

DAVID McCULLOUGH

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12/16/02

December 6, 2002

Dear Mr. President,

As you were signing the bill for the Adams memorial at your desk last Monday, I couldn't help think of what John Adams might have felt had he been there, too, watching over your shoulder.

I tried to imagine the pleasure it would have given him, the lift of heart, to know that the nation was at last conferring such recognition. I thought, too, of how extremely pleased he would be to see that the house that he and Abigail were the first to occupy still stands, and that our system of government is still that which he and others fought ^{for} and labored so long and hard to bring into being.

It struck me also that the good cheer you gave to the occasion would

~~could~~ have pleased the old gentleman
no end, just as it did all of us who
were present. But then maybe he
was there!

I felt immensely honored and
pleased to have been included, and
I thank you.

Now we have to make sure that
a memorial in keeping with Adams's
place in the founding of the nation,
a memorial to speak to future
generations, comes to pass with the
broadest possible support.

With much gratitude, admiration,
and warm wishes for Christmas—

David