My Dear George. You have not favoured me with a line sines June, the Show written twice, on w while at & on ear a and again, Ithink in august, at any rate it was soon after my return from the South Now at Mongel you considered it mough tobe force with my prossing, without bring teased Aproped for a reply, whatever interest I might still continue to take in your fortune in your clouds by roundhive, I certainly should be silent. I would not thrust myself before you .- but I believe no such thing. I only think, that those the hung and puptirity Abusings. the revaly spotiticks puhaps and the cales of those as formuly, exciting at one time, an involuntary laugh what at another puchances dimanding the tribute free tear - The Six months we lived to gother, Ibilion Any a variety freusons, will were be considered as The most important period in my life, altho we know as it were alone, there was flung over our Existince and almost continual excelement. My on were always making the most of the present and looking, at the same time, with an eyo of confidence whom the future and from your high Ropes, I derived Something, which sumed to topen, row to me, a prospect to twhich I had never before litter up my ryes- But let all this hap -

Contributed to Maine Memory Network by an individual through Maine Historical Society
Date: Jan. 27, 1832

Description: Franklin Pierce on friendship with George Washington Pierce

My Dear George, You have not favoured me with a line since June, tho' I have written twice, once while at Concord and again, I think in August, at any rate it was soon after my return from the South. Now, if I thought, you considered it enough to be bored with my prosing, without being teased & pressed for a reply, whatever interest I might still continue to take in your fortunes- in your clouds & yr sunshine, I certainly should be silent. I would not thrust myself before you. - but I believe no such thing. I only think, that thro' the hurry and perplexity of business, the rivalry of politicks perhaps and the calls of those nearer to you now and dearer than myself, the recollection of early intimacies does not urge itself upon you as formerly, exciting at one time, an involuntary laugh and at another, perchance demanding the tribute of a tear – The six months we lived together, I believe for a variety of reasons, will ever be considered as the most important period in my life. Altho' we lived as it were alone, there was flung over our existences and almost continual excitement. You were always making the most of the present and looking, at the same time, with an eye of confidence upon the future. And from your high hopes, I derived something, which seemed to open, even to me, a prospect to which I had never before lifted up my eyes - But let all this hap-

Time works strange changes and you perhaps have long since viewed with indefence, incidents, which there recen to me with interior and with the same freshup asthe they had been of gester day - I believe, I retained to you in my last, I much as might frotably be interesting Amy joulny to the South Since my return, Shave ted a vin dobe one-like another sort for afr. Have fun stradely at home and you know how it is here. with almost no Society, a man has nothing to do for should have nothing but to read and reflict, I would that my industry mables my to do this mon Effectually, for to say the truth, Jam but an indeferent Student - th: I must not forget my debut as a Military, man. In oct Thru other aids di camp, Tattendia this Excellency at a splindid voluntur revivo in the mist part ofthe States (at Kund) and my Colonelship, in behalf of the & oneman du in this, had an opportunity of addressing 16 companies of Light troops, a fine day than, that of the review never broke over the Earth. The military dishlay Excelled byfar any thing of the kind I had wer Dun con the contourse was dimmense, almost the whole line was covered with Carriages filled with Ladis, ( not vach as Excited your month at back muster) Some of the Companies had whom The field a full Suit of Camp Equipage. That belonging to the 6 om pay commanded bly Captain Wilsons, Kate Colo Milion and Shearen of the House in -28 / was taken from the British during the late war, I below my speech was with Errough received, but Moras more proud of my steed than any thing Else, He was a beautiful thorough bred horse of a cream coffee with white Howling main Hail. I should not be they have ticular to any person other than yourself - What have you been about

