of our nation are filled with men eminently distin-

guished for genius and intelligence. The influence

of our free institutions felt in every clime, in every

county, illuminated by the lights of civilization, exalting the appre-

ciations of some. But commanding the respect and

admiration of all—thus revelling in all the luxurys

that can render life desirable, that can make it a

blessing rather than a curse, we enjoy a degree of hap-

piness and prosperity exceeding the anticipations of the

patriot in the moments of his wildest dreams—introducing

how imperative, how mandating then is the duty of any

American citizen, in whose bosom there is a feeling

of national pride, the pulsations of whose heart vibrated

to a single sensation excited by patriotism and love of

country, to preserve and perpetuate unsullied and unim-

paired the free institutions of our country, to be ever on the

watch for any encroachments on our rights from within as well as

without. Our Government is in its principles, its tendencies,

to effect not speculatively but practically Republican

all power, all sovereignty resides in and is derived directly

from the people, through their Representatives in Congress

who are, if I may use the term, the echo of the voice

will of the people, all our political relations, internally

and externally, are transacted, they are the forefathers

of time invested with a portion of the sovereignty of the people,

yet this sovereignty proceeds limited and cumbrously so that

they cannot infringe the inherent rights of the people with-

out violating the letter and spirit of that constitution confer-

ing to which they have been wisely and solemnly sworn to regulate man ac-

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