Paris Sept. 19th 1807.

The honble Albert Gallatin

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the rec.t of your obliging Letter of the 11.th of July last, & am much obliged to you for your condescension & politeness, in not directing the light house to be erected at Tarpaulin Cove on Naushan Island, untill you had given me an opportunity of making known my sentiments upon the subject. I ought Sir to suggest to you that the island of Naushan is appropriated to Grazing & to the rearing of horses, Cattle & Sheep, principally the latter: as the island is long & narrow, & has many landing places, it is much exposed to be robbed of its Stock: owing to this circumstance I have been obliged to erect houses, & to attach families to them unprofitably, for the sake of protecting the Stock: The same circumstance required me to build a house & connect therewith 200 Acres of land for a Tavern, for the accomodation of the Seamen belonging to Vessels which anchor in Tarpaulin Cove harbor: With all the protection of this family, the Seamen of the vessels frequently kill the Stock & steal both timber & fire wood from y.e island. I mention these circumstances, that you may consider, whether some Special agreement may not be necessary, to prevent the Keeper of the light house from keeping Tavern, or harbouring disorderly & Suspicious persons, who may kill the Stock, & commit Strip & waste upon the island: The Building of y.e Tavern cost me upwards three thousand dollars about twenty years since, & if the keeper of the light house is allowed to keep a public house the rent & value of my house will be greatly diminished, whilst the island may be plundered by persons harboured there: I have stated these facts generally to Mr Lenthrop my relation & agent at Boston, who will in my absence do every thing that the occasion of the case requires. I think however the public interest may be benefitted by employing my Tenant as a Keeper of the light house & in that case, much expence & trouble may be

ceed to the public, whilst all the land which wd be necessary, wd be so much as wd be required for a site, & that I shd be willing to give to the Govt. I think a plan of this kind may be devised so as to secure a faithful & punctual attendance of the lights, whilst the stock & improvement of my island shd not be exposed to be deranged: The light house I conceive will require to be placed upon an elevation at no great distance from my house, which will make it convenient to be attended by the Tenant; and as the advantages of it will be personal to him, so he can be laid under the same obligations to keep the light, & be subject to the same penalties in case of neglect, as any other light house Keeper. The people to whom I have generally hired the tavern, are steady & confidential, & none other will do for the situation.

As I presume, it is the intention of govt to do as little injury as possible to private property, so I wd hope, there will be no difficulty in making an arrangement something similar, to what is herein suggested for your consideration.

I conceive myself Sir already much obliged to you for your goodness in conducting this business, as you hitherto have done, and you will lay me under additional obligations for your friendly interposition, in the prevention of those regulations, which may have a direct tendency to injure y. protection & improvement of my estate.

With sentiments of high consideration & esteem, I have the honor to subscribe myself, most respectfully, Sir,

Your most ob. Servant

James Bowdoin

mas Winthrop Esqr

Boston

1801
Gen. Lincoln
July 15th