

Portland Oct 22/46

Mrs. Elizabeth Oakes Smith

My dear Madam

I have barely time to thank you for the beautiful book you have just flavored, to say that your publisher must lose no time in sending a copy (if he has not already done so) to Miss Pratt North Yarmouth. I had a line from her two or three days ago, asking why she had not rec<sup>d</sup> a copy. She is poor — nothing [?] [?] — & highly gifted & hereafter must earn something by her pen.

I shall try to send you some thing — though sick of all such self indulgences. You did not send me a proof — & the consequence is — downright murder, not only of the music & rhythm, but of the thought. "While the strong falter" — has been printed "While the living falter" —

My wife joins me in kind wishes for yr happiness, & health & thanks you for [?] of his growth &c. Your well

John Neal.

[written along left side] "She has been cruelly — and shamefully treated heretofore"

Portland Oct 22/46

Mrs Elizabeth Oak, Smith

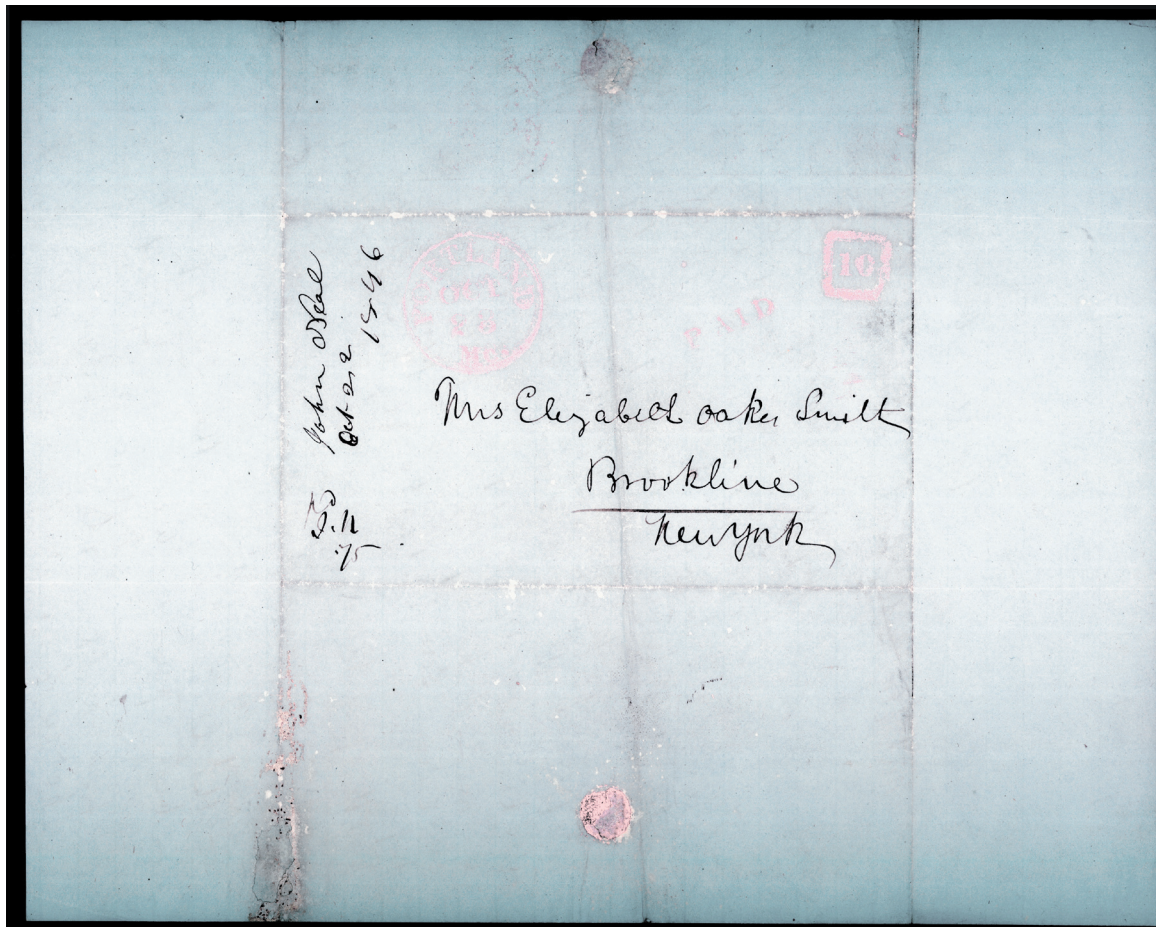
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stamp: Portland Oct 23 Me. PAID

Mrs. Elizabeth Oakes Smith  
Brookline  
New York

[on side] John Neal  
Oct 22  
1846

pd  
J.N  
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