

By the President
of the United States of America.
A PROCLAMATION.

A sad truth is more clearly taught in the volume of iniquity, nor any more fully demonstrated by the experience of all ages, than that a deep sense and a due acknowledgment of the governing providence of a Supreme Being and of the accountability of men to Him as the searcher of hearts and righteous distributor of rewards and punishments, are conducive, equally, to the happiness and rectitude of individuals and to the well being of communities; as it is, also, most reasonable in itself, that men who are made capable of social acts and relations, who owe their improvements to the social state, and who derive their enjoyments from it, should, as a society, make their acknowledgments of dependence and obligation to Him who hath endowed them with these capacities, and elevated them in the scale of existence, by these distinctions; as it is, likewise a plain dictate of duty, and a strong sentiment of nature, that in circumstances of great urgency and season of imminent danger, earnest and particular applications should be made to Him who is able to defend or to destroy; as, moreover, the most precious interests of the people of the United States are still held in jeopardy, by the hostile designs and insidious arts of a foreign nation, as well as by the dissemination among them of those principles subversive of the foundations of all religious, moral and social obligations, that have produced incalculable mischief and misery in other countries; and as, in due, the observance of special seasons for public religious solemnities, is happily calculated to avert the evils which we ought to deprecate and to excite the performance of the duties which we ought to discharge,—by calling and fixing the attention of the people at large to the momentous truths already recited, by affording opportunities to teach and inculcate them, by animating devotion and giving to it the character of a national act.—For these reasons I have thought proper to recommend, and I do hereby recommend accordingly, that Thursday, the 25th day of April next, be observed, throughout the United States of America, as a day of solemn humiliation, fasting and prayer.—That the citizens, on that day, abstaining as far as may be from their secular occupations, devote the time to the sacred duties of religion, in public and in private: That they call to mind our numerous offences against the most High GOD, confess them before him with the sincerest penitence, employ his pardoning mercy, through the great Mediator and Redeemer, for our past transgressions, and that, through the grace of his Holy Spirit, we may be disposed and enabled to yield a more suitable obedience to his righteous requisitions in time to come: That he would interpose to arrest the progress of that impiety and licentiousness in principle and practice, so offensive to himself and so ruinous to mankind: That he would make us deeply sensible that "righteousness exalteth a nation, but that sin is the reproach of any people": That he would turn us from our transgressions and turn his displeasure from us: That he would withhold us from unreasonable discontent,—from dissension, faction, sedition and insurrection: That he would preserve our country from the desolating sword: That he would save our cities and towns from a repetition of those awful pestilential visitations under which they have lately suffered so severely, and that the health of our inhabitants, generally, may be precious in his sight: That he would favour us with fruitful seasons, and so bless the labors of the husbandman as that there may be found in abundance for man and beast: That he would prosper our commerce, manufactures, and fisheries, and give success to the people in all their lawful industry and enterprise: That he would smile on our colleges, academies, schools and seminaries of learning, and make them nurseries of sound science, morals and religion: That he would bless all magistrates from the highest to the lowest, give them the true spirit of their station, make them a terror to evil doers and a praise to them that do well: That he would preside over the councils of the nation at this critical period, enlighten them to a just discernment of the public interest, and save them from mistake, division and discord: That he would succeed our preparations for defense, and bless our armaments by land and by sea: That he would put an end to the effusion of human blood, and the accumulation of human misery, among the contending nations of the earth, by disposing them to justice, to equity, to benevolence and to peace: And that he would extend the blessings of knowledge, of true liberty, and of pure and undefiled religion, through-

out the world.
AND I do also recommend that with these acts of humiliation, penitence and prayer, fervent thanksgiving to the author of all good be united, for the countless favors which he is still continuing to the people of the United States, and which render their condition as a nation eminently happy, when compared with that of others.

GIVEN under my hand and the seal of the United States of America, at the city of Philadelphia, this sixth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-nine and of the Independence of the said States the twenty-third.
JOHN ADAMS.
By the President,
TIMOTHY PICKERING,
Secretary of State.

PHILADELPHIA, March 18.
The law which has furnished a pretext to the enemies of the government, for an open opposition to it is perhaps one of the most unexceptionable ever passed in any Legislative body.—The provisions which it contains, with respect to property, are entirely new. Most laws of this kind, have operated equally upon all property, whether possessed by the rich or by poorer classes of citizens—but here, a different principle had been admitted. By it, the person whose house is valued at 500 dollars, pays but one dollar tax, which is equal to 2 cents of one per cent, while one worth 10,000 dollars, pays 60 dollars, equal to 6 cents of one per cent upon the value of his house.

