

The address of the mayor recorder Alderman and Common Council of the city of Pennsylvania in common Council assembled To his Excellency George Washington president of the United States of America, printed in The American Museum Vol 5. pages 435-436, January 1789-June 1789.

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The address of the mayor, recorder, aldermen and common council of the city of Philadelphia, in common council assembled,

To his excellency George Washington, president of the united states of America.

Sir,

We the mayor, recorder, aldermen, and common council of the city of Philadelphia have assembled, to present you our sincerest congratulations on your appointment to the station of president of the united states of America.

We rejoice, so long accustomed to claim your services in every hour of public difficulty, have again given the most affectionate and honourable testimony to your distinguished worth, by calling you, with united suffrage, to take the highest feat of power amongst freemen.

When the gloom, which overcast the cause of liberty at the opening of the late war, occasioned by the alarm of a mighty nation armed to suppress the voice of freedom in this infant land, for a moment sunk the spirit of its sons- you, sir, arose: instantaneous confidence possessed the minds of your fellow citizens: - under your auspices- they fought,- they bled,- and, thro' unparalleled distress of war, you led them to freedom, the choicest gift of heaven.

Scarce had that solemn scene passed over, when a triumphant victor returned his sword to the civil rulers of his country. Scarce had you retired to the calm retreat of domestic peace, when the civil rule, which we had suddenly established amidst the busy tumult of war, proved unequal to secure the blessings to be derived from a well digested constitution; you, sir, were again called forth, and, presiding over our wisest counsels, have handed to your country a system of civil policy, happily uniting civil liberty with effective government.

What then remained undone, is now accomplished:- and you are called to preside in dispensing the blessings of that government, in the forming of which you took so distinguished a part.

May your administration derive blessings to your country, and honour and happiness to yourself.

In the name of the citizens of Philadelphia, we bid you welcome; and assure you, that we, and those we represent, have the warmest personal attachment to you, and shall always rejoice to meet you singly, or connected that august body over whom you are going to preside.

Signed, by order of the mayor, recorder, aldermen and common council of the city of Philadelphia, in common council assembled, this twentieth day of April, anno domini 1789.

Alexander Wilcocks, recorder.