

By the HONORABLE

Stephen Hopkins, Esquire,

Governor, Captain General, and Commander in Chief, in and over His MAJESTY'S Colony of *Rhode-Island*, and *Providence-Plantations*, in *New-England*, in *America*.

A Proclamation

For a GENERAL THANKSGIVING in said Colony.

THE Anxiety, which at the Beginning of the present War, was apparent in the Breast of every *British American*; the Gloom, which hung on the Countenance of every Native, for Fear of the Fate of his own Country, for his Family, his Friends, and every Blessing that is near and dear, and tends to the Happiness of Human Nature, by the Goodness of ALMIGHTY GOD, are all removed far from us. The *French in America*, whom we justly charge with beginning this cruel War, with Intent to subdue and subject us to their arbitrary Will and Pleasure, are in the Course of it, themselves subdued and brought under the mild and equal Sway of the *British Government*. And altho' their Attempt was to take our All from us, yet in being overcome themselves, they seem to have lost Nothing but the mischievous Power of injuring their Neighbours. These Dispensations of Providence, have been more alarming than any Thing known in our Time. The great Events we have seen, call for our serious Attention; and every Circumstance throughout the whole, conspires to point out our Dependance on HIM, who governs the World; who hath saved our distressed Country, which appeared to us in imminent Danger; who hath given Strength to the Soldiers Arm, or Resolution to his Heart, when the greatest Events depended on his almost more than human Efforts; who hath inspired the Leaders of our Armies and Fleets with Wisdom to direct, and Intrepidity to execute; who hath taught them the glorious and humane Policy, of making even conquered Nations happy: Who but the GOD we adore, could bring all these Things to such an Issue?

THE serious and humble Consideration of these Things, hath induced the General Assembly of the Colony aforesaid, to direct me to order, that Thursday the twentieth Day of the present Month of *November*, be observed as a Day of PUBLIC THANKSGIVING to ALMIGHTY GOD, for his great and manifold Mercies to the *British King* and Nation, and to all the *American Colonies*. And I do hereby Order, that the said Day be observed and kept for the Purpose aforesaid, in the most decent and solemn Manner, by all Societies of Christians, in a public Way, and by all Individuals, as becomes sober and thankful Christians. And further, I do strictly forbid and inhibit all Persons whatsoever, within said Colony, to practise any bodily Labor of their common Callings, on said Day.

GIVE N^d under my Hand, and the Seal of the Colony aforesaid, at Providence, the fifth Day of November, in the thirty-fourth Year of the Reign of our most gracious Sovereign Lord GEORGE the Second, by the Grace of GOD, King of Great-Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. Anno Domini, 1760.

By Order of the GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Step. Hopkins.

GOD Save the KING.