

do
Almon, I must expect such intelligence
will be very pleasing to you, but this is but
one item, and I shall write much more
unless you desire me not to, I want
you to write me some extracts from letters
sent you by Farnham - all he has ever said

Write soon
Richard Richards
June 28th 1845

of
John
John D. Wood
Marine

of
Lincolnville
Paid
Mr. Almon Richards

in reference to paying for my land, and his
coming to the arrostook and his request to you to
back him out a lot, - the widow Phineas Manning
left was Eliza Sylvester, James daughter
don't laugh - Almon I must close - We are
well, hope you and yours are so, I remain your
most affectionate father
Richard Richards

1/2 6/28/45

Lincolnville June 28th 1845

My Dear Son - I take ^{my} pen to write - I
know not what - nor how to commence
1st - I received your letter of date June 1st, was
glad to hear from you, was glad your money
went safe, as you said nothing about your
health nor the affairs of life, I presume your
health is good and your prospects brightening
2^dly On the 26th of March last I sent a line
to Mr Bishop, wishing him simply to say
to me if he had or had not received that note,
if he had and had not forwarded the money, I wished
he would enclose it in a letter and send
it by mail to me, as you would ~~like~~ like
for one of your sisters to have it to help her
on her way to the arrostook - I wished him
to ^{write by} the first returning mail, or as soon as
convenient, but not a word have I had - My letter
would get there the 24th of March, it would
become a dead letter the 15th of July; - every
post Master Minutis down every letter that
comes to their office, the place where mailed,
and the amount of postage - Knowing
that Mr Bates (the post master of Lagrange
could inform ^{me} if my Lincolnville letter reached
his office, if it was taken from the office by any
person, or if it remained in the office, as it
would until the first day of July and then be sent
to Washington - knowing it was his duty to
give the desired information

I wrote him wishing him to inform me, but not a word from him, Mr Reed thinks it strange that Bates has not complied with my request - I have cause to think there are rats at that office, this thing looks dark, Letters come and go to and from this town to Lagrange - have of late passed between Bishop family and Ebenezer Heale, Abner has agreed with Bishop to keep old Aunt Lois Whitney 2 years if Bishop will move the old ^{lady} down; they are looking for them soon, I intend to see him when he comes if I can possibly learn when he is in town; if I get the least clue I will inform B by word I have got to use caution; In April 1841 James has went to Belfast - agreed to pay the balance due for my land, I was to have the land but the deed was to be given him to secure him for his money, I made a transfer of my bond to him to make things legal, I did not take a scrap of writing - putting all confidence in him at that time; he gave the bond to his Mother; he was going to pay up and then go to the arrostook; - he followed fishing 5 months the first season, his wages 59 dollars and cents \$22^{1/2} went for the land, the next went for 0 the next winter & summer he was off South, came home worse off than he went, ~~of the~~
I must name these things some future time.

6/28/45
2/2

he worked some till the spring of 43 in 13 he paid 22 dollars more for land, these two sums are all that has been paid; - He got his mind upon a wife, (had the Lord took me to himself before that day, well would it have been for me - but here I am, a man of sorrow and acquainted with grief) now it was my land, my oxen, my hay, my wheat, my potatoes, and you are my Remnant; - no more arrostook now - I will build a house on the land (a great house I told him a small house, no, it shall be a great house all finished) I told him he wanted 600 - so it went, - after throwing away a great deal of labour (and we all had to be at this lock and call) he put up what was intended for a porch, he wintered in it; - gave away ^{that} a piece of young growth growing at the head of Wade - worth not beside destroying a great quantity on other parts of the lot - Damage 100 doll. I had 3 cows of my own - he put me down to ^{one} ~~one~~ he has ruined me; and now he has moved to Thomaston, he tried to sell the place and would had it not been that his mother told the buyer not to buy (it was in my absence) he got the bond from his mother - he ~~had~~ his mother that day (I was absent) now can't get land nor bond - he says he will never pay another cent - your Father, Mother, 2 Brothers, and 3 young Sisters will soon be out door