The following list will shew the different rates at which houses are taxed:
A House valued at 500 pays 1 dollar
1000—2 dollars
3000—12 dollars
6000—30 dollars
10,000—60 dollars
15,000—105 dollars
20,000—160 dollars
30,000—270 dollars

And all houses above that value pay one per cent, which is equal to 5 times as much as that paid upon a house valued at 500 dollars.
So that this law may be said to benefit the poor at the expense of those in easier circumstances.

There is one provision, however which seems to have rendered it peculiarly obnoxious—that of causing the number and dimensions of windows to be taken. This part of the law appears to have been introduced merely to aid the principal assessors in forming a truer estimate of the value of property, which they had not an opportunity of viewing in person; and for this purpose, only, was it introduced. During the last session of Congress, the law was so modified, entirely to do away all objections on this head, so that not even the smallest reason for opposition to it now remains.

But 'tis useless to reason on the subject, for there are men who Lucifer like, would not rest satisfied with the government of heaven itself.
The following is the law to which we allude—it passed both houses on the 23d February.

AN ACT,
To amend the act entitled "An act to provide for the valuation of lands and dwelling houses, and the enumeration of slaves within the United States."

SECT. I. BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled, that so much of the act, entitled "An act to provide for the valuation of lands and dwelling houses, and the enumeration of slaves within the United States," as requires, that the lists be delivered in pursuance of the ninth section thereof, shall specify in respect to dwelling houses "the number and dimensions of their windows," shall be, and hereby is repealed.

SECT. II. And be it further enacted, That the Commissioner under the said act for each state, respectively, shall be, and hereby is authorized to extend the time thereby allowed for receiving appeals by the principal assessors, and also allowed for returning lists by the assistant assessors, in all cases where the said commissioners shall deem such extension necessary, and for such time as they shall think expedient: and that so much of the 25th section of the above mentioned act, as requires all appeals to be made in writing be and it is hereby repealed.

SECT. III. And be it further enacted, That the Secretary of the Treasury shall be, and hereby is authorized and empowered, under the direction of the President of the United States, to augment in cases where he may find it necessary, the compensations fixed for principal and assistant assessors,

by said act; so, however, as that no principal or assistant assessor shall, in any case, receive more than two dollars a day; which additional compensation shall be subject to the same rule of adjustment as are established by the aforesaid act respecting the compensations therein fixed for principal and assistant assessors.
(Passed both houses of Congress, 23d of February, approved and signed by the President 1st March 1799.)

March 23.
Pennsylvania Legislature.
The following report was this morning agreed to by the House of Representatives:
The committee to whom was referred a message from the governor, respecting the proclamation of the President of the United States, announcing that combinations to defeat the execution of the laws for the valuation of lands and dwelling houses, have existed in the counties of Northampton, Montgomery and Bucks—

REPORT—
THAT they have had the said message under their serious consideration and find cause of deep regret that combinations to defeat the laws of the United States have a second time made their appearance in the state of Pennsylvania; as such combinations are repugnant not only to the pure principles of republicanism and the spirit of our constitution, but also highly dishonorable to the character of a portion of the citizens of our state. That law tending to lay the heaviest burthens on the most opulent part of the community should be opposed by those on whom they operate lightest proves that the opposition had arisen from ignorance or the most dark and malignant design.

Your committee cannot hesitate to express with the most lively sensibility their entire disapprobation of such unwarrantable conduct, tending to the dissolution of our government and subversive of the principles of tranquility and good order, and that it is the duty of every good citizen to discountenance such treasonable combinations. Yet as the general government has sufficient power to compel obedience to their laws, and the president has in his proclamation determined to do in this instance, and has not thought the aid this state necessary.

Your committee offer the following resolution:
Resolved, That this house will when required, co-operate with the general government with alacrity and promptitude to suppress unlawful and untreasonable combinations to defeat the execution of the laws of the United States: But as no such co-operation is now required, this house consider their interference at present as wholly unnecessary.

