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Proclamation for Thanksgiving Day.

By the President of the United States of America — A proclamation: It has long been the pious custom of our people, with the closing of the year, to look back upon the blessings brought to them in the changing course of the seasons, and to return solemn thanks to the All Giving Source from whom they flow. And although at this period when the falling leaf admonishes us that the time of our sacred duty is at hand, our nation still lies in the shadow of a great bereavement, and the mourning which has filled our hearts, still finds its sorrowful expression toward the God before whom we but lately bowed in grief and supplication. Yet the countless benefits which have showered upon us during the past twelve months call for our fervent gratitude, and make it fitting that we should rejoice with thankfulness that the Lord in His infinite mercy has most signally favored our country and our people. Peace without and prosperity within have been vouchsafed to us. No pestilence has visited our shores. The abundant privileges of freedom, which our fathers left us in their wisdom, are still our increasing heritage. And if, in parts of our vast domain, some affliction has visited our brethren in their forest homes, yet even this calamity has been tempered and in a manner sanctified by the generous compassion for the sufferers which has been called forth throughout our land. For all these things it is meet that the voice of the nation should go up to God in devout homage. Wherefore I, Chester A. Arthur, President of the United States, do recommend that all the people observe Thursday, the 24th day of November, inst., as a day of national thanksgiving and prayer, by ceasing so far as may be, from their secular labors and meeting in their several places of worship, there to join in ascribing honor and praise to Almighty God, whose goodness has been so manifold in our history and in our lives, and offering earnest prayers that His bounties may continue to us and to our children.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this fourth day of November, in the year of our Lord 1881, and of the independence of the United States, 105.

[Signed] CHESTER A. ARTHUR.
By the President,
JAMES G. BLAINE,
Secretary of State.

Thanksgiving.

Governor Hoyt issued his Thanksgiving proclamation Friday afternoon. It is as follows:

In the name and by the authority of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Henry M. Hoyt, Governor of said Commonwealth:

A PROCLAMATION:—During a season of drought and partial failure of the harvests, which in a less fruitful land would have brought famine and distress, and in a time of public trial and tribulation, which under less happy institutions might have led to dissension and strife, the people of the United States and particularly of Pennsylvania, have been preserved in health, in estate and in peace.

Now, therefore, I, Henry M. Hoyt, Governor of Pennsylvania, do ordain and set apart Thursday, November 24th, A. D. 1881, (being the day appointed by the President of the United States), for the observance of those religious services, recognizing the beneficence and care of the Father of us all, and those household customs, strengthening the bonds of families and common brotherhood, in which the time honored traditions of the Commonwealth have been embodied in thanksgiving and prayer of a grateful people.

Given under my hand and the great seal of the State at Harrisburg, this tenth day of [L. S.] November, in the year of our Lord 1881 and of the Commonwealth the 105th.
(Signed) HENRY M. HOYT,
Governor.
M. S. Quay,
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

An important question has just been decided by the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of the appeal of J. B. Stark of WilkesBarre from the decision of the District Court at Williamsport. The suit involved a matter of some eighteen thousand dollars, the plaintiff being the Second National Bank of WilkesBarre. Mr. Stark had endorsed certain notes and the drawee having failed, proceedings were instituted against the endorser who in defense alleged usury on the part of the plaintiff. The judgment of the District Court was against Mr. Stark on the ground that a charge of

usury could not be maintained against National Banks in Pennsylvania under the 30th section of the National Banking Act, as many of the State banks had the right to issue currency under their charters and to charge discount rates ranging from 7 to 10 per cent, and in some cases even more than this. The judgment of District Court has now been affirmed by the highest court of appeal. The question is similar to that involved in the case of Tiffany vs. the National Bank of Missouri. It contains a principle of great importance to business men generally and establishes the fact that he who contracts with a National Bank for a high rate of interest cannot escape the obligation by raising the question of usury.

The Independent Republicans are organizing in good earnest. At a meeting held in Philadelphia, on Wednesday, a large number of prominent gentlemen from various parts of the State gave in their adhesion to the reform movement who supported Baily during the past campaign. In this meeting Congressman Bayne said that in plain terms the organization meant the overthrow of the Cameron dynasty.

Ducks, Chickens and Turkeys, dressed and alive, wanted all through the winter at E. F. DITTRICH & CO.

Business Cards.

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Oct. 11, 1881.

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Nov. 27, 1880.

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R. LUTHER.
Luther's Mill, Oct. 12, '81.

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