

*SLM066*

*Letter from Calvin Brown to Alexander Parris*

Navy Yard Portsmouth  
September 1<sup>st</sup> 1841

Dear Sir,

Your letter of yesterday was promptly received, and I hasten to answer it, by Charles who goes this afternoon agreeably to your request.

The rainy weather has stopped operations on the wharf wall, but the men have all been engaged in doors in paving in the Ship House. The stone cutters (of whom by the way two were engaged on Monday) are at work on the cap stones and stone posts. The Diving bells have kept on at their respective stations. The filling in of the wharf will detain its progress, notwithstanding Capt. Sloat's extreme hurry to have the walls completed. He last evening received orders to fit the Congress for sea immediately, and he is very anxious to have her along side the wharf.

I have, as far as the weather, and my various calls permitted, got along with the plans for the estimates, some of which will require your attention before they can be completed. I have been called on to make the drawings for the stowage of the Ship, and being now without the assistance of Charles, shall have to make them myself. If it would be agreeable I should like to have the assistance of some one more acquainted with drawing, etc. than George is to help me a few weeks especially in obtaining more notes of the harbour survey

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before cold weather sets in. It would be convenient to have the whole before the middle of December, in order to have the work during the winter in doors.

There is a young man of my acquaintance who is a graduate from West Point, now, I believe on furlough at Cohasset where his family live, who, I think would come for reasonable pay, or perhaps small pay for an opportunity of practice. If you think this is a proper arrangement I will work to ascertain how he is disposed.

I have got well under way in the account of York Ledge Beacon; as I have begun and continued it, it promises to be at least a lengthy document.

I hope your health will enable you soon to come down.

I am, Sir,  
Respectfully Your Ob[edien]t Serv[an]t

Calvin Brown

Capt. Alex Parris  
Boston

*[written in Alexander Parris's hand]*

C. Brown's letter  
Sept 1<sup>st</sup> 1841

*[written in another hand]*

Portsmouth Navy Yard