District & Port of Newport,
Collector's-Office,
October 31st 1826.

Sir,

I have reason to expect that the light-houses at Dutch Island and Warwick Neck will be completed on or about the fifteenth of next month; and fitted in season to light on the first of December next. The apology for not finishing these buildings at the time fixed in the contracts is the long and heavy rains which have fallen, and interrupted the workmen.

The contracts for building and fitting are, I believe, to be forwarded to you, Sir, but at what period is unknown to me: it seems, however, that they should remain with the superintendent till the light-houses are built and received.

It would be well, I think, to send me two copies of Lewis's general contract, one of which to be delivered to each of the

keepers

keepers to be appointed; to serve in part of their instructions. Upon the subject of their appointment perhaps it may not be improper for me respectfully to observe, that it will give general satisfaction if Mr. William Dennis be made the keeper for Dutch Island lighthouse; and that the duties will unquestionably be faithfully discharged by him, if selected; and also to observe that, with a knowledge, as I believe, of all the material circumstances bearing upon the appointment of the keeper for Warwick-neck, the selection of Mr. William Tilley for the place would be, in my opinion, the best to be made. He is a respectable man, with a worthy family, and, without doubt, would be found faithful to the trust reposed in him. These gentlemen have, I am assured, both been highly recommended to the President.

Most respectfully, Sir,
Yr. mo. ob. t. servant
Chris. R. Ellery, Col.
Sup. t Light houses.

Stephen Pleasonton Esqr.
Fifth-Auditor & Acting-Commissioner of the Revenue

32.) to

S. Pleasonton – Act. Jr. Com. Revenue

Oct. 31. 1826.

respecting time when light houses will be completed – asking for copies of Lewis's contract – time for sending contracts unknown – who to be appointed keepers of Dutch Island and Warwick Neck light houses.