

*SLM142*

*Copy of Letter from Loammi Baldwin to Levi Woodbury*

Charlestown February 2, 1838

Sir,

Mr. Alexander Parris the bearer, is an Architect and wishes to be employed in building the new Custom House in Boston. His talents and judgment are without an equal in his profession. His acquaintance with the pieces of materials and those most suitable for the work in question, are of the utmost importance. He was employed by me in building the Dry Dock in this town, and in the masonry particularly his services were of great utility. His plans, which I understand he has submitted for the Custom House will shew his merit as an Architect and draughtsman, and I need add nothing more on this point.

His integrity to his employers and mode of dealing with all classes of workmen are those which I have never found in any other man, and recommend him for employment in any kind of public work like that which he is now desirous of superintending. He has recently been employed by the Navy Commissioners in building the Ropewalk in the Navy Yard here, and has given, I believe, entire satisfaction. Proofs of his ability in direction of public edifices are abundant in this neighbourhood, and from my personal acquaintance with his great merits I cannot but recommend him to your particular notice for the employment he wishes.

With great respect,  
Your obed[ien]t servant

(signed) L. Baldwin

Hon. Levi Woodbury  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington

[*verso*]

[*written in Parris's hand*]  
Copy of Letter from Col. L. Baldwin  
to L. Woodbury  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington City  
Feb[ruar]y 2<sup>nd</sup> 1838