It was moved by Dr. Logan, and seconded by Mr. Horn, of Northampton, to add the following resolution:
Resolved, That the governor be, and he hereby requested to cause a full and due enquiry to be made into the cause of the said riots, and make special report to this house thereon, particularly of any circumstances which may be alleged or discovered tending to show the origin of the same in the agency of foreign incendiaries or the seditious views of domestic traitors.

Upon which the yeas and nays were called, and were as follows.
AYES.
Baird, Bollan, Coolbaugh, Cunningham, Conrad, Eyre, Ewalt, Frailey, Follmer, Gehr, Hartzell, Huston, Hughes, Krause, Linnard, Lyle, Logan, Mewhorror, M'Dowell, Penrose, Rugh, Rose, Shoemaker, Snyder, Udrer, Weaver.—26.
NAYS.

Evans, Allbright, Bull, Brown, Buckley, Barclay, Broske, Blair, Campbell Erwin, Fisher, Forster Hall, Hemphill, Hannum, Hopkins, Hosteller, Hendricks, Koppels, Kick, Kays, Kelley, Kennedy, Miller, Martin, M'Pherson, Power, Preston, Palmer, Raum, Stocker, Stover, Strickler, A. Scott, Stewart, J. Scott, Spier, Sample, Turner, Wharton, Watson, Wright, Wilson, Welles, Williamson.—45.

[In opposition to this resolution it was observed generally, that the persons guilty were amenable to the government of the United States who had and would adopt proper measures to bring the guilty to justice.—That independent of the propriety of an enquiry or such an enquiry, the result of the resolution should be adopted would most probably end in an opinion which is now generally entertained, viz. that the persons offending were ignorant and credulous, led astray by those on whom they had placed their dependence, who were constantly exclaiming against the measures of the general government, and endeavoring to inculcate a belief that it is corrupt and oppressive in its administration, that taxes were raised to

gratify ambition and support a war against a government disposed to be at peace with us. The protest of the minority on the address to the President of the United States, was admirably calculated for such effects, as well as the opinions, that ambassades from the people were only necessary to effect a general peace. To these observations the virtuous mover made no reply.

WAR DEPARTMENT.
SIR, To suppress the insurrection now existing in the counties of Northampton, Bucks and Montgomery, in the state of Pennsylvania, in opposition to the laws of the United States, the President has thought it necessary to employ a Military Force, to be composed in part of such of the Militia of Pennsylvania, whose situation and state of preparation will enable them to march with promptitude. The corps of Military first desired on this occasion are the troops of cavalry belonging to this city, and one troop of each of the counties of Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester, Montgomery and Lancaster. These troops I have the honor to request your excellency will order to hold themselves in readiness to march on or before the 28th instant under the command of Brigadier General Macpherson.
I have the honor to be,
With the greatest respect,
Your Excellency's most obedient and humble servant,
JAMES M'HENRY.
His Excellency
Gov. THOMAS MIFFLIN.

SIR,
THE Secretary of War has this moment communicated to me the President's intention to employ a Military Force, in suppressing the insurrection now existing in the counties of Northampton, Bucks and Montgomery, with a request that the troops of cavalry belonging to this city, and a troop from each of the counties of Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester, Montgomery and Lancaster, may be ordered to hold themselves in readiness to march on, or before the 28th inst. under the command of Brigadier General Macpherson.
You will, therefore, immediately give the General Orders for complying with the President's request; and communicate, by express, with the commanding officers of the several corps: As soon as the troops are ready to march, you will make your report to me; sending the returns of the officers, from time to time as you receive them.
I am, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
THOMAS MIFFLIN.
Philadelphia, 20, 1799.

RAN AWAY
from the subscriber on Monday the 8th inst. a negro fellow named ASTON, a country born slave, about twenty-four years of age, five feet eight or nine inches high, of a yellowish complexion, and stutters when sharply spoken to—being very artful, he will in all probability, endeavour to pass for a free man—he can do a little at the coopering and shoemaking business—he had on when he went away, a light colored cloth coat, broad brim'd hat; and had with him nankeens and homespun small clothes—he was born in the county of Wake, and may possibly make that way or to Wilmington.
Any person who will apprehend and secure the said slave shall have a reward of thirty dollars & all reasonable charges, by delivering him to me at Rockfish, Duplin county, or securing in any goal, so that I get him again.
SHADRICK STALLINGS.
Rockfish, Duplin county,
April 12.

BLANKS
OF all kinds, for sale at the Printing-Office

List of Letters remaining in the Post-Office at Wilmington, N. C.

