

2-17-86

It is significant, I think, that in delivering the farewell address of President Washington, one is carried back in spirit to the first years of this great Nation. One feels, in reading his words aloud, the urgency of care and concern he felt for the fragile young nation. The factions, political and geographic, so worrisome to him then (and so apparent yet today) make the reader feel himself to be giving truths as meaningful today as then.

But the experience of reading through his words to the delicacy of those early days is truly inspiring. I was lifted by the integrity and purity of the speech, by its wisdom, and, of course, by the fact that it was "delivered" by George Washington.

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