

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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AUGUSTA, MAINE

MAINE - HISTORY

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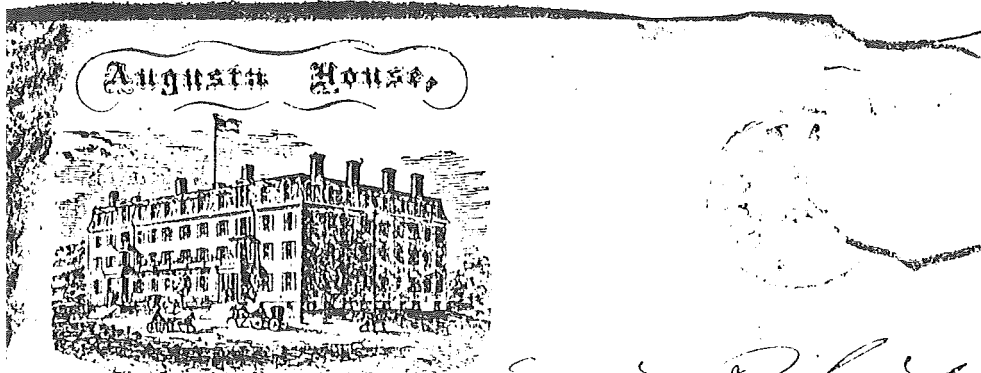
Letters Responding to the Campaign of

The Hon. EDWIN B. SMITH

of Saco

for Re-Election as Speaker of the House

for 1872



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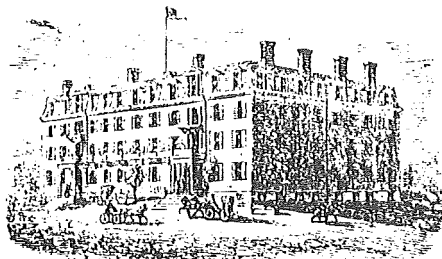
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*Edwin B. Smith*  
*Geo*  
*Maine*  
*H*

MAR 2 1987

# Augusta House.



State Street, . . . . . H. BAKER, Proprietor.

Augusta, Me., Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> 1871.

E. J. Smith Esq

My Dear Sir

Yours of yesterday has just  
come to hand, and we would have to  
say that No 36 is not, I repeat for the  
service of yr. Plea the same as last  
year of \$1.00 per Week including Gas & fuel,  
Mr. John Wilson of Thurston has become  
owner for the year, and no doubt  
would be pleased to have you here as  
well as myself. Yours by Tel. Co

Very Truly Yours &c  
H. Baker

Edwin Bradbury Smith

Born Kennebunkport, October 3, 1832  
A.B. Bowdoin College 1856 - Phi Beta  
Kappa.

Read law with Probate Judge Edward E.  
Bourne of Kennebunk; admitted to the  
Bar 1858. Practiced law in Limerick  
1859-1862; then in Saco 1862-1875.  
Initially associated with Col. Rufus  
P. Tapley of Saco who was appointed  
to the Supreme Judicial Court in 1865.  
Deputy Collector of Customs, Saco,  
1864-1867.

Maine House of Representatives, 1870-1872.  
Speaker in 1871 and unsuccessful can-  
didate for re-election to that post in  
1872, losing to Frederick Robie of Gor-  
ham whom he had defeated handily in  
1871.

Reporter of Decisions 1873-1875, publish-  
ing volumes 61-64 Maine Reports.  
Assistant U.S. Attorney General, 1875-1881.  
Practiced law in New York City, 1881-1914.  
Died January 3, 1914.

Augusta House, H.Baker, Proprietor  
... Yours of yesterday has just come to hand,  
and in answer have to say that No.36 is not en-  
gaged for the session of '72. Price the same as  
last year \$21 per week - including gas & \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Edm'd Wilson of Thomaston has secured rooms  
for the session, and no doubt would be pleased  
to have you here as well as myself...

"Answer by Tel"

H.Baker



(State of Maine.)  
Office of Secretary of State.

(Augusta, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> 1871)

Dear Smith:

By a mutual understanding with our friend Mr. Stacy I shall be a candidate for reelection and he will not be in the field. I want you to help us.

How about the Speakership? Stacy, Woodward and I want to see you go to Congress. We suppose this to be your objective point and from our standpoint there are doubts about the course to be pursued. Can't you come down here say next Tuesday or some time soon and let us know your wishes?

