

June 8 1826

Mess^{rs}. Riker, Agnew, and Bolton, a Committee of the Corporation of N.Y.

I receive gentlemen with great thankfulness the medals
 you have been pleased to send me, commemorative of the completion of
 the Erie canal ~~uniting the great Western lakes with the Atlantic ocean.~~
 This great work will immortalize the present authorities of N.Y. will
 bless their descendants with wealth and prosperity, and ~~set an example~~ ^{prove}
 to mankind of the superior wisdom of employing the resources of
~~their industry~~ ^{industry} in works of improvement rather than in those of destruction
 and ~~the possession of duty in devotion~~ ^{the possession of duty in devotion}
~~of sacrificing the lives of one part of their fellow-men to rivet~~
~~fetters on the residue and load them with labor, want and misery~~ ^{to rivet on their}
~~and to~~ ^{the surviving survivors} the surviving survivors of the charter of our trade
 -pice to whom you are pleased to send ^{the} monuments of this great achievement
 have the satisfaction of seeing in them ~~one important fruit of their own~~
 a ~~proof the more~~ ^{proof} in addition to the many an additional manifes-
 -tation of the blessings ~~which have resulted~~ ^{which have resulted} from the measures in which
 with a host of departed ^{with a host of departed} ~~workings~~ ^{workings}
 they ventured to embark their country, as an humble individual of that ~~land~~ ^{body}
 accept my thanks for this mark of attention, and ~~with them~~ ^{with them} which I tender
 respectfully to the corporation of the city of N.Y. and to yourselves particularly
 the organs of their commemoration with the assurance of my very high cordials.

Wm

~~Wm. H. G. Riker~~ ~~Wm. H. G. Riker~~

Ryker et al. June 8. 26.

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[Extensive faint, mirrored handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]



James Jefferson

Horacio Lopez

[Small handwritten mark or initials]

~~Mr. Ryker et al.~~

Mr.