State Library of Massachusetts

Boston August 24th 1846.

Sir,

The light houses on Matinicus Rock are what is termed the third magnitude. All of this class that have been built, or had new lanterns put on for six years past have been lighted with 14 or 15 inch reflectors. Such as Scituate light near Boston, Long island head, Plymouth, Plumb island, Newburyport, all which are sea lights.

I should recommend that the Matinicus light-houses be each lighted with 11 lamps, 11. 15 inch reflectors, lanterns of sufficient size to contain six lights, 16 by 24, one copper pane 12 by 16, in each octagon.

I will put into each lantern 11 cast brass lamps, fitted with patent screw caps & copper oil heaters. 11. 15 inch reflectors formed on a Die, cast iron stove & funnel. Two spare lamps. 33 spare screw caps. 33 spare inside tubes. Lamps and reflectors fitted on a sliding chandelier; for thirteen hundred fifty dollars. I will in addition make two lanterns complete in the best manner, and put them up on the towers, of a sufficient size to contain six lights 16 by 24 & one copper pane 12 by 16, in each octagon, glazed with French plate glass; the whole, including the lighting apparatus, for Twenty five hundred dollars.

In my opinion what I have named will give sufficient light, but should Mrs Anderson wish

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more light, I should recommend that two more lamps be added to each light house, which would increase the expense only one hundred seventy five dollars.

To put in the large reflectors, there must be a large lantern, that with the reflectors would increase the expense at least one thousand dollars. Should you adopt the sized lantern I have named it will be necessary to reduce the diameter of the top of the tower to nine feet six inches from out-side to outside.

Your Obt. Ser.t
Winslow Lewis

Capt. Paris.

W. Lewis. Letter

1846

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