

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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REMARKS
ON THE TWO LAST REPORTS OF THE
LAND AGENT,
TOGETHER WITH SOME PARTICULARS OF HIS CONDUCT
WHILE IN OFFICE ;
ADDRESSED TO THE
GOVERNOR, COUNCIL, AND LEGISLATURE
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE,
NOW IN SESSION AT PORTLAND.

GENTLEMEN :

YESTERDAY, I had the annual report of the Land Agent, and the report of the Auditor on his accounts, put into my hands.—They are of so extraordinary a nature, that I doubt not you will think me entirely excusable, for addressing a few remarks to you, upon them, and his report of the preceding year. I well know, he has been able to enlist strong prejudices in his favor; but if he, or any of his friends, have attempted to influence you on this subject, I trust it is unnecessary for me to remark, that you ought entirely to disregard them; to stand unbiassed; prepared, and willing to hear all sides; and to receive those impressions, which may be made by a statement of facts; which, though not proved in these remarks, yet the means of ascertaining their truth, is pointed out to you, even to the names of the witnesses necessary to substantiate them.

That great and decided disapprobation of the Land Agent's conduct, has existed in many parts of this state, is to you well known, and that it exists more particularly in that part of it which comprises the scene of his operations, and where his conduct can be best estimated. Yet let me ask you, if the Legislature have ever taken proper means to ascertain, whether these com-

plaints, are well founded :—If any thing more has been done, than to appoint an auditor to examine his vouchers, and pass on his accounts, without enquiring whether he has rendered an account of all he should have done : whether he has conducted his business, in a manner most conducive to the interest of the state ; or whether he has even gained the knowledge necessary to a judicious and proper discharge of the duties of his office. To answer these enquiries in some measure, and to examine with some minuteness, several particulars of his transactions, is now my object ; hoping that the few hints I may throw out to you, will induce you to make that rigid enquiry, and strict examination, which alone can satisfy your constituents ; and which if Gen. Irish is an able, efficient, and honest public officer ; he will most heartily desire ; thereby placing his character and conduct above suspicion and reproach.

An examination by an Auditor, must from its very nature be highly unsatisfactory, it must come far short of giving you the information necessary to come to a right result, of the propriety of his conduct and measures.—The Auditor can only say, whether the Agent produces vouchers, not even whether the expenses for which the vouchers are produced, are necessary ; and still less, whether the general transactions of his office, have been judicious and expedient. And now Gentlemen, may I not with propriety ask you, how many of you are able from his printed reports, and the accompanying one of the Auditor, to ascertain whether his accounts are correct ? I think Gentlemen none of you can ; I confess I cannot. Allow me to call your attention for a few moments to his two last reports, (the only ones I have by me) and request you to say, if you have the information necessary, to a proper understanding of them ; or all that is in his power, and was his duty to give you ? In the first place these accounts are not kept in a distinct, business like manner, as either of you, doing business for another person, would expect to be required to keep them. They appear to me to be without order ; the charges are mixed together in a most singular manner, so as to create confusion, in the mind of any one examining them ; and so as to require considerable labor in arranging them under their heads, and reducing them to proper form. This I have attempted to do, with regard to the first report, with what success you will be able to judge by referring to the appendix. The last is so unfinished, (there being according to his own statement large sums of monies not credited, and charges against the state not debited ;) that I consider a similar labor as to that would be wholly unsatisfactory. Besides, an analysis of the first, is all that is necessary to show you, the great necessity of a thorough investigation of this man's affairs ; most of the charges in the account are wholly unexplained ; you are referred to vouchers numbered. Where those vouchers are, you may know ; Gen. Irish no doubt can tell ; but it does not appear from the report what the charges were for. Now you are the guardians of the people's rights, and property, and I say, he ought in his report, to have made such an exhibit of his accounts, that every one of you, and not only every one of you, but every one of the people, might tell, why and wherefore their money has been expended.

In the report for 1826, made January 1827, the Agent has charged the State of Maine with the sum of \$3,377 25 (See Appendix A.) for services rendered on the undivided lands, and for provisions furnished. The most of these bills, by referring to his account, you find charged, "for services rendered on the undivided lands ;" simply referring to vouchers exhibited to the Auditor. This was a large sum. Now I ask you, if from his account, you can ascertain, in any way, what were the nature or necessity of these services, or whether they were rendered for a fair compensation, or not. In fine, whether you got your money's worth of labor, or what these services were.—Surely no. You must each of you, hunt up the vouchers, or know nothing about it.

