24 Feby 1838

I, Daniel Murphy of Kennebunkport, Mariner, do depose, testify and say, that I went with Capt. Wm. M. Emery to Boon Island to get the Fishing Rocks Buoy — The buoy was cut up & a portion of it split into staves — He demanded ten dollars for the irons, but suffered Capt. Emery to take them on his paying $7-50 — I did not hear all the conversation he made with Capt. Emery respecting the buoy and irons — Capt. Emery had previously been on the Island after the buoy but did not get it — Grove swore considerably about Mr. Henick & others, but the conversation was principally directed to Capt. Emery — Capt. Emery is now at sea.

Daniel Murphy

State of Maine.

York County Ss. On this twenty fourth day of February 1838, Personally appeared the above named Daniel Murphy & made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by him subscribed

Before me

Joshua Henick Jus. Peace

Quorum Rhm

3

I George Davis of Kennebunk Port in the County of York & State of Maine aged thirty six years on oath testify & say that in August 1836 I was bound to Boston in the Sch. Moro Capt Mitchell. was becalmed off of Boon Island & went on shore there. I saw the Irons of the Fishing Rock Buoy & some pieces of the Buoy. Mr Grover, the Light Keeper, wished me to inform the Collector of Kennebunk Port that he had the Irons of Buoy & that he, the Collector, might have them whenever he should send an order for them by paying charges for picking up the Buoy. & he requested me so to inform the Collector. I informed the Deputy Collector on my return to Kennebunk Port.

I was the first one that gave the Deputy Collector the information when the Buoy was.

I thought the Buoy might have been taken up whole, but after examining the Boat Slip & considering that the Buoy would bear wholly on the Iron bars attached to the Slip I was satisfied it would be a very difficult thing to get it up. George Davis

State of Maine
York Ss. April 10th 1838

April 10th 1838.

Then the abovenamed George Davis made oath to the truth of the foregoing Statement by him subscribed before me

John Anderson Just. Peace
throughout the State of Maine.

I Daniel Murphy of Kennebunk Port in the County of York & State of Maine aged Forty six years on oath testify & say, that, a year ago last fall, I went on to Boon Island with Capt. William M. Emery of Kennebunk Port, to get the Fishing Rock Buoy.

The Buoy was cut up & part of it Split up. Mr Grover said he could not get the Buoy on to the Island without cutting it.

Capt Emery informed Mr Grover that he wished to take the Irons to Kennebunk Port, & that Mr Hurrick, the Deputy Collector, had sent him for them. Mr Grover replied that if he would pay him ten Dollars he might have the Irons & that he would not take less. Capt Emery gave him Seven Dollars & took the Irons.

He used profane Language, & said if Gen. Jackson came he should not have the Irons under ten Dollars.

Sent by E. E. Bowman Esq. Atty of E. Grover } Had Capt Emery a yourself a written order from the Collector or Deputy Collector for the Irons?

Ans. I had not & do not know whether Capt Emery had or not.

Int. by same. Was McGrover more profane in his language than Capt. Emery or more so than is common among seamen?

Ans. I do not know that he was more so than than seamen are. I do not think Capt Emery a profane man, tho' I am not much acquainted with him. McGrover swore most about the delay in bringing on a Tank for the Light House - he thought the vessel bringing it was later than she ought to be.

Int. by same. Was you treated kindly by McGrover while you was on the Island?

Ans. I was so very.

Int. by same. Did you examine the Light & Dwelling House & find them in good order?

Ans. I did so, & they were in good order. We calculated at the time that he was a good man for the Station.

Int. by S. Henrick Esq. Could not McGrover have taken up the Buoy on his Boat Slip had he been dispersed to to do?

Ans. I can not say. Daniel Murphy

J. A. April 10th

State of Maine
York ss. April 10th 1838 Then the
aforenamed Daniel Murphy made oath to
the truth of the foregoing statement by him
subscribed before me John Anderson
Just Peace thro' the State of Maine

I Stephen Ward of Kennebunk Port in the County of York & State of Maine aged twenty eight years on oath testify & say that in August 1836 I went on to Boon Island & saw the Fishing Rock Buoy on the Shore of the Island. Mr Charles Gowding was with me & he informed ~~Mr~~ Grover that the Buoy belonged to Kennebunk Port was Government property & ought not to have been cut up - at this time the Irons of the Buoy were cut off & Laying near the Stick -

Mr Grover replied that he would cut it up & every thing else that came on to the Island, even if one of Uncle Sam's Vessels, for firewood - He used strong & profane Language to express his determination to cut up the Buoy, but I do not remember the precise words & will not attempt to repeat them -

He was not abusive to us, he treated us well.

