Portland June 1st 1809.

Hon.ble Henry Dearborn Esq.r

Sir — I herewith transmit to you the present situation of the Light House on Portland Point now under my care.

The Light House leads very badly which has been the case for some years past; Gen.l Lincoln had it new pointed about ten years since from the top to the bottom to prevent its leading, but it did not answer the purpose only for a short time; its being situated so near the Sea that it is continually washing in upon it & has destroyed the pointing & cracked the building considerably. Gen.l Lincoln proposed to have it Boarded on the outside in order to make it tight, which if you should conclude to have done please to write me & I will let you know what the expence will be.

The other buildings do not want much repairing; a few nails only, are wanting, the work I can do myself

The Lanthorn is Seven feet high & six feet in diameter, there is only one lamp in the Lanthorn which holds about twelve Galls. of Oil, & has twenty tubes for the wicks.

The quantity of Oil consumed yearly is about One thousand fifty gallons of Summer & Winter stock, one half each.

I calculate there is Three hundred & fifty gallons

the old Stock of Oil now on Land; the reason of which is, that I find in one year five hundred gallons of Oil more than my annual supply.

The difficulty in getting from the dwelling House to Light House is very great, by reason of the passage being very steep & rocky & in addition to this is often frozen over in the Winter season, by reason of the sea washing over it; I therefore beg your permission to build a Shed at the expense of the State from one building to the other, about Sixty feet in length, Six feet in width & seven feet high, for a passage way which I think is really necessary, & will get it done as cheap as possible.

Very respectively I am
Your Obt Servt
Sert Barzillai Delano