District & Port of Newport,
Collector's-office,
July 20th. 1826.

Sir

Having received your letter of the 10th. instant, I went to Dutch-Island the 17th. instant, and there placed William Dennis in the superintendence of the buildings now progressing, - he to receive for the service one dollar per day; that is, to be paid at the rate of $365 pr. annum.

As the keeper of Dutch-Island light-house will be the only inhabitant on the island, and consequently deprived of all the conveniences and comforts derivable from a neighbourhood, it is desirable that a building be erected for a cow-house; large enough to preserve winter-fodder, - and to serve also for sheltering hogs and poultry. Such a building, I believe, may be erected for three hundred dollars, by the persons who build the light-house; they being on the spot: and as the appropriation of $5000. will be sufficient to cover such an additional expenditure, it would be agreeable to me to be authorised

to expend that sum of $300. for the purpose stated; and should the proposal be acceptable to you, Sir, the sooner I am honored with your letter of approbation, the better will it be, because the work may be done most advantageously if done simultaneously with the other works now in progress.

Most respectfully, Sir,
Your obt. Servant
Chrit. Ellery Col.
Supt. Light. houses &c.

Stephen Pleasonton Esquire
Fifth Auditor and Acting Commissioner of the revenue

Wash. Com. Revenue. July 20. 1826.
Notice of employing Wm. Dennis to superintend the Block House at Plum Island and request to build Block House &c for $300

Christopher Ellery Esqr

Collector of Customs

District of Newport

Letters
to.