'26 JUL 14 AM10:14:36

REFERENCE SERVICE SLIP
Archival Research Room Record Request
National Archives at St. Louis

Date: 07/24/2026

REQUESTER INFORMATION

Name (Please Print – Last, First, Middle)	Researcher ID Card Number
Burns, Andrew	4563213
E-Mail Address:	**Phone Number:**
afbfg4@umsl.edu	636-415-7353

INFORMATION NEEDED TO LOCATE RECORDS (Furnish as much as possible)

Name used in Service (Please Print – Last, First, Middle)	Service Number/SSN	Date & Place of Birth
Conklin, Thomas, John		1898 NY

MILITARY SERVICE

Branch of Service:
- ☐ Air Force
- ☐ Army Air Corps
- ☐ Army Air Force
- ☐ Army
- ☐ Marine Corps
- ☐ Navy
- ☐ Coast Guard
- ☐ Unknown

Type of Rank:
- ☐ Enlisted
- ☐ Officer
- ☐ Unknown

Service Period (Check all that apply):
- ☐ 1939 & Prior
- ☐ 1940 - 1950
- ☐ 1950 & After

Date & Place of Death:

State of Residence (upon entry into service):

Other Identifying Information (Parent's Names, CSC Number, etc.)

Researcher Signature: Andrew Burns

CIVILIAN SERVICE

(Agency & Location)		
Lighthouse Service (CT/NJ/NY) 3rd District		
From: 1912	To: 1918	
(Agency & Location)		
From:	To:	
(Agency & Location)		
From:	To:	

Other Identifying Information (Maiden Name, Job Title, etc.)

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STAFF USE ONLY

Appointment Time and Date:

Additional Researchers: ☐ Yes ☐ No

CMRS Service Request Number: C-000822 5833

CMRS Search Request Number(s): From Arc. Search 9/25/26 SRS

Attendant Signature:

Remarks: Viewed 1st Folder on July 27
Needs manilla folder

'26 SEP 25 AM10:04

SCREENING NOTES

☑ Reviewed and Nothing Removed SRS ☐ Items Removed and User Informed

Hold Requested: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Total Requests:

Screened Items: C524

☐ Additional charge outs and signatures on reverse side

Time Out:

Final Return:

While performing a search for another Conklin I found these records misfiled with Conlin. The requester viewed the record in the brown folder. The material in the new Manila folder was not viewed. The DOB isn't a match, but the period of service is.

Brad

New case
C-0008225833

7/15/2026 11:43:39 6 Civilian (OPF's) Lighthouse Treasury 2188C-
0007790624 michele.johannes@nara.gov Stetler-Williams Delivered
CONKLIN THOMAS JOHN

C524,

CT/NJ/NY 3rd Dist 1912 - 1918

CONKLIN, THOMAS J.

CONKLIN, THOMAS J.

Form 73 **ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT, PROMOTION, OR TRANSFER OF APPOINTEE**

PWP

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES
JAN 18 1912
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, Third DISTRICT,
Tompkinsville, N.Y.,
January 15, 1912.

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

The following recommendation is submitted:

Action proposed, probationary appointment

Name, Thomas J. Conklin Legal residence, New York

Position, 2nd assistant keeper Salary, $456 per annum

Location, Little Gull Island Light-Station, N. Y.

Effective Jan. 14, 1912 ~~on~~ the actual date of entrance on duty.

Former position, Former salary,

Location,

Rank in list of eligibles, 3 Rating, Asst.Kpr. Percentage, 83.0

Other eligibles considered, George J. Thomas - declined*
William H. Follett - declined.

Letters of declination inclosed, Thomas and Follett.

Previous incumbent, George L.Brightman Services terminated, Dec.30,1911

Reason, Resigned. Charges preferred for failure to give due notice of intention to resign.

Remarks: Payable from "Salaries,Keepers of Lighthouses."

*Mr.Thomas at first accepted the position, but on being ordered to the station, stated he would be unable to go,as per attached letter.

No employee of the district desired transfer to this position.

C. D. STEARNS,
Commander,U.S.N., Inspector.

Department of Commerce and Labor
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

THREE inclosures JANUARY 19, 1912.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, approved.

11—2314

Commissioner.

PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT—PRIOR DATE

Department of Commerce and Labor
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
Washington

January 27, 1912.

Sir:

You have been appointed, subject to taking the oath of office,

Second Assistant Keeper

in the Lighthouse Service

at a salary of Four Hundred and Fifty-six dollars

per annum, for a probationary period of six months, effective

beginning January 14, 1912, on and after which date you have

continuously served in the above-mentioned position.

Retention in the service after the expiration of your probationary period shall be equivalent to absolute appointment.

(Civil-service certificate No. .....)

(Vice George L. Brightman.)

E.O.D. 1-14-1912

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(Signed) ROBT. M. PINDELL, JR.

Chief Clerk.

Mr. Thomas J. Conklin,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

11—3693

F

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES
AUG 15 1912
DEP'T OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Dep Commr
Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
E. C. G.
Examiner.
Personnel.
Accounts.
Contracts.
Chf Clk.
Commr.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Office of the Inspector of
Third Lighthouse District
Tompkinsville, New York.

Aug.14,1912

T. J. Conklin, 2nd Asst.Keeper,
Little Gull Light Station.

Referring to recent inspection of the Light-Station at which you are employed.

The excellent condition of the light as to cleanliness, orderliness and operation is commendable, and the fact will be entered on your record.

Copy forwarded to Commissioner for information contained.

Form 73 **ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT, PROMOTION, OR TRANSFER OF APPOINTEE**

JHG

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, Third DISTRICT,
Tompkinsville, N.Y.
October 14, 1912 , 191

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

The following recommendation is submitted:

Action proposed, Promotion

Name, Thomas J. Conklin Legal residence, New York

Position, 1st Assistant Keeper Salary, $480 per annum

Location, Little Gull Island Light Station, N.Y.

Effective October 25, 1912 or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty. ~~on the actual date of entrance on duty.~~

Former position, 2nd Assistant Keeper Former salary, $456. per annum

Location, Little Gull Island Light Station, N.Y.

Rank in list of eligibles, Rating, Percentage,

Other eligibles considered,

Letters of declination inclosed,

Previous incumbent, Thomas Pickup Services terminated, October 24, 1912

Reason, Transferred.

Remarks:

Payable from "Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses"

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES OCT 15 1912 DEPT. OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Department of Commerce and Labor
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

OCT 15 1912

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, approved.

11—2314

Acting Commissioner.

GENERAL APPOINTMENT

Department of Commerce and Labor
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
Washington

October 16, 1912.

Mr. Thomas J. Conklin,
Through
the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

You have been appointed, subject to taking the oath of office,

First Assistant Keeper

in the Lighthouse Service

at a salary of Four Hundred and Eighty dollars per annum,

effective on the date on which you enter upon duty in the above-mentioned position.

(By promotion from second assistant keeper at $456 per annum.)

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) E. C. SHIELDS

Chief of Appointment Division.

Acting

Appropriation:
Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Vice:
Thomas Pickup.

Legal Residence:
New York.

11—3692

July 28, 1913.

Sir:

Referring to the assistance rendered by you and the keeper and second assistant keeper of Little Gull Island Light Station, New York, on April 27, 1913, to the Captain and crew of the schooner Fall S. C. Vought which foundered on Little Gull Island Reef, the Department commends you for the service rendered on the occasion in question and will note the fact on the records as part of your official history.

Respectfully,

WILLIAM C. REDFIELD

Secretary.

Mr. Thomas J. Conklin,
First Assistant Keeper, Little Gull Island Light Station, N.Y.,
Through Commissioner of Lighthouses.

LIGHTHOUSES---Bureau's files,

WILLIAM C. REDFIELD

Exact copy as signed by

Mailed JUL 28 1913 by

Copy sent 3rd Insp

COPY

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Lighthouse Service

JHS

Office of Inspector, Third District
Tompkinsville, N.Y., Oct., 6, 1915

District
Circular #5.

Keepers and Assistant Keepers:

* *

The Inspector announces with pleasure that the Keepers and Assistant Keepers of the following stations, were commended during the quarter ending September 30, 1915, for the exceptionally efficient condition of the stations in their charge.

George L. Costello, Keeper, and Frederick C. Lovatt, Asst. Keeper of Execution Rocks Lt. Sta. were commended for rendering assistance to six people who met with disaster by hitting a rock with their boat.

William Tongren, Keeper of Rm / ol Bed Shoal Lt. Sta., was commended for rescuing from drowning two women and one man, whose boat had overturned.

William J. Murray, Keeper, Thomas J. Conklin, 1st asst. Kpr. and John G. Collins, 2nd Asst. Kpr. of Little Gull Island Lt. Sta., were commended for rendering assistance to the Captain and Crew of the Schooner Fell S.G. Vought.

Respectfully,

JOSEPH T. YATES
Inspector 3rd L.H. District

Little Gull Is. Light Station
Fort Michie Gull I. N.Y.

Feb. 15th 1914

LIGHT
MAR13 1914
HOUSES

LIGHT-HOUSE INSPECTOR
32 DIST.
FEB
18
1914
RECEIVED
TOMPKINSVILLE N.Y.

LIGHT
MAR26 1914
HOUSES

Light House Inspector.
Tompkinsville N.Y.

Sir

I have to report that on Feb. 11th or 12th 1914 the North Engine was badly damaged ~~by~~ Parts #2 & 3 Cylinder Casing, & Vaporizer jacket. The Casing split along the top. A 4 inch hole was burst through the Vaporizer jacket.

The Station was in Charge of 1st Asst Keeper Thomas J. Conklin & he states that the Large heating Stove was kept going Constantly & that he took every precaution to prevent the Water systems from freezing. This particular Engine was last in operation on Feb 7th & was allright up to the night of Feb 11th When the tempature dropped to 12 below Zero.

I beg mention that the Pumps. Cistern & Waste pipe of dwelling are frozen solid at this time

Murray, Keeper.

On Feb. 13 & 14 this place was swept by big seas the landing was swept away Also 10 feet of the stone dock. The Asst Keepers & Myself worked all day saving the Boats & other property. We have been storm bound up to the present time,

Little Gull Is. Light Station
Front michis Gull Is. N.Y.
Feb- 26th 1914 2

Light House Inspector
Tampkinsville N.Y.

