



Contributed to Maine Memory Network by an individual through  
Maine Historical Society  
Date: June 18, 1867  
Description: Josiah Pierce advice on aqueduct

Gorham Friday, June 18, 1867

Dear Hannah,

On my return from Court last evening I found your letter of the day before yesterday. Among the many cares and labors that occupy my time – I think often of you & your situation – with much solicitude. And I would visit you more frequently if I could – my Judicial duties require full half my time – my law business – insurance business, town business – my farming - & the care of my large and expensive family– keep me employed all the time. And the concern of Daniel & Arch<sup>l</sup> Lewis require a great deal of care - I name these things to show you why I am not more frequently at Baldwin.

I hardly know what to advise you about your aqueduct - I should be very unwilling to let Capt. Bachelder – have that piece of land – he has not the least right to it – Again his place is mortgaged to Ephraim Flint Esq. for a large sum – the deed or right to lay pipes should come from Flint and not from Bachelder – A deed from Bachelder would give no legal right or little – unless the mortgage is paid – Again – I would not take the water from his house nor have it in any way connected with his pipes –

for in case of a drought, - or dry winter  
you could only have what was left after  
they had used all they wanted both at house  
and barn - If you take water from his spring  
by all means. take it all the way in your  
own pipe in a new trench from the spring.  
For my self I would rather be at double the  
expense of a well at my house - which I think  
might be dug & stoned - & a pump placed in it  
for \$100 - On the whole I would not  
touch the aqueduct this year - Perhaps  
Daniel may conclude to return there -  
Perhaps Deacon Flint may sell his mortgage  
& the purchaser stop your water. and you  
would have no remedy for all you have  
laid out & expended.  
My family are well - <sup>Daughter</sup> Evalina - has been at  
Belfast more than two weeks on a visit -  
we expect her home next week -  
Ruth is very nervous - & low spirited. I do  
think she greatly needs some constant  
employment - some steady occupation of  
mind and body -  
Last mail Josiah received the inclosed letter  
from Daniel - it is sufficiently sad.  
Josiah got home the 24<sup>th</sup> of May on the 26<sup>th</sup>  
(2 days afterward his return) I sent by mail  
to Daniel \$250-00 - I greatly fear it is  
lost. been taken from the mail -

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#### Daughter

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I cannot now send any money for I have none (or but very little) but if when he writes again - he has not received the \$250 - I shall try & hire \$200 - & send him I wrote him within two hours after Josiah got his letter this morning & my letter is I suppose near to Boston - & it will reach Pontiac next Friday if nothing prevents - D. ought to have received the \$250 - by the 2<sup>d</sup> of June - & his letter was dated June 10<sup>th</sup> & he had not received it then.

Next week I have to hold a court in Brunswick - I leave home on Monday and shall I perceive be absent till Friday - the very last of June or first of July I hope to be able to come to Baldwin - but I may not.

If the Wife or the children knew I was writing they would send love to you I am called away & must stop -

Yours as ever - J. Pierce

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