Interrogatory by E E Bourne Esq Atty of Eliphalet Grover } Did you consider the threat made by sd Grover, that he would cut up one of the U. States Vessels if it drifted on shore to be made seriously, or did you believe it to be merely a light expression, or mere talk?

Ans. I did not think much about it, & did not know whether he was in earnest or in joke -

Int. by E E Bourne Esq
Ans. by E Grant

Did not Mr Grant say the Buoy was so heavy he could not get it on shore without cutting it?

Ans. I think he said the damd thing was so heavy he could not get it onto whole.

Int. by Same. Did you not visit the Island to obtain a supply of oil for your use?

Ans. I did. I was informed & found I might be short of oil before I arrived at Boston when I was bound. & he supplied me with about three quarts & refused to receive any pay for it. It was such oil as is used in the Light Houses.

Int. by Same. Aside from his profane language did he not seem Grant appear to be a Kind man disposed of good feelings?

Ans. I saw nothing to the contrary.

Int. by Same. Did you examine the Light House & dwelling House & did they appear in good order?

Ans. I saw nothing out of the way. I was in the buildings but paid no particular attention to them.

Sent by same. Is Israel Credeford of Kennebunk Port an applicant for the appointment of Keeper of Boon Island Light, & is he recommended for such appointment & is he your Brother in Law?

Ans. He is. & is so recommended. & he is my Brother in Law.

Stephen Ward

April 10th 1838.

State of Maine

York Ss. May 10th 1838. Then the abovenamed Stephen Ward made oath to the truth of the foregoing Statement by him subscribed before me

John Anderson Just Peace
thro' the State of Maine

I Charles Goodwin of Kennebunk Port in the County of York & State of Maine aged thirty four years on oath testify & say. That in August, or first of September, 1836 I was in the Schooner Uncle, as a passenger, bound to Boston, of which Vessel Stubbern Ward was Master. We were becalmed off of Boon Island & I went on there, at the Light House, with Capt Ward & two other passengers. On Landing I saw the Fishing Rock Buoy laying there cut in two. I asked Capt Grover, the Light Keeper, if the Buoy drifted on there. He replied no. that it was picked up & brought in there. I told him it was a pity it was cut, as it was very difficult to get such a stick. He replied he could not get it on shore without cutting it. & that if one of Uncle Sam's Ships should come on there there he would cut her up if in want of wood.

Mr Grover was polite to us. There is about the Island & Light House all appeared in good order

Chas. Goodwin

State of Maine
York ss. April 10th 1838 Then the above named Chas Goodwin made oath to the truth of the foregoing Statement by him subscribed before me

John Anderson Just. Peace

I Joel Norwell of York in the County of York & State of Maine aged twenty seven years on oath testify & say that in July 1836, or near that time, I was in a Boat with Samuel Grover after Mackerel, & about 7 o'clock in the morning we discovered a Stick of wood ment to it & took it in to the Boat Slip on Boon Island, we were about half a mile from the Island when we first saw the Stick, & were about three miles from the Island when we took it in tow. When we got it to the Slip I did not know what it was, the top only being out of water. It was so heavy we could not get it up, & we cut it in two & got it out a part at a time. It took us untill 11 o'clock to get the Stick to the Slip. I can not tell how long it took to get the Stick out, but think we did not finish untill 4 o'clock P.M. Before we cut the Buoy we tried to throw it out by the capstan of the Boat Slip & had the whole family out to assist. McGrover, the old man said he could not think what the damd thing could be while we were trying to get it out.

Sent by E.E. Bourne Esq. Attys to E. Grover

At what time did McGrover, the Light Keeper, say what he thought the Stick was?

Ans. After we got it up, the whole of it, he said it was a Buoy.

Sent by same. Before you left the Island what did you say to Mr Grover relative to your pay for pickering up the Buoy?

Ans. I told him we had worked hard enough to have ten or fifteen dollars for pickering up the stick & not to let the Irons go to any one unless that sum was paid.