LIGHT-HOUSE INSPECTOR 32 D. ST. FEB 27 1914 RECEIVED TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.
LIGHT MAR 2 1914 HOUSES
MAR 20 1914 HOUSES

Sir

While making repairs to Engine damaged by Freezing. Mr murphy decended to look at the Compressor. On investigating it was found that the Back Head Water jacket & the inside head Water jacket was Bursted. Mr Murphy is forwarding list of parts needed to repair Compressor

Murray. Keeper.

Little Gull Island
Bursted cylinder.

General L.H.D. spot
2-26-14

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHT
MAR 13 1914
HOUSE

LIGHT
MAR 26 1914
HOUSES

Inspector:-

In accordance with your order of Feby 24/14 I proceeded to Little Gull Island to investigate the matter of keepers allowing engine cylinder water jacket to freeze up and burst during the night of Feby 11-12-14

It appears from the statement of the first assistant keeper, who was the only keeper on the station at the time the accident occurred, that he was keeping a good fire going in the signal house stove and had no fear of anything freezing so long as there was a good fire, although he knew that the water had been drawn out of jacket, to the cylinder that is now broken, twice during the present winter to prevent just such a condition, he states that he thought there was no danger and he expected to have to start the engine

as the weather was threatening, also that the same engine had been run two days before the accident, Asked why he had not drained the cylinder as a precautionary measure, he said that it took so long to refill the jacket that he didnt like to do it fearing trouble from overheating engine cylinder while the jacket was refilling, there being no provision for priming (to refill before starting the engine) the jacket. He had not thought of starting the engine or of using the heating torch to keep the cylinder warm.

The reason given for the station being left with only one man, was that the keeper was absent on leave and the second assistant was allowed to go to New London for provisions and got storm bound, thus leaving the station for 48 hours with only one ~~man~~ keeper on it.

Luther.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

4

JHG

REGISTERED MAIL
RECEIPT REQUESTED

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

LIGHT
MAR 3 1914
HOUSES

LIGHT
MAR 26 1914
HOUSES

Feb. 28, 1914

Thomas J. Conklin, 1st Asst. Keeper,
Through the Keeper,
Little Gull Island Lt. Sta.,
Fort Michie, Gull Island, N.Y.

You are hereby charged with neglect of duty, you having permitted the engine and compressor cylinders at Little Gull Island Light Station, to freeze and burst on the night of February 11, 1914, and with having failed to take precautionary measures, such as blowing the water out of the jacket of the cylinders, although you knew that such action had been taken twice during the present winter season to prevent freezing, starting engine occasionally to prevent freezing, and using heating torch to keep the cylinder warm.

You are directed to submit any statement you may desire to make, through official channels, within three days from the receipt of this letter. Any statement made must be couched in temperate language, free from countercharges and confined to the point at issue.

If you desire to make no statement, you will so state in writing.

YATES

Little Gull Island
Fort Michie N.Y.

3/7/14

5

10

Inspector 3rd District

Sir

Your registered letter of Feb 28, 1914. received by me on March 7, 14. On Feb 11, 14. the 2 Asst left the station to go after provisions and a North West gale blew up and he could not get back and everything was O.K. that night. On the 12 Feb the storm was over and still it was impossible for the 2 Asst to land, so after I got the light again it was so cold that the air would freeze in the tank of the light and the light would almost go out and therefore I had to stay with it constantly and as soon as I got a chance I came down and opened all the valves to drain the engine and as no water came out I was under the impression that the engine had been drained, I also had to break the ice in the cisterns in order to get water for the engines when I needed it and at 3 a.m. on Feb 12, the weather was 12 below zero and there was a big fire going in the engine room, and I had to give all my attention to the light to keep it lit, up to then I had been on watch 48 hours with ½ sleep. I sincerely hope you will be a little lenient with me as this is my first error, and, because it was impossible for one man to take care of everything.

Conklin 1. Asst
Murray, Keeper.

LIGHT-HOUSE INSPECTOR 3D DIST. MAR 9 1914 RECEIVED TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

LIGHT MAR 13 1914 HOUSES

LIGHT MAR 26 1914 HOUSES

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

JHG

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT
MAR 13 1914
HOUSES

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

Dep. Commr.
Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
E. C. G.
Examiner.
Personnel.
Accounts.
Contracts.
Chf. Clk.
Commr.

March 11, 1914.

Commissioner.

The following correspondence re Thomas J. Conklin, 1st assistant keeper at Little Gull Island Light Station, N.Y., is enclosed for the Bureau's consideration:-

1. Letter dated Feb. 15 from William Murray, keeper.
2. Letter dated Feb. 26 from William Murray, keeper.
3. Report dated Feb. 26 of Oscar C. Luther, Asst. Supt.
4. Copy of letter of charges dated Feb. 28 to Thomas J. Conklin, 1st assistant keeper.
5. Letter dated March 7 from Thomas J. Conklin.

It is considered that had Mr. Conklin exercised good judgment and taken reasonable precautionary measures, the engine and compressor cylinders would not have frozen and burst, and it is therefore recommended that he be reprimanded and informed that a recurrence of such neglect will make it necessary that more drastic action be taken in his case.

In the absence and by direction of Inspector.

HOPKINS.

HRW-D

Reprimand. March 21, 1914.

Mr. Thomas J. Conklin,
First Assistant Keeper, Little Gull Island Light-Station, N.Y.,
(Through Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville, N.Y.)

Referring to the freezing and bursting of the engine and compressor cylinders at Little Gull Island Light-Station, on the night of February 11, 1914.

It appears that you failed to take reasonable precautionary measures, such as blowing the water out of the jacket of the cylinders, (although you knew that such action had been taken twice during the present winter season to prevent freezing,) starting engine occasionally to prevent freezing, and using heating torch to keep cylinders warm.

You are reprimanded for your negligence in this instance and cautioned that a recurrence of such neglect will result in more drastic action being taken in your case.

The fact that you have been reprimanded will be entered in the files of the Department, the Bureau and the Inspector's as a part of your official history.

HRW-D Bureau of Lighthouses,
March 21, 1914.

To Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville, N.Y., for his information, guidance and files of his office. You are requested to have Conklin given full instructions as to the care of machinery at this station.

(Signed) Acting Commissioner.

Bureau of Lighthouses,
March 21, 1914.

5-Inclosures.

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce. Inclosures are papers submitted by the Inspector in the case and their return is requested as soon as they have served their purpose.

(Signed) Acting Commissioner.

FWO/EJC.

Dep. Comm'r,
Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.

Examiner.
Personnel.
Accounts.
Contracts.
Chf. Clk.
Commr.

Dept of Mars

LIGHT
MAR 25 1914
HOUSES

March 24th, 1914.

Thomas J.Conklin, 1st Asst.Keeper,
(THROUGH THE KEEPER,)
Little Gull Island Light Station,
Fort Michie, Gull Island, N.Y.

The Keeper of Little Gull Island Light Station has advised this office that when he left the station on December 30th, 1913, he left orders for the lens and brass work to be polished, and the tower to be kept clean, also that the fog signal apparatus and fog signal house be kept clean and in good order, but that when he returned to the station which had been temporarily under your charge during the keeper's absence, he found same in a filthy condition, also that when he left the station on February 7th, he left orders that the North Engine and compressor be cleaned and brass work polished, which work you failed to do. The keeper also reports that on March 14th, the date on which you left the station for seven days leave of absence, you requested of him an additional five days leave, which the keeper disapproved, and that you then declared that you would go to the office and get the additional leave over the keeper's head, which you attempted to do when you called at this office on March 18th, and applied for leave in addition to that previously granted.

The Keeper also reports that your work at the station is not satisfactory in that you slight your duties and do the work assigned you by the keeper in a slovenly manner.

MAR... HOUSES

Your conduct as reported by the Keeper is of an insubordinate nature, and indicates a lack of desire on your part to execute with promptitude and zeal, the lawful orders of your superior.

You are informed that such conduct on your part will not be tolerated, and you are warned that a repetition will result in action being taken by this office towards your dismissal from the Lighthouse Service.

YATES

Tompkinsville, N.Y., March 24th, 1914.

Copy forwarded to Commissioner for information contained.

YATES

Dep. Commr.
Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.

Examiner.
Personnel.
Accounts.
Contracts.
Chf. Clk.
Commr.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
MAR 26 1914

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for his information. See Bureau reprimand of March 21, 1913, to this employee.

Commissioner.

L

Hdls
Elek

Department of Commerce ~~and Labor~~

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington

Dep. Comm'r,
Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Examiner.
Personnel.
Accounts.
Contracts.
Chf. Clk.
Commr.

LIGHT
MAR 26 1914
HOUSES

March 25, 1914.

Cop 3d

Mar 26

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

The Department is in receipt of the Bureau's communication of the 21st instant, and the action taken with regard to the neglect of duty on the part of Thomas J. Conklin, first assistant keeper of Little Gull Island Light Station, New York, has been noted. The papers enclosed with the Bureau's communication are returned herewith as requested.

E. F. Sweet

Acting Secretary.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
MAR 27 1914

Cop To Lighthouse Inspector Tompkinsville, N. Y.
for files of his office. By direction of the Commissioner:

T S C

Chief Clerk.

Enclosure No. 617.
C-M

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

11

LIGHT
APR 7 1914
HOUSES

JHG

Dep. Commr.
Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Examiner.
Personnel.
Accounts.
Contracts.
Chf. Clk.
Commr.

Recto Dept Bu concurs JCAPT

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

April 6,1914

Commissioner.

The following correspondence re Thomas J.Conklin, 1st Assistant Keeper of Little Gull Island Light Station, is enclosed for the Bureau's consideration:-

1. Letter dated March 16 from keeper Murray.
2. Memo dated March 18, made by Chief Clerk.
3. Copy of letter dated March 19 to Keeper Murray.
4. Letter dated March 21 from Keeper Murray.
5. Copy of letter dated March 24 to Asst.Kpr.Conklin.
6. Letter (undated) from 1st Asst.Conklin.
7. Letter dated March 27 from Keeper Murray.
8. Letter dated March 23 from Keeper Murray.
9. Telegram dated March 25 from Keeper Murray.
10. Letter of charges dated March 26 to 1st Asst.Conklin.(Copy)
11. Letter dated April 3 from 1st Asst.Conklin.
12. Letter dated March 26 from Keeper Murray.
13. Report, dated April 1, of Asst.Supt.Verner.

