Custom House Boston

Dec. 9. 1817.

Sir,

Messrs. Cobb & Boxton having returned from Lake Erie I informed that there were some errors in the contract that must be corrected; to wit, the foundation should be four feet thick. two electrick conductors to each Light House & the decks covered with copper as described in the advertisement. They will have the two first done, but observed that they had entered into a contract with a man for the stone for the decks & did not know how they could get off, but would write immediately to him on the subject. They had rather make the decks of iron, than a copper, but one fear that they will be obliged to adhere to their contract for the stone. The reason I substi-

tuted

stone was, because it had been found from experience that it was much better, than the way the docks had been usually constructed. The stone were to be procured from near Detroit.

In case they one not able to get the men to relinquish his contract on they proceed as they have agreed to.

With the highest respect

Your obt. Sert.

W. Gordon

Lieut. H. Smith Engr.

Canad. Dec. 18. 1817.

Boston Dec 9 1817

Pr. Of. Gl. Dearborn

Colonel Hastings will countersign
in Contract for Table Gue &c &c
issued This date by Department:

Charles Bent 20 [illegible]

Custom House Boston

FREE

Saml. H. Smith Esqr.

Comr of the Arsenal

Washington City

BOSTON
DEC
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MS