Sent by same. Have you had your pay.

Ans. I have had three & a half dollars paid me by Mr Grover soon after Mr Grover got his pay.

Sent by same. Have you been treated kindly by Mr Grover when you have been on the Island?

Ans. I have been there frequently & was always treated well.

Sent by Sattonick Esq. Did you ever hear that charges have been made against Mr Grover from Portsmouth?

Ans. No. I do not recollect as I ever did.

Jeel Newell

State of Maine

April 10th 1838 York ss. April 10th 1838 Then the abovenamed Joel Newell made oath to the truth of the foregoing statement by him subscribed before me

John Anderson Prob. Dean

Thro' the State of Maine

I Samuel Grover of Boon Island son of Elijahalet Grover Keeper of Boon Island Light aged Seventeen years on oath testify & say. In the summer of 1836 I was in a Boat with Joel Howell fishing about half a mile from Boon Island. At about 7 o'clock A.M. we discovered a stick afloat & went for it & came up with it about three miles East of the Island. We took it in the the Boat Slip on the Island & neither of us knew what it was. It was so heavy we could not get it out, though we have with all the strength of the family on the Island at the Capstan of the Boat Slip but could not get it out.

Joel Howell & myself then cut it in two & we got ~~it~~ the parts out. When we got it out it was discovered to be a Buoy. We were about four hours in getting this stick to the Slip. There were two men, besides all the family residing on the Island, assisting to get this Buoy out. I have received from my father three & a half dollars for picking up this Buoy.

Samuel Grover

State of Maine
York Ss April 10th 1838. Then the above named Samuel Grover made oath to the truth of the foregoing statement by him subscribed before me

John Anderson Just Peace throughout the State of Maine

April 10th 1st

I Solomon Brooks of York in the County of York & State of Maine Esqr. aged Fifty four years on oath testify & say. that I have been acquainted with Elizabeth Graves for thirty years. have often been on Boon Island since he has been Keeper of the Light House established there. & have ever found him an honest upright man. & have ever been well treated by him - excepting his unjustifiable suspicions. I mean by this he is rough & his language not much polished.

I believe him to be a temperate man..

Solomon Brooks

State of Maine
York ss. April 10th 1838. Then the above named Solomon Brooks subscribed & made oath to the truth of the foregoing statement before me John Anderson

Justice of the Peace for the State of Maine

I Daniel Nason Junior of Kennebunk in the County of York & State of Maine aged thirty four years on oath testify & say - that on the 2d day of September 1829. I was driven on shore at Boon Island in a Boat. Daniel Merrill being with me - we had been exposed to the cold & sea & were entirely exhausted. Mr Grover & his family rendered us every assistance in their power, got us out of the Boat, saved our Boat & entertained us three days. He supplied me with clothes and when we left refused to receive any pay, though I had means to pay him & urged his receiving pay - At the same time two other old men got one shore there & were treated as kindly as we were - I do not think these last named men would have lived two hours longer had they not received the aid of Mr Grover - & he declined receiving any pay from them - One of these last named men when he revived a little asked for Rum - Mr Grover replied that he had none & never kept any on the Island - I felt loft Grovers kindness entitled to my public thanks & published a card in the Kennebunk Gazette at the

time expressing my gratitude for his kindness.

Daniel Nason Jr

April 10th 1st. State of Maine

York Ss. April 10th 1838

Then the above named Daniel Nason Jr made oath to the truth of the foregoing statement by him subscribed before me

John Anderson Justice Peace

Thro' the State of Maine

I Francis Norwood of York in the County of York and State of Maine, aged thirty two years, testify and say that in the summer of the year 1836 I was on Boon Island & while there Capt Ward, of the schooner, Nile, came on shore and wanted to buy oil of Capt Diphalet Grover, keeper of Boon Island light, & Ward told said Grover that he had forgotten to take any oil with him & that he had been out all night without any lights on board, said Grover told Mary Ann Lowder to give him some & she took from him a small stone jug, which I should not suppose from its size that it could hold more than a quart and she said she did not fill it full.

his
Francis ✕ Norwood
mark

York ss, State of Maine April 23 1838

Then personally appeared the above named Francis Norwood and made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by him subscribed.

