February 10d 1818 Pasquatin Canl

Sir

After yours Letter Came to Mr John Jyars
on Sanshan Island for me to Make
A Wall round the United States Land
The Line Run threw a Myre Swamp a
Place where it was impracticable to Make
A Wall I took the advise of A Number
of good farmers to know what to Do with
this Swamp place they all Advised Me
to Sink a Dich Six feet wide and as Deep
as I Could I immediatly went to work and
Dug this Dich 6 feet Wide and 4 feet Deep
Before the fall Rains Came to fill up the
Swamp and Maid the Wall as low in at Each
End of the Dich as I Could this Dich No Doubt
Was Sufishant to Turn any Cattel and was
Much More trouble to Me Then to have Maid
A Wall the Same Distance it was a Dirty
Wet Job after the Wall was Dun it Look
So well to Mr Gyers that it Maid this
Swamp place Look Like a gap in the Pens
he Not being a Judg of Pens Supposed that
the Cattel Would run in to the Dich and Climb
up on his Side the Swamp Then Wrote to you for
a Post and Rail Pens to be Maid Sens the Post has
got in to the ground by your Request I have
Maid a good Post and Rail Pens of good Oak
Timber have Dug Threw the Post and Sunk
the Posts Nine feet blow the Surfis in to
Myer I hope your honour will have the
goodness to Consider this Pens as an Entire
Peas of Work I will inclose this bill to Mr Chandler
to Present to you I am Sir your Obd Sert

Phineas Withington

To.
Salem, 22 Mr
Feby 21st
Genral A H Dearborn
Boston
Collector of the Customs