Boston December 18th 1849

Sir,

Your letter of 14th inst, has been received, Although I have had to use every exertion & been to some extra expense to get the apparatess & Clock for Cape Elizabeth light ready by the time I had named, I think you have decided judiciously in not risking to take off the old lantern & put on a new one in the winter season.

You say you did not name to me what I should charge for those light-houses. If you had, I should have said what I now say. In my letter Nov 19th I stated that I could not get such a clock made & put up as I wish for Cape Elizabeth light house for less than $360.

My charge for Cape Elizabeth light; say, large revolving, sliding chandelier. 14 21 inch Reflectors. 14 cast-brass lamps fitted with patent iron air tubes & copper oil heaters. 14 heavy brass sliding bows for the lamps & reflectors. An extra large Clock. 2 spare lamps. 14 spare inside tubes. Wick trimmers & Pliers. The whole put up in the light house by competent men sent for the purpose, will be $2130.

For Portland light house, say, Sliding chandelier 13 heavy brass sliding bows. 13 cast brass lamps with patent iron air tubes & copper oil heaters. 13 - 21 inch Reflectors - 2 spare lamps - 13 spare

inside tubes. Wick trimmer & pliers, put up in the light house will be $1650.

For White head Light, say, sliding chandelier. 11 heavy brass sliding bows. 11 cast brass lamps with patent iron air tubes & copper oil heaters. 11. 21 inch Reflectors. 2 spare lamps. 11 spare inside tubes. Wick trimmer & pliers. Men sent there to put them up in the light house. $1500. All the reflectors will have 16 oz pure silver on each.

The charges are in the same ratio that the U. S. pay for other light houses. In the last few years the improvements I have made in the lighting apparatus renders it more expensive. Independent of the improvement in the light produced, I calculate those I now make will last twenty years without any expense in repairs. Those formerly made, the lamps required new burners, every three years at the cost of $3.50 each.

You ask at what time you will probably be called on for payment. Heretofore payment has been made soon as I presented a certificate to the Superintendent that the work was satisfactorily done according to agreement.

As it is probable all those three light houses will be completed early in the second quarter of next year, say, Cape Elizabeth the 1st April the other two during the month; under the

new law it will be necessary for you to put the amount of my bills for those light houses in your next quarter's estimate; otherwise payment will have to be delayed until July. In my letter Nov^r 5^th^ I recommended that the lantern for Portland light should contain in each octagon 6 lights 20 by 28. copper panes underneath 12 by 20; & that White head light house should be the same if the top of the tower will admit, if not 6 lights in each octagon 18 by 28. copper panes underneath would answer, but nothing less.

Please inform me when convenient the size of the glass you intend for Portland & White head lights. Knowing this & the number of panes in each octagon, I can calculate the chandeliers.

Respectfully,
Your Obd^t^ Serv^t^,
W. H. Hood Lieut.

Luther Jewett Esq.
Collector,
Portland.