

Frederickton, Goal, Province of New Brunswick  
June 19<sup>th</sup> 1837

Gen. Isaac Hodsdon,

Dear Sir, You probably have heard the story of my arrest and commitment by the authorities of this Province - I have written to the executive department of the State, I now take the liberty of addressing a few lines to you and, through you, to the bone and muscle of the State of Maine - Have things come to this, that the State of Maine can not have the privilege of sending their servants on to the disputed territory to do her business, without being molested, arrested and imprisoned by the authorities of New Brunswick? Can the brave sons of this own state, with impunity, will they assent to such conduct without proper resentment? I thought while I was in Madawaska at the time when I was there arrested, if you were only there with a few of the Sons of Maine, that there would have been a different aspect in Madawaska - If I could have been supported by the muscular strength of Maine I should have finished my business there, and not have fallen into the power of Great Britain - I wish you could have the privilege of visiting Madawaska with a few volunteers from your division, you would then teach them a lesson, that they ought to have been taught years ago - It is high time that this boundary question should be settled - If the State of Maine have any claim to this disputed territory - She must maintain them - and when she assumes an attitude to protect her rights and privileges, then Great Britain will settle this boundary question - and will be affected, undoubtedly without the shedding of blood - But so long as she can have the possession of this country, and have the communication to the Canada's, and draw the wealth

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sons of ^ pass this over with impunity? Will they over look such conduct without proper resentment? - I thought while I was in Madawaska at the time when I was there arrested, if you were only there with a few of the Sons of Maine, that there would have been a different aspect in Madawaska - If I could have been supported by the muscular Strength of Maine I should have finished my business there, and not have fallen into

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Date: June 19, 1837  
Description: Ebenezer Greely letter from jail

into her coffers, and monopolize the trade of this terri-  
tory, she will evade this question - I will now call your <sup>attention</sup> ^  
to the Inhabitants of Madawaska - I have taken the number  
of 2147 - the whole number will probably be about 2800.  
They are mostly French - A few Americans and a few British  
(or blue noses) - The French people are a timorous People,  
They dread the calamities of war, had rather suffer than  
fight - &c - There are only three families British, that  
now rule the whole population of Madawaska  
to my knowledge - And how do they do it? They do it  
by being supported by the authorities of N. Brunswick -  
When these families undertake to do anything the  
Province backs them right up - If Soldiers are  
necessary they forward them - (the Instance of organiz-  
ing Madawaska by the Friends of Maine) - By the same  
rule the State of Maine ought to back up [page torn]  
wants - and give them their own play[?] - How [page torn]  
thing ought to be done to alleviate the wants and dis-  
resses of the People of Madawaska and the Aroostic -  
I saw many families of Madawaska who had nothing to  
eat but a few potatoes - They are not allowed to  
cut any of the pine timber this year, If they do it  
is all seized, except they can smuggle it in without any  
one who has a [?] &c - They have not been able  
to raise their bread for three or four years  
past, on account of cold and frosts - If they could have  
the privilege of cutting a limited quantity of timber  
for themselves, we should not hear their chi-  
dren crying for bread or clothing, but they would meet  
us with admiring countenance, and not with the com-  
plaints as now is - I could say much more but I have  
now probably wearied your patience - What I have said  
amiss here, you will have the goodness to pardon - Remem-  
bering that I am under the benignity of British authority that  
I can not talk of governing and speaking out to my friends  
in my humble way -  
I remain Sir, Respectfully, yours &c  
Eben<sup>r</sup> S Greely

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in my humble way -

I remain Sir, Respectfully, yours &c Eben<sup>r</sup> S Greely



You will have the goodness to write to me - I shall always  
be pleased to hear from my Friends - It all helps pass the  
time here - I have taken a straight forward course thus far -  
I shall not do any thing, intentionally, to tarnish the character and  
dignity of the State of Maine - not regarding the results respecting  
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nor ill treat me - And I ask no favors of them  
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