In view of the fact that the inharmonious conditions at Little Gull Island Light Station have been caused by the conduct of 1st Asst.Conklin, it is recommended that he be transferred to the position of 2nd Asst.Keeper of Shinnecock Bay Lt.Sta., with a view to giving him an opportunity to demonstrate that his services are up to the required standard, and that he is a desirable person to retain in the service.

The attention of the Bureau is invited to its letter of reprimand, dated March 21, addressed to Conklin, and also letter of warning addressed to him by this office under date of March 24, copy of which was furnished the Bureau.

YATES

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

14

LIGHT
APR 8 1914
HOUSES

JHG

Dep. Commr.
Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.

Examiner.
Personnel.
Accounts.
Contracts.
Chf. Clk.
Commr.

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

April 7,1914

Commissioner.

Referring to letter from this office dated April 6,1914, forwarding correspondence re Thomas J.Conklin, 1st assistant keeper of Little Gull Island Light Station, New York.

Enclosed herewith is letter, dated March 28,1914, received from Mr.Conklin, which should have accompanied our letter above referred to.

YATES

HRW-McC.

April 9, 1914.

Subject: Thomas J. Conklin, transfer.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for his information, concurring in the recommendation of the Inspector.

The Bureau recommends that it be authorized to submit, at the proper time, nomination for the transfer and reduction of Conklin from the position of first assistant keeper of Little Gull Island Light Station, New York, at $480 per annum, to the position of second assistant keeper of Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, at $456 per annum. Should the Department approve this recommendation, appropriate nominations will be submitted to the Department as soon as the same are received from the Inspector.

Approval of the above recommendation, for the reasons given by the Inspector, will not be in violation of section 2, rule I, civil service rules.

There is also inclosed the Third Inspector's letter of April 7, 1914, inclosing one from Mr. Conklin dated March 28, 1914, in regard to his desire to resign from the Service, in the event of his not being transferred from his present position.

LIGHT
APR 15 1914
HOUSES

Dep. Commr,
Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.

Examiner.
Personnel.
Accounts.
Contracts.
Chf. Clk.
Commr.

April 14, 1914.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

Receipt is acknowledged of the Bureau's communication of the 9th instant, transmitting letter dated April 6, 1914, and enclosures, from the Third Inspector relative to the discord existing between the keeper and first assistant keeper of Little Gull Island Light Station, New York.

After careful consideration of all the facts as presented, the Department concurs in the opinion that the transfer of the first assistant keeper, Thomas J. Conklin, to the position of second assistant keeper of Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, at $456 per annum, will offer a satisfactory disposition of the case, and the Bureau's recommendation to the effect that it be authorized to submit, at the proper time, nomination for Mr. Conklin's transfer is approved.

Sgd. Wm J. Harris

Acting Secretary.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington.
APR 15 1914

To Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville, N. Y.
for his information, guidance, and files of office. Re your letter of April 6, 1914. Submit proper nomination for the proposed transfer.

Acting Commissioner.

HRW-McC.

April 24, 1914.

Memorandum for Mr. Smith, Private Secretary to Secretary of Commerce:

Thomas J. Conklin entered the Lighthouse Service January 14, 1913. He was 26 years of age on his last birth day. Under date of March 21, 1914, he was reprimanded for having failed to take reasonable precautionary measures with reference to the engine and compressor at the Little Gull Island Light Station, New York, with the result that they froze and burst on the night of February 11, 1914. On March 24, 1914, he was warned for disobedience of orders, unsatisfactory work, and insubordination to the keeper. On March 16, 1914, the keeper, William J. Murray, addressed a letter to the Third Inspector, in which he charged Conklin with insubordination and conduct detrimental to the proper maintenance of the station. As an outcome of the correspondence between the keepers and Inspector, formal charges were preferred against Conklin, dated March 26, 1914, for the following reasons:

Absence from duty without permission; instigating a controversy between himself and the keeper with regard to a request for extension of leave; failure to comply with orders of the keeper, and improper performance of duties. Mr. Conklin's reply to the charges was so unsatisfactory that it was necessary for the Inspector to direct an assistant superintendent to make a personal investigation of the entire matter. The report of that employee indicates that although Messrs. Murray and Conklin were both at fault, the keeper acted within

his rights, and that any action to be taken should be directed against the first assistant keeper, Mr. Conklin. The matter was carefully considered, with the result that it was considered a satisfactory disposition of the case could be made by transferring Conklin, who, under date of March 28, 1914, informed the Third Inspector that unless a transfer was effected he would resign from the service.

Mr. Conklin will, accordingly, at an early date, be transferred from Little Gull Island Light Station to the position of second assistant keeper of Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York. In view of the fact that the inharmonious conditions at Mr. Conklin's present station were caused by his conduct, it is considered that this action is justified and will enable Mr. Conklin to demonstrate whether or not his services are up to the required standard and he is a desirable person to be retained in the service.

2 white cardinals + 2 yellow ones + Lilypt

JHG

Form 73

NOMINATION

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, Third DISTRICT,

LIGHT APR 20 1914 HOUSES

Tompkinsville, N.Y. (City.) April 18, 1914 (Date.), 191

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

Action recommended, Transfer and demotion.

Name, Thomas J. Conklin — Legal residence, New York

Position, 2nd Assistant Keeper — Salary, $456.00 per annum

Location, Shinnecock Bay Light Station, N.Y. — Appropriation, Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses

Effective May 1, 1914 — [1] ~~the actual date of entrance on duty,~~ or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

Former position, 1st Assistant Keeper — Former salary, $480 per annum

Location, Little Gull Island Light Station, N.Y.

Rank on eligible list, Rating, Percentage, , Other eligibles considered:

Previous incumbent, New position — Services terminated,

Reason,

Relatives in Government Service,

Remarks: Transfer approved by Department letter of April 14, 1914. Approval of this recommendation will not be in violation of Section 2 of Civil Service Rule 1.

Selection regular, subject to the action of the U. S. Civil Service Commission. , 191

YATES

Secretary, *Civil Service District.*

McC.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

April 20, 1914.

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce, approved.

See Department letter of November 7, 1913, authorizing the above referred to position.

Acting Commissioner.

[1] Strike out the clause which does not apply.

11—2314

GENERAL APPOINTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

April 22, 1914.

Mr. Thomas J. Conklin,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

You have been appointed, subject to taking the oath of office,

Second Assistant Keeper

in the Lighthouse Service

at a salary of Four Hundred and Fifty-six dollars per annum,

effective on the date on which you enter upon duty in the above-mentioned position.

(By transfer from first assistant keeper at $480 per annum.)

E D
May 2, 1914.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) GEO. W. LEADLEY,

M
C

Chief of Appointment Division.

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Vice: New position.

Legal Residence: New York.

11—3692

APR 24 1914

May 8, 1914, 3d Inspr. recomd. letter of caution be addressed to Thomas J. Conklin. File William J. Murray.

HRS-HcC.

Reprimand.

May 19, 1914.

Thomas J. Conklin,
Second Assistant Keeper,
Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York,
(Through Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville, New York).

Referring to two undated letters recently addressed by you to the Inspector of the Third Lighthouse District, and received by him on April 25, 1914, in which you charge William J. Murray, keeper, Little Gull Island Light Station, New York, with selling intoxicating liquor at the Little Gull Island Light Station, New York, to soldiers from Fort Michie, etc.

You are advised that a careful investigation of the matter fails to substantiate your charges and it would appear that they were made by you in a spirit of revenge against the keeper referred to on account of the recent decision to transfer you from Little Gull Island Light Station, New York, on account of your conduct at that station. In this connection yourattention is invited to page 144 of the Instructions for the Personnel, 1911, where it is stated that malicious talebearing to officers in authority or detrimental criticism of the same character will be considered cause for the dismissal of the offender. You are reprimanded for your action in the matter, and are warned that further unsatisfactory conduct on your part may result in more drastic action being taken in your case.

The fact that you have been reprimanded will be noted on the records as part of your official history.

Commissioner.

5-26-14 Copy to Department for its information. See D.L. of May 21-14.
" " " 3d Inspector en with Dept. letter of May 21,1914,
Bur. indorsement of May 26, 1914.

LIGHT
MAY 22 1914
HOUSES

Dep. Commr.
Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Examiner.
[redacted]
Accounts.
Contracts.
Chf. Clk.
Commr.

May 21, 1914.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

The Department is in receipt of the Third Inspector's letter of the 8th instant, and enclosures, forwarded by the Bureau on the 19th instant, relative to certain charges preferred by Thomas J. Conklin, formerly first assistant keeper of Little Gull Island Light Station, New York, against William J. Murray, keeper of that station.

It appears from the correspondence in the files of the Department that bad feeling has existed between Messrs. Conklin and Murray for some time in the past, in view of which the Department, on April 14, 1914, approved a recommendation from the Bureau to the effect that it be authorized to transfer Mr. Conklin to the position of second assistant keeper of Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York. It was recognized that Mr. Conklin was the instigator of most of the trouble at the station, but as he desired to be assigned to some other station it was thought that such action would result in a satisfactory disposition of the case.

The fact that Mr. Conklin has preferred charges against Mr. Murray which upon investigation could not be proved indicates that he does not appreciate the purport of the regulations which prohibit disrespect and detrimental criticism towards a superior

officer. The Bureau's recommendation to the effect that it be authorized to address a letter of caution to Mr. Conklin with respect to his conduct is therefore approved, it being noted that a copy of the letter will be furnished the Department for its files.

(SIGNED) E. F. SWEET

Assistant Secretary.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington.

2 inclosures.

MAY 2 6 1914

To Lighthouse Inspector, ...Tompkinsville, New York.....
For his information, guidance, and files of office.
Attached is letter of reprimand to Conklin, dated May 26, 1914, with copy thereof.
See your report of May 8, 1914.

C
Acting Commissioner.

