Buffalo Feby 8th 1820

Sir A petition and remonstrance no doubt has reached your department ere this relative to the Light House at this place which induces me to trouble you with the perusal of this Sir an attempt was made in the early part of last spring to dislodge me from office which failed I then produced a petition and Vouchers relative to my Conduct as Keeper from persons of the first respectability in this County which it appears the Commissioner of Revenues was satisfied with Sir during the Last season the Light House has been frequently visited by the Superintendant and I never have heard the Least hint from him of any default the Superintendant being now absent induces me to write to you on this subject I have furnished him with a Statement of Lamps and reflectors and Lenses agreeable to the order of the Circular Letter; at some seasons of the year the Light, dont appear to give General Satisfaction without an alteration with the number and form of the Lamps I think it cannot be remedied but seaman and Masters Generally except a few appear to be well satisfied I now will proceed to state to you the reason of the second petition the Collector of this port having thought

Inspector of the Customs at this place and my dwelling being directly at the mouth of Buffalo Creek where smuggling cannot pass without obstruction have induced a number of them to get me removed if possible / My situation in life prompts me to write to you on the subject my family Consisting of Seven persons an aged father and mother the father a Soldier of the Revolution and depending on me for support dear Sir the Honorable Albert H. Tracy member of the House of representatives if referred to will give an explanation generally of those persons that have signed a remonstrance against me he being directly from this place and I presume has a perfect knowledge of the Individuals generally / I am perfectly willing to have my Conduct Investigated by any person or persons and abide their decision Conscious that I have discharged my duty with fidelity and pledge myself to Confute their charges if required relative to the remonstrance

Yours respectfully

John R. Stella

Buffalo Feby 8th 1828.

Sir

I enclose 6 Vouchers
and Papers relative thereto

Treasury Department
Fifth Auditor
Washington City

Free