

The metropolis of <sup>the</sup> ~~this~~ continent  
there can be no doubt but that  
the position here offers, (at present  
at least) a larger field of usefulness  
and upon this ground I have  
concluded to decline your very  
tempting offer.

Appreciating the honor you have  
done me by making me a candidate  
for your new professorship, and  
with my very best wishes for  
the entire success of your noble  
undertaking

I remain

Yours &c  
L. E. Wilmarth