L

C-M

X

McC

6/11/14 Shinnecock Light
Good Ground Long Island

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
ANSWERED
Copy 36
JUN 17 1914
DEPT. OF COMMERCE

LIGHT-HOUSE INSPECTOR
2d DIST.
JUN 2 1914
RECEIVED
TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

LIGHT
JUN 3 1914
HOUSES

Commissioner of Light Houses
Washington D. C.
Through Inspector 3rd District
Tompkinsville N.Y.
Sir

Refering to a letter dated May 1914. received by me in regard to charges I made against William J. Murray, Keeper of Little Gull Island, I wish to state that these charges were put against Mr Murray a few weeks before I ever knew I was going to be transfered and were given to the Asst Supt Mr Vernon, Also I wish to state you will notice one of the charges were ~~signed~~ by the witnesses and the Private Arthur Michaud of the 125th Company Ft. Terry. He is the man who bought the intoxicating liquor and if he were communicated with he would willingly answer and I also wish to state if Capt Proctor of the U. S. S. Grebe at New London. Conn were written to he could put a little light on this affair, and if thde charges are false I am willing to take the consequences, also I didnot write this letter as a

LIGHT-HOUSE INSPECTOR 32 DIST. JUN 12 1914 RECEIVED TOMPKINSVILLE N.Y.
LIGHT JUN 3 1914 HOUSES

revenge against the keeper of Little Gull but, to have the reprimand against my Official History removed.

T. J. Conklin
2 Ass't

P.S. This letter has been shown to the keeper of Shinnecock Light and he didnt think his Signature was ~~nessicary~~ necessary.

Conklin 2 Ass't.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

FWC/WJL

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Dep. Commr,
Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.

Examiner.

Accounts.
Contracts.
Chf. Clk.
Commr.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
ANSWERED
Copy
JUN 12 1914
DEPT. OF COMMERCE

Conklin

LIGHT
JUN 3 1914
HOUSES

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

June 2,1914.

Forwarded to Commissioner inviting attention to letter from this office dated May 8th 1914 enclosing letter of May 5th 1914 received from Private Silas A.Clawson and Private Henry Downs whose names appeared on one of the letters of charges submitted by Mr.Conklin.

Yates

McC.

Reprimand.

June 12, 1914.

Mr. T. J. Conklin,
Second Assistant Keeper,
Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York.
(Through Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville, New York.)

Referring to your letter dated June 11, 1914, (received at this office June 3, 1914) protesting against the letter of reprimand written to you by the Bureau on May 19, 1914, regarding your charge that Mr. William J. Murray, keeper, Little Gull Island Light Station, New York, sold intoxicating liquors at the light station referred to to soldiers from Fort Michie.

As you were advised in said letter of reprimand, a careful investigation of the matter at that time failed to substantiate your charges and there is no apparent reason therefore why the letter of reprimand should be withdrawn, as desired by you.

Commissioner

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
JUN 12 1914

To Lighthouse Inspector Tompkinsville N.Y.
for files of his office. By direction of the Commissioner: See your
ind'rsement of June 2/14

Chief Clerk.

7

McC.

March 30, 1915.

Subject: Letter addressed to Hon. Lathrop Brown, M.C., dated March 26,1915, by Thos. J. Conklin, 2d asst. keeper, Shinnecock Bay L.S., relative charges.

Referred to Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville, New York, for investigation and return with report and recommendation.

Acting Commissioner

McC.

Thos. J. Conklin,
2d asst. keeper,
Shinnecock Bay L.S., N.Y.

March 30, 1915.

Hon. Lathrop Brown,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Referring to letter dated March 26, 1915, addressed to you by Mr. Thomas J. Conklin, second assistant keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, in regard to charges which Mr. Conklin states have been preferred against him by the first assistant keeper of the above referred to station, which letter was left by you at this office on March 29, 1915.

I beg to advise you that the matter is being investigated and that you will be further advised in regard thereto at an early date.

Respectfully,

C

Acting Commissioner

HRW-McC.

April 1, 1915.

Subject: Letter of Mar. 28-1915, from Geo. E. Denney, The Standard Union, Brooklyn, N.Y., to Rep. J.P. Maher, re T.J.Conklin.

Referred to Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville, New York, for report and return.

See Bureau indorsement of March 30, 1915, on Conklin's letter of March 26, 1915, to Representative Lathrop Brown, on this subject.

Acting Commissioner

LIGHT
APR 2 1915
HOUSES

APR 1 - 1915

My dear Congressman:

Referring to letter of March 28, 1915, addressed to you by Mr. Geo. E. Denney, of The Standard Union, Brooklyn, New York, in regard to charges which Mr. Thomas J. Conklin, second assistant keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, states have been preferred against him by the first assistant keeper of the light station referred to, which letter has been received at the Department for attention, I have to advise you that the matter is being investigated and that you will be further advised in regard thereto at an early date.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM C. REDFIELD
Secretary.

Hon. James P. Maher,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

LIGHTHOUSES---Bureau's files.

Exact copy as signed by WILLIAM C. REDFIELD
Mailed APR 1 1915 by

HRW-AHT

April 5, 1915.

Subject: Letter Wauhope Lynn, March 29, 1915 and undated letter addressed to Hon. Lathrop Brown, relative alleged charges against Thomas J. Cokklin, 2nd Asst. Kpr. Shinnecock Bay Light Station, N.Y.

Referred to Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville, N. Y., for report and return in connection with previous papers referred to him on this subject.

Acting Commissioner

HRW-AHT

T. J. Conklin,
alleged charges,

April 5, 1915.

Mr. Wauhope Lynn,
54 - 60 Lafayette St.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

Referring to your letter of March 29, 1915, in regard to alleged charges against Mr. Thomas J. Conklin, second assistant keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station, N. Y.

I have to advise you that the matter is being investigated and that you will be further advised in regard thereto at an early date.

Yours respectfully,

Acting Commissioner

HRW-AHT

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

April 5, 1915.

LIGHT-HOUSE INSPECTOR 3d DIST. APR 7 1915 RECEIVED TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES ANSWERED 4-28-15 Copy 3d DEPT. OF COMMERCE

LIGHT APR 9 1915 HOUSES

Subject: Letter Wauhope Lynn, March 29, 1915 and undated letter addressed to Hon. Lathrop Brown, by John Martin et als relative alleged charges against Thomas J. Conklin, 2nd Asst. Kpr. Shinnecock Bay Light Station, N.Y.

Referred to Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville, N. Y., for report and return in connection with previous papers referred to him on this subject.

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Commr.
Commr.

Conway
Acting Commissioner

Office of Inspector, 3d District,
Tompkinsville, N.Y. April 8, 1915.

Returned to Commissioner inviting attention to letter from this office dated April 7th relative to this matter.

yrs
6

Municipal Court of the City of New York
BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN.
First District,
PART IV. SPECIAL CALENDAR.
54-60 LAFAYETTE ST.
Sixth Ave. & Tenth St.

LIGHT
APR 3 1915
HOUSES

LIGHT
APR 9 1915
HOUSES

Justices' Chambers
Wauhope Lynn, Justice.

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Clerk

March 29 1915

Wrote 3rd Super. acks to Lynn 4/5/15

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
RECEIVED
4-28-15
Copy 3
DEPT. OF COMMERCE

Supt Light House Board

Dear Sir

My summer home is close to Shinnecock Light on Long Island and my intent is neighborly in [illegible] Keepers. I have learned of some complaints against Mr Conklin the 2nd or 3rd Keeper and his wife has come to me to give her husband a reference to you. This I do gladly as the upkeep of this Light has been of the best and Mr Conklin while a new man at this place has impressed me as a man of good general habits and if some offense against your rules has been committed I feel it is not one of neglect of duty. The little wife was fearful of losing their position, but I assured her that unless some unusual act had been done this would not happen. Trusting in your kindness

I am Yours [illegible]

HRW-AHT

T. J. Conklin,
alleged charges.

April 5, 1915.

Hon. Lathrop Brown,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Referring to undated letter addressed to you by John Martin, and others, in regard to charges which Mr. Thomas J. Conklin, second assistant keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station, N. Y., states have been preferred against him by the first assistant keeper of the light station referred to, which letter was left by you at this office on April 2, 1915.

I beg to advise you that the matter is being investigated, and that you will be further advised in regard thereto at an early date.

Respectfully,

Commissioner

Copy

THE STANDARD UNION

Brooklyn, N. Y., March 28, 1915.

Hon. James P. Maher,

524 Marcy Avenue,

Brooklyn, N. Y.

My dear Jim,

Please, if you will, take up the matter of a complaint against Thomas Conklin, Second Assistant Keeper at Shinnecock Light, L. I. The matter is not one of insubordination or disrespect to a superior. Some friends who called on him did not behave properly and the First Assistant Keeper lodged the complaint against him. Kindest regards.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Geo. E. Denney.

Bureau Copy

Left by M.C.
no pp on file
Ack'd May 3rd
JCMar29

Shinnecock Bay
Light House
Good Ground

RECEIVED
MAR 29 1915
LIGHT HOUSES

Hydrog.
Asst. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
~~Personnel~~
Accounts
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
~~Dep. Comptr.~~
Drafting

RECEIVED
APR 8 1915
LIGHT HOUSES

Mr Congressman Brown

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
ACKNOWLEDGED
to Rep Brown
4-28-15
DEPT. OF COMMERCE

Dear Sir I take the liberty to write to you, asking you to do me a favor. On March 13, 1915. I was going to bed at 10.30 p.m. when in walked Ladies & Gentleman, from Good Ground, a mother & 3 children and they were 3 other men who came but they weren't wanted so they left and as they had bottles beer hid on the grounds they drank it and threw the bottles

2 in front of the house. Now the 1 Ass't Keeper ~~[illegible]~~ sent in charges against me for having the people in my house and for having intoxicating liquor which was not in the house. On another thing, when this surprise call was made to my wife & I the 1 Ass't Keeper "Mr Otis" was upon the tower from 10. p m to 2. 30. a. m. and he could not see or hear any thing that was going on. Now this surprise call was arranged ~~[illegible]~~ unknown to me and as I am in danger of losing my position over this I wish you would do all in your power for me as this now lies with the decision of the Commissioner of Light Houses Mr Putnam of Washington and if you can help me in any way I wish you would do so as soon as possible as every day count ~~[illegible]~~ toward my dismissal from the service. Hoping to hear from you soon I Beg to Remain

Respt. Thomas Hoicklin

Mar 2 15.

McC.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES

WASHINGTON

March 30, 1915.

LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR 3d DIST. APR 1 1915 RECEIVED TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES ANSWERED 4-28-15 Copy 3d DEPT. OF COMMERCE

LIGHT APR 8 1915 HOUSES

Subject: Letter addressed to Hon. Lathrop Brown, M.C., dated March 26,1915, by Thos. J. Conklin, 2d asst. keeper, Shinnecock Bay L.S., relative charges.

Referred to Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville, New York, for investigation and return with report and recommendation.

Conway

Acting Commissioner

Office of Inspector,3d District,
Tompkinsville,N.Y.,April 7,1915.

Returned to Commissioner inviting attention to letter from this office of this date relative to the above matter.

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Commr.
Commr.

HRW-McC.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES

WASHINGTON

April 1, 1915.

SECRETARY APR 1 -1915

Subject: Letter of Mar. 28-1915, from Geo. E. Denney, The Standard Union, Brooklyn, N.Y., to Rep. J.P. Maher, re T.J.Conklin.

Referred to Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville, New York, for report and return.

See Bureau indorsement of March 30, 1915, on Conklin's letter of March 26, 1915, to Representative Lathrop Brown, on this subject.

LIGHT APR2 1915 HOUSES

LIGHT-HOUSE INSPECTOR 3d DIST. APR 3 1915 RECEIVED TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Comsnr.
Comsnr.

Conway
Acting Commissioner

Office of Inspector 3d District,
Tompkinsville, N.Y., April 7, 1915.

LIGHT APR8 1915 HOUSES

Returned to Commissioner inviting attention to letter of this date from this office relative to the above matter.

yates

LIGHT MAY 1 1915 HOUSES

JTY/WJL

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Secretary
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Examr.
Cmmr.

LIGHT HOUSES APR 8 1915

April 7,1915.

Show me pp
NCRS
Forwarded
Yates
4/8

Commissioner:

Dept Be circulars
This is the 3rd time
and be the last
NCRS

Enclosed for the information of the Bureau are the following papers re alleged misconduct of 2nd Assistant Keeper Thomas J. Conklin of Shinnecock Bay Light Station on the night of March 13th 1915.

Letter dated March 15th 1915 from 1st Asst.Keeper Jesse Orton, Shinnecock Bay Light Station.
Letter dated March 15th 1915 from W.H.Lake,Keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station.
Copy of testimony of Assistant Keepers Orton and Conklin, taken at Shinnecock Bay Light Station March 26th 1915.
Copy of Testimony of William H.H.Lake taken at Lighthouse Depot Tompkinsville,N.Y.,on March 27th 1915.

Attention is invited to the previous record of Mr.Conklin.

From the reports and testimony it is evident that Mr.Conklin has not conducted himself as a keeper should, nor has he required proper conduct of parties visiting his quarters at the station.

It is recommended that Mr.Conklin be reprimanded and warned that any further trouble of this or other kind for which he has been previously reprimanded will be considered cause for dismissal, also that this office direct a letter to keeper Lake instructing him to see that proper conduct is maintained by all people, either residing or visiting at the Station, and inviting his attention to the fact that it is his duty to give attention to all complaints made by the Assistant Keepers.

Yates

HRW-McC.

April 13, 1915.

Subject: 3d Inspector's letter Apr. 7,1915, and inclosures, misconduct, Thos. J. Conklin, 2d asst. keeper, Shinnecock Bay L.S.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for his information, the Bureau concurring with the Inspector, in view of the previous record of Conklin, and with recommendation that it be authorized to address Conklin a letter of reprimand and warn him that any further violation of the Instructions for the Personnel will necessitate consideration being given to filing charges against him with a view to his dismissal from the Service. If such letter is authorized by the Department, a copy thereof will be submitted to the Department for its files. Attention in this connection is invited to the Instructions for the Personnel, 1911, page 147, whereon it is stated that an employee who by his personal conduct, or that of his affairs, public or private, brings discredit upon the Lighthouse Service, shall be reported for misconduct.

It is further recommended that the Bureau be authorized to direct the Third Inspector to address a letter to keeper Lake, instructing him to see that proper conduct is maintained by all persons either residing or visiting at the station, and inviting his attention to the fact that it is his duty to give attention to all complaints made by the assistant keepers. Attention in this connection is invited to the Instructions for the Personnel, 1911, page 144, par. headed "Oppression of subordinates,, third sub-par. If this recommendation is approved, a copy of the letter to Lake will be submitted to the Department for its files.

In connection with Department acknowledgment of April 1, 1915, of letter addressed to Hon. James P. Maher, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., by Mr. Geo. E. Denney, of The Standard Union, Brooklyn, N. Y., in regard to the misconduct above referred to on the part of Conklin, the Bureau states that in the event the Department approves the above recommendation a final reply to Congressman Maher will be prepared in this office for signature at the Department, if desired. The return to the Bureau of the letter addressed to Rep. Maher is requested.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
APR 13 1915

To Lighthouse Inspector ....Hompkinsville NY....
for files of his office. By direction of the Commissioner:

TSC
Chief Clerk.

HRW

LIGHT HOUSES
APR 21 1915

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
~~Personnel~~
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Commr.
Commr.

April 20, 1915.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

The Department acknowledges receipt of the Bureau's communication of the 13th instant, transmitting correspondence from the Third Inspector relative to the charges of misconduct filed by the first assistant keeper of Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, against Thomas J. Conklin, the second assistant keeper.

In view of all the circumstances in the case, and of Mr. Conklin's previous record, the Department has authorized the Bureau to address a letter of reprimand to Mr. Conklin, warning him that any further misconduct will be deemed sufficient cause for filing charges against him with a view to his dismissal from the service.

In accordance with the Bureau's further recommendation, authority has been granted for the Bureau to direct the Third Inspector to address a letter to William H. H. Lake, jr., keeper of the above-mentioned station, instructing him to see that proper conduct is maintained by all persons either residing or visiting at the station, and inviting his attention to the fact that it is his duty to give attention to all complaints made by the assistant keepers. It is noted that copies of the letters addressed to Messrs. Conklin and Lake will be furnished the Department for its files.

Regulations 1914

Par. 489 Regs. 1914

The Department returns herewith letter addressed to Hon. James P. Maher, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., by Mr. George E. Denney, of the Standard Union, Brooklyn, New York, in regard to the complaint lodged against Mr. Conklin, in order that the Bureau may prepare a final reply to Congressman Maher for signature at the Department.

By direction of the Secretary:

(SIGNED) GEO. C. HAVENNER

McC.
Set inclosures.

Bureau of Lighthouses,
April 28, 1915.

Referred to Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville, New York, for his information, guidance, and files.

Inclosed are the original and copy of letter of reprimand to Conklin, together with copies of letters addressed to Hon. Lathrop Brown and Mr. Wauhope Lynn in regard to this case.

Address proper letter to Keeper Lake, in accordance with this Department letter, and submit two copies thereof to the Bureau.

Acting Commissioner

Enclosure 183.
C-R

McC.

Thos. J. Conklin,
charges.

April 28, 1915.

Mr. Wauhope Lynn,
54-60 Lafayette Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

Referring again to your letter of March 29, 1915, in regard to charges which were preferred against Mr. Thomas J. Conklin, second assistant keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York.

I beg to advise you that after a careful investigation of the matter it has been established that Mr. Conklin has not conducted himself as a keeper should, nor has he required proper conduct of parties visiting his quarters. After careful consideration it has been decided to take no more drastic action in his case at this time than to address him a letter of reprimand and to warn him that any further misconduct on his part will result in consideration being given to taking more severe action in his case.

Respectfully,

Commissioner.

McC.

Thos. J. Conklin,
charges.

April 28, 1915.

Hon. Lathrop Brown,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Referring again to letter dated March 26, 1915, addressed to you by Mr. Thomas J. Conklin, second assistant keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, which letter was left by you at this office on March 29, 1915, and to undated letter addressed to you by John Martin, and others, of Good Ground, Long Island, which letter was left by you at this office on April 2, 1915, both in regard to charges which were preferred against Mr. Conklin by the first assistant keeper of the light station referred to.

I beg to advise you that after a careful investigation of the matter it has been established that Mr. Conklin has not conducted himself as a keeper should, nor has he required proper conduct of parties visiting his quarters. After careful consideration it has been decided to take no more drastic action in his case at this time than to address him a letter of reprimand and to warn him that any further misconduct on his part will result in consideration being given to taking more severe action in his case.

Respectfully,

Commissioner.

Still in Washington, D.C.

Defeated for Cong. but case in court TSC

HRW-McC.

Reprimand. April 28, 1915.

Mr. Thomas J. Conklin,
Second Assistant Keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station, N.Y.
(Through Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville, New York).

Referring to the investigation made at the Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, on March 26, 1915, by the Third Inspector, in regard to alleged misconduct on your part at the station on the night of March 13, 1915, it is evident that you have not conducted yourself as a keeper should, and have not required proper conduct of persons visiting your quarters at the station. Your attention is invited to the Instructions for the Personnel, 1911, page 147, whereon it is stated that an employee who by his conduct or that of his affairs, public or private, brings discredit upon the Lighthouse Service, shall be reported for misconduct, and you are reprimanded for your misconduct in this case. In view of this reprimand, Bureau letters of reprimand of March 21 and May 19, 1914, and letter of caution of March 24, 1914, to you, from the Third Inspector, you are warned that any further misconduct by you will necessitate consideration being given to the matter of filing charges against you with a view to your dismissal from the Service.

The fact that you have been reprimanded will be noted on the records as part of your official history.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington.
APR 28 1915 Commissioner.

2 Encls

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for his information. Attached are copies of letters to Messrs. ~~Smith~~, Brown and Lyon. See L & L of April 20, 1915, and proposed letter to Rep. Maher, prepared in the Bureau, for signature at the Dept. Submitted to Dept to [illegible] Acting Commissioner.

ackg to Cong. Brown.)
2nd to 3rd Lspr. } 4/5/15

Good Ground
Long Island

This letter TOC
Lgthy MC
Apr 2
To 3d with attn pp
Apr 2

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Commr.
Commr.

LIGHT HOUSES APR 2 1915

BUREAU OF LIGHT HOUSES ANSWERED 4-28-15 Copy 3d DEPT. OF COMMERCE

LIGHT HOUSES APR 3 1915

Mr Lathrop Brown

Dear Sir

We, the under signed wish you would kindly and do us a favor. A party of girls and fellows gave a surprise social call to Mr & Mrs Conklin at the Shinnecock Light Station and some young fellows not in the party by invatation came along of their own accord and before going in the house hid whiskey and beer on the reservation and took to work and scattered the empty bottles over the grounds. One of the keepers on the station put charges against Mr Conklin for the disturbance for which same Mr Conklin is absolutly blameless, he is likely to lose his position through this affair and so we trust you will do all you can as these charges rest entirely on the decision of Commissioner of Light House Mr Putnam at Washington.

