Collector's Office,
District of Portland and Falmouth,
Portland, May 10th 1831.

Sir:

I have contracted with Jeremiah Berry to build the Light House and Dwelling House, and to hang and put in operation the Fog Bell, at White Head, for the sum of three thousand Dollars.

I have also contracted with Ezekiel D. Demuth to build the Light House and Dwelling House at Franklin Island, for the sum of two thousand, three hundred and sixty five dollars.

I have likewise contracted with Jonathan Knight and Joseph Berry to build the Boat House and Boat Slip at Franklin Island, for the sum of four hundred dollars. All which I hope will meet your approbation:

The Keeper of the Light at Boon Island writes me that he is in want of a Boat. The old one he states is worn out and useless.

The Keeper of the Light at Hendricks' Head writes me that he is in want of a Boat; that establishment being on an Island. He also wants a well. He says he has to bring his water a quarter of a mile, except when it is wet. It is a ledge

It is a ledge where the establishment is, and a well will probably cost from $100. to $120.—

The Keeper of the Light at White Head writes me that he wants a Boat. a small one will do. Shall I be authorized to furnish the Boats and sink the well?

I have attempted, through the Representatives in the Legislature of this State from Nine Stavens, to purchase four acres of land on Brown's Head (for Island thoroughfare) for a site for the Light-House to be built there. This Head being the proper place for the Light-House. The owner does not consent to sell four acres, and a right to pass to the road, under four hundred dollars, but says he will sell six acres for the same sum, as that takes the whole of the head. I intend to go and see for myself. If it cannot be got under four hundred dollars, shall I be authorized to purchase.—

When I speak of contracting for building the Light-Houses, above mentioned, as well as Boon Island and West Quoddy Head, before contracted for, it is to be understood that the whole of them are to have new Lanterns, as the old ones are some of them too small for those important lights and are also defective.— I thought best, therefore, to furnish new ones for the four contracted to be built, collect the old ones at this place, and try to repair them, so as to make out of the four old

old ones, three which may answer for the three last important lighthouses to be built the next season. This I also hope will meet your approbation. —

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Very respectfully,
Your humble servant

John Chandler, Collector, and
Superintendent of Light Houses in the
State of Maine —

Stephen Pleasonton, Esq
Fifth Auditor of the Treasury
and Acting Commissioner
of the Revenue
Washington