

Living

New York. March 4th 1850

My dear Sir,



I am sorry to learn that the scheme of our proposed institution has appeared in a pamphlet form in which my name is given as a trustee. I had no intention of committing myself as such, in the conversation we had a few evenings since, but reserved the matter for after consideration. That determined me to decline the responsibility where we should have further conversation on the subject, and I now beg you

will have the kindness to omit my
name in any further publicity
you may give to the undertaking

I thus decline the honor you are
desirous to confer upon me, not from
any ~~any~~ doubt of the merit and
advantages of your proposed institution
but from a consciousness of my own
deficiencies and short comings which
makes me avoid committing myself
for any post or office which I cannot
faithfully and thoroughly discharge
being truly and respectfully
Yours Dear Sir
Your friend &c
Washington Irving