Gen. Irish knows full well, the truth of the old adage, "that what is every body's business, is no body's business;" and confidently trusts, that having once safely passed the ordeal of the Auditor, none of you will do, what each and every one of you, ought to do, look into these things.—What would have been the cost of having these 42 bills printed, item by item, and annexed to the report? Surely but a trifle. You could then have judged for yourselves, and have known why, and wherefore this enormous sum was expended.—To shew you that these observations are not without cause, let me ask, why was not Gen. Wellington's bill, for surveying the Fish River road, brought into the last year's report where it rightfully belonged?—Enquire of General Wellington himself, Gentlemen, and he will tell you, it was because, he refused to allow in his account, to men hired, and sent up to him by Gen. Irish, the extravagant wages he had agreed to give them.—Would it not have been agreeable to you to have known, what signal services, were performed by Ezekiel Chase, a man verging on four-score, that he should receive therefor the sum of \$386 11 in one year, or Nehemiah Emery \$446 55. The whole expenses for sub-agents, that year, amounted if I added the sum aright, to \$4842 64 (which sum with the provisions purchased for them,) in part at least, (for the General could not have eaten the whole) amounting to \$751 41—make a sum total of \$5594 05. A handsome amount of money to be disbursed among his favorites; no wonder the Agent has strong friends.—Surely our little State bleeds well.

This, Gentlemen, was for services rendered Maine; and Massachusetts, and Maine. The amount for the two, conjointly, in 1826, was \$3377,25, which, added to the amount charged as for both States in 1827—\$653,83, makes the sum of \$4031,08. But this is not all, the charge, "to paid John Godfrey for witnesses, see voucher No. 48." \$200 should have been stated to have been an account of both States. How many similar errors he has made, I know not. This \$200 added makes on account of both States, the sum of \$4231,08. The whole of this sum Gen. Irish has charged to Maine. Why is this? Mr. Coffin was on the ground. Massachusetts could have launched out her share of the dollars, as well as Maine the whole. I can conceive of no reason, why this Agent should expend money for two corporations, and charge it to one only. How has this State ever been paid, or how is she to be paid? Suppose you present your bill, \$2115,54, one half of the amount expended, to Massachusetts for payment—what will she say to you? Why, "I know nothing about it; what is Irish to me; he is not an agent of mine. If he chooses to pay away money for me without my asking, he may get it as he can; I had my Agent, Mr. Coffin there, if it was necessary to have spent this money, he would have done it, not thrown it off upon Irish." In fact, Irish seems to expect such would have been her language, and so charges the whole to you, pleasing himself with the idea, that as it is passed by the Auditor, no one will hunt it up. But I trust not so. I hope he will be called to account for this, as well as many other things. If I was to be allowed to use a Yankee privilege, I should *guess* that many charges are made to Maine alone, that should have been charged to both States. Such, for instance, as the following, "paid sundry bills for services rendered, No. 55," \$529,66. If a new era be not about to commence in Book Keeping, I know nothing about it. This way of making charges, and good round ones too, is a new discovery; the honour of which, I think, no one will have the audacity to contest with General Irish. "\$529,66 paid sundry bills for services, No. 55," so plain so explicit! Sure, Gentlemen, you know all about it. It would be folly to investigate the accounts of a man who keeps books so distinctly as this.

I have drawn your attention, Gentlemen, to a few particulars in the ac-

counts, to demonstrate to you the importance of examining the whole, item by item. It is sufficient to shew obscurity, extravagance, and uncertainty in these, to prove the necessity of a thorough, and strict examination of the remainder. It cannot be supposed that at a distance from the documents, and by a hasty perusal, I could, were I to attempt it, discover near all the errors that will be made to appear from a thorough investigation.

And now, Gentlemen, dismissing particulars, let us come to the aggregate. I now extract from the 10th page of his report for 1826, dated January 5th, 1827, as follows :

"The result of the labors of the Agent, thus far, will appear by the report of the Auditor, as follows :

| | |
|--|------------|
| "Cash received on sales of land, timber, and grass, - - - - | \$9,374 00 |
| "Notes received on sales of land, timber, and grass, - - - - | 26,625 07 |
| "Contracts for land, - - - - - | 10,546 76 |

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| "Amounting to - - - - - | 46,645 83 |
|-------------------------|-----------|

| | |
|---|----------|
| "Deduct for cash paid into the Treasury, for building bridges, surveying, building roads, and exploring lands, &c. for which vouchers are on file in the Land Office, - - - | 7,661 51 |
|---|----------|

| | |
|--|-----------|
| "Leaving a balance in favor of Government of - - - - | 38,884 32 |
|--|-----------|

| | |
|---|----------|
| "Of the money received as above, viz. - - - - | 9,374 00 |
|---|----------|

| | |
|--|----------|
| "Deduct for money paid to Treasurer, &c. - - - - | 7,651 51 |
|--|----------|

| | |
|--|----------|
| "Leaving a balance in the Land Office," - - - - (i. e. in the hands and occupation of Irish.) | 1,712 49 |
|--|----------|

"RECAPITULATION."

| | |
|--|----------|
| "Cash paid into the Treasurer, &c. - - - - - | 7,661 51 |
|--|----------|

| | |
|---|----------|
| "Cash now in the Land Office, - - - - - | 1,712 49 |
|---|----------|

