
Commonwealth of



1843

Massachusetts.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

MARCUS MORTON,

Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts :

A PROCLAMATION

FOR A DAY OF

PUBLIC THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE.

IN grateful acknowledgment of the dependence of nations on the Providence of Almighty God, I do, by and with the advice and consent of the Council, appoint **THURSDAY, THE THIRTIETH DAY OF NOVEMBER NEXT**, to be observed as a day of **THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE** for all His goodness to the people of this land.

In an especial manner, it becomes this Commonwealth to adore the Mercy of that Being who has visited us, not according to our merits, but with blessings from the infinite riches of His Grace; giving us health in the cities and in the country, prosperity in the various branches of industry, on the ocean and in the workshop; and bountiful harvests from our fields; preserving to us our civil and religious liberties; and the opportunities of instruction from His Word, and regeneration from the influences of His Spirit.

We would, moreover, bow in adoration to His love, which shielded our fathers in taking possession of the wilderness; protected their first efforts to turn the solitudes into places of gladness and society; filled their hearts with the sacred love of freedom, and sustained them in the hour of conflict for their existence as a nation. We give thanks that an opportunity has been vouchsafed us, publicly to celebrate with solemnity, the deeds of our fathers in their early struggles for Independence, and that

so many of those who at that time periled their lives for the welfare of their posterity, have themselves been spared, and are still preserved to us.

And joining supplication with our thanksgiving, we should offer Prayer that the virtues of our ancestors may not be to us a subject of vain-glory, but may be as messengers, summoning us to live in a manner worthy of their example; like them, to prefer our country to ourselves; like them, to love religion in its simplicity and purity, and like them to cherish a living faith, and the hope of immortality in a better world.

And in meekness of spirit remembering our unworthiness, we should also pray for forgiveness of our sins through the intercession of our only Mediator,—and that our children may grow up in the nurture of the Gospel,—that the days of the aged may yet be increased and made long in the land which has been given them,—that the public blessings which we enjoy, may yet more and more be extended throughout the world,—that the inalienable rights of human freedom may prevail; and the whole earth may be filled with joy, by the establishment of Civil Liberty, and the diffusion of Divine Truth.

And I invite this Commonwealth to keep that day as a people whose God is the Lord.

Given at the Council Chamber, in Boston, this twenty-second day of September,
in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the sixty eighth.

MARCUS MORTON.

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

JOHN A. BOLLES, Secretary of the Commonwealth.

God save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.