To the Marine Society of the City of New York

Gentlemen---------------------

I consider myself highly honored by the polite attention shewn me in your address, and the too partial manner in which you are pleased to express your sense of my public and private conduct; - at the same time I have the pleasure to assure the Society that I am extremely happy in becoming a member of their humane and excellent institution.

To have conducted as a nation with so much dignity and propriety, through the unparalleled difficulties and dangers of an arduous contest-to have accomplished our fondest wishes and to have fixed the Liberties of this Country upon the broad and permanent Basis of Independence will ever reflect the truest glory on the patriots of the present age, and afford the ampliest field of description for the future historian.

It would be a mark of great insensitivity in me not to partake in the public joy, or not to derive an unusual degree of satisfaction from the approbation of good Men and Lovers of their Country. Believe me Gentlemen, I shall return to private life impressed with the most pleasing sensations; ---- a recollection of the happy scene to which I have lately been a witness, will attend me in my solitary walks and cheer me in the shade of retirement.

(signed) G.Washington

New York
29th November, 1783

Transcript by:
Mel A. Hardin
Staten Island, NY
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