

I should add the investigations  
have been made in the Libraries and  
~~the~~ depositories of France as well  
as of England.



State of Maine.

Department of Education,

Brunswick, Dec. 16 1867

My dear Sir,

The purpose of Dr. Woods in his visit to Europe, in his capacity as agent of the Maine Historical Society, is to gain information to illustrate the early history of our State.

The special points which he has kept in view are three

1. To secure, from the public Archives, in the countries, which may visit, copies of documents, existing only in Manuscript, relative to the earliest voyages to the North-American coast, as preparatory to the special discoveries and occupation of the territory now included in the State

of Maine.

2. Documents, also in Manuscripts, relative to the actual occupation of this same territory, whether by the French or English, and its continued possession by the latter nation, commencing with the foundation of the colony at the mouth of the Kennebec, under Capt. George Popham, with the authority of the charter of James. Apr. 10. 1606, which charter was the first step in North American colonization and civilization.

3. Maps of our Coast, and of the ~~old~~ coast of the adjoining regions, made in the early part of the 16th century, and thenceforward to the Map of New England by Capt. John Smith, in 1614.

The information gained in these researches, made under the most favorable circumstances,

is very interesting and is deemed highly important.

It is intended to have the first proposed volume embrace these Maps, or a portion of them, with contemporaneous documents: and both to be elucidated by the explanation of R. H. Major, Esq., who has charge of the Map department in the British Museum in London, and is regarded as the highest authority in the matter pertaining to this department.

I enclose (asking for its return to me) an article of which the materials were furnished by Mr. J. A. Poor. This will show you what has been in part accomplished.

Truly & Respectfully  
Yours  
His Excellency  
J. L. Chamberlain  
Munroe (over)

Edward Ballou