State Library of Massachusetts

April 1st

Boston, ~~March 31st~~ 1847

~~Dear~~ Sir

I had the honor of receiving your letter of the 29th ult yesterday, In reply to which I have to inform you that I left into New-York City the monday following, the saturday that I was in your office, this was a stormy day, Tuesday was somewhat better, and I took passage for Flushing in the 4 p.m. Steam Boat ~~that~~ left for Sands Point next morning, (~~arrived at the Ferry near~~ Boat arrive there about 12 O'Clock, could not readily obtain a suitable, ~~but by the assistance of~~ but by the assistance of the Light-keeper a small one with a Boatman was procured and I was take off to "Execution Rocks" which consists of seven detached round rocks showing them selves out of water at half ~~flood~~ tide, ~~some of said rocks~~ I should think it doubtful if ~~any~~ any of those rocks are of sufficient Size ~~are more than~~ 12 to 14 feet diameter ~~of Course not enough~~ for the foundation of a Light-house, ~~The tide~~ The rain was over ~~and~~ and the wind was becoming equally as Small Boat taking in water, I ~~that~~ could not at this time make any further Examination, and direct the Boatman to land, The East winds had prevailed for some time past causing ~~the~~ but little Ebbs of the Tides, together with unfavorable appearance of the weather I therefore thought best ~~Concluded~~ to return to ~~Flus~~ Flushing that night, The wind came to the North west blowing a gale before morning ~~I then concluded that there was I to stop~~ I therefore Concluded that there would be no very favorable opportunity for getting on to said Rocks to make any further examination for some days according I that morning returned to New York from thence to this place, On my arrival here I had a conference with Mr G. Bryant, from the description I give him he thought he could by the aid of a coffer-dam & cutting off the tops of the rock make a good foundation for a Light-house, and execute the whole work in the Same appropriate (~~manner~~) but before

dissiding on its practicability he would go and examine for his self, As the tides would not be favourable for some days he waiting to make the examination at a time when there was the lowest ebb of tide which would be on the Full or change of Moon, The Steam Boats having commenced running from here to the Penobscot and Mr Bryant wishing to visit Mattinicus rock before Spring coming with workmen for completing the work there, I thought it advisable that he should do so, ~~which would not probably take more than a week~~ at the same time he would see what was wanting to be done to make a safe & convenient Land, also what his charge would be, As his return which I thought would ~~be~~ at furthest be not over a week, or on the return of the Steamer from Eastport I would then write you embracing both the subject of Execution rocks & the land at Mattinicus rock,

Mr Bryant has returned after being absent nearly a fortnight without being able to land on Mattinicus Rock, Consequently on the subject of making a good and safe landing on said rock I can't say no more than the Landing there is very dificult & dangerous, and when Mr Bryant & myself were there we thought a good landing could be made by blasting and removing some of the Rocks on the westerly part of said Mattinicus Rock, for the sum of about three hundred dollars,

I have just shewn your Letter to Mr Bryant and he is so sanguine in the belief that a Light house can be erected on Execution Rocks for the sum of twenty five thousand Dollars the appropriation that he will set off this Evening on one of the Sound Steamers to make an examination for himself, the result of which I will inform you of on his return, which will not be many days

A Plan can soon be furnished should he decide upon the undertaking,

State Library of Massachusetts

Copy of Letter wrote
to the 5th Auditor
April 1st 1847

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