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**Commonwealth of**



**Massachusetts.**

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BY HIS EXCELLENCY

**NATHANIEL P. BANKS,**

**GOVERNOR:**

**A PROCLAMATION**

FOR A DAY OF

**PUBLIC THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE.**

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By advice and with consent of the Council, I have appointed, and do hereby appoint, **THURSDAY**, the **TWENTY-FIFTH DAY OF NOVEMBER NEXT**, a day of Thanksgiving and Praise: and I recommend to the people in observance of this ancient and religious custom of the founders of the Commonwealth to suspend ordinary vocations and pleasures, and to assemble on that day in the usual places of public worship, for the purpose of acknowledging our continued dependence upon His Providence, and to render thanks to Almighty God for the manifold and signal mercies He has bestowed upon us, upon our fathers, and upon the great family of Man:

That He has preserved our people in health, in prosperity, in peace and in freedom: That He has secured to us the rewards of intelligent industry, and the wealth of the seas, the soil and the seasons: That He has crowned with success all our institutions and labors for the moral and mental culture of our people, and the relief of those oppressed in mind, in body or estate: That He has protected us, in the enjoyment of the privileges of a government, which combines with rare felicity the freedom of individuals, the supervision of the family, and the authority of the State: That He has suppressed traditional feuds and assuaged the animosities of nations, leading them through the marvelous developments of science to cultivate a civilizing and Christian intercourse with each other, instead of increasing the atrocities of war and strengthening the lust for dominion: And especially that He has given us that fixed and abiding faith in His providence, which sustains us amidst the direst calamities and teaches us that all events in life or death,—sometimes interpreted by the imperfect wisdom of man as misfortunes,—may be overruled through His grace, for the welfare of His people, and the glory of His name.

*Given at the Council Chamber, in Boston, this twenty-seventh day of October, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-third.*

**NATHANIEL P. BANKS.**

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

**OLIVER WARNER, Secretary.**

**God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts!**