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| "Due on notes, - - - - - | 26,625 07 |
|--------------------------|-----------|

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| "Due on contracts, - - - - - | 10,546 76 |
|------------------------------|-----------|

| | |
|--|-------------|
| "Amount in favor of Government," - - - - - | \$46,545 83 |
|--|-------------|

By this Report, made January 5th, 1827, and audited by Barrett Potter, Esq. December 30, 1826, Gen. Irish makes a balance in favor of Government of \$38,834 32. His account for the last year begins with the sum of 30,345 69, making a difference of 8538 dollars and 63 cents. When I first looked over his last account, as audited by Mr. Churchill, I thought I must have made some mistake. I have examined and re-examined, and I can nowhere perceive that the above deficit of \$8538 63 has been accounted for. It stands simply thus. The account closed with a balance due the State of \$38,884 32, on the 7th of January, 1827, (or rather Dec. 30, 1826) and the account for 1827, commenced with the sum of \$30,345 69, (vide Irish's account and Churchill's report.) Now where is this surplus? If any of you, Gentlemen, can tell me, I shall be very happy to be informed. Gen. Irish does not tell you; Mr. Auditor Churchill does not; neither, notice or speak of the difference. If there is nothing wrong here, and Gen. Irish has accounted for this, but without explaining it in his report, then, he is a wretched bungler, and ought never to have the charge of any money concerns. But if not,—why,—his accounts have been audited and passed by Mr. Churchill; what right have you to interfere. But really, Gentlemen, it seems to me, that this ought not to pass without enquiry, merely because his accounts were approved of by Mr.

Churchill; \$8533 68 is rather too large a sum to be smuggled out of sight in this manner. I think this is sufficient to make even the most unwilling believe, that the settlement of Mr. Auditor Churchill is not worth the paper it is written on. Now, Gentlemen, if Gen. Irish is an honest man, he will desire an investigation to clear his character from suspicion; if he is a proud man, he will demand it.

Merely observing that Gen. Webber's bill for services this year amounts to \$913 88, a better pay than that of Irish himself, when it is considered that the General was found while he was in the woods; and calling your attention for one moment to the strange manner in which the Agent has jumbled principal and interest together, so as to defy the ingenuity of the most curious to tell how much is principal and how much interest; and to his charges for boarding Assistant Clerk, and for his own stage fare, when he is paid by the lump. I now dismiss his accounts, trusting they will undergo a stricter examination; than they met with from Messrs. Potter and Churchill, and will, in the next place, ask your attention to some observations on his conduct in his office generally, and will then shew you some particular instances of his malconduct.

The difficulties which have existed between Gen. Irish and the lumberers, though they furnish an objection of less consequence, perhaps, than a number of others, yet do, in my mind, constitute a strong objection to his remaining in office. The people engaged in lumbering on the Penobscot, are not, as Gen. Irish would represent them, thieves, plunderers, and disturbers of the Peace, naturally, but whenever they have erred, it has been caused primarily, by his own vacillating, and uncertain course, and conduct. And when ill treated, as they think they have been by Irish, they show their ill will and dislike in a more open and decided manner, than those who have, by education, been taught to "cloak their thoughts." Trespasses have been committed on the public lands, in a greater or less degree, every year since the separation; and in no one, perhaps, in a greater degree than the last, although he says Gen. Webber, and others entirely prevented it. Gen. Irish knows better, this was for you to believe, not us on the Penobscot.* But, to return to the trespasser; Gen. Irish settled with them every year until 1826. He began immediately on his appointment, by giving public notice, that no trespasser would be settled with; no cutting would be allowed on the undivided lands. These declarations prevented the lumberers generally from going there; they were willing to stay away, provided Irish kept his word, and punished those who went on. A few desperate persons did go. What was Irish's conduct? Now was the time for him to establish his character. Did he prosecute them? No. He settled with them, and on such terms that the plunderer, the avowed discovered plunderer on the State lands, made \$1000 a winter more by trespassing and settling with Irish, than the honest lumberman he talks about, did by purchasing his permits. The consequence of this must be obvious. The number increased every year; he as regularly threatened, and settled. The honest lumberman looking on, got at last tired, and thought that as Irish never kept his word, he could trespass too. At length the storm burst, and with a little army of sheriffs, deputy agents, &c. (*vide bills*) down he pounces on his prey, and then came the difficulties. I wish you to turn to his report, and observe the temper with which he describes these transactions, and contrast it with the manner in which he speaks of trespasses on the Kennebec. Of the latter he speaks at the bottom of the 5th page of his report as follows: "From the best information the Agent has been able to obtain, there has been cut on the Kennebec undivided lands, 2000 logs of an inferior quality. The names

