John R. Livingston to John Kean, January 19, 1789

John Robert Livingston

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New York January 20, 1789

Dear Sir,

I should imagine by this time your State must have appointed Senators for the Federal Government, in which case you will much oblige me to deliver them. The enclosed letters (after delivering them) you may remember when you were just leaving the City. I mentioned to you my wishes to be appointed Secretary to the Senate and it was more than probable Mr. Thompson would retire from the Senate, that I was well understood until he can be Secretary for the same department. In either case it will leave me an opportunity of holding myself as Candidate—and from the interest that has been made for me by men of influence I imagine it is more than probable.

Best in a successful one—As you are well
acquainted with me and my connections, you will gratify me exceedingly by your interest yourself in my favor, and mention such circumstances as you may think most eligible.

But State have not yet come to any appointment of Senators or Electors, and until two days ago it was much feared the alteration between the two branches of the legislature would prevent a representation, although it is uncertain further than a declaration of the Governor that he will fill up the vacancy should it not agree. – The City is perfectly Federal, and have taken every measure for the accommodation of Congress, to induce them to remain with us – The new building will be completed by the first of March and a very objectionable thing in the legislature have furnished a battery for the payment of it which is a fortunate circumstance as it was erected by private
subscriptions and will cost at least $12,000 as the
Trust are now fixed, and subscriptions are offered
for a public Library and an Assembly Room, and
you see we are doing all in our power to make
New York an eligible Situation.

Gentl Armstrong was married last
Saturday to my younger Sister, Mrs. Scott to Mrs. Kayes
of Dover Williamson to the second Daughter of Mr. Givens,
this day previous. Mr. & Mrs. Ketcham are well as are
all the Kent Family friends in this quarter. Belive
me to remain
My best compliments to Mr. Hain
John R. Livinges

If you do have leisure to write
you will gratify me exceedingly by a few lines.

January 21.

Sir,
I have by Mr. Barnwell, that you are not in
Charleston, but at Beaufort. I have therefore thought best to
envelope my letter to Mr. Hayman, but yours speaking contrary
to the Senators will have much more weight than anything
I can say.

Yours d奇 l. J.R.L.