

miles west of tidewater by the Indian haunted wilderness, have been transformed into the mightiest republic which the world has ever seen. Its domains stretch across the continent from one to the other of the two greatest oceans, and it exercises dominion alike in the arctic and tropic realms. The growth in wealth and population has surpassed even the growth in territory. Nowhere else in the world is the average of individual comfort and material well-being as high as in our fortunate land.

For the very reason that in material well-being we have thus abounded, we owe it to the Almighty to show equal progress in moral and spiritual things. With a nation, as with the individuals who make up a nation, material well-being is an indispensable foundation. But the foundation avails nothing by itself. That life is wasted, and worse than wasted, which is spent in piling, heap upon heap, those things which minister merely to the pleasure of the body and to the power that rests only on wealth. Upon material well-being as a foundation must be raised the structure of the lofty life of the spirit, if this Nation is properly to fulfil its great mission and to accomplish all that we so ardently hope and desire. The things of the body are good; the things of the intellect better; the best of all are the things of the soul; for, in the nation as in the individual, in the long run it is character that counts. Let us therefore as a people set our faces resolutely against evil, and with broad charity, with kindness and good-will toward all men, but with unflinching determination to smite down wrong, strive with all the strength that is given us for righteousness in public and in private life.

Thursday, No-  
vember 26, 1908,  
set apart as a day  
of national thank-  
sgiving.

Now, therefore, I, Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States, do set apart Thursday, the 26th day of November, next, as a day of general thanksgiving and prayer, and on that day I recommend that the people shall cease from their daily work, and, in their homes or in their churches, meet devoutly to thank the Almighty for the many and great blessings they have received in the past, and to pray that they may be given the strength so to order their lives as to deserve a continuation of these blessings in the future.

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 thirty-first day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eight and of the independence of the United States the one hundred and thirty-third.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

By the President:

ALVEY A. ADEE  
*Acting Secretary of State.*

November 24, 1908.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

#### A PROCLAMATION

Ocala National For-  
est, Fla.  
Preamble.

WHEREAS, the public lands in the State of Florida, which are hereinafter indicated, are in part covered with timber, and it appears that the public good would be promoted by utilizing said lands as a National Forest;

National Forest,  
Florida.

Now, therefore, I, Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the power in me vested by section twenty-four of the Act of Congress, approved March third, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, entitled, "An Act to repeal timber-culture laws, and for other purposes," do proclaim that there are hereby

Vol. 26, p. 1103.



reserved from settlement or entry and set apart as a public reservation, for the use and benefit of the people, all the tracts of land, in the State of Florida, shown as the Ocala National Forest on the diagram forming a part hereof.

The withdrawal made by this proclamation shall, as to all lands which are at this date legally appropriated under the public land laws or reserved for any public purpose, be subject to and shall not interfere with or defeat legal rights under such appropriation nor prevent the use for such public purpose of lands so reserved, so long as such appropriation is legally maintained, or such reservation remains in force. Prior rights not affected.

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 24th day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eight, [SEAL.] and of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and thirty third.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

By the President:  
ELIHU ROOT  
*Secretary of State.*

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

November 24, 1908.

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the public lands in the State of North Dakota, which are hereinafter indicated, are in part covered with timber, and it appears that the public good would be promoted by utilizing said lands as a National Forest; Dakota National Forest, N. Dak.

Now, therefore, I, Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the power in me vested by section twenty-four of the Act of Congress, approved March third, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, entitled, "An Act to repeal timber-culture laws, and for other purposes," do proclaim that there are hereby reserved from settlement or entry and set apart as a public reservation, for the use and benefit of the people, all the tracts of land, in the State of North Dakota, shown as the Dakota National Forest on the diagram forming a part hereof. National Forest, North Dakota.  
Vol. 26, p. 1103.

The withdrawal made by this proclamation shall, as to all lands which are at this date legally appropriated under the public land laws or reserved for any public purpose, be subject to, and shall not interfere with or defeat legal rights under such appropriation, nor prevent the use for such public purpose of lands so reserved, so long as such appropriation is legally maintained, or such reservation remains in force. Prior rights not affected.

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 24th day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eight, [SEAL.] and of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and thirty-third.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

By the President:  
ELIHU ROOT  
*Secretary of State.*