

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

Arthur Fenner, Esq;

Governor, Captain-General, and Commander in Chief, of the  
State of *Rhode-Island* and *Providence-Plantations*.

## A PROCLAMATION.

**W**HEREAS a contagious Distemper, of the most malignant Kind, prevails in *Philadelphia*, and the *West-Indies*; and unless every necessary Precaution be taken to prevent its being brought into the State, the Lives of the good Citizens thereof will be greatly endangered:

I HAVE THEREFORE thought fit to issue this Proclamation, earnestly recommending it to the several Town-Councils, to all other Officers, and to the Citizens of this State, to use their utmost Vigilance in causing the Law to prevent the Introduction and Spreading of the Small-Pox, and other contagious Sicknes, to be most strictly and punctually executed; more especially with Respect to all Vessels which shall arrive in this State from the *West-Indies*, *Philadelphia* and *New-York*; there being Reason to apprehend Danger from the great Intercourse between the last mentioned Place and *Philadelphia*. And it is expected and required of all Masters of Vessels and others, coming from the said Places, or from any other Place infected with any contagious Disorder, that they observe the said Law with the greatest Exactness.

*G I V E N* under my Hand, and the Seal of the said State, at Providence, this *Twenty-first* Day of September, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and *Ninety-three*, and of Independence the *Eighteenth*.

Arthur Fenner.

*By his Excellency's Command,*  
HENRY WARD, Sec'ry.