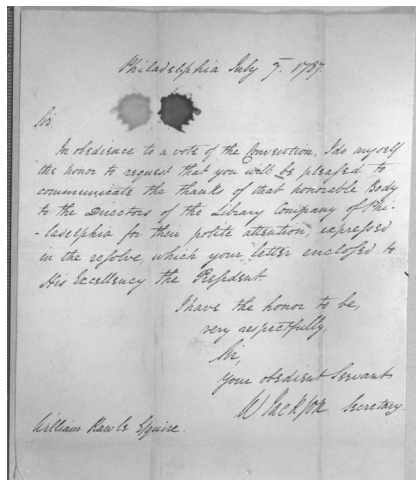


sulted the Library Company's collection, they could not have failed to realize that nowhere else in America were so many of the principal works embodying this intellectual heritage gathered together under one roof.

To commemorate the Bicentennial of the Constitution, the Library Company has chosen to present an exhibition of the books that are known to have been influential in framing the minds of the Framers. And to interpret those books for a wide audience, to make some sense of this vast universe of writing, the Library Company commissioned Jack P. Greene, Andrew W. Mellon Professor in the Humanities at The Johns Hopkins University, to write the present booklet. A better choice could hardly have been made, as the reader will discover as he explores with Professor Greene the several strands of thought that constituted the intellectual heritage of the Founding Fathers.

It is our hope that his essay will not only serve as a guide for those who visit the Library Company's exhibition in this season of the Bicentennial, but that it will be read and studied with profit by many more people in all seasons, and thereby become a lasting tribute to the lasting contribution of the Framers.

*John C. Van Horne
Librarian
September 1986*



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