Treasury Department

Revenue Office, May 13. 1816.

Sir

I enclose a copy of two acts passed on the 27th of April last relative to the erection of Light Houses, and other objects connected with the security of the navigation.

1. By these acts it is contemplated to erect three new Light Houses, viz: one on Race Point, one on Point Gammon, and one on the Island, called Petite Manon, near Naraguages River.

The first step will be to obtain a cession of the jurisdiction over the necessary land for these Light Houses, and as the Legislature of Massachusetts will soon be in session you will be pleased to attend to this object. You will also be pleased to cause so much land as will be sufficient for these establishments to be laid out, to ascertain at what price the same may be purchased, and to report the same to this office. In order that no time may be lost, I will thank you to give me in the mean while

your opinion of the proper dimensions and cost of each of these Light Houses and the Keeper's houses and whatever else may be incidental, keeping in view the amount appropriated.

2. An authority is given to the Secretary of the Treasury to cause the light of Scituate Light House to be extinguished. As I am not apprised of the motives in which this provision originated, you will oblige me by obtaining and transmitting any information on the subject.

3. Seven hundred dollars are appropriated for repairing piers in the harbour of Newbury Port on the jurisdiction of their scite being ceded to the United States. It has been represented to me by Mr. Nelson, of the House of Representatives, that these piers were originally erected by individuals. As soon as the cession of the jurisdiction shall have been effected, and of the land, if this be from their situation requisite, you may consider yourself as authorised to cause these repairs to be made.

4. Four thousand dollars are appropriated for rebuilding

the Light House on Baker's Island. This, as well as the Keeper's house, are, agreeably to your favor of the 7th of December 1815, to be built of Stone, pulling down the present building. That no time may be lost, you are requested immediately to invite proposals for a Light House similar to that on Boon Island, transmitting the same to this office.

5. The proposition to build a Light House at Holme's Hole, instead of that authorised to be erected at Naushawn Island near Tarpaulin Cove not having been sanctioned by Congress, it only remains to take effectual legal means for obtaining the conveyance to the United States of the necessary land, as well as a cession of the jurisdiction, if not already obtained. As this object has been for many years pending, your particular attention is invited to it, that complete and early effect may be given to the legislative will.

6. Six hundred and ninety one dollars and ninety five cents continue appropriated (being the surplus of former appropriations) for placing buoys and beacons at or near the entrance of the harbor of Beverley. This appropriation has been kept from going to the surplus fund under the impression that the measures authorised to be taken by you may not have been fully effected. Be

pleased to advise me on this head, referring to the letter of the Secretary of the Treasury of March 14. 1818.

7. Fourteen hundred and forty three dollars 43 cents, continue appropriated to buoys at the entrance of the harbor of Edgartown. Four buoys were authorised. Accounts have been rendered and settled for three. It is presumed from your silence, that these three are considered sufficient.

I am,

very respectfully,

Your Obdt. Servt.

Tench Coxe

Commissioner of the Revenue.

Henry A. S. Dearborn Esqr.

Supt. of Light Houses &c