Before me Solomon Brookes Justice of the Peace for the County of York & State of Maine

To the Honorable Levi Woodbury, Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir,

The undersigned, citizens of the town of York, County of York, and State of Maine, beg leave, respectfully to recommend to Your Honor, Mr. Samuel Grover of York, son of Captain Ephraim Grover late Keeper of the Light-house on Boon Island, as a person admirably well qualified to fill any "proper vacancy" of Keeper of any light house, which may occur.

Mr. Grover has been reared up in that employment from his infancy, excepting that portion of time which has been occupied in obtaining a decent School education on the Maine, which portion of time has been improved to good advantage. His studious habits, industry and amiable conduct while on shore in getting an education, has recommended him to the best Society, in which he is greatly respected.

He is a young man of temperate habits, is industrious, sober, discreet and honest — and being well acquainted with all the duties requisite of a keeper of Light-houses (having received

his instruction from one well versed in that employment, and who has faithfully and ably performed the service for more than twenty two years.)

We therefore most cheerfully recommend Mr. Grover to the consideration of your Honor, as a person of superior qualifications for such an employment.

York June 4. 1839.

Alex. McIntire

Mark Dennett

Solomon Brooks

Jeremiah Brooks

Alex. Dennett

To the Honorable Levi Woodbury Secretary of the Treasury

Sir,

The undersigned, citizens of the town of York, County of York and State of Maine, beg leave respectfully to state to your Honor, that in our opinions, Captain Elisha Piet Graves, late keeper of the light house on Boon Island, is as well qualified to perform the service of Keeper of any light-house where a keeper may be required as any other person who can be named. He has been employed in that service for a long period, and has been we confidently believe, competent to the task, and faithful in the performance of his duty. We have ever considered him an honest, trusty and faithful public servant, and have no knowledge or belief that he has ever forfeited the reputation he has acquired as such. He is still as capable of performing the duties required of a Light house Keeper as ever, and we do most cheerfully recommend him to your Honor for that employment, when

ever any "proper vacancy" of keeper of any light-house may occur.

York June 4 1839.

Alex. McIntire

Mark Dennett

Solomon Brooks

Jeremiah Brooks

Alex. Dennett

29 July 1839

E. Grover
for a Light.

G. 17 Aug 6
Ingersoll

York Cty July 29th 1839

Esq Woodbury

Sir: I have just received a letter from Esq Anderson informing me of the generosity of the Department of giving me one Hundred & fifty dollars for Betterments made on Boon Island While I was Keeper of the Light House on said Island and I send you my Sincere thanks and I entreat of you to appoint my Son (Samuel Grow) Keeper of Same Light the first chance there is I am Satisfied that you would not have removed me if you had not been deceived there will be a Petition sent on to the Department for a Harbour light here and if the Department Should grant it I wish you to let me be the Keeper of it I have informed you that I have almost lost the use of my hand and my wife has been Stupified for Seven years and by being removed from Boon Island it has made me almost a beggar have pity on me I entreat of you and appoint me Keeper of Same Light House by So doing you will confer on your Servant a great favor —

From your Humble Servt Elisha Grow

To Esq Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington City

14 Feb 1840

E. Grover
for Lt. Ho
Boon Island
14 Feb 1840

FREE

FEB 14

Hon^d Levi Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington City
D.C.

York Feb 14th 1840

Esq Woodbury

Sir, the Keeper of Boon Island Light told me the last time he was on Shore that he should not stay there much longer and should he leave I Entreat of you to replace me back again as I was removed without any reason I boldly say you never will get any one to Stay there so long as I have while there is a light Kept there if you will not replace me Back I Intreat of you and Pray God to put it into your heart to appoint my Son Keeper of Boon, Island Light or Some other Light so that I can go with him it is the wish of all the Superintendents and Contractors that I have served under that I Should be replaced to my old Situation and I am confident if you knew the Condition of my Family and truth about me you would replace me or appoint or my Son there or Somewhere or other I Pray God to Incline your heart to replace me or my Son. Send me some Encouragement is the Earnest Prayer of Your humble Servant

