Salem July 29th 1816

H. A. S. Dearborn Esqr.

Dear Sir

I have been in daily appre-
-hation of paying a visit to Boston when I intended
to see you on the subject of the Pier on Bowditches
Ledge, and had in fact appointed to go this morning
but am detained by the arrival of Capt Lee
and another pair of oxen — The tides have been
such that although I have visited the ledge at
low water I have not been able to ascertain the
precise situation of the old work, but I have
seen enough to convince me that a flat stone
such as you describe may be placed on the
old stone of work, even with the surface of the
water at low tide and bolted thereto so as to be
perfectly secure. You will remember that the

~~slat~~ Stones of the old pier were bolted together with copper bolts and that the top was knocked off by the sea even with the surface at low water - on this solid foundation, which is of course below when the sea, except at low water, has any power the flat stone, with an iron or wooden Bridle should be placed

I cannot give you an estimate of the actual expense ~~as~~ until the next tides as the full as the old work is covered with kelp and much depends on the case with which that may be prepared to receive the stone The stone itself would not cost much and might be carried to the Boat with little expense Unless I hear from you to the contrary I shall wait for the low tides and send down a Contractor to examine it and report the expense

In haste yours sincerely

Stephen White

Stephen White Esqr.
Solem July 29.
1816
Rowe Ditch & Dodge

