

The First Thanksgiving Proclamation

by President George Washington

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true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and us — and generally to grant unto all Mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as he alone knows to be best.

Given under my hand at the City of New York the third day of October in the year of our Lord 1789.

— *Geo. Washington*

Along Life's Road

Along life's road, I've noticed this,
The grandest sights we often miss,
We fail to see the lovely things
And miss the joy that seeing brings:
The flowers that bloom along the way,
The setting sun at close of day,
The mountains, valleys, streams and trees —
We seem to miss the sight of these.

God left it all to us, I guess,
To help ourselves to happiness;
And yet we grumble and complain
Of too much drought or too much rain,
Of too much heat or too much cold,
All through our lives, until we're old,
We kick and growl and fret and fuss,
And all is wrong that's given us.

The way to live, it seems to me,
Is just to try our best to see
The pleasant side of everything;
Instead of grumbling, try to sing
A song of praise and thankfulness,
For all that's ours of happiness,
And pay the Lord a compliment
For all the blessings He has sent.

— *Frank Carleton Nelson*

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