

Rhode Island, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Massachusetts, Nebraska, Iowa, Arkansas, Florida, North Carolina, Louisiana, South Carolina, Alabama, and also by the legislature of the State of Georgia; the States thus specified being more than three fourths of the States of the United States.

And I do further certify that the said amendment has become valid to all intents and purposes as a part of the Constitution of the United States.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Department of State to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington this twenty-eighth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the ninety-third.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD,  
*Secretary of State.*

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No. 14.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: October 12, 1868.

A PROCLAMATION.

In the year which is now drawing to its end, the art, the skill, and the labor of the people of the United States have been employed with greater diligence and vigor, and on broader fields than ever before, and the fruits of the earth have been gathered into the granary and the storehouse in marvellous abundance. Our highways have been lengthened, and new and prolific regions have been occupied. We are permitted to hope that long protracted political and sectional dissensions are at no distant day to give place to returning harmony and fraternal affection throughout the Republic. Many foreign states have entered into liberal agreements with us, while nations which are far off, and which heretofore have been unsocial and exclusive, have become our friends.

Day for Public Thanksgiving recommended.

The annual period of rest, which we have reached in health and tranquillity, and which is crowned with so many blessings, is by universal consent a convenient and suitable one for cultivating personal piety and practising public devotion.

I therefore recommend that Thursday, the twenty-sixth day of November next, be set apart, and observed by all the people of the United States, as a day for public praise, thanksgiving, and prayer to the Almighty Creator and Divine Ruler of the Universe, by whose ever-watchful, merciful, and gracious providence alone, states and nations, no less than families and individual men, do live and move and have their being.

Thursday, November 26th, 1868.

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 twelfth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States the ninety-third.

ANDREW JOHNSON.

By the President:

WILLIAM H. SEWARD, *Secretary of State.*

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No. 15.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: Dec. 25, 1868.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS the President of the United States has heretofore set forth several proclamations, offering amnesty and pardon to persons who had been or were concerned in the late rebellion against the lawful authority of the government

Preamble.

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of the United States, which proclamations were severally issued on the eighth day of December, 1863, on the twenty-sixth day of March, 1864, on the twenty-ninth day of May, 1865, on the seventh day of September, 1867, and on the fourth day of July, in the present year;

And whereas, the authority of the Federal Government having been re-established in all the States and Territories within the jurisdiction of the United States, it is believed that such prudential reservations and exceptions as at the dates of said several proclamations were deemed necessary and proper may now be wisely and justly relinquished, and that a universal amnesty and pardon for participation in said rebellion extended to all who have borne any part therein will tend to secure permanent peace, order, and prosperity throughout the land, and to renew and fully restore confidence and fraternal feeling among the whole people, and their respect for and attachment to the National Government, designed by its patriotic founders for the general good:

Full pardon  
and amnesty  
granted to all  
persons engaged  
in the late re-  
bellion.

Now, therefore, be it known that I, ANDREW JOHNSON, President of the United States, by virtue of the power and authority in me vested by the Constitution, and in the name of the sovereign people of the United States, do hereby proclaim and declare unconditionally, and without reservation, to all and to every person who directly or indirectly participated in the late insurrection or rebellion, a full pardon and amnesty for the offence of treason against the United States, or of adhering to their enemies during the late civil war, with restoration of all rights, privileges, and immunities under the Constitution and the laws which have been made in pursuance thereof.

In testimony whereof, I have signed these presents with my hand, and have caused the seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, the twenty-fifth day of December, in the [SEAL.] year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the ninety-third.

ANDREW JOHNSON.

By the President:

F. W. SEWARD,

*Acting Secretary of State.*