Eliphalet Grover

Former Keeper of Boon Island Light

To Esq Woodbury
Secretary of the Treasury

usual reply

24 Jun 1840

E. Grover
of York Me

Ans^d 27 June 40,

G. No 233 June 27
Ingersoll
~~Rodman~~

York June 24 1840

Esqr Woodbury Sir the Nuse has came heare this Morning that the Keeper of Boongsland light is apointed Colector of this place and the present Colector is apointed Keeper of Boongsland Light you informd me in febuary Last if the Keeper Was Removd that I Should Bee replast and now as there is another Keeper apointed I in heat of you to Befriend me and give me the Debety Colectors Birth I hope and trust you Will grant me this Request I Send No Recomendation as I think that I am well Knone in Washington or ort to Bee if you Request a Recomendation in form me and I will Send one on

from your humble Servant
Eliphalet Grover
former keeper of Boongsland
Light house

Honard Levy Woodbury
Seietary of the
treasuary
Washington
Citty

Adjs. Apt —
The late Keeper
was not removed for any misconduct —
~~resigned in consequence of~~
but resigned — & the Deputy Col.
is ~~appointed~~ nominated by him at Call
& you had thought better
apply to him — &c

E. Grover
for Lt. Ho.

FREE.

YORK
JULY 23
MAINE

file

Levi Woodbury Esq
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington City

G. No. 14 July 27
Ingersoll ~~Ingersoll~~

22 July 1840

York July 22nd 1840

Esq Woodbury

Sir I now inform you that the removal of the Boon Island Keeper to the Collectors berth and the Collector to be Keeper of said Light has set the State of Maine, New-Hampshire & Massachusetts all in an uproar and the Parts of the People in each state are crying out Grover you must go back to Boon Island and if you would replace me back there again you would put a stop to a great deal of confusion I was removed without cause and I pray god to put it into your heart to place me there again all the People are determined that Mark Dennett Esq shall not stay there and if he should be removed I intreat of you to replace me there again every Superintendent and all the Contractors I have served under will sign a Petition for me and three fourths of the People for me to be replaced back there again and I beg and intreat of you to Replace me back again

From your humble Servant

Elipahalet Grover

Former Keeper of said Light

7 Dec 1840

E. Grover –

former Keeper of

Boon Island

Lt. Ho.

53

09

31

09

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09

35

G. 100 Dec 12

Ingnold

York December 7 1840

Esqr Woodbury Sir you Removed me from Boonysland the 10 of may 1839 and I now wish you to have the Goodness to Let me Know for what Cause you Removed me if there was any Complaint Handed you against me it must Be a Rong one for I allwas gave Satisfaction to my Employers and the Community at Large During the time I was on the Island and a part of the People tell me Ever Since I was Removed I must go Back again Esqr Anderson Every time I See him tells me I must Be Replaced he Says there has Been No Keeper Since I was Removed it is the Desire of all the People for me to Petition or to Congress to Be Replaced which I Shall and I hope you Will assist me Esqr Anderson was here in york about 3 Week ago and took one petition to Portland to git Signers for me if there Had Been any just Cause for my Removal I Should never asked to Be Replaced again I understand you are to Remain in Congres and I hope the Lord will put it in to your Heart to have me Replaced Back again Excuse my poor way of Riteing and Send me my Request

From your humble Servant

Elisabeth Grover

Former Keeper of Boonysland Light House

20 Jan 1841

Elephalet Grover
20 January 1841

Soliciting to be restored to the Light House at Boon Island, Maine, of which he was Keeper some years ago. I do not know on what ground he was removed and another appointed by Mr Woodbury. I had received no complaint of him as Keeper of the Light.

Respectfully referred to the Secretary of the Treasury

S. Pleasonton
Act. 10 1841.

Stephen Pleasonton Esq
Fifth Auditor and acting
Commissioner of the Revenue
Washington City

York Me Jan 20th 1841

Esq Pleasanton

Sir I now address You as 5th Auditor But I am in hopes the next time I write to You it will be to the Secretary of the Treasury I now Inform You that I was removed by Gen Woodbury from Boon Island on the 10th of May 1839 without any Cause to put a Keeper there that did not know a Light-House from a Meeting House he was one of Gen Woodburys Men and the Present Keeper Expects to be removed Soon and I Pray that You will Befriend me and have me replaced back again to the Island Capt Winslow Lewis and a number of others Will write on to the Department for me to be replaced and likewise I shall send on a Petition Signed by a large number of People to have me replaced I think it Probable there will be a number of Applications for the Birth but I Pray the Lord to put it into the hearts of all the Department to replace me back again it is the wish of most part of the People that I Should go back to the Island again the Superintendent tell me Every time I see him that I must go back again, I see Capt Lewis in Boston last July and he told me he had talked with You but at that time before Concerning my being removed from the Island without Cause If I had done any thing or neglected my duty I should be afraid to Ask You this favor. the Superintendent of Portland and Capt Lewis of Boston and others have promised to write to the Department for me. York is a Small Place but there is no less than Six Contending among themselves which shall be Collector and as many more for the Post-Office

