Resignation of Gerrit Smith.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, June 27, 1854.

TO MY CONSTITUENTS: My nomination to Congress alarmed me greatly, because I believed it would result in my election. To separate myself from my large private business for so long a time, and to war against the strong habits formed in my deeply secluded life, seemed to be well nigh impossible.

My election having taken place, I concluded that I must serve you during the first session of my term. Not to speak of other reasons for such service, there was at least so much due to you, in requital for your generous forgetfulness of party obligations in electing me. I could not do less, and yet make a decent return for the respect and partiality you had shown me.

I did not, until within a few weeks, *fully* decide not to return to Congress at the next session. I could not know but that something unforseen might demand such return. I now feel at liberty to announce my purpose to resign my seat in Congress at the close of the present session. Why I make the annunciation so early is, that you may have ample time to look around you for my successor.

I resign my seat the more freely, because I do not thereby impose any tax upon your time. You will fill the vacancy at the general election. Indeed, I should have been entirely unwilling to put you to the pains of holding a special election.

GERRIT SMITH.

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