* *Vide last report "cut by mistake."*

of the persons who have cut and hauled the logs, are generally known to the Agent and will be communicated if requested." Thus the whole Kennebec trespass is despatched in seven short lines of his report. This is all that we hear of it. Now, on the Penobscot, he does not pretend that any more than 2757 logs were cut; why this difference of treatment? On the Penobscot there was ordering out of sheriffs, even the posse comitatus, seizure of logs, and persons, trials court after court, making exceedingly great expenses, both to the State, and individuals. Prythee, Gen. Irish, you know the names of the trespassers on the Kennebec, when were they prosecuted? When were those 2000 logs seized? When even were they paid for? Alas! your report gives us no information here. Now, had Gen. Irish pursued a uniform course, all this difficulty would have been avoided; the acerbity of feeling with which the two parties regard each other, is now so strong, the objection can never be obviated. The lumberers, inhabitants of the country, cannot be removed; Gen. Irish can be. Let a suitable man be appointed Land Agent, and your trespasses are stopped forever. While we are on this part of the subject, we will extract from page 6th of his report, as follows: "As soon as it was correctly understood where the work of strip and waste was going on, Deputy Sheriffs were sent in different directions by order of the Attorney General, and Assistant Agents were employed by the Land Agent to point out the places and the persons trespassing, and also to mark the logs, and bring off such teams as might be found at work. The trespassers, having seasonable notice of the approach of the officers, removed their teams to proprietors' land, and thus prevented their attachment. The logs then cut were, however, as directed, marked M. & M. The officer, not being able to remove them, refused to attach them; they were accordingly left on the ground, and the officer, and assistant agents returned." All this is untrue; no officers went up at that time; the first time officers went up the river was afterwards, and is mentioned by him at the bottom of the same page as follows: "A vigilant watch was still observed by the Assistant Agents. Information was soon received that two teams were at work in a different place; another Deputy Sheriff was immediately dispatched with assistant agents. The teams were brought off, and receipted for, and given up by the officer; and all the logs cut by trespassers in that place were marked as before, but not attached, the officer not being willing to assume the responsibility, returned with the assistants.—A vigilant watch being still maintained, it was ascertained that the same teams had wantonly and lawlessly returned to the same work of strip and waste; an officer was again dispatched with assistant agents, who again brought off the teams, and they are now in his hands." The truth is, Gen. Irish was informed of the teams being there the December previous by Mr. Charles Ramsdell of Hallowell.

In order to show how little dependence can be placed on Gen. Irish's word, I will state this case to you as it can be proved. A grant of half a township of land was made to the Hopkins Academy by Mass. before the separation, and in the winter of 1824---1825; leave was granted by the two Legislatures of Maine and Massachusetts, to locate on any undivided lands, Maine taking an half township as offset; the right or grant, was purchased by Mr. Ramsdell and others. In the summer succeeding, they explored the undivided lands and determined to locate on the east branch, between that, & the Sebocois Stream; owing to the absence of Mr. Coffin at the Eastward, by whom the surveyor was to be appointed, it got so late in the season, that it was necessary for the teams which were to lumber on that half township, by permit of Ramsdell & others, to go up River; they went up accordingly. Before they got there, Gen. Herrick was appointed by Mr. Coffin to survey the land. When he went

up, he found it was burnt over and the owners declined to locate there.—The teams, provisions, and men were all there. Mr. Ramsdell directed them to remain where they were, but without cutting, until they heard from him, as he would see Gen. Irish, and endeavor to purchase the burnt timber. They did so. Mr. Ramsdell came down the River, and Dr. James B. Fiske, of Bangor, a gentleman acquainted with Gen. Irish, offered to write to him about it; but before Dr. Fiske received an answer, Mr. Ramsdell in the last part of November, went to Gorham to see Gen. Irish, who told him, he alone was not authorised to sell, that he had written to Mr. Coffin at Boston, and he had no doubt Mr. Coffin would refer the whole subject to him; that he should consider it his duty to sell the burnt timber, and that Mr. Ramsdell need give himself no trouble about it. Mr. R. told him if he said so, the teams should come out of the woods; that they were now lying still waiting his determination. In reply to this, he said, I have no doubt we shall sell you the timber; I am now ready to sell, and am only waiting Mr. Coffin's answer; I have no doubt he will agree to sell; if he does, you shall have it. He concluded by telling Mr. Ramsdell that he might make himself perfectly easy, that he might go home, and no advantage would be taken of him. This last he testified to, under oath, at Bangor. We will now furnish you with a copy of a letter from Mr. Coffin to Mr. Fiske and Mr. Ramsdell.

“BOSTON, 25th Nov. 1825.

“Messrs. James B. Fiske & Charles Ramsdell,

“Gent.—I received your favour of the 20th instant yesterday. I immediately wrote Gen. Irish, furnishing him with a copy of your letter—and I have authorized him on my part, to make a contract under certain conditions; what his views may be under these circumstances, I cannot say, but I shall assent to the contract he may make with you.

“I am, with much respect,

“Your ob't. h'bl. serv't.

GEO. W. COFFIN, Land Ag't.”

