

of Maryland. Legislative acts and proclamations by the governor were often ineffectual, but Maryland, to an extent exceeded by few states, had given the lives of its citizens and the resources of its treasury to make the vision of independence a reality. Reaffirming the importance of the cause for which Marylanders and other Americans were fighting, Governor Johnson issued a proclamation on November 28 in compliance with a resolution of Congress declaring December 18 as a day "to be observed in All Churches and Congregations...throughout this State as a Day of general and solemn Thanksgiving" (see Document of the Month). Johnson ended his proclamation with a phrase both defiant and prayerful: "God save the State."