

Hillsboro' August 22^d 1834

It has been said that friendship keeps loose accounts and the remark has certainly been verified in our correspondence - If I am at fault for this long silence I shall throw myself upon your generosity, dear George, assured that you will ever believe my friendship to be abiding, as it has been warm & confidential. Indeed had I apologies in abundance, I should not trouble you with them, since you once told me that you considered them generally unsatisfactory as they frequently are insincere -

I have been almost constantly at home since my return from Washington, enjoying highly the perfect quiet of country life. It is really delightful to escape from the excitement of politics and to exchange the heartless forms of fashionable life for the society of known and tried friends, however humble & unpolished - There is at present in this State little to excite party feelings. No election pending, and all is as calm and as quiet as Mr Frelingburyson's "Summer morning" My constituents are apparently satisfied with

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Date: Aug. 22, 1834
Description: Franklin Pierce on Maine, New Hampshire politics

their representatives. They approve of the measures
of the Administration and believe confidently, that
they will be sustained and approbated by an overwhelming
vote when another election shall take place. I have
of course no address to write no speeches to make,
in fact little to do but take care of my own
business. In Maine I perceive a different state of
things obtains - both parties have apparently thrown
their banner upon the outward wall, are buckling on
their armour and I suppose determined to carry
the contest with spirit into every township. You
will have to encounter untiring efforts at home
and insidious and unjustifiable interference from
abroad. Foreign influence, I take it, will be directed
with most persevering energy against Cumberland
The Aristocracy have a mortal enmity to that "Star
in the East" but I trust you will triumph and
that it may continue to shine on in its brightness -
The safety of the Country, in my view, rests in this,
that there is one portion of the community, that cannot
be corrupted and cannot easily be deceived. The great
body of the yeomanry and mechanics, the midling interest,
can neither be intimidated by false cries of distress -
cajoled by fair promises or purchased by offers of
personal gain - To them an upstart monied Aristocracy
that would have a Gov^t to take care of themselves exclusively
and leave them in their tender mercies to take care of all
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The attention of the Country is now turned upon Maine with
no ordinary interest. Should "the peace party in war and
the war party in peace" prevail here will be sung
from the Penobscot to the Wisconsin, but I trust
that John Holmes crew, if they are determined to
have employment in some ship of State, will be
obliged to go to Massachusetts, there they might
probably be admitted at once before the Mast
with encouragement of promotion if sufficiently
active & subservient. I regret that entire cordiality
does not subsist among some of your prominent
men - but hope this want of harmony may not be
permitted to effect the coming elections - Here I dismiss
politics, you will perhaps think I have already dwelt
upon them too long - Do write me George all about
yourself your prospects and your interests generally
that there may be bright & promising State
and duty relations. How on the whole did you
enjoy the winter at Augusta? You were induced
I observed to take the run of the fight & sustaining yourself
as you did so far, as I could judge & have heart
Your position must have been desirable tho laborious
and responsible - How is your professional business?
In this respect will the strong political excitement
in Portland operate prejudicially to you? I suppose
Anne would rejoice if your connection with politics
were entirely dissolved and I judge that from my knowledge of
the feelings and wishes of another Lady who speaks of her visit

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at your house in June as peculiarly agreeable and
often express the hope that she may have an opportunity
of seeing more of Anne, whom a slight acquaintance
has taught her so much to respect and admire -
To Mrs. P. you must present my own warm
regards as your wife, she would have shared
largely in my friendship even without a personal
acquaintance but with it and her kind attentions
my affectionate esteem is greatly enhanced - I was
sorry to be informed (as I was a few days since)
by our friend F.O.J. Smith that you had been
troubled with an inflammation of the eyes - hope you
have now quite recovered tho' it is frequently an
affliction to remove which patience as well as great care
is requisite - Present me respectfully to your Father in
law Mr Longfellow & your Smith & Genl Todd of
my kind remembrance - I will write to you soon - Jane's
health I think is improving tho' still very delicate -
Ever & most Truly
Yr friend
F. Pierce -

Franklin Pierce
March 22d. 1834

Geo. W. Pierce Esq
Portland
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