And now Gentlemen, what think you of a man, a public functionary, who instead of fulfilling his promise, (for it is evident that Mr. Coffin complied on his part,) prosecutes the same Mr. Ramsdell, as a trespasser on this land; & forfeited his word of honor, pledged to an unsuspecting, and confiding citizen.—But this is not all, he testified on the trial at Bangor, that he told Mr. Ramsdell he would do all he could for him; that as he seemed anxious about his teams, he told him he might go home, and make himself perfectly easy, that he would take no advantage of him, and that the State would do no *small thing*. True the state will do no *small thing*, but Gen. Irish its Agent, will do, and has done, to this man, a very small, unjust, and cruel thing: which, if he reflects upon it, he will find difficult to reconcile with his expression in his last report, that is, “In discharging the arduous duties of the office, the Agent is happy, that he can satisfy his own conscience, that he has done all in his power, to promote the best interests of the State, and actual settler, as well as the *Honest Lumber Man*.”

I will Gentlemen in the next place, call your attention to the 1-2 township, located by Maine, as an offset to the one, granted the Hopkins Academy. This township, Gen. Irish caused to be located, at the crotch of the Mattawamkeag, being 1-2 of No. 3, 3d Range, by the late Mr. Wm. Bean of Bangor. Previ-

ous to the return of Mr. Bean to Bangor, Gen. Irish being applied to, to sell that land, replied that he was not authorised to do so. Immediately on the return of Mr. Bean he & Col. Carpenter went to Gorham, & purchased the same of Gen. Irish, for 75 cts per acre; one quarter payable in June 1827, and the rest I think in four annual payments: all the payments were without interest. Now at that time, Gen. Irish was *not* authorised to sell that land; but excused himself for selling it, and without interest too, on account of the great price, he got for it. Yet these gentlemen, immediately on their return, sold one half of the same, for \$1 50 per acre, and could have disposed of the other half at the same rate. The value of this land, for some time before, had been, as well known at Bangor, as that of any real estate in the country. If Gen. Irish did not know its value, it shews that he does give, the necessary attention to inform himself, properly to execute the duties of his office; and if he did know its value, as he ought to have done, he was guilty of a breach of trust, to the State, his employer. Mr. Bean and Col. Carpenter, were not to blame about this; they knew Gen. Irish's unfitness well enough to know, that some one would speculate out of him; and while every body was picking here a little, and there a little, it is not to be expected, that they would look on, and not take care of themselves. The fault lies solely, in the incapacity of Irish. By the precipitancy, and folly of the Land Agent in this sale, a loss accrued to the State, of 8265 dollars; besides the expense of locating. For the right to locate, might have sold at \$1 50 per acre, as that of Hopkins' Academy was; the interest on that sum, would have amounted to about 1500 dollars more, making the whole loss to the State 9765 dollars.

I will now, Gentlemen, call your attention to the last fact, I shall adduce to shew you the improper conduct and incapacity of Gen. Irish in his office. This relates to the sale of burnt timber. It is probably known to you, that in the fall of 1825, very extensive fires took place, on the upper part of the Penobscot and its branches, which destroyed large quantities of very valuable timber. That this fire arose, from setting fire, in the meadows, on the undivided lands, by order of Gen. Irish, is now scarcely doubted. By the way, it was for this valuable service, done the State, that Mr. E. Chase was paid so much, as before referred to. Early in the year 1825, notice was given by the Land Agents of the two States, in the public papers, for proposals to be brought in at Bangor, on or before 15th of June, for the purchase of the burnt timber; payments, 1-3 cash, 1-3 in six, and 1-3 in twelve months. Before that time, General Veazie, of Topsham, offered on those conditions, to give 75 cents per M. for the same. On that proposal you will perceive, that the whole amount of the burnt timber, must have been estimated, in order to get a fair result. In this way the whole would have been paid for. But before that time, in the month of May, the Agents being at Bangor, began to get tired of remaining there, altered the time for receiving the proposals, to the first of June, by merely striking out the figure 5, in the 15, leaving it to stand, June 1st, and on the 2d of June, sold to a gentleman for 52 cents per M.; to be paid, as each M. arrived at Sunkhaze; and for only so much, as he should choose to cut. This gentleman has ever since, sold to sub-contractors, for \$1.50 per M. If this is not the climax of folly, and improvidence, in a public agent, what is. By this you perceive that the State gets pay only for what this contractor chooses to cut, and only for as much as he gets safely to Sunkhaze. Now every one knows that a great many logs are lost in coming down river. Added to this, all the grass in the vicinity of the burnt lands, was given to this person without pay; he sells it at a fair price. Here again no fault was to be found with the purchaser; he was *requested* to make these proposals; he did so, and they were accepted. When Gen. Veazie came a few days afterwards,

and before the 15th, to make his offer, he was told it was all sold, and the bargain closed.