and all those are People that do not Stand in need of any Office I hope if there is a Change of Officers that they will be given to those that Stand in Need and not to those that are Rich Pray dont forget Me Esq - Pleasanton I have a Large Family and my Wife has not done any thing for 9 Years and I have a Poor old Mother 84 Years old to take care of and if you succeed in having me replaced I Pray God to reward You. have the Goodness when You receive this to Inform me when I must send on my Petition by so doing You will Confer on me an Everlasting favor, and in duty I Shall Ever Pray.

From Your humble Servant
Eliphalet Grover
York Me

To Stephen Pleasanton Esq
Fifth Auditor and acting Commissioner
of the Revenue Washington City

14 Feb 1811

Capt. Silas Walden Letter

to

Elizabeth Brown

Feb 14th 1811

Portland Feby 14th 1844

Sir

In answer to Yours requesting my opinion in relation to the manner of your Keeping Boon island light house, I would cheerfully state that I have as commander of a Public vessel, had occasion to visit and inspect the Light on Boon island while You were Keeper, & that I ever found said establishment in fine order, faithfully tended, and the intentions of Government well served. It would please me to have You re-appointed as Keeper, feeling certain as I do that You are capable, from experience & practice of Keeping said establishing in as good order and better than one inexperienced

With Respect
Your Obedient Servant
Green Walden Capt
U.S. Rev Service

Mr Elphalet Grover
York Me.

6 March 1841

Wenslow Lewis

Boston, March 6 1841

Enclosing two memorials requesting the restoration of Eliphalet Grover as Keeper of Boon Island Light House, and of Capt John Grozer to the Light House at Truro (Cape Cod)

I am not aware of the reasons which influenced the late Secretary of the Treasury in removing the above persons from office. They will doubtless be found on the files of the Department.

Respectfully referred to the Secretary of the Treasury by his Obt Servt.

S. Pleasonton

March 11. 1841.

N. Hampshire

Boston March 6th 1841.

Sir,

The enclosed papers have been sent to me, with the request, that I would enclose them to you, with such remarks as I might make on the purport of them.

I have no knowledge of any circumstance relating to the removal, of Mr Grover the Keeper of Boon island Light house, from 1812 to 1827 I visited that Light, every year except two, during that period, he was one of our best keepers & did his duty faithfully — since which I know nothing of his Conduct, but never heard of any Complaint of his Light.

The removal of Capt Grozer, the late keeper of Truro Light house, I believe to have been, not from any Complaint whatever that he did not keep good Light — but from a partisan family on Cape Cod, who had sufficient influence to effect his removal & get one of their own family appointed. Capt Grozer had kept the Light for 15 years, no Complaint was ever made by Navigators, as to the Light, from my frequent visits to that Light house, during that time, I have every reason to believe the Light has been well attended, the enclosed petition is signed by 78 Packet Masters — each of whom, must have passed Truro Light house not less than 24 times every year. Capt Grozer is now 55 years old, his removal was a hard case, unless, there was some neglect of duty substantiated. — As I do not intend to trouble your Department again, with any Communications from

13 March 1841

1841

Eliphalet Grover, former Keeper of Light House on Boon Island, Me. asking to be reinstated, and makes out a pretty good plea.