Yours very truly  
F. M. Drew

Dear Smith:

By a mutual understanding with our friend Mr. Stacy I shall be a candidate for reelection and he will not be in the field. I want you to help us.

How about the Speakership? Stacy, Woodward and I want to see you go to Congress. We suppose this to be your objective point and from our standpoint there are doubts about the course to be pursued. Can't you come down here say next Tuesday or some time soon and let us know your wishes?

F. M. Drew  
(Secretary of State.)



State of Maine  
Office of Secretary of State.

Augusta, Oct. 9, 1871.

Friend Smith

Yours rec'd. Good. I am glad you are on the road to fame. Tapley shall have a reappointment. Perham will be Governor when the appointment comes round, if he don't die, and we can fix it for the Judge leaving you free and clear.

Don't forget me. If I should be beaten it will ruin me. I rely upon you more than I do upon any other man. Be sure and come to Augusta as soon as you can, conveniently do so.

Yours truly  
G. G. Stacy

Friend Smith

Yours rec'd. Good. I am glad you are on the road to fame. Tapley shall have a reappointment. Perham will be Governor when the appointment comes round, if he don't die, and we can fix it for the Judge leaving you free and clear.

Don't forget me. If I should be beaten it would ruin me. I rely upon you more than I do upon any other man.

Be sure and come to Augusta as soon as you can conveniently do so.

G. G. Stacy

... Yours Rec'd. Was away "smiting the Philistines" or should have answered sooner. I shall be glad to help you what I can. Come down and see us. The Secretarys Office (Drew & Stacy) think you better shake hands with Robie and that thus you can get to Congress easy. Think it over and make up your mind what to do I think we can help you in Kennebec on any course you may take.

Jos. T. Woodward, Augusta  
State Librarian

... I wish now to have a little private and confidential correspondence or talk in relation to affairs of the past, present and future. First in regard to the Secretary Ship of State and then other matters. I regret the position of things, especially your own but what can't be helped must be endured so "I accept the situation." For more than a year I have understood that Drew would not again be a candidate, that Stacy would and my friends put me on the course expecting to fight him & any other who chose to enter the lists but since I last wrote you I have received reliable information that Stacy is not a candidate, that Drew is, & for the fifth time that Stacy is content and of course is to be Dept. Secy. I do not know but this is all right, but I wish to call your attention to this fact that before Flint was Secy., three years was the usage of the party. I think no one had ever attempted to hold the place longer but for some reason (it has escaped my memory) Flint was elected for the fourth term. Last winter Drew claimed it because Flint had it four years and it was given him on that ground. He has been a good officer I admit but is that any reason that he should hold life lease of the place or should it be given him a fifth and sixth term contrary to the usage of the party because he could not get the appointment of Pension Agent at Augusta! Should you feel constrained to support him (Drew) for the fifth term in order at some fu-

ture time to be able to support Stacy agreeably to promise ten years ago! Now I think Drew should get out of the way and let Stacy's friends have the opportunity to run him, and my friends run me etc etc. In failing to do so & Stacy agreeing to it, it seems to me that he (Stacy) has no claims, that you are at liberty to vote for whom you please. As far as I am concerned I do not object to the candidacy of Drew because I'm unwilling to meet him (though he has been an unexceptionable officer) making the issue the usage of the party. I think, under the circumstances if Drew is a candidate that all who have promised to support Stacy are absolved from such promise and are at liberty to vote for me or any other candidate. It looks a little like the dog in the manger. Now I have done with this subject and will proceed to consider another point. The Clerkship. And here and now I will tender my grateful thanks for all your past kindness and for the desire to do still more for me. But as at present advised I cannot honorably be a candidate for Clerk, for I agreed not to be in the way of Z.A. Smith. He very much desired to be a candidate for Clerk last winter & proffered his assistance to me for Secy. this year if I would relinquish the Clerkship and threatened ~~dim~~ vengeance if I did not in case I was a candidate. He was terribly indignant because I did not accede to his wishes and if he should not desire the Clerkship (as I understand he does not) he will act the dog in the manger & thus I shall be debarred from entering that field. It will be a difficult place for any man, no matter what his abilities may be, to fill, who has had no previous training as Asst. Clerk. I do not know what the programme will be nor can I tell what may come out of it. What combinations or trades may be made but I do not intend to act dishonestly towards Col. Smith or any other person. I desire this to be strictly private and I will say that what I have written is written in the most friendly spirit, that I consider you a personal



friend and shall, whatever you may do in regard to Secy. of State. If you please, I shall be glad to hear from you freely and frankly in relation this or any other matter connected with the organization of the Legislature.

