

Portland June 3<sup>d</sup> 1867

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Hon W<sup>m</sup> H. Stewart  
Secretary of State  
Sir

I have the honor to inform you that the Rev Leonard Wood C. C. L. C. having resigned the office of President of Bowdoin College, after a service of twenty five years, is about to visit Europe in behalf of the Maine Historical Society, to procure the Documentary History of Maine.

The Legislature of Maine at its recent session, made an appropriation in aid of the funds of the Historical Society, so as to secure the publication in a series of volumes of all the early Charters, State papers, and other information as to the early history of the State of Maine.

This information must be sought for, in the public Archives of Great Britain, France, Spain and Holland, and among the Archives of the Society at Rome, and may possibly require an examination of the records of the voyages of the Northmen, and other kindred topics.

It is desirable that Dr Woods should be accredited to

the European Governments, and to the men of Letters and Students of History in the several Countries he may have occasion to visit. And my object in writing this, is to ask of you for him, as the representative of our Government a General letter of Introduction.

Dr Woods is well known in this Country as one of its ripest Scholars, profoundly skilled in the principles of Government and of political economy, and from his Accomplished manners and thorough knowledge of the world, he will be a most worthy representative abroad of the best type of American Scholarship.

Dr Woods will sail from Boston on the 19<sup>th</sup> of June, and I most respectfully request that you will transmit to me at Portland Maine, at your early convenience such General letter of Introduction or other communication in his favor as you may be pleased to give.

I have the honor to be

Your Obedient Friend & Servant  
Signed John A. Poor