1841

York March 13 1841

Esqr Ewing Sir By the advise of Capt Winslow Lewis of Boston I now inform you that I was turnd of of Boon Island May 10 1839 By Esqr Woodbury to make rume for a loco farmer without any Other Cause then my Beeing on the Other Side and after Beeing on the Island So long I Should much Reather a Been Shot there then to Been turnd of if there hed Been ay any Cause I Should not Bland him there has Been two Keepers Sence my Removeal and Every time I See the Superintender he tells me I must go Back again for he Sais there has Been nobody to take any Care Sence I was turnd of he has promast to Rite to the Department for me to Bee Replast again and Bothe of our Reveneu Captens have promast the Same and many Others have made me the Same promases Capt Winslow Lewis told me he hed no Doubt But I and the Keeper on Cape Cod would Bee Replast again and I pray the Lord to put it in to your hart to Replace me Back again if my Conduct while Keeper of the light on Boonysland Could Bee made Knone to you as I hope it will By Capt Winslo Lewis of Boston and many Others I have Reason to believe you would Replace me I think By What Capt Lewis told me Esqr pleasenton will Bee in favour of my Beeing Replast and Esqr pares of Boston I know that George Molton has Been to washington to try to git the Birth and I now inform you that he has a good farm and Owns a grist mill and part of 2 or 3 Cousten Vessels and Such a man ort not to have the Birth it ort in my Opinion to Bee given to poor Seafaring men and I am one if there is one in the States I have a poor mother 84 years old to take Care of and my Wife has not Done any thing for 10 years I pray god to put it in to your hart to Replace me Back on to Boonysland again By So Dewing you will

Continued to Next

in this World and the World to Come
you will think Strange of my Nomeing
george Molton But he is a near Nobour to me
and what I have Said Conserning his property
is Correce Esqr Ewing have pitty on me and grant
my Request I intreat the Sallary of Boongsland
is 600 Dollars and makes all mad after it But
Should you See fit to Replace me I Should Reather
have the a light house on a Cape or hed land for 350
which I am told is the Stated Sallarys Dont under
Stand me that I want you to give me my Choise
I have only Been Stating the Diference of Salares
Boongsland is the the moste Dangeres light to Lend
that is on our Northern Coast and if you think I am
Rong in Saying So Enquire of Capt Jonathan
howlen of New Bedford he has Been for 12 or 15
years in the Employ of the Contractors Supplying
all the light have pitty on me I pray and heare
my Request and grant it I intreat

From your Ever faithfull and
humble Servant

Eliphalet Grover
former Keeper of Boongsland
Light house

To Thomas Ewing Esqr
Secetary of the
treasury Washington
City

Capt Caleb Cummin
to
Elephalet Grover
Marshrgt /41.

29 March
1841

Portsmouth March 29 1841

Sir

You ask me to say what was the condition of the Light at Boon Island, while you was it keeper. I would answer, that from the year 1830. to the time that you left. I was a frequent visiter at the Island. to Inspect the light, and carry supplies, and that I always found the light clean, and in good order, and one of the best lights we have within the limits of our cruising.

Yours Respectfully

Caleb Currier

Capt U.S. Rev Service

Mr Ebphalet Grover

York Me

York March 31. 41.

N. Cummings. Esq

My dear Sir.

I hereby introduce to you Capt. Elisha Grover of York, who is desirous of obtaining the Office of Keeper of Boone Island Light. Capt. G. has kept said Light about 23 years & was removed in 1839. I never heard any Complaint against him, but that he was faithful in the discharge, of all the duties pertaining to his Office.

Yrs very truly

Ch. O. Emerson

3 Apr 1841

Elephant Grovers Application
for
Moon Island Light
House.

York April 3 1841

Esqr Commens Sir at my Return home yesterday
I am informd that that the Keeper of Boonysland
Light is a going to Resine and I intreat of you
to Rite on to the Department for me as Sune
as you Receive this to Be Releast By So Doeing
you will Confur on me a great favour
Esqr Commens I Beg and intreat of you to Befriend
me and Rite on

From your Humble Seriant
Elisphalet Grover
Forner Keeper of
Boonysland Light house

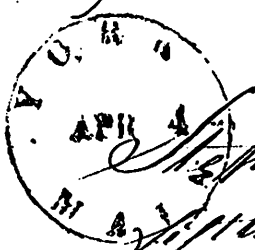
To Nattan Commens Esqr
Superintender of Light
houses in the State of
Maine

Elphalet Grover
Apl 3 1841

Application to be restored to the Boon Island Light House. I am unacquainted with the causes of his removal.

Respectfully referred to the Secretary of the Treasury.