S.J. Chadbourne, East Dixmont  
[Sumner J. Chadbourne, Clerk of the House]

... My dear Edwin: I have a conundrum to ask of you - It is so hard that I shall not expect you to answer it just at present but bye-and-bye I hope you will be able to solve it!

Who would you rather see elected Secretary of State next winter than

Your servant

James H. Cochrane, Portland

[Deputy Secy. of State,  
1865-67]

These letters were discovered recently by carpenter Roger Gagne while remodeling an office building in Saco. He gave them to his friend Paul McDonough of Biddeford, a student of Maine history. At the suggestion of another friend, David Redmond of the Executive Office, Paul has given them to the State Law Library.

\* \* \* \* \*

September 1871

Remember the era - Reconstruction; James G. Blaine on the rise in Washington and already in his second term as Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; Hannibal Hamlin back in the U.S. Senate after a political career which had reached from the Maine House, to the Governorship, to the U.S. Senate and the Vice Presidency; Lot Morrill, another former Governor, again a Senator from Maine.

In Augusta, Sidney Perham, now in his sixties, freshly elected to a second term as Governor; state officers jockeying for position...and....the Hon. Edwin B. Smith "running again" for Speaker of the Maine House.

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These campaign reports excerpted and compiled by Edith L. Hary and the booklet arranged by Mary H. Irvine.

State Law Library  
February 26, 1981

From Androscoggin County...

... My views regarding your reelection as Speaker of the House having been solicited I would say that as a general rule I think it is wise to continue a Speaker in the Chair the second year as he is of course better qualified for the performance of the duties of the office and to my mind it is of no little importance to fill the Chair with one who is competent.

I do not wish to commit myself to any one at present but will say that I know of no reason now why I cannot support you.

Nelson Howard, Lewiston  
[House 1872, 1873]

U.S. Internal Revenue Assessor's Office,  
2d District, Lewiston

... I shall take the earliest opportunity of seeing the delegation from the County and shall also extend my aid outside.

Enos T. Luce

... You can count on me.... I do not think that Androscoggin will discover any reason to withhold her support from you. I think the final judgment will be that you should be your own successor.

A.M. Pulsifer, Lewiston  
Attorney-at-Law

... I am not as you are aware by this time the candidate of this town but I will speak to Mr. Prince and I have no doubts but he will feel under obligation to give you his hearty support as I should certainly do were I to be there at the organization.

James M. Fish, Turner  
[House 1871]  
[Rufus Prince, Governor's Council 1865; House 1872; Senate 1878, 1879]

... I do not go to the Legislature this winter & therefore cannot have that influence in your behalf that I otherwise might.

I was for you before, & having seen how you filled the position am inclined to think were I there again I would do the same.

I believe Perkins of Portland the only old member elected. Dingley goes to the Senate. I can however in your behalf see our delegation. I should judge Robie would press quite hard as he was defeated last year.

You are better prepared for this position this than last year, as experience adds largely to ones effectiveness in that as in all other positions.

C. (Cyrus) Knapp  
Livermore Falls  
[House 1858, 1871]

P.S. I have just been looking over the returns in our Co & I find Knapp for J.Probate was ahead of all others in his majority.

In this I feel a pride & can't help it.

I have 1380 majority. Last year Rep. had only 344 in the Co. The rest fall a little off of that but still our Co. must be considered the banner Co. in gain.

... I will say I do not care to make any pledges at this early date, but know of no reason why I cannot give you a cordial & hearty support for the position named.

O.D. Potter, Webster  
[House 1872]

From Aroostook County...

... I shall not be member of the House next winter although unanimously nominated by our Convention. If I had a seat there I should be pleased to vote for Speaker as I did last year. I will see Mr. King our Rep. & have no doubt he will do what he can to place you in the Speaker's Chair.

Isaac Hacker, Fort Fairfield  
[House 1871]

... [I]t is your wish to occupy the seat in the House you did last year. I certainly wish that you may and have named the matter to Mr. Richardson the member from this district who is my personal friend and no doubt will aid you. I see in some of the papers that Mr. Woodbury of Houlton wishes to be a candidate and if he is perhaps our delegation may think they should support him. I do not think however that he will be a candidate for the reason if no other that I know that one at least of the Aroostook delegation will not support him and probably others and besides he is not the man for the chair.

