



**BY HIS EXCELLENCY  
JOHN COTTON SMITH, ESQUIRE,**

**Governour and Commander in Chief in and over the State of Connecticut.**

**A PROCLAMATION.**

*WHEREAS it is the duty of a People, at stated seasons, publicly to testify their gratitude to ALMIGHTY GOD for his unmerited favours conferred upon them, and to unite in humble supplications to their GLORIOUS BENEFactor, that He would mercifully continue to them the bounties of His Providence, and enrich them with the blessings of His Grace,*

**I** HAVE therefore thought proper, by and with the advice of the Council, and at the desire of the House of Representatives, to appoint, and I do hereby appoint THURSDAY, *the thirtieth day of NOVEMBER NEXT*, to be observed as a day of public THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER throughout this State. And I do earnestly request ministers and people of all denominations to convene on that day in their several places of religious worship: that in our solemn assemblies we may gratefully recognize the numerous mercies of our Heavenly Father; particularly that we praise Him for His great goodness in closing the scenes of war and desolation, and in restoring peace to our country, with its attendant blessings;—and although, during the past year, Death has removed many of our friends, and has deprived the commonwealth of one of its firmest supports, and notwithstanding we have felt in a degree the awful visitations of the Most High in the tempests which have spread destruction in some of our sister States, yet let us bless God that the lives of His people generally have been precious in His sight, and that by “giving them fruitful seasons, and filling their hearts with food and gladness,” they are enabled to “enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise;”—that we adore him for the enjoyment of a free and equal government, for the instituted means of religious and literary instruction, for the general diffusion of knowledge amongst our citizens, and for the sobriety and good order which have eminently prevailed—But above all, that we magnify His Holy Name for the Gospel of peace, the hopes of future blessedness through a Glorious Redeemer, and for the animating prospect of extending these blessings to the whole human race.

And with our thank-offerings let us mingle our fervent prayers to the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, that He would lift upon all men the light of His countenance, and show them the way of His salvation;—that it would please him to bless this nation, and guide its constituted authorities to such measures as shall promote and establish the Union of the States and the prosperity of the People;—especially that it would please Him to continue His loving kindness to this State, and to graciously smile upon the several branches of its government, upon its institutions of religion, its college, academies and schools, and upon every effort to advance the interest and happiness of the present, and of succeeding generations;—that the God of our Fathers would impress us with a deep sense of the great deliverances He has wrought for us, of the distinguished privileges we are permitted to enjoy, and of our solemn obligations to love and reverence the Infinite Author of all these mercies;—that He would remove far from us whatever would embitter our social comforts, dispose us under the influences of His Holy Spirit to live as brethren in the faithful discharge of our duty to God and our fellow men, and qualify us, by the various dispensations of His Providence and Grace, to become the happy subjects of a Kingdom that shall never end.

All servile labour and vain recreation on said day are by law forbidden.

Given under my hand at the Council Chamber in New-Haven, the twenty-fourth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifteen, and of the Independence of the United States the fortieth.

**JOHN COTTON SMITH.**

*By His Excellency's Command,*

**THOMAS DAY, Secretary.**