

## STATE OF VERMONT.

# A Proclamation

BY THE

## GOVERNOR.

By a commendable usage, the people of this State have long been accustomed to celebrate a day, near the close of each year, in offering ascriptions of thanksgiving and praise to ALMIGHTY GOD, for the blessings and mercies of the past season. Respect for the custom, and for the memory of those who established it, and above all, a sense of our own obligations and responsibilities to HIM who hath spared our lives and supplied our wants, demand from us an observance of this anniversary. The fruitfulness of the year just closing, the unusual exemption from wasting sickness and deadly pestilence, which has been so signally enjoyed by the inhabitants of this State, render it specially proper, that a day should be set apart for a public, simultaneous, expression of our gratitude and acknowledgements, to HIM who giveth sunshine and shower, and at whose command are the messengers of affliction and mercy.

I do, therefore, appoint Thursday, the third day of December next, to be observed, by the people of this State, as a day of THANKSGIVING, PRAYER, and PRAISE.

Let us, on that day, suspending our common engagements and avocations, assemble in our several places of public worship, and, while we there pray ALMIGHTY GOD, mercifully to accept our humble, yet unfeigned, tribute of thanksgiving, may we mingle our confessions of past ingratitude, unfaithfulness, and short comings, and offer up the acceptable sacrifice of a broken and contrite heart.

Let us thank GOD, that a forgetfulness to acknowledge Him in all our ways, hath not been followed by a corresponding neglect of us; that, notwithstanding our unworthiness, we have been the special subjects of His providence and care; that He hath ordered the year in mercy; that He hath sent, in their appropriate season, the rains and dews of Heaven; that He hath preserved us from disease and destruction; and, that at all times, His sustaining arms have kindly encircled us.

Let us pray for a continuance of these blessings; for light to shine upon the path of future duties; for a disposition, so to improve those bounties of His providence, with which we may be entrusted, as to dispense relief, with a liberal hand, to the poor, the suffering, and distressed; for a heart to sympathize with those in bondage; and for a sincere desire to conform, in all respects, to the divine rule of our LORD and SAVIOUR.

That GOD would bless our national and state councils, let us devoutly pray: that our schools and colleges may continue to send forth a healthful influence: that our clergy may be indeed messengers of GOD for good to the people: and, finally, that the blessings of good government may be extended throughout the world, and that those who succeed us, mindful of the price of our liberties, may continue to enjoy the smiles of Him, who directed and sustained our Pilgrim Fathers.



*Given under my hand, and the Seal of the State, in Executive Chamber, at Montpelier, this twenty-seventh day of October, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and forty, and of the Independence of the United States, the sixty-fifth.*

S. H. JENISON.

By the Governor.

GEO. B. MANSER, SECRETARY.