

64.

to the latter: all of which you will be pleased to deliver, and to admonish Mr. Ragan of the necessity of residing and being himself steadily in the house provided for the keeper.

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I have &c,
S. Pleasanton

John M^c Reynolds Esq
Supt of Lights,
Detroit, Michigan.

^{my}
Treasury Department,
Fifth Aud^t Office, Aug 17, 1848

Sir,

In an act of Congress passed on the 14th of August instant, entitled "An act making appropriations for Light Houses Light Boats, Buoys &c, and providing for the erection and establishment of the," ^{same} are the following provisions:

"Sec 2 And be it further enacted that if the 5th Auditor shall report, in any of the Cases herein provided for, that the preliminary surveys are necessary to determine the site of a proposed Light House or Light Boat, or to ascertain more fully what the public exigency demands, the Secretary of the Navy shall thereupon appoint one or more Officers of the Navy possessing the requisite skill and experience, to perform the desired service."

Sec 3 And be it further enacted that any officer so appointed shall forthwith enter upon the discharge of the duty, and after fully ascertaining the

facts, shall report first, whether the proposed facility to Navigation is the most suitable for the exigency which exists, and second, where it should be placed if the interest of Commerce demands it; third, if the thing proposed be not the most suitable, whether it is expedient to make any other kind of improvement; fourth, whether the proposed Light has any connexion with other Lights, and if so whether it cannot be so located as to subserve both the general and local wants of trade and navigation; and fifth, whether there be any, and if any, what other facts of importance touching the subject.

"Sec 4. And be it further enacted that all such reports shall, as speedily as may be, laid before the Secretary of the Treasury, and if, such as to authorize the work without further Legislation, he shall forthwith proceed with it, otherwise such report shall be laid before Congress at the next ensuing session: but in all cases where the Fifth Auditor does not report such preliminary examination as expedient, the provisions of this act shall without delay be carried into execution."

Under the provisions of the 2^d Sec I consider it expedient that one or more Navy Officers should be appointed to examine and report upon the propriety and necessity of building the Light Houses and Light Boats, for which appropriations are made at the following places viz.

In Massachusetts

For a Light House at the mouth of Parment River, in Truro, Cape Cod, three thousand five hundred Dollars.

For a Light House on

^{my} Wings Neck Buzzards Bay, thirty five hundred Dollars.

^{by} In New York

For a Light House upon the North Brother, near Hurl Gate, East River, if a title to the same can be obtained on satisfactory terms, ten thousand Dollars.

^{by} In Maryland.

For a Light House on Blackstones Island, Potomac River, three thousand five hundred Dollars.

^{by} In Virginia

For two Light Houses on Sand Shoal Island to be placed so as to guide vessels in the best and safest manner into Sand Shoal Inlet, or to be placed so as to guide vessels into Matchapungo inlet, ten thousand Dollars.

^{by} In North Carolina.

For a Beacon Light on the upper Jetty, Cape Fear River, three thousand five hundred Dollars.

For a Beacon Light on Campbells Island, same river, three thousand five hundred Dollars.

For a Beacon Light at Otters Point same river, three thousand five hundred Dollars.

^{no} For a Light Boat at the Horse Shoe, same River, between the new Inlet and Prices Creek, ten thousand dollars.

For two Beacon Lights placed in the best manner at Prices Creek, same river, six thousand Dollars.

For two Light Houses placed in the best manner upon the West Channel

of the same river and a Keepers House, on Oak Islands, nine thousand dollars.

^{sup} In Louisiana

For a Light Boat on Ship Shoal, near Demin or East Island, fifteen thousand Dollars.

^{sup} For a Light Boat in Atchafalaya Bay, as designated on the Chart drawn by Capt. ^W Foster, provided the Fifth Auditor shall deem the same necessary for the protection of Commerce after causing a full examination to be made, twelve thousand Dollars.

^{sup} In Michigan

For two Beacon Light Houses on Detroit River one near Momajudas and the other on or near Grass Island, or at such places as may be decided upon the Fifth Auditor, after a survey, seven thousand Dollars.

^{sup} In Wisconsin.

For a Light House to guide vessels through the passage from Lake Michigan to Green Bay, called Port Du Nord, three thousand five hundred dollars.

^{sup} For a Light House at Port Washington three thousand five hundred dollars.

In asking you to submit to the Secretary of the Navy the propriety of detailing one or more Navy Officers of experience for this duty, I deem it proper to mention, that I have not sufficient information of the wants of Commerce and navigation, in the neighbourhood of those contemplated Lights, to enable me to judge of the propriety of establishing them. At Cape Fear River, altho I am satisfied that some of these Lights are much wanted, yet I am not sufficiently acquainted with the locality

to decide which of them ought to be built and which dispensed with, if it should prove that any of them are unnecessary.

An examination by one or more competent Navy Officers is therefore considered necessary.

The 3^d Section defines so particularly the duty to be performed, that nothing is left for me to add other than to impress upon the examining Officers the necessity of creating each light which they may recommend as necessary.

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I have &c &c,
S. Pleasantone

Don
Robert J. Walker
Sec of the Treasury.

^{imp}
Treasury Department,
Fifth And. Office, Aug 18, 1848.

Sir,

In the Light House Bill lately passed is an appropriation of 6000 Dollars to purchase "Lenses and fit up, under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, a Light House to make trial of Mr. Sherwood's plan of discriminating one light from another, and of determining the distance of a vessel from a light, if the said Secretary shall be of opinion that the discovery merits such a trial of its value."

Should you approve of this plan, which Mr. Sherwood proposes to exhibit and explain to you, it appears to me that it will be necessary for him to proceed to the manufacture of Lenses.