

New York Feby 22d. 1836.

Gentlemen

I pray you to convey to the democratic citizens of the city of Cincinnati and of the County of Hamilton whom you represent the expression [illegible] of my great regret that I can not accept the invitation with which they have honored me.

Every meeting of those who [profess] and practice democratic principles is of great importance. It encourages the friends of true liberty [cherishes?] the Unity of purpose by which alone the enemies of freedom can be defeated in the machinations against it; and by a recurrence, in public speeches, toasts, and the interchange of sentiments [illegible] to the principles on which our institutions rest. gives them new vigor & support.

I have embodied in the subjoined toast (offered according to your request) one of the most important

of these principles. If the enemies of popular government could become convert, to the first, and its friends, be convinced of the last truth it contains- our Institutions would last (as I sincerely wish they may last,) Forever

“The Sovereignty of the People. Limited by the Sacred Obligation of implicit obedience to the laws which their Representatives have constitutionally made”

For yourselves gentlemen be pleased to accept my thanks for the obliging terms in which you have couched your invitation and my acknowledgements for the manner in which you are pleased to speak of my services – although the pleasure derived from your approbation of them is much lessened by the consciousness that they are greatly overrated by your Partiality

I am with great Respect
Your Mo Obd Srvt
Edw Livingston

To Moses Dawson.
Chairman
and other members of the Committee
of the Democratic Citizens of Cincinnati
& the County of Hamilton

{Ed: Livingston}
{22d Feby 1836}

{[25]}

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