Hoping that you will be the choice...

Daniel Stickney, Presque Isle  
[House 1870, 1871]  
[Theodore M. Richardson, Maysville, House 1872-3]

From Cumberland County...

... I understand Col. Robie is a Candidate for the Speakership. I suppose it is but honorable to go for the candidate from your county in the first instance.

If my friend does not succeed, I know of no man I would prefer to yourself in that unthankful place, but still honorable and of good repute.

Charles Holden, Portland  
[Senate 1839, 1847, 1848; Governor's Council 1862,  
1863, 1864, 1865; House 1872]

... It seem the electors have decided "we should be colleagues again this winter."

I presume there will be no departure from the usual custom in the matter of speakership - it will be agreeable to my own feeling to oppose any.

Please pardon any seeming forwardness for intimating the position I should like to have in the formation Comms, provided it can be arrange satisfactorily at the proper time - I merely allude to it now that you may not commit yourself to others and will state reasons when we meet - I allude to Chairmanship of the Comm. on Finance.

S. A. Holbrook, Freeport  
House 1850, 1863, 1864, 1870, 1872; Senate 1865,  
1866, 1867, 1874, 1875; Treasurer of State 1880-  
1884]

From Franklin County...

... I am very glad to learn that you are returned to the Legislature this winter and I assure you I will do all I can to assist you in obtaining any office you may wish in the House. I will see the Republican members in our county and I think I can carry this county for you. I wish you would drop a line to Warren Tufts, New Sharon; John Hanson, Jay; and Elias Field, Phillips; as soon as you receive this for I feel anxious that you may be sure of the election.

F.C. Perkins, Farmington

... I hasten to assure you of my influence, so far as I may have any, be it much or little. I think you will get this county entire. Perkins of Farmington is for you most decidedly. I have also had an interview with Bro. Field of Phillips (member of our Bar) and find him favorably inclined. I will see my own Rep., Hanson of Jay, and the Rep. from New Sharon - Tufts - soon. They are good men and true, and will, I doubt not, be induced to give you their support.

C.J. Talbot, E. Wilton

From Hancock County...

... I am glad to learn that you are again on the track for Speaker of the House. I will do any thing in my power to assist you, & hope to see you in the chair next winter, if I should visit Augusta, which I shall be likely to do.

John S. Parsons, Eastbrook  
[House 1871]

... Not being a Candidate for Election the people did not see fit to Elect me therefore I shall not be able to vote for you in caucus. Mr. John F. Whitcomb is the member-elect from this place. You presume now that we had a split in this place and Mr. Whitcomb was elected on the Citizens Ticket but is a true Republican and a very fine man but as Mr. Hopkins opposed him he would not have much influence with him. If I can do anything to help you shall be pleased to do it May be on at the organization if my business will let me. I neglected my business two winters by being in Augusta and could not afford to leave it another winter.

S.K. Whiting, Ellsworth  
[Samuel K. Whiting Governor's Council 1869;  
House 1871]

... While I would consider it a great pleasure to do you a personal favor, I see no way I could be of much service to you in gaining the Speaker's chair -

Of the five Republicans elected in our county, I do not have the pleasure of the acquaintance of any except Whitmore of Verona, and do not see him often - Wishing you success

J.A. Buck, Orland  
[John A. Buck House 1868, 1875, 1878, 1881-2;  
Senate 1869, 1870]

... [As for myself I do not desire a change, would be pleased to see you in the Speaker's chair again and know of no reason why I cannot

support you again. Our delegation will be all new members except myself & Mr. Partridge of Orland will do what I can for you.

A.H. Whitmore, Verona  
[Avery H. Whitmore, House 1871, 1872, 1887-8  
Senate 1873, 1874]

From Kennebec County...

Private: just now:  
My dear Sir:

Your letter of today is my first information of your election, and, I rejoice over it.

I had already been approached by Humphrey & friends, but fortunately, had not replied. He is a noble rascal and I should be delighted to see him gratified.

But, under the circumstances I cannot help him - and shall give you the benefit of my good will and such personal influence as I may be able to bring to you.

I am sure you will get most if not all our Kennebec delegation. The Damariscotta delegate, I told today, is for you and also Bliss of Washington.

