

March 29. 1816.

Sir.

The question of separating the District of Maine from Old Massachusetts is now before the public, and from the doubts, entertained as to the principles upon which a new government will be established, many, it is believed, are either averse to the measures, or hesitate, as to the parts, they ought to act.

The provisions of a constitution, & particularly with regard to the establishment of an Independent Judiciary & the protection & encouragement of our Literary & Religious Institutions, are certainly interesting subjects to the people, & so far as it is practicable, ought to be understood before they are called to decide the expediency of becoming a separate state; And as the only way, in which this precious understanding can be brought about, is by a free interchange of opinions between gentlemen, situated in different parts of the district: We have taken the liberty at the request of several gentlemen, whose minds are ~~the~~ impressed with the importance of these subjects, to recommend a meeting from different parts of the Counties of Lincoln, Kennebec, & Somerset, to be holden at Augusta Court House on the last Wednesday of April next at ten of the clock A. M. to take the subject into

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consideration. From information given us, we have confident expectations, that this meeting will be generally attended.

We confess ourselves at present, favorably impressed with regard to the question of separation, but do not intend hereby to commit ourselves upon the subject, nor ought it to be understood, that gentlemen, who attend the meeting, recommended, shall by such attendance, merely, be considered as pledged to support it.

We have no doubt, that such a meeting generally attended from different parts of the three Counties, will be the means of either dispelling the fears of those, who hesitate, & of exciting great & general exertion in favour of the measure or rendering it plain & obvious, that judicious and patriotic men of both parties ought to set their faces decidedly against it.

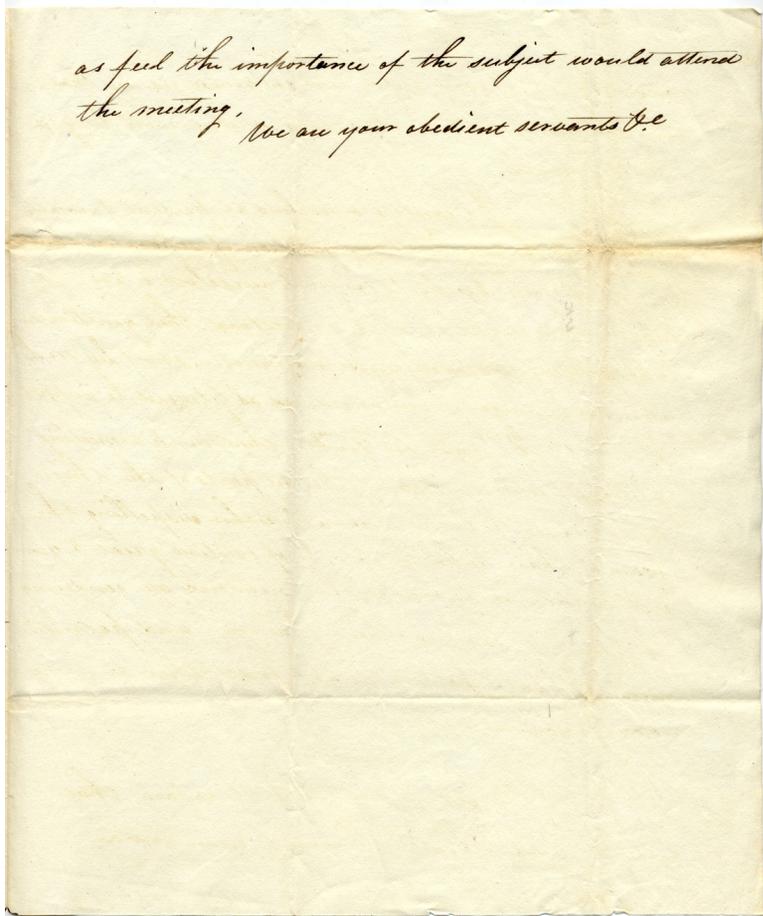
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We are your obedient servants &c