

Frankfort May 4. 1842

S. Cook Esq.

Sir no doubt you have seen or soon will see that the Legislature of Maine are called to adopt measures in relation to a Settlement of the Boundary. I have no doubt it will be done, it is to be hoped that it will be so arranged that general satisfaction will be given. We ought to concede to the British their road, and as the equivalent to insist on the free navigation of St. Johns river. There will probably be some exchange of territory.

It is my intention to assist in collecting information. To arrange for the full benefit of the free navigation, there ought to be assigned a Depot at the highest point on the river St. Johns to which such vessels as are usually employed in our Coasting trade can ascend at all times during the proper navigating season, where U.S. vessels can meet rafts and boats from our territory. From the best information I have been able to collect I consider that the entrance of the Aremucto

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Date: May 4, 1842

Description: Samuel Cook letter of U.S.-Canadian border

is the most proper place for the depot. As those residing in your region will be supposed to be correctly informed, you ought to contribute of your knowledge. I shall take it kind if you would let me know what point on the S^t Johns river is considered the most proper to have assigned ~~where the river navigation~~ ^{for our} to suit ^{our} sea vessels. As our vessels will not be large ships, like the English timber ship it would seem to be best for us to ascend the river so far as to reach a point where the rafts would not be exposed to winds on wide bays. When our vessels shall reach a point below the falls, it will be convenient for them to be towed by steam boats as high as they can fleet with a full cargo on board. The class of vessels would be such as are commonly used in the trade with Bangor drawing about 12 feet of water loaded.

I am informed there is a large part of the season when such vessels cannot go loaded from Fredericton.

I am Sir yours

very respectfully

Archibald Jones

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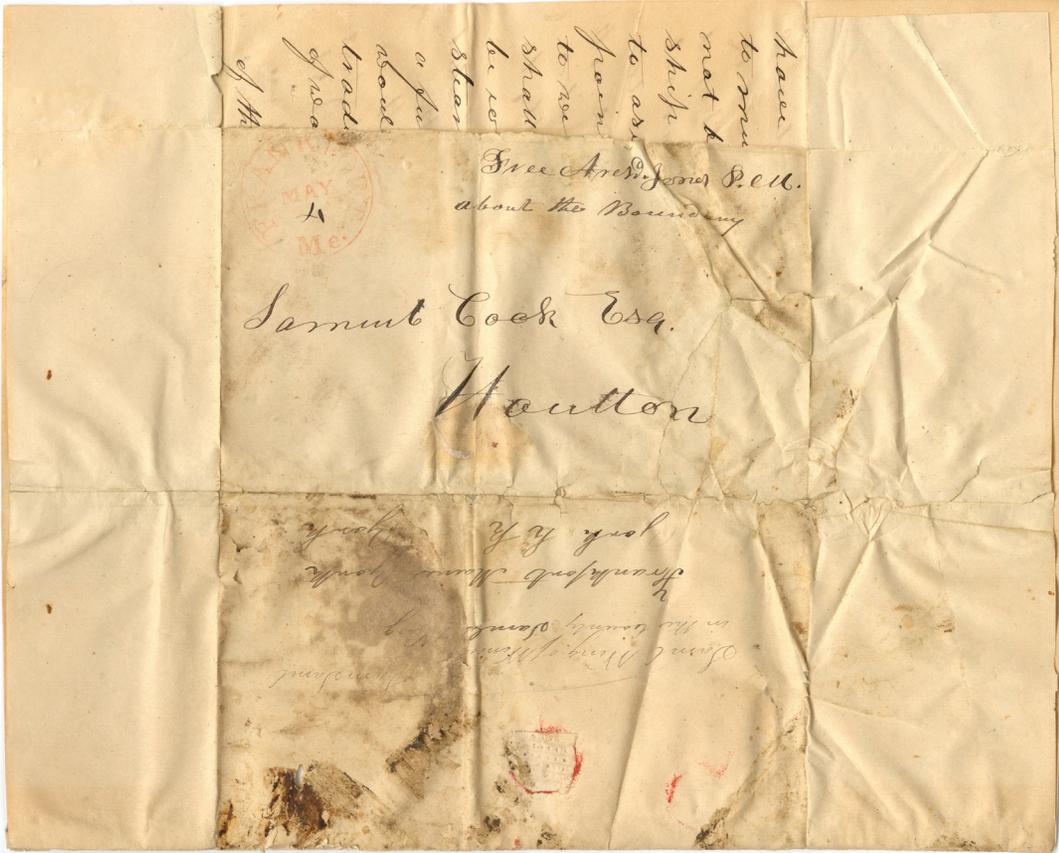
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Free Arch. Jones P.C.U.
May 4 about the Boundary

Samuel Cook Esq.
Houlton