

Mr. Fairfield  
Saco Dec. 15, 1840

Dear Sir,

I have received a communication from Sir John Harvey under date of the 10th instant informing me of the arrival of a detachment of troops at the Madawaska Settlement the pursuance of orders from the Governor General of the Provinces, and explaining the cause of this movement. He says it has no other object than to give support to the Civil authorities of that settlement one of whose magistrates Francis Rice Esq. has been grossly insulted, threatened with personal violence and obstructed in the discharge of his duty by persons professing themselves to be citizens of Maine and another Ia. McLaughlin Esq. also a magistrate of this Province & holding the office of Warden of the disputed territory, has been threatened by the person in charge of the armed [troop?] stationed at Fish River with being arrested and retained as prisoner to Augusta in the event of his per-coaching in the performance of the duties imposed upon him by the

(Unofficial)

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Creation Date: Dec. 15, 1840

Description: Letter from Gov, John Fairfield to Rufus McIntyre about disturbances in the Madawaska region of Maine.

Government of the Queen and that of this Province."

He says further in substance that the person in charge as aforesaid avers that in so doing he is acting in obedience to instructions, but he, Sir John, disbelieving it, had expressed to the Gov. General his conviction that a civil around paper is sufficient for their purposes and has advised the withdrawal of the troops which he thinks will be done.

I have replied to him in such a manner as I thought the case required. The facts even as detailed by him I have said do not in my opinion excuse or justify so direct & palpable an infringement of the existing agreement but acknowledging ignorance of the facts, I apprised him that I should take immediate measures to have them correctly ascertained & reported. In regard to the first case, I have suggested that it may be identical with one of which I have casually heard, to wit, that which certain of the citizens of this State were assembled at Fish River to cast their votes for Electors & c. a magistrate from Madawaska presented himself and by virtue of his official authority attempted to disperse them. I have said that if the facts be thus so far from being any cause for reprehension in resisting his authority by the citizens I wonder at their forbearance

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this State and as far as I am concerned  
never will be but of the facts or threats I know  
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I have transmitted a copy of the correspondence  
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for.  
You have now a view a view of  
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Any suggestions from you upon the subject  
will be well received, within in regard to  
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Very respectfully  
Your friend & servt.  
John Fairfield  
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