Benjamin Lincoln Esqr. Seguin July 17th 1797

Dear General

your presence in boston, is So necessary; that I am out of hopes of having the pleasure, of Seeing you, here. therefore must trouble you, ones more, with this letter, I am out of oile, and should been obliged, to let the lights be unlight, had I not hade fish oile, of my own, and used it, ever Since, the first day of July instand, and Shall, till I Receive the oil, you pleas to Sent me. by a Calculation I made of with the lamps takes every nights, it takes 12 barells, per year. and 15 ℔ of wick yearn.
Mr. Soul who tended plymouth lights 14 years told me that he was allowed me 3 pound Cotton per week to make mobs to clean the windows which I think is out of Reason, if you will allow me 3 ℔ per months I Cann do, I Cann not find any thing more, in the house, to Clean them, I used every Rage, I Could find. therefore bage, to be So obliging, as to Send me, the oile, the wiks, and the Cotton, for ote: if you dont Send the Revenue Cutter, it is best I think, to Send it immediatly, to Mr. webb, at bath, for him to Send it inmediatly by a lighter here. as also the Stove, and about 12 bushell of Coals, which if I dont use So much, Shall keep them for an other winter, and give account for it. Memorandum of what is indispensable on Seguin
the lamps to be Soderied
a well to be diged and Stoned the one General dearborn Sayt Dried
Eight Copper pot-lids the ones I made of wood being in danger to Catch fire
the lanturn to be made Snow & Rain tight.
a warf to land the oil and Secure a harbour for the vessell who brings it and for the boat of the light house Keeper
two doz.n Squares of glas 12 by 11 x pote for ote in Case of any accident Should hapen to have Some broke.
the Jarnals altered not drawing Smock, when Calm you Cann hardly See the light and when it blows fresh they are very bright the mide one of all ought to be open on one Side and turn with the wind.
the lamp I Send to boston to be Send back to me. x the pot-lids to be made by that.
a Stoves and Coals
a Sauce pann under the lamps to Receive the oile, Snuffs, Sparks, &c:
the lightning Road to be altered or elce the lightning will cut of the Cornish of the light house and perhaps fell the building a fire.
an order Son Mr. webb to pay the boat which I am in want of as much as I am of my dayly bread as also the Rigens &c: for ote I See general Dearborn again who told me positive not nor hade told him I was allowed one.
an order of Mr. webb for the 50 dolars balance due for the work I had don the people I employed for mending me for their pages. or pleas to Send it by the boat.
there is on the land I cleared about 30 oak trees which would be a pity to use for fier wood there for Should take it as a favour if the General would give me leve to dispose of to my advantag which I Shall not do for any Consideration with So ever without your Consent.

I took a family on the Island, which I did, on account, of any Sickness Should happen in my family, I Could Send a Shore, Said man, for assistance; without going my Self, and perhaps not been able in order to tend the light, and the man being a very good pilote, may Carry wessells in the River, or elsewere, which would not answer for me to do, for the Same Reason, not being able to be able, the Same night, to tend the light; I have build a house on the Shore, for Said family, Below the bridge, by the harbour. which has put me in Considerable expence, as also the work, I have done, on the Island, and Shall do yet, this fall, which will Cost me, as good as 100 dolars more, then with you was So obliging, as obtain for me, at Congress, besides Said house.

Some people on the mouth of kennebeck River, too Lazy to work, and Jalous, of Seeing the work, I have done, on Segain; and the Goodness of Said ground, turning out better then they expected, Caused out, to Several people, of my aquaintance, that they will find a way, to have me turned out, of Sequine, if possible; which almost discouragos me, to layo out any more money, of my ~~money~~ own here, for improvements, if So; that any Spiteful person Could have me turned out, when they pleas, in order to have their end answered, and have my place. therefore I trust all my Confidence, in you General, and hope you will Continue me here, as long as you find, I do my Duty, faithfully, which I Challenge any man, whom Soever, that will do more, then I do, to keep my Reputation up, as an honest man, in tending the lights &c:

I hage to be excused my being So troublesome, in Sending you, So many letters, but this I was obliged to, So as to let you know, the wants I have of the afore Said articles. I Remain

Dear General

With Respect your
most Obt Servant
John Colerick Keep

Keeper of the light
house Sequine