

Dear Sir,
I received yours of the 5th, but had previous
learned the fate of our petition by Capt Alden - You and your
colleagues will excuse the intrusion of Capt. A- All I know
about the object of his mission - he went not as a spy
upon your conduct, or either of your colleagues, but to
make interest with country members of this county for
Mr Emery - I hope you will not suppose that we doubted
your integrity, or that you would fail to urge the claims
of the Democratic party in this City, on the sympathies
of our friends in the country - I presume that our
country friends have never taken into consideration the
influence we have to contend with in Portland -
Portland is the strong hold of Federalism, the seat of
Tocracy, and perhaps very few in the country are
aware of the hard struggle we have had to gain the as-
cendency - but they ought to be sensible that it is impor-
tant to the Democracy of the state that ^{we} should be able
to retain it - Portland may be justly regarded as the
citadel of political power in this state - The Federal-
ists possess greater facilities to annoy the republicans
while they hold the ascendency here than they could pos-
sibly gain in any other quarter - therefore it must be
for the interest of the Democracy in the country to
aid and assist their political friends in Portland in
retaining the ground they have so long and so ar-
duously struggled to gain - In doing this we require
no sacrifice from them, all we ask for is our constitu-
tional weight in our legislature, and nothing more -

Portland Jan 10 1834

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Date: Jan. 10, 1834
Description: Joel Chandler on Democratic Party

to set up an objection on account of the number of offices held in Portland appears to me extremely unreasonable. Men are appointed to office without any regard to their residence, and necessity obliges them to hold their offices in Portland, and convenience induces them to reside here. But Mr Emery is not publicly known had he been, we should not have considered it necessary to have got up a petition, the object of the petition was to obviate that objection. Many of the petitioners are known to the representatives of Portland, and Mr Emery is well known to most of the petitioners. We conceive it to be perfectly agreeable to the principles of Democracy to take a man from the private walks of life and place him in any office, provided he has sufficient surety for his good conduct. These petitioners in this case I conceive to be equivalent to so many vouchers for Mr Emery's abilities. Our friends in the country must be aware that there has been but very few chances to bring any of the members of the Democratic party into public notice in Portland. The Federalists arrogate to themselves all the talents, and they have had the advantage here of making use of them. The quality of almost every thing is known only but by use, and certainly it appears necessary that while we have an opportunity to bring as many of our republican party in Portland into public notice as we

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have a right to use - I have seen and conversed
with several of the petitioners in the course of this
week, and altho' they are satisfied that you and
your colleagues have faithfully performed your
duty in urging our claims, yet they are not
satisfied in being thus deprived of what they
conceive to be our just rights - I hope our coun-
try friends will feel a disposition to make concessions
and allow us a senator in Portland next session, if not
I fear that many who have been active in urging men
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