

West Quincy June 6th 1884
To the Committee on Roads & Bridges
City of Cambridge Mass

Dear Sir

Your letter (by J. W. Duffie Esq Clerk),
is at hand and contents noted. In reply
allow me to say that upon receiving
the letter I repaired at once to the Wharf
and found as stated that the stone
that were satisfactory are only a small
portion of what is there and upon
a careful examination of the rejected
pile I am at a loss to know what it
all means for with a few exceptions
(where some of the stone may have got
broken by the throwing against others
and other causes) the unsatisfactory
pile is as good as those that are satisfactory.
This being the case I again say that
I am at a loss to know what it all
means. By my contract I am to furnish
 paving blocks of the best Quincy Granite
in all respects like sample furnished

all of which I have strictly complied with. I have bought the best blocks that are made in Quincy, and to make sure that no poor blocks be sent I have employed a very competent man to cull over every pile of blocks purchased so that no defective ones might get in with those sent; and after all this vigilance I find that only about one in four of the blocks are satisfactory, and I again ask the question What does all this mean? If it means that you made this contract with me with the claim (satisfactory to the Superintendent of Streets and Committee on Roads & Bridges) and reject stone equal in as near the sample in every respect as those you accept I shall have to send you about 2 million blocks to fill my contract, which I do not propose to do. I undertook this contract with the determination to furnish

blocks that there could be no reason-
 able objection to and have employed
 the proper persons to inspect every
 stone as above stated and have used
 every possible means to prevent any
 stone (that was not the best) being sent.
 The sample submitted is the only thing
 referred to in my contract which is
 in all respects a sample of Primey
 Paving blocks. And your Superintendent
 of Streets states 14000 blocks like
 it have been delivered, I claim
 that there are 36000 more with (few
 exceptions) ~~are~~ like it. Now I do
 not propose to be Bull-dozed to
 my distruction on this contract.
 I do not ask; neither would I expect
 any favour in the matter of selecting or
 culling the stone. Knowing as I did
 (when I accepted the contract) the disad-
 vantages & obstacles I should be liable
 to, being a new man in the matter of deal-
ings with the city of Cambridge, and as a

deviation from the extreme penalty
 of the severest terms of the Contract.
 Would be construed by older and more
 experienced Competitors as favors
 shown me and would question my honesty
 in claiming to furnish first class
 blocks. Under the existing circumsta-
 nces your Hon. Board will see how
 impossible it would be for me to
 comply with your present demand
 and deliver 160.00 satisfactory blocks
 in twenty days. When I began the
 delivery I was given to understand
 that you were ready to receive them
 and had reason to expect that any
 dissatisfaction would be manifested
 and I went to the City Hall and to
 the Wharf several times to see what
 was being done but until within a
 few days have heard nothing from
 them and now I find I have delivered
 between six and seven thousand ^{dollars} worth
 of material that you reject. Which

if proper attention could have been
 given this matter I could have saved
 all this expence. Which is of vital
 importance to me and although
 the terms of the contract leave it
 entirely with the Superintendent of
 Streets to decide as to fitness of the
 block that decision should be
 given fairly and stone should not
 be rejected that are just as near
 like the sample you hold me to
 as those that are accepted which
 any disinterested man of experience
 will say are so rejected. Now these
 rejected stone are there subject to
 the inspection of every citizen of
 Cambridge and before proceeding to
 remove them I demand an invest-
 igation in regard to quality, Trusting
 that you will be willing that I may be
 represented I am very truly Yours
 S. J. Fuller