S. Pleasonton
8 Apl 41.



Stephen Pleasonton Esquire
1st Auditor and Acting
Commissioner of the Revenue
Washington City

Maine

3 Apr 1841

York April 3 1841

Esqr Pleasenton Sir I See Capt Winslow Lewis of Boston a few Days Sence and he told me that he hed Sent on my potition and likewise he hed Rote to the Department for me to Bee Replast as Keeper of Boonysland Light house I hope and trust you will have pitty on me and Replace me Back again I Was Remove without any Cause I know that there is a number after it But they know nothing a Bout the place and as I have Been there So long Every one Says that I ort to bee Replast Except those that want the Birth it is the most Dangerous Light to tend on our Courst I am Veary poore and a large famely and I pray the Lord to put it in to your hurt to Replace me a gain Esqr pleasenton hear my potition and grant it I in treat of you Send me some incouragement

To Stephen Pleasenton Esqr
fifth Odeter and acting
Commissioner of the
Revenu Washington
City

Firom your humble Servant
Eliphalet Grover
former Keeper of Boonysland
Light house

Kennebunkport February 24th 1838

Sir

I feel it my duty I owe the Treasury Department at Washington to report the character and conduct of Eliphalet Grover Keeper of the Light at Boon Island. I do it however with some reluctance and perhaps might altogether refrain from it were complaints of him less general, or his general deportment and character less reprehensible.

Some time since a valuable cedar buoy placed at the Fishing Rocks at the entrance of this harbour broke from its moorings and drifted on to Boon Island, and having been directed by the Superintendent of Lights at Portland to replace the buoy, I made exertions to find it — Capt. Stephen Ward of the Packet Sch. Grape of this place being on the Island notified Grover that the buoy he had ashore belonged to the United States and must not be destroyed, and as is the usual fate of those that visit the Island he was at once assailed with a volley of vulgarity & abusive oaths seldom equalled any where else — He gave Capt. Ward however to understand that the buoy would or should be cut up and if I wanted the irons I might have them for $10 about the value of new ones.

The buoy had been procured from the interior at great labour and expense, and as its eye

could not be found in this quarter I felt anxious to get it and sent Capt. Wm. M. Emery to the Island to obtain it, and as Mr. Grover might have been at the trouble of moving it to the Island directed Capt. Emery to pay a fair and even generous compensation for any services of this sort, but the buoy was refused him on any conditions, and the same abusive language applied to him as to Capt. Wood, repeated with additions not only of myself but of the Collector – the President of the U. States – the Secretary of the Treasury – the Superintendent of Lights &c &c – and challenged the whole to get it from him and swore that it should be cut up, once that any thing else he could get hold of belonging to the United States, should share the same fate.

Unwilling to give it up I soon after sent Capts Emery & D. Murphy to the Island and directed them to state to Mr. Grover the difficulty of procuring a cedar buoy of equal value and directed them to say that I would furnish him with three sticks of pine as large in order to obtain it – but on arrival at the Island the buoy had been cut and partly worked up for a market – Emery and Murphy were allowed to take the irons on paying $7-50 and reported from Grover that if I did not send him $250 more he would raise h – ll with me."

I state the facts as they were reported to me

me, and should accompany this with the deposition of Capt. Emery were it not that he is now at sea — The deposition of Capt. Ward is enclosed — I have no doubt of the truth of their reports. Confirmation if confirmation were needed is found in the general character of the man — Mr. Grover has been a long time upon the Island is said to have found ways and means to make himself rich, has grown insolent and become exceedingly abusive

I have the honor to be

your Obt Servt

Joshua Henick Dy Collector of the district of Kennebunk

Hon. Levi Woodbury
Secy of the Treasury
Washington

I Stephen Ward Master Mariner, do depose, testify and say that in August, 1836, I went on to Boon Island and saw the Fishing Rock Buoy as thrown up on the shore - I informed Mr. Grover the Keeper of the Light, that it was the property of the United States and must not be injured - He swore that the United States nor any body else should have it - He said something to the Collector which I do not now recollect so as to repeat distinctly - At any rate he said no body should have the buoy, and if any of the United States vessels were to come on shore there he would cut them up as he was determined to do with the buoy - He made many oaths on the occasion, and his language was exceedingly gross, vulgar and abusive - I did not then suspect him of having drank too freely of liquor, but from what I have since heard of him suppose it might have been the case. I do not know the age of Mr. Grover, nor can I tell the precise time he has been on the Island, but understand it to be nearly thirty years, and should judge from his appearance that he is between sixty-five and seventy years of age

Stephen Ward