Sir

On the receipt of your letter of the 1st of June last containing directions respecting the Light house in this State, I made proposals to the person employd by the State in the care of the Fort & Light house, but having reason to expect the Cession of the latter by the Legislature then in Session the Contract was delayed; On the rising of the Court finding this event had not taken place & unwilling to hasten the Contract without the knowledge of the executive authority — I applied to the President of the State, whose answer sometime after received informd me that he had laid my letter before the Council who chose to refer the Matter to the Legislature — I therefore proceed to the Contract, which having concluded on & signed I now transmit for your examination that on finding it right you will please to lay it before the President of the United States for his approbation

Inclosed also you will find the estimate on which the sum named in the Contract is founded by which it will be observed that due economy has been attended to. — I presume that the retrospection of the Contract is right as I conceive no-

To Tobias Lear Esq. U. States

Geo. Thatcher

Lr. in relation to Light house

shall commence on the 15th of August 1789. —

I have made an agreement seperate from the Contract "That no payment shall be made untill the approbation of the President shall be signified" to me, and that "if the President shall disapprove the Contract, it shall be void". — I have also, to avoid disputes taken the further precaution of lodging the ~~Contract~~ Counterpart of the Contract in other hands than the party Contracting till such approbation shall be received, which I mention for your satisfaction as a penalty is inserted in the Contract. —

I have to observe further that the advance for the support of the Lighthouse since the 15th Aug. 1789 has been by the person now Contracting & the Company who formerly furnished Supplies & whose expectation of reimbursement has been from the United States.

The inclosed Contract (being the original) I request you will please to return if approved by the President that you will note such defects as may appear in the form, or in other respects for any government in any future Contract

I have the Honor to be

Sir Your Obed.t Humble Servt.

Joseph Whipple

Hon. Alex. Hamilton