

Sprague MVB

Albany, N.Y. Feb. 6. 1833.

Hon. Mr Madison,



Dear Sir,

You are no doubt apprized of the wonderful success which has attended the philanthropic efforts that have been made in this part of the country for the promotion of Temperance. Several gentlemen who are at the head of the operations of the New York State Temperance Society, are establishing a quarterly periodical in this city, to be devoted exclusively to the diffusion of light on this important subject, and it has occurred to them that nothing could be more auspicious to the interests of the cause, than to be able to publish in one of their first numbers some half dozen letters from as many of the leading men in this country, expressing their approbation and general views of the object to which this periodical is to be devoted. By their suggestion I take the liberty to address you, Sir, on the subject, in the hope of receiving an answer, with leave to communicate it to the public, which shall secure the full influence of your name in favor of this great and good object. Our purpose would be answered equally well by a short note, though I hardly need say that if it should consist with your health and convenience to give your views somewhat at length, you would place us under increased obligations, and no doubt under the cause a still more important service.

As you have formerly rendered me no small aid in making my collection of autographs, allow me to say that I have very

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completed a set of autographs of the signers of the Declaration of Inde-
pendence. A few of them, particularly John Hancock and Nathan Ginnist,
found it exceedingly difficult to obtain; but have at length succeeded
in obtaining a document from each which is undoubtedly genuine.

I have been with much pleasure of late that your health
is continued to you, notwithstanding your advanced age, & pray that
you may be long in the enjoyment of it, and every other blessing that is
necessary to render the evening of your life peaceful & happy.

I am, Sir, with great regard & affection,

Yours very sincerely,

William B. Frazer.

Stonington 11: 15.
Feb. 6. 1833.