

(Established in 1881.)

Appropriated by act of Congress, for
a lt-ho. on Bells Rock, in York
River, Va., - - - - - June 16, 1880, \$35,000.

1879

— *Bell Rock, York River, Virginia.*—Owing to the increase of commerce, it is necessary to construct a light to enable vessels to reach the dock at West Point, Virginia. West Point is situated on the spit of land between the Pamunky and Mattapony Rivers, and is the sea terminus of the Richmond and York River Railroad. A screw-pile lighthouse should be constructed at Bell Rock, which would show the steamers when to change their course. The cost would be \$25,000

1880

— *Bell Rock, York River, Virginia.*—At the last session of Congress an appropriation of \$35,000 was made for the erection of this lighthouse. Borings will soon be made to determine the character of structure best suited for the purpose.

1881

308. *Bell's Rock, York River, Virginia.*—The superstructure for this house was completed at the Lazaretto depot on November 26, but was used in the rebuilding of the Thimble-Shoal lighthouse. A new structure was prepared and completed in February. The iron-work, manufactured by Messrs. Paulding, Kemble & Co., of Cold Spring, N. Y., was commenced in August and completed November 15, an extension of fifteen days having been granted the contractors. The erection of the lighthouse at the site was begun on April 22, and by the end of the month the iron-work was in place and the setting up of the superstructure commenced. The latter was in position and the lens set and lighted

on May 30, in accordance with the published Notice to Mariners. The light-house is hexagonal in form and stands on iron piles in ten feet of water; it shows a fixed white light of the fourth order. A fog-bell is struck by machinery at intervals of fifteen seconds, during thick and foggy weather.

1883

311. *Bell's Rock, in York River, Virginia.*—A new column, to replace the broken one, and new tanks, to replace the old ones taken from Thimble Shoal, were made, and will soon be placed in position.

1884

316. *Bell's Rock, York River, Virginia.*—In October a new foundation column, to replace a broken one, was put in place and new water tanks were set up. In June three other columns were broken by a colliding schooner.

An. Rep.
1885 329. *Bells Rock, York River, Virginia.*—The three iron columns of the house which were broken in October, 1883, were replaced by new ones. The doors throughout the building were put in order.

1892 432. *Bells Rock, York River, Virginia.*—Early in the spring arrangements were made for putting a red sector into the fixed white light at this station. This change was made on March 10, 1892. Various repairs were made.

1899 553. *Bells Rock, York River, Virginia.*—New model fourth-order lamps were installed.

1900 577. *Bells Rock, York River, Virginia.*—A storage platform was built under the house after the old one had been removed. Various repairs were made.

From "Statement of Appropriations, &c."
 from March 4, 1789, to June 30, 1882,
 Published in 1886.

FORM 152.

General object (title of appropriation), and details and explanations.	Date of act making the appropriation.	Reference to the Stats. at Large.			Amount of annual appropriation.	Year of expenditure.	Expenditure by warrants.	Repayments.	Amount carried to the surplus fund.	Net expenditures.
		Volume.	Page.	Section.						
<i>Bell's Rock light-station.</i>	June 16, 1880	21	263	1	35,000 00	1881	30,000 00	.....	.....	30,000 00
For the erection of a light-house on Bell's Rock, in York River, Virginia.						1882	6,000 00	4,813 36	.....	1,186 64
Total					35,000 00	.....	36,000 00	4,813 36	.....	31,186 64
Balance								3,813 36		