- A.
JOHN Allan, 1; Benjamin Ayde-lott, 1; Capt. Edward Atkinson, 1; Hon. Samuel Ashe, 1.
B.
Timothy Bloodworth, jun'r. 3; Mrs. R. Bloodworth, Washington, 1; Capt. Richard Bulloch, 2; Capt. George Boecock, 1; Captain John Bulkeley, 1; Messrs. William Blanchard and Son, 1; Capt. William Barden, 1; Mr. John Burke, 1; Thomas Brickie, 1; Madame Boilston, 1.
C.
Commissioners of Taxes for the District of Wilmington, 1; Clerk of the Superior Court, 1; William Cecil, 2; Capt. Ebenezer Chincy, 2; John Callon, 1; Thomas Cole, 1; Stephen Cass, 1; Joseph Cass, 1; John Creston, 1.
D.
Ezekiel Day, care of Potts and Gibbs, 2; Christopher Dudley, 1; Christopher Dudley of Onslow, 2; Samuel Denhurst, 1; William Davis, 1; Madame Domingo, 1; Capt. Nathaniel Donnel, care of Potts and Gibbs, 1; Thomas F. Davis, 1; Edward Dollison, 1; A. Dulac, 1; James Devaune, 1; James Dickson, Duplin, 1; Doctor James Dubois, 1.
E.
Mary Edwards, 1; Rufus Elliot, 1.
F.
Monf. Gamath, 1; William Guel, 1; M. Galbarath, 1; James Green, 1.
G.
Capt. Benjamin Hatches, 1; Cornelius Holt, 1; Daniel Heartwell, 1; Gabriel Holmes, 1; Henry Hark us, 1; Isaac Hendrickson, 1; John Hall, North-west, 1; Wm. Hendry, care of Mr. Urg, 2; Walter Husley, 1; Mrs. Catharine Hunter, 1; Henry Hull, Rocky Point, 1; Deior N. Hill, 1; Mr. Huler, 1; George Hooper, 1.
H.
I.
Edward Jones, Solicitor-General, 1; Mrs. Jones, 1; S. R. Jocelyn, 1.
K.
John Kays, 1; John Kennedy, care of H. Urquhart, 1; William Keddie, 1; Captain Conkling Ketchom, 1; Ephraim Kempton, 2.
L.
Mr. Lalpeyfe, 1; Stephen Lelly, 1; James Larkins, Long-creek, 1; Capt. Andrew Laurence, 1; Lewis Latour, 1.
M.
Amala Mason, 4; Roger Moore, 1; Henry Moore, 1; D. Mallet, 1; Benjamin Moses, 1; Wm. McKerral, 1; Wm. G. Marshall, 1; Roland M'Dugal, 1; Donald Minton, 1.
N.
Richard Nixon, Topfall, 1; William Nutt, 2; Henry Norman, 1; Jarrot Noble, 1; John Noy's, 1; Peter Nicholson, 1.
O.
William Pally, 1; Arthur Parman, Onslow, 1; John Pair, 1; Miss Eliza Pratt, 1; Capt. William Parker, 1; David Perry, 1.
P.
Capt. Joseph Robbins, 1; Edward Ruggles, 1; Wm. Russell, 1; Geo. Soule, 1; Edward Robeson on the Sound, 1.
Q.
Capt. Gamala Small, 2; Captain Robert Sage, 2; William Suell, 1; Daniel Shoaler, 1; James Shaw, 1; James Stewart, Esq. 1; Mrs. Susan Sellers, 1; Capt. John Stanton, 1; Jacob Svare, 1; Geo. Stenury, care of Cornelius Hurst, 1; Simon Sellers, 1.
R.
S.
Capt. John Thompson, 2; Charles Thompson, Onslow, 1; Wm. Turner, 2; Mrs. Amey Turner, 1; Captain William Tolman, 1.
T.
Henry Urquhart, 1.
U.
W.
Richard Watt, 1; Henry Waters, 1; James Wear, 1; Mrs. Rebecca Wilkinson, 1; John Watkins, 1; Capt. James Walker, 1; James Walker, Esq. 1; Capt. John Weed, 2; Gilbert Wilson, 1.
Should the above letters not be taken out of the Post-office before the first day of July next, they will then be forwarded to the General Post-office as dead letters.
JOHN LORD, AGENT F. M.