You better come up and engage your quarters soon and let me see you 15 minutes. I can give you several good points.

This delegation may not go into the House - as it now stands.

Senator Morrill is understood to favor you strongly, but cannot do much as he is to be absent most time.

Mr. Blaine cannot safely take\_\_\_action, as the question of the election of the four delegates at large, favorable to his nomination as V.P. is of paramount concern to him. His preference, however, is not kept from his trusted and immediate friends. This, I think, is all we sh<sup>d</sup> ask of him. Robie and Joe Porter are said to want it.

A.B. Farwell



... Before the receipt of your favor of the 18th inst I supposed that you would be a candidate for reelection as speaker, as a matter of course. As at present advised I know of no reason why you should not again occupy that position which I learn was so acceptably filled by you.

Samuel Titcomb, Augusta

... I can only say I have heard but very little in regard to the Office of the Speaker of the House at the coming session of the Legislature, or whom the candidates are to be if any, besides yourself. Your request shall be carefully considered and remembered and when the time comes to act it will be a pleasure for me to assist you in any way I can consistent with the dictates of my judgment at the time.

James Nash, Gardiner  
[House 1872, 1873]

... I can say with sincerity I know of no one that I should be so much pleased to see elected to the Speakership in the House as yourself, independent of the custom of reelection. That being the practice heretofore you have a right to claim a reelection, and I have no doubt your former associates in that Body would unite with me in wishing you success. I have seen our Representative elect J. Lambert Esq. of Readfield and think you may depend upon his vote. I had a preference last year, I should have the same this had I been reelected.

Calvin Hopkins, Mount Vernon  
[House 1871]

... I will respectfully ask that you will excuse me at this early day, from giving any expression of preference to either of the rival candidates to be supported for that office - and be assured, if I am present, it will be my earnest desire to act unembarrassed and free from any previous pledges, and further I will

say that with me, your claims to said position shall be timely considered.

John Lambert, Readfield  
[House 1872]

... I will endeavor to do all that I can to aid in thy election to the Speakership of the House of Representatives and think that I can exert some influence not only with our Delegation but also with some of the members-elect in Kennebec County with whom I am intimately acquainted. I have seen Jepson from China since receipt of thy letter. I am sure that he will do all he can for thee. I think that thee may rest assured of being elected Speaker by a very large majority as I have not a doubt but that will be the case.

William Taber, Unity  
[House 1871]

... I congratulate you on your reelection. I shall be most happy to do whatever I am able in your behalf, - chiefly because I desire your success, but partly because I do not desire the success of your opponent. I have already secured the pledge of our Representative and will find out about the others as opportunity offers. I am afraid Robie has shown more than his usual energy and "gumption" in this thing.

George Gifford, Vassalboro  
[House 1873]

... I did not feel at liberty to pledge myself until I laid the subject before my constituents - it meeting their approval will gladly render you the aid desired.

J.C. Pierce, E. Vassalboro  
[James C. Pierce, House 1872]

... I see that you are returned to the Leg-again and I learn that you will be a candidate for the Speakership again and I think you will be successful although I find that Robey is

making a strong effort to win.

You may count on our Rep. and most of the Reps in this part of the county.

I would like if you feel favorable, for you to support Oramandel Smith of Litchfield for assistant Clerk of the House. As you are a candidate Speaker it would not be advisable for you to come out decided for any of the different candidates for the several offices in the organization of the House. If it shall be pleasing to you Harry may like the Pages place again; he will be likely to do better than last winter as he was a good deal broken up last winter occasioned by the sickness and loss of his mother.

Orrick Hawes, No. Vassalboro  
[House 1868, 1871, 1879]

... Yours...received...and in answer would say that I have not given it due consideration as yet and are not prepared to pledge myself to any one at present. M. (Matthias) Smith, No. Wayne  
[House 1872]

From Lincoln County...

... Permit me to say that at present I know of no gentleman whom I would rather see in the Chair than yourself.

G.B. Kenniston, Hodgdon's Mills  
[George B. Kenniston, House 1872, 1873]

From Oxford County...

... It will give me much pleasure to give you my influence with our representatives and others for the Speakership. I would suggest to you the propriety of writing each of our delegation. I shall probably be at Augusta at the organization. I have been recently informed that next year you

will be the successful candidate for representative to Congress, this I was glad to learn, that on this account you might not be a candidate for speaker leaving the field open for Col. Robie; may or may not such a contingency take place? I should be disposed to aid Col. Robie next to you.

