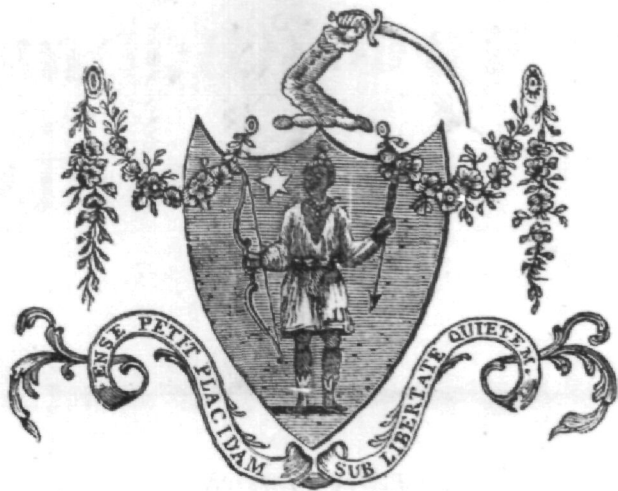


Commonwealth



of Massachusetts.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

JOHN BROOKS,

GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

A PROCLAMATION,

FOR A DAY OF

Public Thanksgiving and Praise.

THE unceasing exercise of the benevolence of Almighty God towards his rational creatures, of which the people of this State so largely participate, ought to produce in us the most cordial returns of gratitude, as well as a suitable sense of our dependence on Him for all the enjoyments of this, and the hopes of a better, life. The uncommon blessings which the present season has brought with it, have corresponding claims on us for expressions of devout Praise and Thanksgiving:

I HAVE, therefore, thought fit to appoint, and, by and with the advice and consent of the Council, in conformity to the pious practice of our revered Forefathers, I do hereby appoint THURSDAY, THE SIXTH DAY OF DECEMBER NEXT, to be observed as a DAY OF THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER, throughout the Commonwealth. And the people of every religious denomination are requested to assemble in their respective places of public worship on that day, unitedly to offer to the Divine Bestower of all our blessings the humble sacrifice of Thanksgiving and Praise: That He hath, in the course of the present year, preserved among the people of this State an unusual degree of health, of tranquility and good fellowship: That our moral, religious and social enjoyments, and our civil and political privileges have been continued to us: That our nation, now on terms of amity with all other nations, is fast recovering from the

paralizing effects of war: That our agriculture, manufactures, and commerce, are in a state of progressive and hopeful improvement: That the seasons of the year have been ordered in much mercy, so that our fields have yielded a rich increase, and we have an abundant supply of the fruits of the earth, and the productions of the sea.

AND while we render to God our grateful tribute of praise, for the various blessings with which He has been pleased so freely to indulge us, may we be led duly to realize our own unworthiness, and the great abuse with which we are chargeable, of many of the distinguishing tokens of his goodness; and penitently seek to Him for the remission of all our transgressions "through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:" That He will be pleased to bless the people of the Commonwealth in their Government, in their Schools and Colleges, in their literary, moral and religious Instructors, and in all their institutions for promoting piety, charity and beneficence; and that finally the religion of the Gospel of Jesus Christ may be universally spread through the world, that the whole earth may be filled with the glory of God.

AND it is recommended to the people, that they abstain from all labor and recreation inconsistent with the religious services of the day.

Given at the Council Chamber, in Boston, this Twelfth Day of October, in the Year of our Lord Eighteen Hundred and Twenty One, and of the Independence of the United States of America the Forty Sixth.

JOHN BROOKS.

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

ALDEN BRADFORD, Secretary.

God save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts!