

disregarded, and the British troops are permanently located at Madawaska, I shall feel it my duty to reiterate the request already made to the General Government, and to urge upon that Government the justice and expediency of taking military possession, on the part of the United States, of the territory in dispute. The General Government owes it to Maine, to move forward in this matter, with promptness and energy, with a sincere and even anxious desire to preserve peace, but with an equally firm determination to maintain subsisting engagements on our part, and to insist upon a full performance from the other party. But I will not permit myself to doubt, that prudent and wise councils will prevail, and that the promised termination of pending negotiations will not be retarded or prevented, by hasty and unjustifiable movements, in relation to military occupation, during the progress of the surveys and negotiations, intended for a final determination of the long vexed question.

I would again call attention to our defenceless seaboard and frontier. I need not enlarge upon the topic, for the naked facts are the strongest arguments on the subject. As guardians of Maine, it is your right and duty to set forth our situation and our claims upon the Government, that alone has the power to place us in a proper state of defence against foreign enemies, and I have no doubt you will discharge your duty.

The state and condition of the treasury appears in the report of the Treasurer, which has been laid before you. By this document it appears that the whole debt of the State, exclusive of about eleven thousand dollars of immediate claims upon the treasury, is one million six hundred and seventy-eight thousand three hundred and sixty-seven dollars and forty-four cents; and the annual interest is one hundred and two thousand and sixty-one dollars. The funded debt of the State is payable in three, five, eight, twelve, fifteen and twenty years. I concur in the suggestion of the Treasurer, that it is important that immediate measures should be taken to create a sinking fund, for the payment of the debt as it may become due. The claim of the State on the United States, for recent