W.W. Bolster, Dixfield

[William W. Bolster, Senate 1869, 1970 (Pres.1870)  
Governor's Council 1883-4]

... [It will afford me pleasure to see you in the chair again. The representative here Henry O. Stanley is my brother in law. I have talked with him about it. I also talked with General Perry about it. I think we shall give you our county pretty nearly united. Perry is a good lawyer, been 6 years in congress, longer ago in Legislature than any member elected. He thinks he ought to be chairman of Judiciary and I hope he will be. Pike would not care, I don't believe. I think I am to be Councillor and want you to lift for me. I have Hayford Churchill & Stanley certain. I make Farrington Allen Foster & Perry - 5 is wanted - I thought you could be a power with Foster & Perry - especially Foster.

E.G. Harlow, Dixfield

[Governor's Council 1872,  
1873]

... Would say in reply that I would not pledge myself to support any one. But will say that as I feel now I should favor your renomination both with my vote and influence.

Henry O. Stanley, Dixfield

[House 1872]

... Previous to receiving your letter, an old personal friend - a member of the House elect - wrote me asking aid for the same position, named by you.

I replied to him that while I would willingly do him any personal favor in my power, - it had always been a rule with me, when a member of

the Legislature in former years, - not to give pledges in advance.-

After I ascertained from the newspapers,- that you was re-elected - I supposed the speakership would be generally conceded to you; - but I find quite a number of candidates are in the field, pressing their claims -

Although I never had the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with you, yet I frankly say, - your re-election would be perfectly satisfactory to me; and after we meet at Augusta, nothing would please me more, - than an honorable compromise that would result in the withdrawal of all opposition to your re-election.

John J. Perry, Oxford

[House 1840, 1843, 1872

Senate 1846, 1847

Governor's Council 1863, 1864.]

From Penobscot County...

... I am not returned to the Legislature this winter. J. Wyman Phillips of Orrington represents the class that I represented viz Brewer & Orrington. Not being a member of the House I do not purpose to take part in the contest for the Speakership. I shall always however bear testimony to the faithfulness and efficiency with which you performed the duties of that office last winter.

Jasper Hutchings, Brewer

[House 1867, 1871]

... I would say that I will see our delegation and aid you all I can. Should like to see you in the station and hope you will be successfully.

Nathaniel Dustin, Dexter

[House 1871]

... As Col. Z.A. Smith will run for Clerk of the House this winter I intend to be a candi-

date for Asst. Clerk and would like for you to use your influence in my favor if you could look at it in that way. The Penobscot Co. Delegation what I have seen of them promises me their support. I see Hon. S.C. Hatch & J.W. Porter they tell me my chance look fair and will do all they can for me. I shall write Col. Robie today and would like for you to think the matter over and write me a few lines.

(Andrew) A. F. White, Greenfield  
(House 1871)

... I shall not be a member of the house next winter. In relation to the Speakership next winter so far as I have been able to learn the delegation this way are rather inclined to go for J.W. Porter for Speaker.

W. C. Clark, Lincoln  
(William C. Clark, House 1871, 1875)

.... One of my friends has spoken to me on the same subject (Speakership) but I do not wish to pledge myself to any one on any matter. I then can act honestly and independently on all subjects - will remember your wishes.

John Estes, Lincoln  
(House 1872)

From Piscataquis County...

... (If I was a member of the next house it would give me much pleasure to give you my vote, and influence for the Speaker's position.

Should Mr. Humphrey of Bangor be a candidate as I have heard intimated, I think he would secure the votes of this county.

I can assure you the votes of this county against any other candidate and I will do all I can for you. Be free to ask any assistance of me you may desire, as it will afford me much pleasure to see you again in the chair you

filled with so much credit.

E.A. Thompson, Dover

[House 1871

Governor's Council 1872, 1874]

[Samuel Humphrey, House 1870, 1872]

... Although Mr. Lebroke's friends have urged him very hard to be a candidate for the Speakership, he has definitely decided not to be. And I take this "early" opportunity to say to you, that his friends are especially anxious that he should have a place on the Judiciary Committee and he feels that he is entitled to it. Please remember the suggestion.

