



BY HIS EXCELLENCY

WILLIAM W. ELLSWORTH,

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT,

A PROCLAMATION.

It is becoming a Christian People, publicly to acknowledge that *Universal Providence* which controls the affairs of individuals and of States. Our Heavenly Father directs all the works he has made, and He, alone, crowns the labors of man with success. As a moral Governor, he has connected virtue with happiness; disobedience with pain; and all the transactions of time with the destinies of eternity. "It is not in man that walketh to direct his steps," but his safety, is in a sense of his weakness. With such sentiments properly cherished, we shall be prepared to review the past and adore *Him* who has crowned with blessings the year, now drawing to a close. How becoming is such adoration? How grateful to a pious heart? Our fathers have endeared such a service by their prayers and praises; and have transmitted to us, a revered institution to awaken a sense of the *presence* and *providence* of God.

In perpetuation of this custom, I do appoint *THURSDAY*, the twenty-ninth day of *November* next, to be observed as a day of **THANKSGIVING, PRAISE AND PRAYER TO GOD**. And I invite the people of this State, on that day, to refrain from their accustomed employments;--to assemble with their religious teachers in their places of public worship and keep, before God, a christian thanksgiving;--particularly to render, to him, acknowledgments for the gift of a *Saviour*, and a divine revelation;--for the continuance of life, health, peace, order and security, throughout our borders;--for the blessings of education, science, the arts, and equal laws; for the progress of truth; the success of benevolent enterprise;--the impartial administration of justice; and for the forbearance of God, amidst our numerous and aggravated transgressions. I invite all particularly to return thanks to God, for the succession of seed time and harvest, and for the warmth of the sun and plentiful rains which have caused the earth, during the year, to bring forth its fruits in unusual abundance.

Let us also supplicate God to preserve our political and social institutions and bind in closer friendship the States of the Union;--that he would shed light in the paths of our rulers and direct to the adoption of wise and patriotic measures;--that he would restore harmony and kindness;--impart the love of truth, justice and religion;--prosper our colleges and schools and every effort to diffuse light and knowledge;--give success to our efforts in behalf of the ignorant, the poor and the suffering;--extend our commerce, manufactures and agriculture; put a stop to intemperance, bondage, oppression and crime; and finally awaken us to a more just apprehension of the responsibilities of living at the present era, and of the scenes so soon to open upon us in eternity.

Given under my hand and the seal of said State, at **Hartford**, this sixteenth day of **October**, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States, the sixty-third.

WILLIAM W. ELLSWORTH.

By his Excellency's command,

ROYAL R. HINMAN, Secretary.