

House of Rep<sup>s</sup>  
April 25 1834

My Dear George

Your letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> inst was received this morning I was delighted with its perusal and particularly happy to find you in such good spirits after the recent defeat of your political friends. The state of feeling illustrated by the fact communicated by you is always to be regretted but as John Cuzco would say "while human nature remains as it now is" it cannot be suppressed or concealed in high political times - at New York, Philadelphia & Baltimore the highest degree of excitement is said to prevail - Our own friends I believe are calm but confident firm and determined - Whenever a man ~~part~~ loses his temper he loses his strength and the same is true of a party

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Contributed to Maine Memory Network by an individual.

Date: April 25, 1834

Description: Franklin Pierce on political defeats

our opponents are rendering themselves  
not only ridiculous but contemptible -

How little do the Merchants of our great  
cities and their clerks & dependents know  
of the intelligence the patriotism and the  
overwhelming power of the yeomanry of this  
Country - You have learned from the  
public journals that the young men of  
Baltimore are forming armed associations  
for what? To make themselves the laughing  
stocks of sensible men - Yes ridiculous  
in the eyes of everybody having more than  
sufficient intelligence to figure behind  
a counter or flirt in a lady's drawing  
room - How will the people of New England  
regard the scenes lately acted at Philadelphia  
& Baltimore - What will they say when they  
see the wigs alias war federalists of the  
City of brotherly love and the same clap  
in Baltimore receiving with acclamations  
the nullification doctrines and inflammatory  
speeches of Poindexter, Preston, & McDuffee?