A.J.W. Stevens, Parkman

... If A.G. Lebroke of Foxcroft is not a candidate for Speaker, I shall cheerfully support you, provided, however, that you promise to put me on no committee, or if I must be on some one, put me on the tail end of the Committee on Education where I can use what little influence I may have in favor of improving our schools.

A.J.W. Stevens, Parkman

[House 1872]

[Augustus G. Lebroke, House 1872

Senate 1883-4, 1885-6]

From Somerset County...

... Yours...received. In answer will say I think I can grant your request.

William H. Evans, Cornville

[House 1872]

... Had I the honor of representing this district in our next Legislature it would afford me much pleasure to aid, in any honorable way, in your reelection as Speaker of the House.

Being personally acquainted with a portion of our delegation and interested as well in the display of wisdom on the part of the "coming" legislature in their selection of presiding officers I will gladly use my influence with them in your behalf.

D.H. Bartlett, Harmony  
(Darius H. Bartlett, House 1871  
Senate 1877, 1878)

From Washington County...

... I have been away out of town or I should have answered your letter before. I should say you are the man for Speaker decidedly. If you hadn't been returned I supposed Robie would take it but now that you are in I have no question and I presume the House will have none. The State seems to have done pretty well under the circumstances - better than I expected.

9/18/1871 F.A. Pike, Calais

... And now Robie says he is candidate & that I said I was for him "just as I was leaving the Augusta House" to come home. A kettle of fish which good natured people are apt to get into & to get out of the best way they can.

I see considerable many jokes were cracked at election including Cobb Lime Co & the anti-Hichborn extension which Vose fell a victim to & the Belfast Branch under which Seth Milliken is buried.

9/20/1871 F.A. Pike, Calais  
(House 1858, 1859, 1860, 1870, 1872, 1876,  
1877 (Speaker 1860);



From York County...

... I shall be in favor of your filling the Speaker's Chair and shall do all I can to put you there believing that it belongs to you as you have not filled it but one year.

Warrington Paul, Kittery

[House 1872, 1873]

P.S. As there is quite a controversy here in regard to the names of the two candidates that will be brought before the House to elect a Senator for this Co. from some contend that the names of Haley and Butler will be the legal ones others that Cole and Thompson must and will be the onley ones that can be brought forward. Please give me your views in the matter.

... After dew consideration it becomes my duty to inform you in that regard I had been thinking of you and supising that you would like that situation again and I feel like assisting you what I can as I feel like wanting some assistance my self. In some way I learned that you and Mr. Stagpole (Stackpole) boarded together last winter. If that was the case I wish that you would engage the same place for you and me. Yours with due respect.

H.R. Thing, Shapleigh

[Henry R. Thing, House 1872]

Your quarters soon and let  
me see your 15 minutes. I can  
give you several good points.

This delegation may not go into  
the House - as it now stands.

Senator Morrill is understood  
to favor you strongly, but cannot  
do much, as he is to be absent most  
time.

Mr. Plaine cannot easily take  
opinion action, as the question of  
the election of the four delegates  
at large, favorable to his nomination  
as G. P. is of paramount concern  
to him. His preference, however, is  
not kept from his trusted and  
immediate friends. This, I think,  
is all we sh. ask of him.

Robie accd. Joe Porter also said  
to want it.

Yours truly,  
W. S. Barlow

Hon. E. C. Smith.

Banyon Oct 3 1871

My dear Sir

I returned home  
from California yesterday,  
and found your note of  
the 12th inst.

I will at once look  
after your interests in this  
section, and shall be glad  
to do, & will do all I can  
to aid you. All will go well  
I believe.

Wm B Smith

Yours Truly  
W Hamilton

From the United States Congress...

... I returned home from Calafornia yesterday, and found your note of the 11th ult.

I will at once look after your interests in this section, and shall be glad to do so, & will do all I can to aid you. All will go well I believe. Yours truly.

H. Hamlin

[Hannibal Hamlin, U.S. Senator from Maine]

... Confidential

In reply to yours just now at hand - I have not expressed, nor entertained, a wish inconsistent with a most earnest desire for your success as Speaker. Usage entitles you to re-election, \_\_\_ of the general acceptance with which you discharged its duties. I certainly appreciate your outspoken friendliness of last year, & need only now to learn that I can be of service to you.

