

Highland July 16. 1820

Dear Sir

I have received yours of the 10. <sup>th</sup> and re-  
turn the proclamation signed for the sale of lands  
in Missouri, Illinois & Michigan - I am sur-  
prised that you had not received the blanks commisi-  
ons which I had forwarded sometime before, as I had  
signed & forwarded them to the office at Milton  
the morning after they came to hand. I will enquire  
into the cause of the failure, & if it remedied if it oc-  
curred here.

Mr Story's & Mr Silsbee's recommendation in  
favor of Mr Whelan is strong, but I do not think  
that it would be well received in Maine for me to  
appoint a person on that authority, <sup>they being out of the State</sup> against the  
recommendation of the Governor of the State, of  
the District Judge, & many others of the highest  
respectability in Maine.

I think that Mr Lester's claim ought to be  
preferred, on the evidence before us, tho' his con-  
-nection, having served so many years, apparently  
with good conduct, is not without his preference.

I am sorry that I have not a copy of the  
law referred to, by you, in the case with Mr. Allen.  
My impression however is, that it stands  
well as it is, & that he has acted improperly.  
I send you a paper on the subject, lately received.

He ought not to have removed, any of the officers under  
him, except for misconduct.

I shall read with interest the pamphlet & French  
papers which you were so good as to send me.

The public sentiment seems to be very decided  
against the private, & to demand an general retri-  
-bution of those who have been condemned. Dis-  
-cussing acts are multiplied, so that the interest as  
well as the honor of the nation, may require some  
terrible example. Those under sentence are  
reprimed till further orders. This measure gives  
time for due consideration, with all the requi-  
-sitive light, of what had best be done in regard to them.

I have just received a letter from Mr. Warden  
which I send for your perusal.

With respect to your

James Monroe