Respt Signed.

John Martin
Weiford Wells
Edward H. Warner
Com Mgr

L. Overton

LIGHT
MAY 1 1915
HOUSES

LeC.

MAY – 1 1915

My dear Congressman:

Referring again to letter of March 28, 1915, addressed to you by Mr. Geo. E. Denney, of The Standard Union, Brooklyn, New York, in regard to charges preferred against Mr. Thomas J. Conklin, second assistant keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, which letter was received at the Department for attention, I beg to advise you that after careful investigation of the matter it has been established that Mr. Conklin has not conducted himself as a keeper should, nor has he required proper conduct from parties visiting his quarters. After careful consideration it has been decided to take no more drastic action in his case at this time than to address him a letter of reprimand, and to warn him that any further misconduct on his part will result in more severe disciplinary measures by the Department.

The letter of Mr. Denney above referred to is inclosed, as requested.

Very truly yours,

A. L. THURMAN
Acting Secretary.

Hon. James P. Maher,
Member of Congress,
555 Bedford Avenue,
Brooklyn, New York.

PO of HR said they are sending mail to ↗

LIGHTHOUSES---Bureau's files.
Exact copy as signed by A. L. THURMAN
Mailed MAY - 1 1915 by

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington

Inclosure.

To Lighthouse Inspector Tompkinsville, N.Y.
for files of his office. By direction of the Commissioner: See Bureau indorsement of April 28, 1915, on L of A of April 20-1915, in this case.

T. S. C.
Chief Clerk

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

LIGHT HOUSES MAR 31 1915

For Mr Putnam

Kindly look into the case of mr Conklin mentioned in the attached letter. Leroy Maher is interested in it.

M Smith

Hydrog.
Engr. Corps.
Mar. Engr.
~~Personnel~~
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Comptr.
Returns.

LIGHT APR 8 1915 HOUSES

LIGHT APR 21 1915 HOUSES

LIGHT MAY 1 1915 HOUSES

Ack 4/30

See PP

McC.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

Thomas J. Conklin,
transfer.

March 15, 1916.

Hon. Frederick C. Hicks,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Hicks:

Referring to your communication dated March 14, 1916, relative to Mr. Thomas J. Conklin, second assistant keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station, N. Y., who desires to be transferred.

I beg to state that the matter is being investigated, and that you will be further advised in regard thereto at an early date.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

JTY/WJL

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Comm'r.
Comm'r.

LIGHT HOUSES MAR 18 1916

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

March 17, 1916.

Dept Bu concurs and ree be auth. to advise MC a/c unsatisfactory conduct to date & that pay is withheld until such time as has proven his good & efficiency warrant the transfer

SUBJECT: Bu.End.March 15,1916 on let.March 14 1916 from Congressman Hicks re transfer of Conklin, 2nd Asst.Keeper, Shinnecock Bay L.S.to Pecks Ledge.

Returned to Commissioner:

Since Mr.Conklin has been in the Lighthouse Service his conduct and services have been far from satisfactory.

In April 1914 he was demoted from the position of First Assistant Keeper of Little Gull Island Light Station to the position he now occupies and permitting him to transfer to any other station is not considered desirable or advisable at this time.

While in the Lighthouse Service Mr.Conklin has been reprimanded and warned on the following occasions:

By Bureau letter March 21st 1914 for permitting the engines at Little Gull Island Light Station to freeze and burst.
For misconduct, by Bureau letter of April 14th 1914 on which occasion he was demoted to the position he now occupies.
For preferring false charges against the keeper of Little Gull Island, by Bureau letter of May 19th 1914.
Reprimanded and warned re conduct, by Bureau letter of April 28th 1915.

Mr.Conklin on October 22nd 1915 addressed a letter to this office requesting that he be permitted to exchange positions with Assistant Keeper Smith at Pecks Ledge Light Station which request was refused. Copy of letter from this office to Mr. Conklin dated October 25th 1915 in regard to the matter is herewith enclosed for the information of the Bureau.

Indef 3/15/16 TJC

In connection with this matter the Bureau's attention is invited to letter from this office returning correspondence from the Fish and Game Commission, State of Connecticut, relative to the keeper and assistant keeper at Pecks Ledge Light Station. As Assistant Keeper Smith is concerned in this matter this also makes the transfer of Conklin and Smith objectionable.

Copy of 1914 and 1915 correspondence re Mr.Conklin's financial difficulties with the Coney Island Life Guard Association is enclosed for the Bureau's information.

The exchanging of positions by Conklin as requested in the attached correspondence is not recommended.

J T Yates

McC.

Set inclosures.

22
March ~~20,~~ 1916.

Subject: 3d Inspector's indorsement of March 17, 1916, and accompanying papers, Thos. J. Conklin, 2d asst. kpr.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce concurring in the remarks of the Third Inspector, and recommending that the Bureau be authorized to address a letter to Congressman Hicks, in response to his letter of March 14, 1916, advising him, in effect, that under the regulations, keepers in the Lighthouse Service, in order to be eligible for transfer to other stations, must attain the required standard in efficiency and conduct; that Mr. Conklin's efficiency and conduct have not been satisfactory; and that it is not considered that his transfer to the position of assistant keeper of Pecks Ledge Light Station would be in the best interests of the service until such time as his conduct and efficiency warrant such transfer.

It is requested that the letter of Congressman Hicks, dated March 14, 1916, be returned to the Bureau when no longer needed at the Department.

The matters noted in the correspondence from the Fish and Game Commission of the State of Connecticut, referred to by the Inspector in his inclosed report, are now being investigated by the Bureau, and the Department will be further advised in regard thereto at a later date.

Attention is also invited to the inclosed letter dated March 20, 1916, in regard to this case, from the Third Inspector, and it is recommended that the Bureau be authorized to add to the letter to Congressman Hicks the fact that the lights at both Shinnecock Bay Light Station and Pecks Ledge Light Station are provided with incandescent oil vapor equipment, and the effect of the light upon the eyes is practically the same at each station

LIGHT
MAR 25 1916
HOUSES

Hydrog.
Engr. Corps.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Comnr.
Comnr.

March 24, 1916.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

The Department acknowledges receipt of the Bureau's communication of the 22nd instant, and enclosures, relative to replying to letter dated March 14, 1916, addressed to the Commissioner of Lighthouses by Congressman Frederick C. Hicks on the subject of an exchange transfer desired by Thomas J. Conklin from Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, to Pecks Ledge Light Station, New York.

It is noted that the Bureau is adverse to the proposed transfer for the reason that under the regulations keepers in the Lighthouse Service in order to be eligible for transfer to other stations at their own request must attain the required standard of efficiency and conduct; that Mr. Conklin's efficiency and conduct have not been satisfactory; and that it is not considered that his transfer to the position of assistant keeper of Pecks Ledge Light Station, New York, would be in the best interests of the service until such time as his conduct and efficiency warrant such transfer. With reference to the contention that the light at Shinnecock Bay is working injury to Mr. Concklin's eyes, it is noted that the lights at both Shinnecock Bay Light Station and Pecks Ledge Light Station are provided with incandescent oil vapor equipment, and that the effect upon the eyes is practically the same at each of these stations. In view of these circumstances, the Bureau is authorized to prepare a reply to Congress-

man Hicksalong the lines set forth in its communication.

The letter from Congressman Hicks is returned herewith, as requested.

(SIGNED) E. F. SWEET

Assistant Secretary.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington.

MAR 29 1916

one Incl.

To Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville NY

for his information, guidance, and files of office. Inclosed is copy of letter addressed to Congressman Hicks.

Acting Commissioner.

Enclosure 1532.
C-R

McC.

Thos. J. Conklin,
application.

March 28, 1916.

Hon. Frederick C. Hicks,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Hicks:

Referring again to your letter of March 14, 1916, on behalf of Mr. Thomas J. Conklin, second assistant keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, who desires to be transferred to the Pecks Ledge Light Station, New York.

I beg to advise you that under the regulations keepers in the Lighthouse Service, in order to be eligible for transfer to other stations at their own request must attain the required standard of efficiency and conduct, and as Mr. Conklin's efficiency and conduct have not been satisfactory, it is not considered that his transfer to the position of assistant keeper of Pecks Ledge Light Station would be in the best interests of the service until such time as an improvement is shown in the respects stated. It may be further stated that the lights at both Shinnecock Bay Light Station and Pecks Ledge Light Station are provided with incandescent oil vapor equipment, and the effect of the light upon the eyes is practically the same at each station.

Yours very truly,

JR

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington.
MAR 28 1916 Commissioner.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for his information, attention being invited to Dept letter of March 24, 1916.

TSC

Acting Commissioner.

L

mc

LONG ISLAND DISTRICT
FIRST NEW YORK
FREDERICK C. HICKS
J. HUYLER ELLISON
SECRETARY

No 37
3-17-16

LIGHT
MAR 15 1916
HOUSES

Congress of the United States

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
ACKNOWLEDGED
3-15-16
DEPT. OF COMMERCE

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
ANSWERED
28
3-[illegible]-16
Copy sent
DEPT. OF COMMERCE

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Commr.
Commr.

March 14, 1916.

LIGHT-HOUSE INSPECTOR
3D DIST.
MAR
16
1916
RECEIVED
TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

No 10 Rec'd
3-17-16

LIGHT
MAR 18 1916
HOUSES

See pp.
Has he in trouble bef.

Mr. George R. Putnam,
Commissioner of Light Houses,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Putnam:

J. HB

I understand that Mr. Thomas H. Conklin, Jr., who is now situated at Shinnecock (Bay L S) Light has made application to change positions with the assistant keeper at Peck's Ledge Light at South Norwalk. I believe this transfer would be agreeable to both as the light is somewhat effecting his eyes at the station where he is now situated and if you could consummate this transfer, you would confer a favor upon me.

Yours very truly,

Frederick C Hicks

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington.
MAR 15 1916

To Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville New York
for remark and return.

