

# BETWEEN THE COVERS RARE BOOKS

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## Franklin B. Hough

*Proclamations for Thanksgiving, Issued by the Continental Congress: Pres't Washington, by the National and State Governments on the Peace of 1815, and by the Governors of New York Since the Introduction of the Custom; with Those of the Governors of the Several States in 1858*

Albany: Maunsell & Rowland 1858

\$500



First edition. Small quarto. 183pp. Half morocco gilt and marbled papercovered boards. Modest rubbing at the joints, a little foxing throughtout the text, a handsome, near fine copy. Bookplate of then Rhode Island Governor Elisha Dyer on the front pastedown. A thorough study of the origins of Thanksgiving proclamations, usually issued as broadsides, including the early proclamation by the Colony of Massachusetts in 1631. Hough explores the occasions and grounds and evolution of the proclamations by by the Colonial, Federal, and State governments (including one by Dyer in Rhode Island on p.135-6). One of 150 copies, presumably (as per *OCLC*, which locates somewhere between 10 and 23 copies, depending on how one interprets the four entries they are spread over). A very nice copy. [BTC#402764]





PROCLAMATION

By Elisha Dyer, Governor of the State of  
Rhode Island and Providence Planta-  
tions.

**I**N accordance with a "time-honored custom," and as required by law, I, Elisha Dyer, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do issue this my Proclamation, appointing Thursday, the twenty-fifth day of November next, as a day of Public Thanksgiving and Praise to Almighty God, for the innumerable blessings he has bestowed upon us, the people of this State, during the past year.

The preservation of our lives; the absence of contagious disease; the abundant harvest that has so richly rewarded the labors of the husbandman; the unrestricted enjoyment of our civil rights and religious privileges; the wide spread manifestations and presence of the Holy Spirit; the "means of grace and hope of glory" still offered us in the religion of Jesus Christ, all proclaim his dealings with us to have been in mercy and with love.

And we should also remember with gratitude that this day commemorates the departure in

former years of those who would have oppressed our country, and the assurance, so recently given, that a bond of peace and fraternity may be established between all nations.

I, therefore, appeal with confidence to the grateful appreciation of these mercies, by my fellow-citizens throughout the State, for their cooperation in the proper observance of this day, by abstaining from all secular labor, in their attendance upon public worship, and by the dispensation of that sympathetic benevolence which the prostration of industry has demanded; thus cheering the hearts of the desolate, and making glad the homes of the destitute.

Given under my hand and seal of this State  
this twenty-seventh day of October, in  
[L. s.] the year of our Lord one thousand eight  
hundred and fifty-eight, and of Inde-  
pendence the eighty-third.

ELISHA DYER.

Attest.

JOHN R. BARTLETT, Secretary of State.