

Senate Resolution on Titles

14 May 1789

⁴³A decent respect for the opinion and practise of civilized Nations, whether under Monarchical or Republican forms of government, whose custom is to annex titles of respectability to the office of their Chief Magistrate; and that on intercourse with foreign nations a due respect for the Majesty of the people of the United States, may not be hazarded by an affectation⁴⁴ of singularity; have induced the Senate⁴⁵ to be of opinion that it would be proper to annex⁴⁶ respectable Title to the office of President of the United States;⁴⁷

But the Senate, desirous of preserving Harmony with the House of Representatives, where the practice lately observed in presenting an Address to the President was without the addition of Title, think it proper for the present to act in conformity with the practise of the other⁴⁸ House:

Therefore resolved, that the present address be—"To the President of the United States"—without addition of Title.

Various Select Committee Reports, SR, DNA, hand of Lee. Changes on the document in the hand of Otis are all reflected in the final resolution printed in the *SLJ*. At least one of these changes, substituting "appearance" for "affectation," was specifically made as a floor amendment (*MD*, p. 38).