

due from the people of Maine to those faithful magistrates, who, in no hour of pressure or of alarm, allowed, for a single moment, the honor of the State, or her material interests, to be compromised by any action of the commonwealth over whose affairs they presided. Of Enoch Lincoln, Edward Kent and John Fairfield it could be said with peculiar force and propriety, in the words of Sir Walter Scott's tribute to Fox, they

"Stood by their country's honor fast,  
And nailed her colors to the mast."

It so happened in the history of the negotiations that upon these men rather than upon any other of our Governors, fell the chief weight of responsibility, and the most imperative demands for decisive action. Nor should I pass from this grateful duty without some reference to two gentlemen upon whose patriotic and ardent interest in, and thorough and perfect knowledge of, the questions involved, in all their aspects and relations, these functionaries always and safely relied. I refer to Col. John G. Deane, of Ellsworth—who in his later years was a resident of Portland—and to the Honorable Charles S. Davis, also of this city.

On the afternoon of the 20th of September, 1875, I left Edmundston, on the St. John River, by the fine military road—constructed at great expense by the British government a quarter of a century before, and following, in the main, the route traveled by Lord Edward Fitzgerald in 1788—leading from the river St. John to the St. Lawrence. When, at two o'clock the next morning, the stage reached a point twenty-six miles south of the latter river, although it had been raining for several hours, the snow was more than a foot deep, and I was informed that three days before its depth was more than two feet; and here I said, without doubt, on this elevation, fifteen