Time works strange changes and you perhaps have long since viewed with indifference, incidents, which still recur to me with interest and with the same freshness as tho' they had been of yesterday.— I believe, I related to you in my last, so much as might probably be interesting of my journey to the South – Since my return, I have led a very sober one like another sort of life. Have been steadily at home and you know how it is here. With almost no society, a man has nothing to do, or should have nothing, but to read and reflect. I would that my industry enabled me to do this more effectually, for to say the truth, I am but an indifferent student - Oh: I must not forget my debut as a Military Man. In Oct with three other aids de camp, I attended His Excellency at a splendid volunteer review in the West part of the State (at Kuni[?]) and my colonelship, in behalf of the Commander in Chief, had an opportunity of addressing 16 Companies of Light troops. A finer day than, that of the review never broke over the Earth. The Military display excelled by far anything of the kind I had ever seen and the concourse was immense; almost the whole line was covered with carriages filled with Ladies. (not such as excited your mirth at Cork Muster) Some of the Companies had upon the field a full suit of Camp Equipage. That belonging to the Company commander by Captain Wilson. (late Colo' Wilson and Speaker of the House in -28), was taken from the British during the late war. I believe my speech was well enough received, but I was more proud of my steed than anything else. He was a beautiful thorough bred horse of a cream colour with white flowing main & tail. I should not be thus particular to any person other than yourself – What have you been about

Grorge for the last year? among other things, you should have been married. If you are so, you will please bresent to ollers Pine my but regards, I trust you may make there acceptable, the Than not the honow ofher personal acquaintance, I spake prisite, Portland this winter, that journey is now ont of the question. Can we Mut at Boston, day 10th Heby. If busings or inclination a both induce you to make the trip, so advise me my promee stale not be wanting - to might unquestionably, palpa few days there (24shours in a day you know from profitably - Jam happy to percure, that your Brother Joseat is a leader minden of the Democratick party in pr Segulation - Nave you near bland Sanff Spuck? I was him more durphombre than in its perusale. It was heralded by ale the fedure papers: its appearance here was anticipated by athousand puffs - and finally came the nation production. The mighty affort a for which an immune condince hung in breatthep selence!! will what is it? If it be not really a very tame concern, then in forming my openion, have but Egregiously, misted by my projudiel. Compan it with half a dosen speeches made on Hootes trisdation, and does it not in all respects sink into atter insignificance. What do you think ofthe Bank question? I hope if a bile be proper whom the president at this time, recharting the institution, with its present powers, he will place whom It his vito and I have no doubt he wile, that firmup of purpose, which has charactured him at all times and in the most trying totulions will not now fordatchin. Nave you heard from Walker within the last 8 m 0'5? Ac was hi Thela delphia in June, but I could not find him them in July - I fear he will never success. That nervous temper ament will play the & - 1 with him. Hasn't it been & ist colle Down bast" This winter, low were benumber during the whole more of the out by an almospher almost constants. Sunal degras below of you in hours must have thewere out by this time and you wire no Infuse to Scatter a little for my bruite, How down If ONE Stand affection towards you now! I'll m as were very January 27,1832George, for the last year? Among other things, you should have been married. If you are so, you will please present to Mrs Pierce, my best regards. I trust you may make these acceptable, tho' I have not the honour of her personal acquaintance. I spoke of visiting Portland this winter, that journaey is now out of the question. Can we meet at Boston, say 10<sup>th</sup> Feby. If business or inclination or both induce you to make the trip, so advise me thy presence shall not be wanting. We might unquestionably pass a few days there (24 hours in a day you know) very profitably ≠ I am happy to perceive, that your Brother Josiah is a leading member of the Democratick party in y<sup>r</sup> Legislature − Have you read Clay's Tariff speech? I was never more disappointed than in its perusal. It was heralded by all the federal papers: its appearance here was anticipated by a thousand puffs − And results of the

finally came the naked production. the ^ mighty effort upon which an immense audience hung in breathless silence!! Well what is it? If it be not really a very tame concern, then informing my opinion, have I been egregiously misled by my prejudice. Compare it with half a dozen speeches made on Footes resolution, and does it not in all respects sink into utter insignificance. —What do you think of the Bank question? I hope if a bill be passed upon the President at this time, rechartering the institution, with its present powers, he will place upon it his <u>veto</u> and I have no doubt he will. that firmness of purpose, which has characterized him at all times and with most trying situations will not now forsake him. Have you heard from Walker within the last 8 mo's? He was in Philadelphia in June, but I could not find him there in July – I fear he will never succeed that nervous temperament will play the D—l with him. Hasn't it been D—ish cold "Down East" this winter. We were benumbed during the whole month of Dec<sup>r</sup> by an atmosphere almost constantly several degrees below 0[page torn] Your ink however must have thawed out by this time and you will n[page torn] refuse to scatter a little for my benefit. How does F.O.&C stand aff[page torn]tier towards you now?

January 27, 1832 – I am as ever very truly yr's Frank —