

To the Hebrew Congregation in Newport
Rhode Island.

Gentlemen.

While I receive, with much satisfaction, your Address replete with expressions of affection and esteem; I rejoice in the opportunity of assuring you, that I shall always retain a grateful remembrance of the cordial welcome I experienced in my visit to Newport, from all classes of Citizens.

The reflection on the days of difficulty and danger which are past is rendered the more sweet, from a consciousness that they are succeeded by days of uncommon prosperity and security. If we have wisdom to make the best use of the advantages with which we are now favored, we cannot fail, under the just administration of a good Government, to become a great and a happy people.

The Citizens of the United States of America have a right to applaud themselves for having given to mankind examples of an enlarged and liberal policy: a policy worthy of imitation. All possess alike Liberty of conscience and immunities of citizenship. It is now no more that toleration is spoken of, as if it was by the indulgence of one class of people, that another enjoyed the exercise of their inherent natural rights. For happily
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The Government of the United States, which gives to
Slavery no sanction, to persecution no assistance,
requires only that they who live under its protection,
should demean themselves as good citizens, in giving
it on all occasions their effectual support.

It would be inconsistent with the frankness
of my character not to avow that I am pleased with
your favorable opinion of my Administration, and
 fervent wishes for my felicity. May the Children of
the Stock of Abraham, who dwell in this land, continue
to merit and enjoy the good will of the other Inhabitants;
while every one shall sit in safety under his own
vine and fig tree, and there shall be none to make
him afraid. May the father of all mercies scatter
light and not darkness in our paths, and make
us all in our several vocations ^{useful} here, and in his
own due time and way everlastingly happy.

G. Washington