What excuse has Gen. Irish to offer for this ? Here the dead loss to the states from this sale, cannot be less than \$10,000, and very many excellent judges set it at \$20,000. If General Irish, instead of remaining at Gorham, and entrusting all his business here, to young gentlemen, Attornies at Law; hired here, attended to his business himself; he would not only have saved all their bills, but would have saved those of many other deputy agents. By being on the spot, the trespasses would have been prevented, a great expense would have been saved, and instead of all this money paid out, probably \$30,000, would have been in the treasury more than is. He is paid a salary of \$1000 for his services, he ought to devote his time to the duties of his office. To a person living on the Penobscot, it would be useless to tell how little time he spends, where his business is. He comes among us like a wandering comet, at long, though irregular intervals. Let him say, when he has been personally on the lands, excepting when he has accompanied Mr. Coffin. He does not even keep the possession of the notes and contracts belonging to the land department. I ask him to shew you, what authority he has to deposit them with deputy agents not recognized by law. Look at his accounts for 1826. In the report, for that year, he says he has secured \$2000 on logs, got by trespassers. He has nowhere accounted for it. But, Gentlemen, I confess I am sick of the subject. We ask you, Gentlemen, to appoint a committee, with power to send for persons and papers; and such a mass of improvidence, waste, and mismanagement, will be laid before you, as you little expect. Or, if you please, send your committee to Bangor, to get information. Unless you adopt one, or the other of these methods, you can never know the whole facts. The inhabitants of Penobscot do know, that Gen. Irish has misrepresented them, to you. They demand of you, an examination of General Irish's affairs, and conduct, on their own account. They ask you, to believe that some other person can speak truth, besides Gen. Irish. Have we not shown to you, are they not ready to shew to you, that he is incompetent to the task, he has assumed ? Is not the correctness of his accounts, at least, questionable ; and at any events, are you not convinced, that he is so thoroughly, and heartily disliked, by those who have any thing to do with him ; that peace and harmony cannot be restored, except by his removal ? And what great benefit is to accrue, to keeping him in ? Is there no other man, who can fill that office, but him ? Surely there are, many, very many, able, and excellent men, who can be appointed, from all parts of the State. We ask not a man from our part of the country. Were I to mention any one man as, perhaps, more particularly qualified, than any other I know of ; it would be Dr. Rose, of Thomaston. A gentleman, by education, remarkably well qualified for the office ; a practical surveyor ; a man capable of enduring great fatigue ; of inexhaustible industry, and one who would never be the tool of any man. As one of the Land Commissioners, he has had great experience.

I ask you, Gentlemen, to do what ? Calmly and seriously to investigate this man's conduct, and acts, and by the result, adjudge him.

BANGOR, January 30, 1828.

ERRATA.—In the 8th page, tenth line from the top, for "he does give," read "he does not give," &c.

(A.)

AMOUNT PAID FOR MAINE AND MASSACHUSETTS,

BY JAMES IRISH, *Land Agent.*

| | |
|--|--------|
| Royal Clark, (Sheriff of Penobscot county) For services rendered on the undivided lands in 1825, | 24 00 |
| Hill & McLaughlin, For goods expended on the undivided lands in 1825, | 49 00 |
| Charles Strong, For services render'd in 1825, on undivided lands, | 18 00 |
| E. Chase, For services render'd on the undivided lands, in 1825, | 21 00 |
| John Towle, For services rendered in 1825, on undivided lands, | 19 00 |
| Jonathan Roberts, For services render'd in 1825, on undivided lands, | 12 75 |
| E. Chase, For services render'd on the undivided lands, | 22 50 |
| Messenger Fisher, For services render'd on the undivided lands, in 1825, | 15 00 |
| John Burnham, For services rendered on the undivided lands, | 5 00 |
| Jeremiah Douglass, For services render'd on undivided lands, | 10 00 |
| John Towle, For services rendered in 1825, on undivided lands, | 5 00 |
| “ “ “ “ “ “ | 5 00 |
| Hill & McLaughlin, For goods expended on undivided lands, | 12 33 |
| Nehemiah Emery, For services render'd in 1825, on undivided lands, | 17 50 |
| Reuben Carpenter, For services rendered in 1825, on undivided lands, | 17 50 |
| Samuel Bailey, For supplies used on undivided lands, | 8 36 |
| A. Shaw, For services rendered Maine and Massachusetts, | 10 00 |
| E. Chase, For his services rendered in 1825, on undivided lands, | 166 04 |
| John Piper, For services rendered on undivided lands, in 1825, | 26 25 |
| Samuel Bailey, For provisions expended on the undivided lands, in 1825, | 7 25 |
| S. Goodall & N. Emery, For services rendered on the undivided property, | 20 00 |
| A. W. Thayer, For advertising for Maine and Massachusetts, | 75 |
| John Reed, For provisions furnished <i>M. Coffin</i> , | 9 42 |
| John Godfrey, For services rendered Maine and Massachusetts, | 73 00 |
| E. Chase, For services render'd Maine and Massachusetts | 152 22 |
| Joseph Chase, (Deputy Sheriff) For services rendered Maine and Massachusetts, | 61 02 |
| William Emerson, For goods furnished the Agents of Maine and Massachusetts, | 480 53 |
| Solomon Goodall, For services rendered Maine and Massachusetts, | 165 54 |
| Nehemiah Emery, For services rendered Maine and Mass. bills paid, &c. | 362 42 |
| A. Shaw, For services rendered Maine and Mass. as Dep. Sheriff, | 199 65 |
| John Towle, For services rendered Maine and Massachusetts, | 154 28 |
| William Bean, For services rendered Maine and Massachusetts, | 279 14 |
| Joshua Carpenter, For services rendered Maine and Mass. provisions, &c. | 277 55 |

