COPY

FILE 58

Libby Island July 9, 1906.

To the Light-House Inspector,

First District.

Dear Sir:

I wish to call your attention to the fact that through the prompt and noble action at the risk of their own lives, that your two assistant keepers, Charles Kenney and Leroy Myers, were the means of saving my life and nursing me back to strength and health, during the wreck of my Schooner, the Ella G. Eells on the afternoon of July 4th, in a dense fog. We struck on the Eastern Ledges of Upper Libby Island at 3 P.M. At 6 P. M. when the fog lifted and they saw us they launched their boat and made a gallant attempt to get to the wreck, but were unable to do so owing to the awful high sea that was running, their boat being in danger of being swamped, they had to return to the western side of the Island and land there. Meanwhile the vessel broke apart, and I was washed ashore on a part of the wreckage, where I was rescued and saved by Chas. Kenney and Leroy Myers, who provided me with warm clothing and food, and gave me the comforts of their homes. All the rest of my crew were lost, and I to would have been among the missing if it wasnt for the brave effort which these two men made to save me. Too much praise can not be given these two men and their families. They are two good, heroic men, who would risk their lives to save a poor drownding sailor, and as such I would like to call your attention and observation to the

merits of these two men, as it is to them and their wives that I owe my life, and not to any effort of Capt. Small of the life saving crew of Cross Island, whom the paper states was in time to rescue me. He arrived when it was too late to render nay assistance. Had there been any life saving appliance on Libby Island all of my crew could have been easily saved. If the life saving station was on Libby Island it would be of some good to a shipwrecked man, but having it on Cross Island is about as much good as though it was up in the middle of this state, as vessels bound in to Machias for a Harbour, will naturally keep to Libby Island side where they can in clear weather be guided by the light and in thick weather by the whistle. Al whistling or bell buoy should also be placed off the eastern Libby Island Ledges. It would naturally be a great help and guide to vessels coming in the eastern channel in thick weather.

Now Dear Sir I shall conclude this letter and draw to a close. It is only to mention to you the names of my rescuers, and that they are well worthy of praise, and when the time should come of an opening for any promotion in the service I trust that you will not forget that on Libby Island, you have two assistant keepers, Chas. Kenney and Leroy Myers, who are well worthy of a higher office.

I am, Yours very truly,

Capt. Wm. J. Breen
late Master of the Wrecked

Schr. Ella G. Eells.