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Commonwealth of

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Massachusetts.

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BY HIS EXCELLENCY

**MARCUS MORTON,**

Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts:

**A PROCLAMATION**

FOR A DAY OF PUBLIC

**FASTING, HUMILIATION, AND PRAYER.**

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It was ever the cherished usage of our forefathers, at stated times, to come together as a people, and acknowledge, reverently, their dependence on the providence of Almighty God. Nations fulfil His decrees, and should adore that wisdom, which, from evil, educes good, and diffuses infinite and unmerited mercies.

I do, therefore, by and with the advice and consent of the Council, appoint **THURSDAY, THE SIXTH DAY OF APRIL NEXT**, to be observed as a **DAY OF HUMILIATION, FASTING AND PRAYER**.

And I do invite the good people of this Commonwealth, on that day, abstaining from unnecessary labor, publicly and humbly to confess our own unworthiness, to implore the Divine forgiveness of our manifold transgressions, and to join in supplication to our Heavenly Father, that

His blessing may rest on the labors of the husbandman, in the approaching seed time; that He, who layeth the beams of His chambers in the waters, and walketh upon the wings of the wind, may shelter, with His protection, all those whose toils are upon the deep; that He would prosper the various branches of our industry; that He, without whose favor all human efforts are vain, would build up the cause of temperance, in the midst of plenty; that our Schools may be efficient instruments for the universal culture of the people; that the University and Colleges may be ever-flowing fountains of truth and piety; that civil freedom may be diffused throughout the earth, and the bonds of the oppressed, everywhere, be rent asunder; that the light of the Christian revelation, may pierce the darkness of the heathen world; and that this whole people, deeply grateful for its privileges, may be quickened by the power of His Spirit, and, through the influence of the Gospel of our Divine Redeemer, become a living temple consecrated to His service.

*Given at the Council Chamber, in Boston, this tenth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the sixty-seventh.*

**MARCUS MORTON.**

By His Excellency the Governor, with the advice }  
and consent of the Council. }

**JOHN A. BOLLES, Secretary of State.**

**God save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.**