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|---|------------|
| Joseph Chase, (Deputy Sheriff) For his services rendered Maine and Massachusetts, | 277 59 |
| N. Emery, For services rendered Maine and Massachusetts, | 15 00 |
| Samuel Cook, For services rendered Maine and Mass. | 73 00 |
| John Godfrey, (County Attorney) For services rendered Maine and Massachusetts, | 117 50 |
| N. Emery, For services rendered Maine & Mass. attending court, | 41 63 |
| S. Goodall, For services rendered Maine & Mass. attending court, | 38 63 |
| S. Bailey, For supplies furnished Maine and Mass. | 46 73 |
| Wm. Hamblin, For services rendered Maine and Mass on undivided lands, | 17 00 |
| E. Chase, For services rendered Maine and Mass. on undivided lands, | 24 35 |
| Hill & McLaughlin, For goods furnished for the survey of Fish river road, | 48 32 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$3,377 25 |
| | <hr/> |



Cr. James Irish, Esq. Land Agent,

To paid out to Sub-Agents and Sheriffs.

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Wilmot Wood, For services rendered during the year 1825, | 300 00 |
| “ services rendered Maine and Massachusetts, and cash paid out, | 203 46—503 46 |
| J. P. Rogers, For his services render'd, | 117 57 |
| John Godfrey, For his services, | 73 00 |
| “ “ “ render'd to Maine and Mass. | 117 50—190 50 |

SHERIFF AND DEPUTIES.

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Royal Clark, For services render'd on undivided lands in 1825, | 24 00 |
| Messenger Fisher, For do. do. | 15 00 |
| A. Shaw, For do. do. Maine and Mass. | 10 00 |
| Joseph Chase, For do. do. | 61 02 |
| A. Shaw, For, do. do. | 199 65 |
| Joseph Chase, For do. do. | 277 59—587 26 |
| Nehemiah Emery, For services rendered in 1825 on undivided lands, | 17 50 |
| S. Goodall and N. Emery for services rendered, charge 20 dollars, one half to each, is | 10 |
| Services rendered Maine & Massachusetts, bills paid, &c. | 362 42 |
| do. do. do. | 15 |
| do. do. do. in attending Court, | 41 63—446 55 |
| E. Chase, For services rendered on undivided lands in 1825, | 21 |
| do. do. do. do. | 22 50 |
| do. do. do. do. | 166 04 |
| his services rendered Maine and Massachusetts, | 152 22 |
| “ “ “ “ on undivided lands, | 24 35—386 11 |

| | | | | |
|---|---------|---|---|--------------|
| Solomon Goodall, For services rendered on the undivided lands, S. Goodall and N. Emery, charge is 20 dollars, one half to each, | - | - | - | 10 |
| Services rendered Maine and Massachusetts, | - | - | - | 165 54 |
| " " " in attending court, | - | - | - | 38 63—214 17 |
| John Towle, For services ren'd in 1825 on the undivided lands, | 19 | - | - | 5 |
| " " " " " " | 5 | - | - | 5 |
| " " " " " " | 3 | - | - | 50 28 |
| " " Maine and Massachusetts, | 154 28— | - | - | 236 56 |
| William Bean, For services ren'd Maine & Massachusetts, | - | - | - | 279 14 |
| Joshua Carpenter, For services ren'd Maine & Massachusetts, Provisions, &c. | - | - | - | 277 55 |
| James Starr, For his services exploring lands, | - | - | - | 179 |
| John Webber, For his services exploring lands, | - | - | - | 174 19 |
| Solomon Lombard, For exploring land and examining the state of lands on the Kennebec waters, for information of the agent, | - | - | - | 87 33 |
| Samuel Cook, For services rendered, | 127 19 | - | - | 73—200 19 |
| " " Maine & Massachusetts, | 73— | - | - | 70 |
| Henry Frost, For services rendered, | - | - | - | 54 |
| R. B. Taylor, For services assisting in exploring timber land, | - | - | - | 18 |
| Charles Strong, For services rendered in 1825 on undivided lands, | - | - | - | 12 75 |
| Jonathan Roberts, For services rendered on undivided lands in 1825, | - | - | - | 5 |
| John Burnham, For services rendered on undivided lands, | - | - | - | 10 50 |
| Jeremiah Douglass, For services rendered on undivided lands in 1825, | - | - | - | 8 |
| Dennis Libby, For services rendered, | - | - | - | 17 50 |
| Reuben Carpenter, For services rendered in 1826 on undivided lands, | - | - | - | 8 |
| Moses Larrabee, For services rendered in 1825, | - | - | - | 9 |
| Jacob Chick, For services rendered in 1825, | - | - | - | 5—14 |
| " " as auctioneer, | - | - | - | 26 25 |
| John Piper, For services rendered on undivided lands in 1825 | - | - | - | 4 52 |
| Jacob Parsons, For services rendered in 1825, | - | - | - | 31 30 |
| Moses Knapp, For services rendered and provisions, | - | - | - | 6 75 |
| Thomas Towle, For services rendered, | - | - | - | 10 |
| R. A. L. Codman, For services rendered, | - | - | - | 5 96 |
| William Johnson, For attendance at court, | - | - | - | 24 |
| N. Walker, For exploring land with Gen. Webber, his receipt mis-laid, | - | - | - | 41 25 |
| Aaron Haynes, For assisting exploring timber lands, | - | - | - | 17 |
| William Hamblin, For services rendered Maine and Massachusetts on the undivided lands, | - | - | - | 22 32 |
| Charles McLellan, For board of assistant clerk, | - | - | - | 529 66 |
| Paid sundry bills for services rendered, | - | - | - | 26 30—555 96 |
| " " " " " " | - | - | - | \$4,842 64 |