Conway
Acting Commissioner.

SIXTY-THIRD CONGRESS

JAMES P. MAHER, N. Y., CHAIRMAN.
JAMES A. HAMILL, N. J.
SCOTT FERRIS, OKLA.
DAVID J. LEWIS, MD.
JOHN J. CASEY, PA.
HALVOR STEENERSON, MINN.
J. A. FALCONER, WASH.
D. P. GERMERSHAUSEN,
CLERK.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
ANSWERED
3-
Copy
DEPT. OF COMMERCE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

Mr Putnam

INDEXED

Chief of Bureau:

Please prepare a reply for the signature of Secretary Redfield, and return original letter to this Office.

U. Grant Smith
Private Secretary.

CHIEF CLERK
MAR 30 1916
INDEXED

LIGHT
MAR 30 1916
HOUSES

SECRETARY
APR 1 1916

LIGHT
APR 3 1916
HOUSES

...ur,

...h 28, 1916.

Dear Grant:

...planatory letter

that I recei... ...for your kind

consideratio...

...I am

...ectfully,

James S. Ryan

Mr. U. Grant Smith,
Department of Commerce,
Washington, D. C.

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Comr.
Comr.

Same letter as to other Comr.
mic ref to 1.0.V. ltr
at both places
Copy 30 JM Mar 30

SIXTY-THIRD CONGRESS

JAMES P. MAHER, N. Y., CHAIRMAN.
JAMES A. HAMILL, N. J.
SCOTT FERRIS, OKLA.
DAVID J. LEWIS, MD.
JOHN J. CASEY, PA.
HALVOR STEENERSON, MINN.
J. A. FALCONER, WASH.
D. P. GERMERSHAUSEN, CLERK.

BUREAU OF LIGHT HOUSES ANSWERED MAR 30 1916 3-30-16 Copy 3d DEPT. OF COMMERCE

House of Representatives,

Committee on Expenditures in the Department of Labor,

Washington.

March 28, 1916.

CHIEF CLERK MAR 30 1916

LIGHT MAR 30 1916 HOUSES

SECRETARY APR 1 1916

LIGHT APR 3 1916 HOUSES

Dear Grant:

Enclosed please find self explanatory letter that I received and which I send to you for your kind consideration and reply.

With kind regards, I am

Very respectfully,

James P. Maher

Mr. U. Grant Smith,
Department of Commerce,
Washington, D. C.

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Comr.
Comr.

Same letter as to other Congr. mic ref to 1.0.V. Lts at both places Copy 3d JPMahon

R. T. Mc S

Bureau Copy

COUNTY CLERKS OFFICE
County of Kings
Hall of Records Brooklyn, N.Y.

William E. Kelly,
Clerk.

March 28, 1916.

Hon. Daniel J. Griffin, M. C,

House of Representatives,

Washington, D.C.

My dear Dan:

Will you kindly use your best efforts to have Thomas J. Conklin, of the Shinnecock Light, Long Island, transferred to Peck's Ledge Light, Connecticut, vice Benjamin Smith, of the Peck's Ledge Light, transferred to the Shinnecock Light, this to be a mutual transfer. Both are assistant keepers and under the Department of Commerce.

I assure you Dan that this will be greatly appreciated by a number of our mutual friends.

With kindest regards and best wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) William E Kelly

Original letter left at Bureau by Cong Griffin's Secretary on March 30, 1916, and returned to Cong Griffin with Bur letter of Mch 31, 1916, in accordance with request

WTB
Mch 31/16

McC.
1 Inclosure
Thos. J. Conklin,
application.

March 31, 1916.

Hon. Daniel J. Griffin,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Referring to letter of March 28, 1916, addressed to you by Mr. William E. Kelly, County Clerk, Kings County, Hall of Records, Brooklyn, New York, on behalf of Mr. Thomas J. Conklin, second assistant keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, who desires to be transferred to the Pecks Ledge Light Station, which letter was left at this office on March 30, 1916, by your Secretary.

I beg to advise you that under the regulations keepers in the Lighthouse Service, in order to be eligible for transfer to other stations at their own request, must attain the required standard of efficiency and conduct, and as Mr. Conklin's efficiency and conduct have not been satisfactory, it is not considered that his transfer to the position of assistant keeper of Pecks Ledge Light Station would be in the best interests of the service until such time as an improvement is shown in the respects stated.

The letter of Mr. Kelly above referred to is herewith.

Respectfully,

Commissioner.

One Incl

MAR 31 1916

Tompkinsville, N.Y. attached is copy of letter of William E. Kelly to Congressman Griffin.

Chief Clerk.

L

LIGHT
APR 3 1916
HOUSES

APR 1 1916

My dear Congressman:

Referring to your letter of March 28, 1916, inclosing a letter addressed to you on March 16, 1916, by Mr. George E. Dennen, on behalf of Mr. Thomas J. Conklin, second assistant keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, who desires to be transferred to the Pecks Ledge Light Station, New York.

I have to advise you that under the regulations keepers in the Lighthouse Service, in order to be eligible for transfer to other stations at their own request, must attain the required standard of efficiency and conduct, and as Mr. Conklin's efficiency and conduct have not been satisfactory, it is not considered that his transfer to the position of assistant keeper of Pecks Ledge Light Station would be in the best interests of the service until such time as an improvement is shown in the respects stated. It may be further stated that the lights at both Shinnecock Bay Light Station and Pecks Ledge Light Station are provided with incandescent oil vapor equipment, and the effect of the light upon the eyes is practically the same at each station.

The letter addressed to you by Mr. Dennen is inclosed, as requested.

Very truly yours,

LIGHTHOUSES--Bureau's files.

Exact copy as signed by.....
Mailed APR 1 - 1916 by.....

WILLIAM C. REDFIELD

Secretary.

Hon. James P. Maher,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington

Inclosure.

To Lighthouse Inspector Tompkinsville, N.Y.
for time of his office. By direction of the Commissioner: See previous correspondence,

TSC

Chief Clerk

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

FWO/WJL

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Engr. Commr.
Gen. Supt.

LIGHT
APR 4 1916
HOUSES

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

April 3,1916.

SUBJECT: Let. Mch 30,1916 from Conklin, 2nd Asst. Keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station requesting 6 mo. leave of absence.

Forwarded to Commissioner:

It is not considered that Mr. Conklin's record in the Service justifies favorable action on his request for six months leave of absence, as it is believed that leave of absence for extended periods should be granted only in exceptional and meritorious cases where the employee involved is deserving of special consideration on account of having rendered long, faithful and satisfactory service.

Enclosed for the Bureau's information is copy of a memorandum made by Superintendent Haskell on March 27th 1916.

The approval of the attached application is not recommended.

J T Yates

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
APR 6 - 1916

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce recommended for approval, the Bureau Concurring in the remarks of the Inspector.

Commissioner.

LIGHT
APR 7 1916
HOUSES

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Commr.
Commr.

April 7, 1916.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

The Department is in receipt of the Third Inspector's communication of the 3d instant, transmitting application of Thomas J. Conklin, second assistant keeper of Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, for six months' leave of absence, and, in accordance with the Bureau's recommendation of the 6th instant, disapproves Mr. Conklin's request, for the reason that his unsatisfactory service record renders him undeserving of special privileges which are granted only in exceptional and meritorious cases.

(SIGNED) E. E. PRATT.

Acting Secretary.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington.

APR 11 1916

To Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville N. Y.
for his information, guidance, and files of office.

Be guided accordingly

Acting Commissioner.

C-R

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

FWO-WJL

4-13-1916
Reply sent Dft

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Comr.
Comm'r.

LIGHT
APR 11 1916
HOUSES

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

April 10,1916.

Commissioner:

Dept rec accept. Good riddance
rec'd Apl 11

Referring to endorsement from this office dated April 3rd 1916 forwarding application of Thomas J.Conklin, 2nd Asst. Keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station,N.Y., for leave of absence for a period of six months.

The Bureau's attention is invited to Form 93 of this date forwarding Mr.Conklin's resignation with the recommendation that it be accepted effective at the close of April 15th 1916.

J T Yates

Resignation Thomas J. Conklin, submitted by Inspr. April 10, 1916.

/3

HB-JEL

APR 7 8 1916

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce, approved.

Attention is invited to Bureau indorsement of March 22, 1916, regarding the transfer desired by Conklin, in which reference is made to his lack of efficiency, etc., and also to Department reply of March 24, 1916, on the subject.

C
Acty

LIGHT
APR 15 1916
HOUSES

April 14, 1916.

Sir:

The Department is in receipt of your resignation, dated April 7, 1916, as second assistant keeper of Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, at $456 per annum, in the Lighthouse Service, and has accepted the same, upon recommendation of the Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses, to take effect at the close of April 15, 1916.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) CLIFFORD HASTINGS

Chief of Appointment Division.

Mr. Thomas J. Conklin,
Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

APR 15 1916

R
C

HB

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

April 20, 1917.

Mr. Thomas J. Conklin,
88 Ryerson St.,
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Sir:

Referring to your communication dated April 11, 1917, relative to reinstatement in the Lighthouse Service.

I beg to state that the matter is being investigated, and that you will be further advised in regard thereto at an early date.

Respectfully,

Acting Commissioner

Records show this man to have had unsatisfactory service record.

✓

163

HB-NDW

Reinstatement,
keeper.

May 1, 1917.

Mr. Thomas J. Conklin,
88 Ryerson St.,
Brooklyn, New York.

Sir:

Referring again to your letter of April 11, 1917, requesting reinstatement as keeper in the Lighthouse Service.

The Bureau states that you have been asked by the Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville, New York, to state whether or nor you would accept the position of assistant keeper at Romer Shoal Light Station. Should you accept this position, further consideration will be given by the Inspector to your nomination therefor.

Respectfully,

Acting Commissioner

HB-NDW Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington, May 1, 1917.

To Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville, New York, for his information, guidance, and files of office. See your indorsement of April 21, 1917.

Acting Commissioner

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT
APR 23 1917
HOUSES

FWO-WJL

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.
April 21,1917.

Subject: Bu.end.Apr 20,1917 fwdg let.Apr.11 from Thomas J.Conklin re reinstatement as Lighthouse Keeper.

[redacted] & C. copy for 3 Instr May 1, 1917.

