



BY HIS EXCELLENCY

WILLIAM A. BUCKINGHAM,

Governor of the State of Connecticut,

A PROCLAMATION.

THERE is no earthly sorrow so great, no cloud of adversity so dark, no calamity so overwhelming, but that we may rejoice in the Providence of God and look to the future with hope.

The deep and extended rebellion now raging against our national Union, and the firm purpose of the conspirators to subvert lawful authority, have arrayed the enemies of free government and the enemies of despotism in armed opposition, and involved the nation in all the horrors of civil war.

To maintain our rights against the combined powers of rebels, to re-establish this government upon the foundations of righteousness, and to open the way for this whole people to engage again in the avocations of peace, will cost us time and treasure and life. It will carry sorrow into many a heart and grief into many a family circle.

But we may rejoice in confidence that God, who holds the destinies of nations in his hands, has no attribute which can take side with the oppressor; that he is with us in this struggle for right and justice; that the privations and losses which we now suffer will be abundantly rewarded, by the richer, purer, and higher blessings of liberty, which shall be more permanently enjoyed by future generations.

That our confidence in God and our hopes for the future may be manifest, I hereby recommend the citizens of this Commonwealth to observe **THURSDAY, THE 28TH INSTANT**, as a day of Public Thanksgiving and Praise.

Let us praise God for abundant harvests, for general health, for social, educational and religious privileges. Let us be grateful and praise Him, that while treason lifts its suicidal hand against our national Union, we have an opportunity to record upon the pages of history our abhorrence of the crime; and that while our free institutions are imperilled, multitudes stand firm in their integrity, and give evidence that a noble patriotism inspires their hearts, by offering their property, their sons, and their lives, upon the altar of their common country.

L. S. *Given under my hand and the seal of the State, in the City of Hartford, this, the second day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-sixth.*

WILLIAM A. BUCKINGHAM.

By His Excellency's command,

J. HAMMOND TRUMBULL, *Secretary of State.*