Col. Robie has been an old personal & political friend of mine, which fact I would be glad not to forget now although of course I remember, what you refer to - his inconsiderate nonsense of last year. I have probably said as much as this somewhere, to somebody 'though I do not recollect where nor to whom. - certainly not to Col R who has not approached me on the matter. From this, not unlikely \_\_\_ what you report as coming from Col. about my "favoring" him. The Col. would not expect me to support him as against you as friendly as I feel toward him personally.

L M Morrill

[Lot M. Morrill, U.S. Senator from Maine]

Personal

Recd By Blaine  
Speaker HR  
H

Hon. Edwin B. Smith



Saco

Maine

Personal Private

It has been so long since I have taken part in a legislative contest that I fear I shld go to work awkwardly if I should try -

And should it be noised abroad that I was taking active interest in yr success some mean & miserable story wd be started to injure you-

I am very free to say to you however that my feelings towards you personally are most friendly - and my appreciation of your honor & probity & efficiency in public & official life could not be higher than it is-

You can infer therefore that no sticks will be laid in your way by me - and I shall be very happy if the traditional friendship between York & Kennebec shall find a fresh illustration in your re-election to the honorable post held by you in the last Legislature.

Perhaps in looking over the whole ground you will agree with me in thinking that I ought not to say more.

Yours truly

JC Blaine, Augusta  
[Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives]

Augustine me

12 SEP / 71

My dear

} Personal  
} Private

It has been so long since  
I have taken part in  
a legislative context  
that I find it hard  
to work awkwardly  
if I should try -

but should it be  
noised abroad that  
I am taking active  
interest in the success  
some mean & miserable  
story not be started  
to ignore you -

I am very free to say  
to you however that

## Horse.

The caucus of republican members elect of the House was held last evening in the Hall of Representatives, and called to order by J. M. Carleton of Whitefield. Hon. J. J. Perry of Oxford was called to preside, and S. J. Chadbourne, and Z. A. Smith elected Secretaries.

Hon. J. W. Porter of Burlington, said that as the first business was to select a candidate for Speaker, he would state that at a meeting of the Penobscot county delegation his name had been presented as a candidate for speaker, and he had no doubt that in case his name should be presented he would receive the vote of the entire delegation. He was much obliged to the gentlemen for the expression, but was satisfied that for him the post of honor was a private station, and should not allow his name to be used in connection with the office.

Hiram Bliss, Jr., of Washington, remarked that his name had been used, by the newspapers in connection with the office, but he wished it understood that he was not a candidate.

Hon. Charles Holden of Portland, presented the name of Frederic Robie of Gorham as candidate for speaker.

Mr. Bliss said that he had noticed a report in the Lewiston Journal that Mr. Smith of Saco had withdrawn his name as candidate for speaker and inquired of that gentleman if it was a fact.

Mr. Smith said that as he was returned to the House with the understanding that he should receive the usage of a re-election as speaker, and as the newspaper report was entirely unauthorized by him, he did not feel at liberty to withdraw, but would submit his name to the convention.

An explanation was made that the Lewiston Journal's report, by an error made at the office, confounded the name of Mr. Smith of Saco with that of Col. Smith who had withdrawn his name as candidate for the Clerkship.

A committee of five was raised to receive, sort and count votes for candidate for speaker.

The roll of the republican members was called, and 106 responded to their names.

A balloting was had with the following result:

Whole number of votes,	107
Necessary to a choice,	54
Frederic Robie had	71
E. B. Smith	35
Scattering,	1

And Frederic Robie of Gorham was declared to be the candidate.

On motion of Hon. E. B. Smith the nomination was made unanimous.

On motion of Mr. Porter of Burlington, S. J. Chadbourne of Dixmont, was renominated by acclamation as candidate for Clerk.

The names of the following gentlemen were presented as candidates for Assistant Clerk:

By Mr. Woodbury of Houlton—Joseph O. Smith of Hodgdon.

By Mr. Prince of Turner—Horace C. Haskell of Turner.

By Mr. Ray of Westbrook—Jabez Marriener.

By Mr. Walker of Newport—John Benson, Jr., of Newport.

By Mr. Titcomb of Augusta—Ormanda Smith, of Litchfield.

By Mr. Webb of Waterville—J. F. Lamb of Chilton.

## First Ballot.

Whole number of voter,	100
Necessary to a choice,	51

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Hon E. G. Smith  
Saco  
Me



Hon. Edwin P. Smith,  
Saco  
(Me.)

Smith & Smith,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.



Edwin P. Smith Esq  
Saco  
Me