

But perhaps it was best, indeed I doubt not it was best, that events should have issued as they did. The contests between rival families, rival systems of government, and rival competitors were long and violent. At length a Presidency for life was agreed on; and since in New England there was a mutual interest, sufficient of itself to attach the several members, this high and responsible office was bestowed on the meritorious Head of one of the most powerful and opulent families of the former State of New York. As a compensation however to the original Confederation, the old metropolis of New England was constituted forever the capital of this new and most interesting Commonwealth.

Your aged Father.