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Above all what will they say, when they  
behold Daniel Webster who has mourned  
over the Sunday Mail & shed floods of  
crocodile tears over the fate of the poor  
Indians and Horace Binney a member and  
I understand an officer of the Church  
addressing political speeches to an excited  
populace from the balcony of City Hotels!  
What will they say? Why - those who really  
love their Country & their religion will  
fix upon such conduct the seal of their  
reprobation - but the canting & hypocritical  
a numerous bitter bigoted clap who  
"Atone for sin they are inclined to  
By damning them they have no mind to"  
Will say as a member of the Presbyterian  
Church did to Webster when he arrived at  
Baltimore - "In revolutions there is no  
Sabbath" - There has been no exaggeration  
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New Jersey Delegation came on in the Boat  
with their two illustrious specimens of all  
the decency all the religion & all the wealth  
and he informs me that in case Webster  
was on board the boat a signal was to  
be hoisted - it was done - the multitude  
had collected upon the wharf and was  
addressed by the New England Senator  
from the upper deck amidst cheers  
and acclamations - This was not sufficient  
the populace were soon after edified  
by two violent stump speeches pronounced  
by Binney & Webster from the balcony  
of Barnums Hotel - Every man in New-  
England should be made acquainted  
with these facts - If this can be done  
I have no fear for the judgment of  
a virtuous & patriotic people - Forsyth  
had occasion day before yesterday to allude  
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debates - He on this occasion surpassed  
himself - his denunciations of the whole proceedings  
and of the actors were utterly astounding. You  
will see his remarks. I hope they will be  
correctly reported - The manner you cannot  
appreciate you cannot see the orator  
and the victims writhing under his merited  
castigation - but enough of this you will  
be indebted for a long letter this time  
George to a most stupid prosing common-  
place speech which that decidedly little  
man, mentally and physically, ex-Gov Lincoln  
is delivering upon the appropriation bill -  
His reputation in this House is I think  
clearly below mediocrity - There are not  
60 members present and not individual  
is apparently paying the slightest attention  
to him - Now for your questions - Be quiet  
I will soon dismiss politics - The position  
of the administration is in my opinion what  
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Everything else - (the Bank or no Bank  
will be the turning point of the next great  
election - ~~and upon this point~~ This question  
is not to be settled by the merchants and  
monopolists of the great cities but by the  
whole body of the American people - The  
honest farmers the mechanics the whole midling  
interest - will then express their opinions  
not by memorials to their public servants  
but in their sovereign capacity thro' the  
ballot boxes - I have no doubt, no fear  
for the result - the American people cannot  
be misled or deceived - Webster & his associates  
underrate their intelligence and this strange  
and apparently wilful ignorance of the true  
character of the Midling interest is the rock  
upon which the Midling interest has always  
split - Just turn back George to the  
~~debates~~ speeches of the Federalists upon the  
Bank question in 1811 and to those of the  
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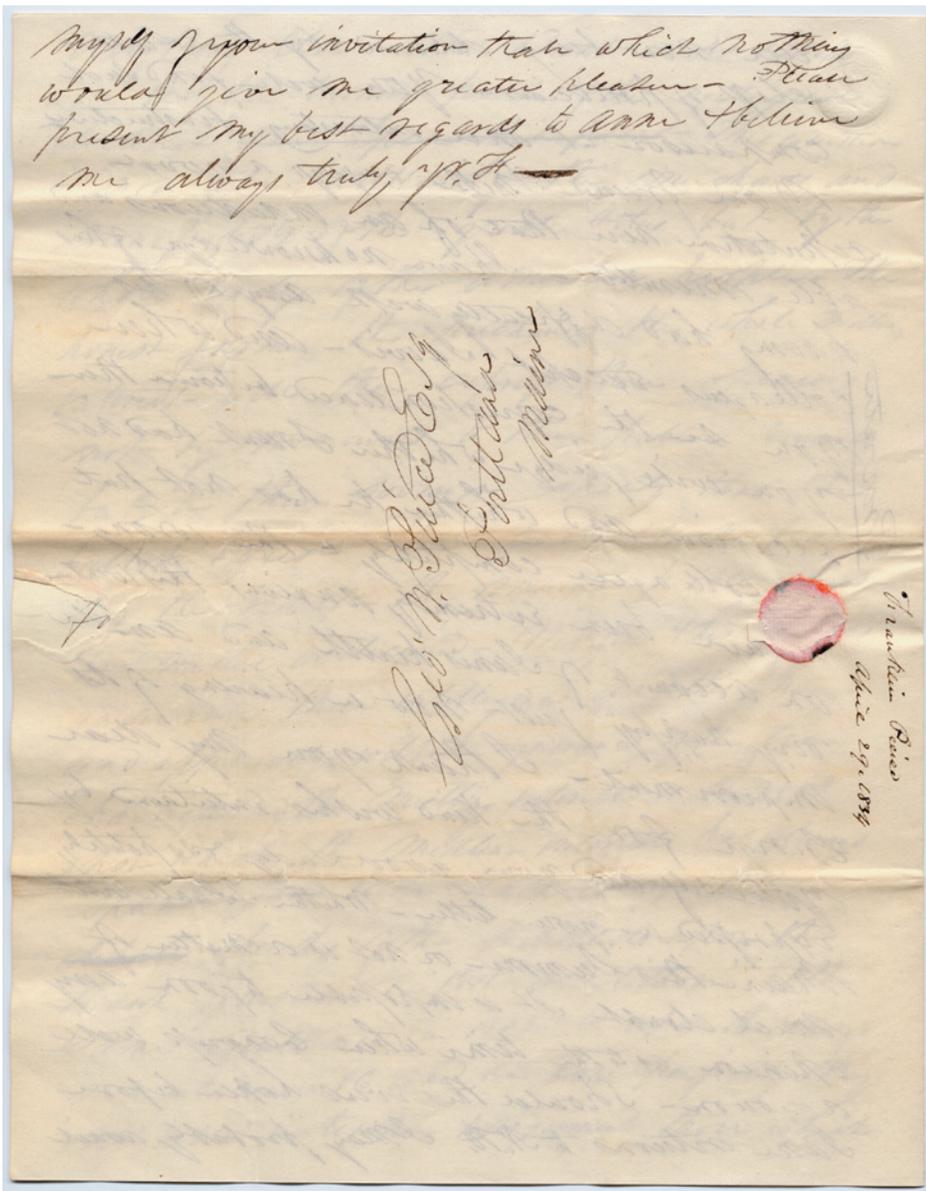
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are now being delivered by the same  
clap of politicians - You will find such  
comparison at once interesting & instructive  
Your friend Smith enjoys a good  
reputation here that of an industrious and  
able member - I have no knowledge of his  
having had difficulty with any of his  
colleagues except Jarvis - and when  
you see the correspondence between them  
you will judge whether Frank had not  
occasion and whether he has not put  
his colleague completely in the wrong -  
I have been extremely anxious this winter  
on account of Jane's health and am  
very happy just now in hearing of its  
improvement - I thank you my dear  
George for the kind wishes entertained by  
yourself and your good Lady & so politely  
expressed in your letter - Whether I shall visit  
Maine this Summer or not is a matter of  
much doubt It is impossible to form any  
opinion as to the time when Congress will  
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Private

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myself of your invitation than which nothing would give me greater pleasure – Please present my best regards to Anne & believe me always truly yr. F—

[Written sideways]

Geo. W. Pierce Esq.  
Portland  
Maine