

February 22, 1957.

PERSONAL



Dear Mr. Wallace:

It is indeed humbling to realize that anyone so widely read as yourself should find certain similarities in the characters of President Washington and myself. Of one thing I assure you -- at this moment I am very much in need of the wisdom, faith, and strength that he possessed.

My sense of pride is all the greater because I've never been able to agree with those who so glibly deprecate his intellectual qualities. I think that too many jump at such conclusions merely because they tend to confuse facility of expression with wisdom; a love of the limelight with depth of perception. His Newburgh Address to his officers must have been largely his own; and so far as I know, everyone agrees that he substantially corrected, and possibly re-wrote, Hamilton's draft of his Farewell Address. I've often felt the deep wish that The Good Lord had endowed me with his clarity of vision in big things, his strength of purpose and his genuine greatness of mind and spirit.

Thank you very much for sending me a copy of your talk.

With personal regard,

Sincerely,

The Honorable Henry A. Wallace,
South Salem, New York.

PERSONAL