GOODS AND PROVISIONS.

| | |
|---|-------|
| Hill & McLaughlin, For goods expended on undivided lands, | 49 09 |
|---|-------|

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Hill & McLaughlin, For goods expended on undivided lands, | 12 38 |
| Samuel Bailey, For supplies used on the undivided lands, | 8 36 |
| Samuel Bailey, For provisions expended on undivided lands, in 1825, | 7 25 |
| Joseph S. Peabody, For provisions, | 4 25 |
| Hill & McLaughlin, For goods furnished Surveyor, | 1 75 |
| John Reed, For provisions furnished M. Coffin, | 9 42 |
| Wm. Emerson, For goods furnished Maine and Massachusetts, | 480 53 |
| S. Bailey, For supplies furnished Maine and Massachusetts, | 46 73 |
| Hill & McLaughlin, For goods furnished for the survey of Fish river road, | 48 32 |
| Hill & McLaughlin, For provisions expended in exploring timber land, | 53 87 |
| | <hr/> \$721 90 <hr/> |

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Cash, expended on Great Works Bridge, and road in No. 4, pursuant to resolve Jan. 23, 1826, | 418 98 |
| Cash, expended on the road through the States land in the town of Ellsworth, pursuant to resolve, | 300 00 |
| | <hr/> \$718 98 <hr/> |

SURVEYS.

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| Timothy Copp, For surveying 1825, | 74 35 |
| Gen. J. Wellington, For surveying & spotting the Indian Townships, 189 | 21 |
| | <hr/> \$257 56 <hr/> |

SMALL CHARGES.

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| J. Burton for printing, in 1824 and 1825, | 19 00 |
| Wm. Bean, For plan, | 1 50 |
| Wm. Anderson, For Batteau, | 11 25 |
| Alexander McLellan, For postage of letters, | 6 43 |
| A. W. Thayer, For advertising, | 75 |
| Postage paid at Bangor, | 13 |
| Isaac P. Haynes, For a Canoe, | 8 00 |
| Postage and stationary at Bangor, | 75 |
| do. do. do. | 1 25 |
| Stage fare for himself, Oct. 27, 1826, | 71 42 |
| | <hr/> \$120 48 <hr/> |

Paid into the Treasury, being the amount of his own salary,

| |
|------------------------|
| \$6,661 51 |
| 1,000 |
| <hr/> \$7,661 51 <hr/> |

SCHEDULE 3.

Dr. State of Maine in Account current with JAMES IRISH. Cr.

| | | | |
|---|--------------------|---|--------------------|
| Jan'y. 1, 1828. To Am't. expenses of the land department as pr his report, | \$2,777 42 | Jan'y. 1, 1827. By balance of old account of 1826, as audited by Barrett Potter, | |
| “ “ “ paid into State Treasury, | 13,437 39 | see printed report, - - | \$38,884 32 |
| “ “ “ Cash, Notes, and Contracts, on hand, in the Land Office, as pr your report, - - - | 41,482 42 | Jan'y. 1, 1828. “ amount sales Land, Timber, and Grass, up to this date, as his own report, - - - - | 27,813 04 |
| “ “ “ balance, being the am't. of property unaccounted for, - - - | 9,000 13 | | <u>\$66,697 36</u> |
| | <u>\$66,697 36</u> | Jan'y. 1, 1828. By balance, being the amount of property unaccounted for, - - | \$9,000 13 |