Baltimore August 26th 1856.

Rev. Joseph Tracy

My dear Sir, I feel bold to trouble you even more so regarding the Ship patent. I have taken upon myself the responsibility of putting on a couple of very large tanks larger than some people advised nothing. I think that smaller ones would break strings to pieces. These are so large that they can never be removed from the Ship without cutting them to pieces. Now it is a great object to preserve them whole as they represent value in connection with the Ship itself. I am anxious to know what is the best material to cut them with on the inside. Many things are recommended from the various points, kerosene &c &c. It occurred to me that the Hung Chemical men or the Hung of practical Chemists in our country might be able to suggest or direct the very thing. The tanks are made of 1/4 inch boiler iron scuttled. I will build inside with stick bars two inches in side and make to string the cell beddeds & fastened thus I think then can be no rattling or motion in them. The molasses thus put on them will only have to resist the action of the water sweating it & from which of course must at times stick with much force against the cells. Will you be kind enough to consult Mr Hung in regard to this inside coating, if he thinks any thing of the kind would be desirable. Perhaps you understand me. I have trouble in letting make him understand you. So I'll not take out more paper.

Very truly yours Thomas Hall