

Castine Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> 1853

Dear Sir,

We received a few days since, the painting of our daughter's residence, executed by you. It affords us a twofold gratification, in being able to recognize in it, the home of a dear child, and of knowing that you still remember us. Please to accept in return our sincere and heartfelt thanks. It is indeed a beautiful picture, independent of the pleasing associations connected with it.

You are pleased to express the enjoyment you have felt in your short visits to Castine, permits me to say that it was fully reciprocated by ourselves, and that I look forward with increased interest to the next summer, when we hope again to have the pleasure of welcoming you. In this feeling, my husband most cordially unites, and wishes me to say that he trusts nothing but the allotments of Providence will prevent your again coming, and all that is in his power shall be done to make it as pleasant, as he hopes it may be useful.

He says the "General Gates" is destroyed, yet he thinks Mr. Getchell will have a better boat, but he hopes, as has been suggested, that you will be able to come down in your own Yacht.

Again, please me to express our sincere thanks for the little "Brown Cottage" -

Yours very respectfully, D L Stevens

Mrs. Joseph L. Stevens of Leicester, Me.

To  
Mr. Fitz H. Lane



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The above direction is  
the handwriting of  
Dr. Joseph L. Stevens of Leicester, Me.