Collector's Office,
District of Portland and Falmouth
May 7. 1829.

Sir

I have to inform you that agreeable to your instructions, of the 17th of March last, I have purchased the Mount Desert Rock, of the States of Maine and Massachusetts, it being owned jointly by them, for which I pay ten dollars, and have taken a deed thereof. I have also purchased at Hendrick's Head, nine acres and twenty rods. Less perhaps might have done; but the Light House must be erected on the outer point, and the only place where a vessel can lay to land materials is in a cove at the upper part of the land purchased, and it is a place where about twenty five rods of fence will enclose the whole, and is already fenced, being all that Mr. Pierce, of whom I purchased, owned. There is a small dwelling house on it, which will be of little use, except for the workmen, while erecting the Light House &c; for this I pay two hundred dollars and have taken a deed of the same, which I hope will meet your approbation.

It will be unnecessary, I understand from my predecessor in office, to purchase any more land at White Head; the United

United States now owning enough to answer the purpose; and he thinks a Tower will be unnecessary. There was one erected at West Quoddy Head, but it did not answer the purpose, and they have ceased to use it, and have hung the Bell on timbers attached to the Light House. I have not visited it, and know nothing of the situation, except what I learn from Mr. Isley, my predecessor. I had to go to Hendricks Head to make that purchase, and could have notified you thereof much earlier, but having to negotiate with the two States for Mount Desert Rock, I have not been able until this moment to bring it to a close. I now wait your further instructions on this subject.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your most obedient Servant,

John Chandler Coll.

Stephen Pleasonton, Esq.
Commissioner of the Revenue,
Washington.