My dear Sir,

By now, I am certain that the business of the Congress progresses; but every time it is settled, I am left to consider what shall be the result. I am more than I can venture to do; and if you had regard to these... to the best that can be obtained at the present moment, and such diversity of ideas as peculiar. I should have had great plea...
George Washington to Henry Knox, August 19, 1787

Transcript

[Draft]


My dear Sir,

By slow, I wish I could add & sure, movements, the business of the Convention progresses; but to say when it will end, or what will be the result, is more than I can venture to do; and therefore shall hazard no opinion therein. – If however, some good does not proceed from the Session, the defects cannot, with propriety, be charged to the hurry with which the business has been conducted: [strikeout] [inserted: Yet], many things may be forgot – some of them not well digested – and others become a mere nullity. – [strikeout] [inserted: Notwithstanding which] I wish a disposition may be found in Congress – the several States Legislatures – and the community at large to adopt the Government which may be agreed on in Convention; because I am fully persuaded it is the best that can be obtained at the present moment, under such diversity of ideas as prevail. –

I should have had great pleasure in a visit to New York during the adjournment of the Convention, but not foreseeing the precise period at which it would take place, or the length of it; I had, previously there to, put my carriage into the hands of a workman to repair, and had not the means of going

I condole very sincerely with Mrs. Knox & yourself on your late misfortune; but am sure, however severe the trial, each of you have fortitude enough to meet it. – Nature, no doubt, must feel severely before calm resignation will overcome it. – I offer my best respects [2] respects to Mrs. Knox, and every good wish for the family – with great Regard & unfeigned affection.

I am Yours

G: Washington