To the members of the Baptist church of Buckmountain in Albemarle.

I thank you, my friends & neighbors, for your kind con-
-gratulations on my return to my native home, & on the op-
-portunities it will give me of enjoying, amidst your af-
-fections the comforts of retirement & rest. your approbation
of my conduct is the more valued as you have best known me, &
is an ample reward for any services I may have rendered.
we have acted together from the origin to the end of a memorable
revolution, and we have contributed, each in the line allotted us,
our endeavors to render it's issue a permanent blessing to our
country. that our social intercourse may, to the evening of our
days, be cheered & cemented by witnessing the freedom & happiness
for which we have laboured will be my constant prayer.
Accept the offering of my affectionate esteem & respect.

Th: Jefferson

Monticello Apr. 13. 09

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