

April 25, 1861

I inferred from your letter that he was in favor of my appointment. (he probably did that to secure the aid of yourself, father and Mrs. Waite.) He told me he should do nothing for or against me - but he wrote to Mr. Pike requesting him not to have any appointment made for the present. he still encourages Ross and told Downes and Plummer of Presque Isle that he thought Ross ought to have it. Yet he says he is not doing anything for him. but in this way he is throwing out his influence against me. I have a petition with one hundred and four names on it. can have more by asking. I have good substantial men too to support me and if he gives the Office to Ross he will do so ~~without~~ contrary to the wishes of the people. He is bound to buy Ross, father and Waite if he can with this little Office. I shall not ask him for any assistance. I will not sell myself to one so utterly corrupt as I believe he is. I know of some of his meanness and

if he was aware of that I know of one thing which he probably deems forgotten he would not dare to oppose me - I am not provoked because he opposes me - but because he does it so meanly - why does he not come up boldly and say what he ^(for me acts) thinks is right. I should respect him then, - how I can not for any. I have the influence of Mr. Hacker, Mr. Cany, Mr. Hyde, Mr. Drew, Mr. Foster and all of the most prominent men in this place, and in Eaton Grant there is scarcely one who has not signed my petitions. Now who ought to rule, the people or S. B. Patten - I suppose it would seem but rational to him that he being the people's God should have supreme control. What has he ever done for you. that you should spend your whole life and talents in keeping him before the public. If he is so very generous and self-sacrificing as he pretends to be why does he not give you some chance - You stand as well as he as a politician. You have friends who are

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ready and willing to put you forward if
you would not always look for Patten. I
tell you that Mr. Patten's influence grows less in
this part of the County. I do not wish to be
too hard - but I have no patience with
one so deceitful. For some few years
I have felt that when he aided or befriended
any one, he had some selfish motive for doing
so. And I positively believe that he would
cheat or deceive the best friends he has on
earth if he could gain anything by doing
so. But I have written more than I
intended to. You can do as you think
proper about writing to Mr. P. concerning
the Office. Whatever is done must be done
very soon. I wrote to Elizabeth a short
time ago. Please say to her that Mary is
not going to dress Sarah in mourning
and she had better not try to make any
change in the children's dresses.
All are well - Warren has come out of
the woods - We think he has made something
but can form no idea whether it is little
or much - We feel quite sure however that it
can not be much - Write when convenient
Always glad to hear from you all - I
have three books belonging to you & Elizabeth
take good care of them and will return them
soon to you
Your affectionate Sister Agnes,

Fort Fairfield Apr. 27

Brother Richards

I thought I would write you
a few lines today concerning matters and
things in general - more particularly the Post
Office business in this place -

This afternoon a Union Meeting
is held at the Meeting house. I expect
there will be a great display of patriotism
- more I fear in appearance than in principle
I have watched the movements of sundry in-
dividuals in their political progress
and have come to the conclusion that there
is no honor, no principle ⁱⁿ the best of
politicians - I consider S. B. Patten
one of the most scheming, deceitful and art-
ful men of the times. Still the people bend
the knee to him and acknowledge him as
God (almost) In as small a matter as
the Post Office at this little place I suppose he
has repeated many a falsehood.