Office of Light-House [illegible]

ELEVENTH DISTRICT.

Detroit, Mich., Sept. 19

Prof. Joseph Henry
Chairman L.H. Board
Washington D.C.

Sir.

I have the honor to inquire whether copies of my communication of the 16th & 18th ult. were furnished the Hon. J.D. Ward M.C. & the Hon. C.B. Darnell M.C. These communications were in reply to a communication of the 4th ult. (with the names affixed) to the Hon the Secretary of the Treasury in reference to the manner in which I conducted the sale of Light House reservations at Port Clinton & Gaylordsport Ills.

I desire this information to enable me to act in accordance with

the permission given me by the Secretary of War to exact privately from both of these gentlemen an explanation retraction

This permission reads as follows: "After the official action of the Secretary of the Treasury has been taken in the case who made the insinuations or accusations have been duly advised thereof, if they do not make immediate full reparation it is undoubtedly the right of Major Wirtz to address them upon the subject matter of it of them. It is taken for granted that Major Wirtz's communication to them would be made in a judicious manner to allow them full opportunity for withdrawal of unfounded imputations or insinuations

Very respectfully

A. Mackenzie

92 Major Engineers