State Library of Massachusetts

Sir

On looking over the Estimate the second time I dont see but it is Explained as well as I can now do in this early stage of the business there are many things put into the Estimate which must be the Cost of which must in a great measure be guest at, and may appear high the article Labour at the Locks, has been set at by calculating by allowing double the price per foot for laying than is Charged in this City the whole stone Have ever As prise has been accurately Calculated to be 94,614 Cub. feet @ 20 Cent = $18,822.80/100 the Labour in the 94,614 Estimate is put at $17,300, It is also disputed to set at the real at 20 18,822,80 the value of the Craft or Boats Tackle &c which will be required at the Locks, but I thought to be on the safe side and put the whole of this part of the Expenditure to the highest probable Cost, for we are not obliged to Expend the whole, and should we be favorable for working on the Locks there is no doubt in my mind, but there will be a saving of fund Should the amount of my Estimate be granted by Congress, then at the Conclusion of the work there will be many Articles for Sale, such as Boats, & Tackle & tools, which will no doubt bring from two to 3000 2 to 3,000 Dollars, In making out the Estimate I have been

State Library of Massachusetts

Sir

after
~~Having~~ making out the Plans & Estimates of the Whale back Light House
I have shewn them to several Lime Stone dealers, and some our most Expeirenced
Workmen,

Sir

It ~~Does~~ may appear to you a greater amount of Labour on the Rock
I droped you a line the morning informing you that you
might depend on the Plans & be of the Whale back Light House, and
wish to give further Explanation for your more Satisfaction but
I have had the Estimate which I then alluded to redrawn
before you receive them

I

Alley & Parris

Architect & Engineer

~~State~~
Copied with [illegible] assistance in working Plans on a [illegible]
and transferring them by meter, the original but below the Estimate
would [illegible] now be found so correctly as in new before
& made

***SLM056***
***Draft of Letter from Alexander Parris to Stephen Pleasanton***

[*written in Alexander Parris's hand*]

[*after November 20, 1838*]

Sir

On looking over the estimate the second time I don't see but it is explaned as well as I can [*crossed out:* now, well] do in the early stage of the business there are many thing put in to the estimate [*crossed out:* which must be, the Cost] of which must in a great measure be guest at, and may appear high the article Labour at the rock, has been got at [*crossed out*: by calcul] by allowing dou[b]le the price per foot for laying than is charged in this city [*crossed out: illegible*] the [*crossed out:* what stone] Hammer dressing has been [*crossed out:* allo] calculated to be 942614 [superficial] feet @ 20 cents = $18,520.80. The labour in the estimate is put at $17,300. It is also dificult to get at the [*crossed out:* val] at the value of the craft or Boats Tack[l]e, etc. which will be required at the rock, but I thought to be on the safe side and put the who[le] of this part of the expenditure to the highest [*crossed out:* possable] probable cost, [*crossed out:* for we are not obliged to expend the whole] and should [*crossed out:* we] the seasons be favorable for working on the rock there is no doubt in my mind, but there will be a su[r]plus of fund. Should the amount of my estimate be granted by Congress, [*crossed out:* then] at the concluson of the work there will be many articles for sale, such as Boats, Tackle and tools, which will no doubt bring from [*crossed out:* two to 3000] 2 to 3,000 Dollars. In making out the estimate I have con-

**[*verso*]**

consulted with person experienced in working stone on a large scale and transporting them by water, that cannot but believe the estimate herewith present [*crossed out:* is, might] will be found as correct, as is now possable to make.

[*written upside down, on same page*]

Sir

After making out the Plans and Estimates of the Whales-back Light-House I have shown them to several large stone dealers and some our most exp[erience]d workmen.

Sir

[*crossed out:* There] It may appear [*crossed out:* to you] a greater amount of Labour at the rock. I droped you a line this morning informing you that you might depend on the Plans etc. of the Whales back Light House, and wish to some further explanation for your [present?] satisfaction but I have had the estimate which I then alluded to redrawn in full you will now

Alex[ande]r Parris
Architect and Engineer