

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

JOHN PICKERING, *Esquire,*  
*pro tempore President of the State of Newbampshire.*

A  
P R O C L A M A T I O N  
FOR A GENERAL FAST.

AS the Ordinances of Heaven are in the hands of the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, and his smiles, or frowns, commonly suited to the moral character of a people or nation ;—as the Seasons are advancing, when we are more immediately led to consider our dependence on infinite Goodness, for a favourable seed-time, and a plentiful harvest ;—and as we are not only dependent, but guilty creatures, a sincere repentance for our multiplied iniquities, expressed, by humiliation, fasting and prayer, appears, peculiarly proper : The Legislature of this State have therefore appointed THURSDAY the Second Day of APRIL next, to be observed as a Day of General Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer throughout this State.

In pursuance of which appointment, I do, by and with advice of Council, issue this PROCLAMATION, earnestly recommending to religious societies, of every denomination, to assemble on that day, and with humble and contrite hearts—to implore the pardon of our numerous and aggravated offences against the divine Majesty ; to deprecate his deserved wrath ; to supplicate his unmerited favours, the continuance of blessings enjoyed, and the bestowment of needed mercies : That He would inspire our Rulers with wisdom, integrity and patriotism, and the people with a due sense of subjection and obedience to rightful authority—take the Federal Government under his holy Protection, and render it subservient to the best interest of the Union ; that he would order the revolving seasons in mercy, and crown the ensuing year with plenty ; prosper our trade, fishery and manufactures ; save us from foreign invasion and intestine commotions, and continue to be the God of our lives and the health of our countenance ; that he would be pleased to smile upon our Seminaries of Literature ; would endue his ministers with righteousness,—replenish their hearts with his heavenly grace—succeed their labour of love, and extend the peaceful kingdom of the Redeemer throughout the world. \*.\* All servile labour and recreation, are strictly forbidden on said day.

*Given at the Council Chamber at Exeter, the Twenty-first day of February, in the year of our LORD, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-nine, and in the Thirtieth Year of American Independence.*

JOHN PICKERING.

By his Excellency's Command :

JOSEPH PEARSON, Secretary.

*President pro tempore.*