause the pleasure of the LORD to prosper with them; that he would succeed the pious endeavors of societies and individuals to shed the light of life on those nations who sit in the regions of darkness and the shadow of death; and finally, that he would soon usher in that glorious morn, when from the rising to the setting sun, every hill and dale shall be vocal with the high praises of GOD.

I do hereby request the People of this State to refrain from all recreations and unnecessary labor on said day.

GIVEN under my hand, in Council chamber, at Montpelier, this 25th day of October in the Year of Our Lord Christ One Thousand Eight Hundred and fifteen, and of the Independence of the United States the fortieth.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY'S COMMAND,

ROLLIN C. MALLARY, SECRETARY

JONAS GALUSHA.