Buffalo Decr 26th 1827

Hon. S. Pleasonton 5th auditor

Sir

Some time of the fore part of Last summer we Contracted to build a pier as a foundation for a Light house at the entrance of the Buffalo harbour and also to erect a light house thereon which Contract was let out on the part of the U. S. by Mr. Dorr Collector of this Port

The substance of the Contract was that the whole should be completed on or before the 15th of October last, and then the same to be paid for and not until then we accordingly commenced, and finished the pier or foundation and Commenced the house when Mr. Dorr thought proper to stop the further progress of the works stating that the foundation would or might settle during the fall blows and would at least be rendered permenant by its remaining untill Spring. we Consequently we Abandoned it on Condition that we should receive our pay so far as we had performed. Consequently we made out our Bills of expenditures which Amounted

to Something more than $4500.00 which Sum he made himself Satisfied as being Correct & proper and accordingly he informed us that he had advised you on the Subject and that he had recommended the payment to us of four thousand dollars which he Says was transmitted to you some seven or eight weeks since and also a Statement and report of Mr. Foy of this Village a gentlemen whom Mr. Doe had appointed to Superintend the work under him Shewing the dimentions the workmanship and his opinion on the Solidity of the work thus far done

Our limited means are such that it is a serious embarrassment to us to lay out of the Money that the Materials and Men are principally not paid. The accomplishment of the work at the time we took this Contract we Calculated to meet by the time and Should have done so at least so soon thereafter that it would not have made any Material difference and then of course would have received our pay and been able to have paid for Materials and Men as would have met the anticipation of all Concerned and the Stopping of the work in the manner Mentioned Cannot be Considered our fault or directions, but did and do now Consider it a prudent and discreet Management

Under these Circumstances Necessity Compells us to Solicit your attention upon this Subject and Alleviate our embarassment if Consistant with your duty and pleas inform us whether we shall be able to receive any Pay untill the Completion of the work and Should be gratified to know whether the Communication as represented by Mr. Dod has ever been received

We are very respectfully
Sir Your Hum Obt. Svt
Baker & Hemick