

Dear Sir
We the undersigned a Committee appointed at a meeting of the friends of the present Administration, ask leave to draw your attention and through you the attention of the Inhabitants of Houlton to the approaching Representative Election. You will perceive by a copy of our proceedings, which the bearer of this Mr. Buck will deliver you, that we have nominated Jarius Keen Esquire an Inhabitant of Calais as our candidate. Mr. Keen is an honest, industrious and intelligent Mechanic, & has been more or less engaged in Lumbering for a number of Years, and is well acquainted with the resources and capabilities of the County, and can be depended upon as a man firm and decided in the course he thinks most for the interest of the District. We apprehend a moments consideration will convince any intelligent of the impropriety of sending his opponent Mr. Vance; in addition to its being contrary to the principle of rotation in office, and in addition to the objections to the moral character of Mr. Vance, as well as his political course, we apprehend an overwhelming objection arises from the situation of Mr. Vance as a public contractor for the Road between this place and Houlton. We are informed that the Road he is making is such as will do no possible good, that he is making it in such a manner and so rapidly as to leave not a doubt on the minds of the people here, that he intends to trust to his luck in being chosen Representative, rather than faithfully perform his contract. He has very artfully made a contract to submit to the decision of the Governor and council, as to what he is to receive for building the road; this at first view appears very plausible and fair, and any person

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Date: August 30, 1828

Description: Document to Samuel Cook from a Committee of the friends of the present Administration regarding the candidate Jarius Keen and a Mr. Vance each running for the Maine State Legislature. Conflict of interest in building a road from Calais to Houlton is cited as a point against Mr. Vance.

not acquainted with Mr Vance, would think there could not be any deception. But what safety we would ask, have the public; if Mr. Vance is chosen Representative, and Balkam Senator, and Pillsbury (one of the old Bank Directors and particular friend of Mr Vance) is chosen from Eastport. This junta will be completely under the control of Vance, and will do as he says. The Governor & Council will send a committee down to inspect and approve of the Road and estimate the price, and who so proper as these very creatures of Vance. The road is accepted, the public are cheated and defrauded, and what is worse we have no road. Would you leave the whole to Vance alone, would you leave it for the contractor to say when his job is finished? if you would not, then do not place Mr. Vance in the Legislature, where he can procure his creatures, to be appointed on the committee, and this road with all its defects accepted.

We have thus touched upon the subject most interesting to you and to us, and refer you to the Public Prints and Mr Buck, for more particular information, with a firm reliance that upon reflection, you will assist us in the election of Capt. Keen. we leave the subject with you.

With the highest Respects
We Remain your Humble Serv'ts.
George Downy
Abner Sawyer
Asa A Pond
William Goodwin
Wm Deming

Calais
August 30, 1828

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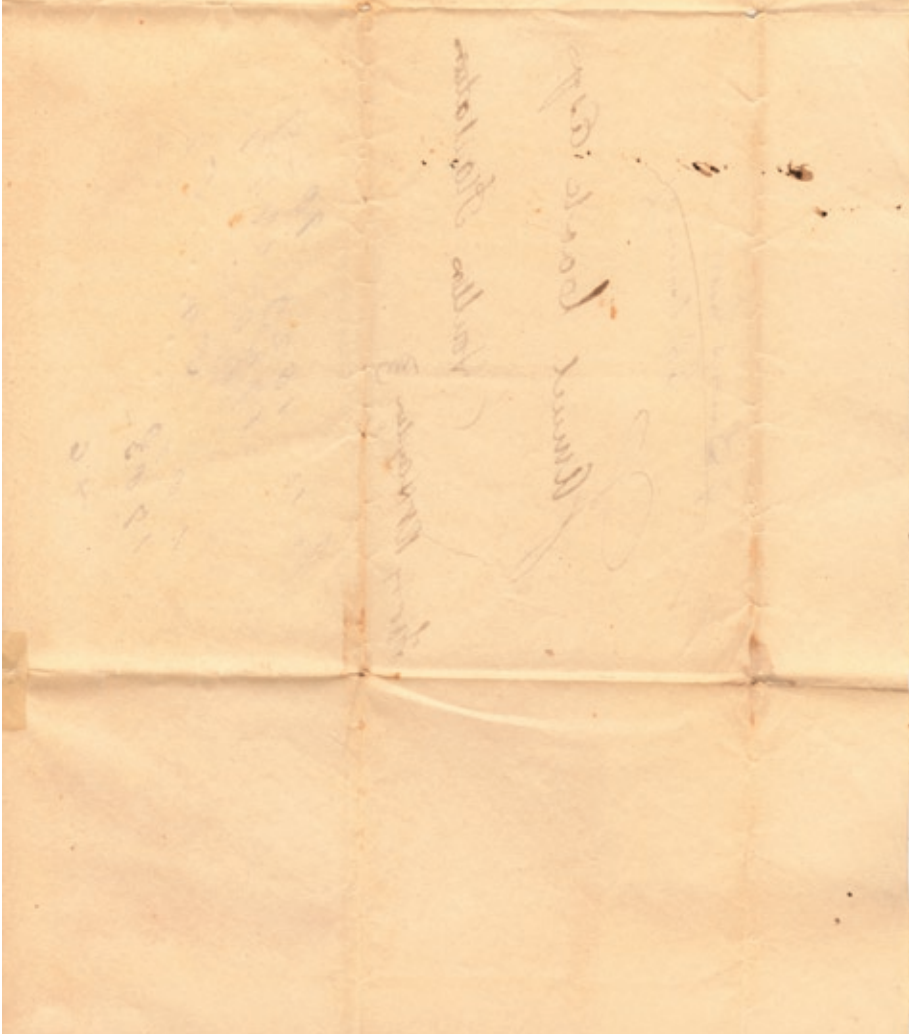
Calais
August 30, 1828

George Downy
Abner Sawyer
Asa A Pond
William Goodwin
Wm. Deming.

N.B. In consequence of the illness of
Capt. Buck we have concluded to send
Richard V. Hayden whom we recommend
to your notice
George Deming Chairman
Care Correspondence

N.B. In consequence of the illness of
Capt. Buck, we have concluded to send
Richard V. Hayden when we recommend
to your notice.

George Deming, Chairman
Care Correspondence.





G. Darons Esq.
Electioneering

Samuel Cook Esq
Houlton Plantation
RV Hayden

[mathematical computations not necessarily related to the correspondence]