Portsmouth New Hamp^{re} Jan^{y} 30th 1793

Sir

In addition to the draughts transmitted & mentioned in my letter dated the 20th instant - I have now enclosed you herewith a draught of Piscataqua Harbour & adjacent Sea Coast copied from Barnsley charts, the principal purpose of which is to show the bearings of the Lighthouse from Sea & what degree its proposed elevation would increase its visibility, as to its extent on the Sea Coast, this draught tho' not accurate will show also the situation of several Rocks to which the affixings of buoys are recommended. -

I enclose also the Copy of a draught of the harbour on a large Scale & which having been made from surveys can be depended on for its Accuracy - To these papers I have added a Small Map of the State of New Hampshire - an improvem^{t} on Holland map which, though not perfect on the northern frontage is well done on the Sea Coast, & the Southern & Western boundary -

In the return lately made in answer to your circular quieries I confined myself probably to those queries - But I will take the liberty now to remark that the ground ceded to the United States with the Lighthouse includes a Fortification which had been supported as such, upwards of 100 years, & the establishment was considered as usefull and necefsary: - Till the Revolution a considerable military force was supported here in time of War, & it was supposed to be capable with the assistance of a small fort to resist any sea force that was apprehended might attack it. - The peace establishment was a Captain & 10 men whose Service was to keep the Fort in repair, taking care of the Guns & military stores & give afsistance to the Revenue Department, - It was an unfailing practice & in compliance with the law for all vefsels to answer at this fort in pafsing. - I do not know how a military establishment would be relished at this time by people in the State or whether it would be thought proper by the government, but it is a pity that the Fort should fall wholly to decay, if it be thought proper ever to resume the use of it - - I conceive that both the Lighthouse establishment and the revenue would be benefitted - by placing an officer at this Fort, who might have the charge of the Lighthouse, be an inspector or surveyor of the Customs and have under him a suitable number of hands to man a boat (which number might be 4 or 6) these might be drawn from the Invalid Pensioners now at half-pay if such could be found who are capable which I think not improbable, the employ of whom should be to attend the Lighthouse, Vifit Vessels & keep the Fortifications in repair.

Should it be thought proper to adopt an improvement of the kind now proposed, I would take the liberty to recommend for the officer to be appointed Mr. - - McFarland who I am informed was a brave and deserving officer of the Army & from the character that I have had of him, I think he would be an active & vigilant officer & such a one I conceive would be requisite in that Station, for though I have the Satisfaction to know there are but few in this port who are disposed to depart from an honest compliance with the Revenue

Letter dated January 30, 1793, continued.

Laws, yet I am sensible there are some who wish a disconnection between the Lighthouse (situated as it is - overlooking every movement in the harbour) from the Custom House, which would admit of more convenient opportunities for the practice of fraud.

I have considered myself as not authorized to make any alterations in the construction of the Lanthorn of the Lighthouse, or of the lamps, without directions - for that purpose, but I would now request permifsion to adopt for tryal the kind of lamps made use of in some other Lighthouses, the expense of which will not be considerable, & if successfull the same may be removed to such Lighthouse as may be hereafter built. Having heard that the Lighthouse at Nantucket was eftemed equal, or preferable to any as to construction of Lamps, I have sent for a description of them which I would wish to adopt, or such other as you may have reason to prefer.

I am, Sir, very respectfully

Y^r^ m^o^ obt J.W.

(Joseph Whipple)

TENCH COXE, ESQUIRE.