

Eastport January 21, 1832

Dear Sir,

You will have received before this reaches you the petition for making Pennamaquon a port of delivery. The petitioners ask, I believe, for Fenningsville without designating what part. You are so well acquainted with the locality of the intended port of delivery that you can easily fix the limits of what ought to constitute the port - or, it may be left to the Secretary as was the case in fixing the port of entry for Passamaquoddy -

Mr. Delesdesmiers informs me that you have charge of the Calais petition for a port of delivery there as well as an interim port of entry across the bridges to be attached to this District. I am a little surprised that the citizens of Calais should wish such an arrangement - as the establishment of an office with a Deputy there will do away all apology for bringing over articles to the amount of sixpence without a regular entry at the Custom House - Altho' it is not intended that any thing should now be brot ~~over~~ ^{over} without the payment of duties, still, it is well known that Calais must receive much of its

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supplies of foreign articles bro't over in very small quantities without the payment of duties - If a branch of the Custom House is established - they must enter every thing even to a quarter of a pound of tea or pound of sugar - There will be no excuse for not doing it - and the Custom House officer stationed there must watch the gate or gates of the bridges as vigilantly as the toll gatherer himself - As it ~~is~~ appears to be the wish, however, of the Calais people to have such an arrangement, ^{made} I am sure I ought not to object to it. The act, if it passes, ought to be exceedingly well guarded - for unless it is, such an office might be the means of promoting smuggling - If goods are to be introduced in carriages or vehicles - they ought to be described in the act - or rather their size ought to be - so that hand carts or sleds, wheel barrows, or even one horse waggon or chaises ought not to be permitted to bring goods over - Should any kind of all kinds of vehicles be allowed to enter ^{at} the Custom House, you can well perceive to what confusion it must lead - It would require ten deputies to do all the business at that office - I really hope you will give this subject all

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the attention it merits — and should a bill pass, that you will obtain such allowances for the pay of deputy clerks as then as the great amount of business to be done will require.

I perceive no movements yet by your Committee relative to placing Collectors on, upon salaries — Should you mature & bring forward a proposition of the kind I trust you will look out for this District — The business here has increased — perhaps doubled — since the opening of the ports — and should all fees be abolished this port will be a common thoroughfare for all English Craft belonging in N. Scotia & N. Brunswick — of all sizes & dimensions — Should one of these small craft want a barrel of flour or a piece of sheeting or shirting out of one of our stores, she will enter & clear at the Custom House. It would cost them nothing — The change from fees, commissions & to salaries, could not affect any other Custom House in the U. States in this way, but Passamaquoddy — The Custom House would be like a free saw or grist mill where we should be obliged to grind or saw for all customers, foreign & American, without exacting toll. Surely the extra work of the miller ought to command a corresponding increase of pay. I should be much gratified in hearing from you on this subject & learning what steps will probably be taken

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attention to the contemplated change. J W Ripley
The people of Lubec are highly gratified
at your prompt & efficient aid in restoring
them to their rights - When the order was re-
ceived, I was aware that it originated in mis-
apprehension - I should have entered into a cor-
respondence with the Dept to prove it so, had
I not believed that the course I took, viz. to
break up the office at Lubec for a short period,
would be the means of putting all right
again in a shorter time. I knew too that
a suspension of the branch there at this time
of the year could not be injurious to Lubec, as
scarcely any commercial business is done
there in the winter -

You will perceive that there is a
little skirmishing between the "momentary"
editors of the Argus & Age - I regretted much
to see it - & hope that it may subside without
being carried to any serious length -

Will the Bank be rechartered this
winter if at all? It appears to me that
its friends are moving rather too early
in it.

Very sincerely yours
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Hon. Leo^d Jarvis - James W Ripley

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