

on a question in the decision of which our constituents are so deeply concerned

Should I retire to a private walk, I may be, on this occasion  
induced in the declaration, that every act of my public life has been dictated by the  
desire to be faithful to my constituents in every honest effort to promote the lasting  
honor and permanent welfare of our State, in all its relations Federal and Domestic. The  
sacrifices of private interests, and of personal feeling which I have been compelled to  
make, are abundantly recompensed by deep emotions of gratified pride at the unwavering  
and uniform confidence with which for many years, I have been sustained by my  
constituents in the efforts, however feeble, which I have made to advance, to the best  
of my ability, the true interests of those who have confided to me high and important  
trusts.

In that retirement to which I go, I shall hail, with exultation the evidence,  
of wisdom and patriotism on the part of yourselves, and your success, which will lift  
my native State into the rank which she has a right to occupy among the sister  
States of the Union, and by the honorable discharge of all her obligations, and the develop-  
ment of her resources, to secure to her, forever, in peace and industry, the blessing and  
the strength of liberty, happiness and glory.

Francis Thomas  
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