Returned to Commissioner:

The records show that Mr.Conklin's services while employed in this District were unsatisfactory and he is not considered to be a desirable man for reemployment, but, owing to the scarcity of men at the present time for employment at light stations Mr.Conklin has been asked to state whether or not he would accept employment in the position of assistant keeper at Romer Shoal Light Station. Should he be willing to accept this position, it is expected that he will be nominated for reinstatement.

J T Yates

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Comr.
Commr.

Adv corresp cop 3d DSC Ap 23

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

FWO-WJL

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT
APR 23 1917
HOUSES

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.
April 21, 1917.

Subject: Bu.end.Apr 20,1917 fwdg let.Apr.11 from Thomas J.Conklin re reinstatement as Lighthouse Keeper.

Returned to Commissioner:

The records show that Mr.Conklin's services while employed in this District were unsatisfactory and he is not considered to be a desirable man for reemployment, but, owing to the scarcity of men at the present time for employment at light stations Mr.Conklin has been asked to state whether or not he would accept employment in the position of assistant keeper at Romer Shoal Light Station. Should he be willing to accept this position, it is expected that he will be nominated for reinstatement.

J. T. Yates

as sound Apr 15, 1916, during
to the fact that one of my
eyes became strained and
the doctor ordered me to

Respfl.
Thomas J. Conklin
Apr 11, 1917.

HB says records show unsatisf Keeper TSC 4/20

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington,
APR 20, 1917

To Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville N.Y.
For remark and return information as requested.

Acting Commissioner.

HB

LIGHT-HOUSE INSPECTOR 3d DIST. APR 21 1917 RECEIVED TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.
LIGHT APR 23 1917 HOUSES

88 Pyerson St
Brooklyn

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Commr.
Commr.

Commissioner Putnam

LIGHT APR 14 1917 HOUSES
LIGHT APR 23 1917 HOUSES
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES ACKOWLEDGED APR 20 1917 DEPT. OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES ANSWERED APR 26 1917 DEPT. OF COMMERCE

Sir I respectfully acquaint
you regard to my
being situated in the U.S.
Lt. Service as light keeper
I resigned my position
as same Apr 15, 1916, owing
to the fact that one of my
eyes became strained and
the doctor ordered me to
the work up for a while
and now I am over again
to resume the work I
would like to very much
so, thanking you very
much for your kind attn
I remain
Respfl.
Thomas J. Sonklin
Apr 11, 1917.

HB says records show unsatisf Serv T.C. 4/20

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington,
APR 20, 1917

To Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville N.Y.
For remark and return information as requested.

Acting Commissioner.

HB



give the work up for a while and now I am once again able to resume the work & should like to very much to do so, thanking you very much for your kind attention I remain

Respfl.

Thomas J. Conklin

Apr 11, 1917.

KB says records show unsatisf Aero PC 4/20

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington,
APR 20, 1917

To Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville N.Y.

For remark and return. information as requested.

Acting Commissioner.

1/18

McC-WDW

Nominations, Conklin,
Newman, Moore, etc.

May 4, 1917.

Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville, New York.

The Bureau is in receipt today of three nominations prepared in your office on April 26, 1917, all of which are to be effective on May 3, 1917, namely; Thomas J. Conklin, assistant keeper Romer Shoal Light Station, N. Y., James H. Newman, second assistant keeper of Little Gull Island Light Station, N. Y., and Earl Moore, assistant keeper of Falkner Island Light Station, Conn. As you may have, under the terms of Bureau Circular Letter No. 313 of April 12, 1917, placed these persons on duty on the date recommended on the nominations, the Bureau has recommended to the Department that they be made effective on that date or as soon thereafter as the nominees enter on duty.

It is noted that these nominations were received in the office of the second civil service district secretary on April 27, 1917, but were not forwarded until May 2, 1917. It is suggested that you advise the district secretary of the importance of forwarding such nominations promptly to this office, in order to avoid the necessity, if possible, of the Department issuing a prior date appointment, which it would have been unnecessary to recommend in these cases had the nominations been forwarded promptly by the district secretary.

aw

Acting Commissioner

103

CERTIFICATE OF PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT

LIGHT
MAY7 1917
HOUSES

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

May 5, 1917.

Mr. Thomas J. Conklin,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

You have been appointed, subject to taking the oath of office and to a probationary period of not to exceed six months as provided by paragraph (c) of section 1 of civil-service rule VII, Assistant Keeper in the Lighthouse Service at a salary of Five Hundred and Sixteen dollars per annum, effective on the date on which you enter upon duty in the above-mentioned position.

By selection from certificate of eligibles (No. - - - -) issued by the local Civil Service Board for the Third Lighthouse District.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) W. S. GILCHRIST

L
C

Acting Chief of Appointment Division.

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Vice: Frank Oberly.

Legal Residence: New York.

(See reverse side.)

11—5980

MAY 9 1917

Form 73

JHG

NOMINATION

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, 3rd DISTRICT,

LIGHT HOUSES MAY 4 1917

Tompkinsville, N.Y. (City.) April 26,1917 (Date.), 191

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:
(Through Sec'y, 2nd C. S. District)
Action recommended, Probationary appointment.

Name, Thomas J. Conklin — Legal residence, New York

Position, Assistant Keeper — Salary, $516 per annum

Location, Romer Shoal Lt.Sta., N.Y. — Appropriation, Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses

Effective May 3,1917 — ~~the actual date of entrance on duty~~, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

Former position, — Former salary,

Location,

Rank on eligible list, 1 Rating, Keeper Percentage, 81.2, Other eligibles considered:
Frank Jaycox C. Patrick A. Meehan C.

Previous incumbent, Frank Cherly — Services terminated, April 30,1917

Reason, Promoted

Members of family in Government Service, None.

Remarks: No employee of District desired transfer to this position. There are no quarters for families of keepers at this station. Nos.1,3,4,7 & 11 on eligible list will only accept appointment to certain specified stations. Nos.6,8,9,10 & 12 will not accept appointment to stations where there are no family quarters provided. No 13 is not eligible for appointment to this position.

Selection regular, subject to the action of the U. S. Civil Service Commission. MAY 2 1917, 191

J. T. YATES

Secretary, SECOND Civil Service District. RM

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

MCC-NDW — May 4, 1917.

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce, approved. Inasmuch as the Inspector has recommended this appointment to be effective May 3, 1917, and that he may have, in accordance with the provisions of Department letter of March 29, 1917, amending Rule VI, Sections 7 and 8, of the Civil Service Regulations for the Lighthouse Service, placed this man on duty on May 3, 1917, it is recommended that the appointment be issued to take effect on that date or as soon thereafter as Conklin enters on duty. It is noted that the above nomination is dated April 26, 1917, and was received by the second civil service district secretary April 27, 1917, but was not forwarded by him until May 2, 1917.

[1] Strike out the clause which does not apply.

Acting Commissioner

41—2314

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

JHG

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

LIGHT
JUN 15 1917
HOUSES

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Commr.
Commr.

June 14,1917

Commissioner:-

Referring to Bureau Circular Letter No.296, dated February 10, 1917, relative to physical examination of keepers and assistant keepers by the Public Health Service, and to paragraph 2 on page 3 of said circular.

The Bureau is advised that on June 13,1917, Thomas J. Conklin, assistant keeper of Romer Shoal Light Station, New York, was given a physical examination by the U. S. Public Health Service, at the Marine Hospital, Stapleton, N. Y., and owing to defective vision he was found physically disqualified.

In view of the difficulty of obtaining men at this time, it is recommended that Mr.Conklin be retained in the service.

D. T. YATES.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
June 19, 1917.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for his information and with recommendation for approval of Inspector's recommendation.

Commissioner.

LIGHT
JUN 22 1917
HOUSES

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
~~Personnel~~
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Commr.
Commr.

June 21, 1917.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

For the reasons stated in the Third Inspector's letter of the 14th instant, and in accordance with the Bureau's recommendation of the 19th instant, the Department hereby approves the retention of Thomas J. Conklin in the position of assistant keeper of Romer Shoal Light Station, New York, notwithstanding the fact that owing to defective vision he was found physically disqualified to receive the benefits of the Act of August 28, 1916, which provides for free medical relief by the Public Health Service to light keepers and assistant keepers of the Lighthouse Service.

SIGNED) E. F. SWEET

Assistant Secretary.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
JUN 22 1917

To Lighthouse Inspector, Ithaca Ny
for his information, guidance, and files of office.

Acting Commissioner.

C-L

LIGHT HOUSES

April 17, 1918.

Sir:

The Department is in receipt of your resignation, dated February 6, 1918, as assistant keeper of Romer Shoal Light Station, New York, at $516 per annum, in the Lighthouse Service, and has accepted the same, upon recommendation of the Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses, effective at the close of March 15, 1918.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(Signed) Clifford Hastings.

Chief of Appointment Division.

Mr. Thomas J. Conklin,
Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

3 Insp.

N
C

(COPY)

IN REPLYING ADDRESS
COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES
AND REFER TO DATE [illegible] LETTER
AND FILE

EK
Incl.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES NOV 11 1925 RECEIVED TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

NOV 14 1925 10 1925 NOV 14 AM 8 58 LIGHTHOUSES

November 10, 1925.

SUBJECT: Abstract of Official Record for Thomas J. Conklin.

Referred to Superintendent of Lighthouses, Staten Island, N. Y., with request that the inclosed forms be filled out and returned to the Bureau in triplicate.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON
11/9/25

TRANSMITTED TO Lighthouse Service
For action as indicated.
For amendment and return.
As per telephonic arrangement.
Returned as per request.
For information and file.

Thomas J. Conklin
1912 to 1917

LIGHTHOUSES 1925 NOV 14 AM 8 58

Cliff Blasting

(Signed) H. B. BOWERMAN
ing Commissioner of Lighthouses.

of Supt. of Lighthouses, 3rd Dist.,
n Island, N. Y., November 12th 1925

r of Lighthouses:

illed out as directed.

perintendent

IN REPLYING ADDRESS
COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES
AND REFER TO DATE [redacted] LETTER
AND FILE

EK
Incl.

(COPY)

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES

WASHINGTON

NOV 14 1925

1925 NOV 14 AM 8 58

LIGHTHOUSES

November 10, 1925.

SUBJECT: Abstract of Official Record for Thomas J. Conklin.

Referred to Superintendent of Lighthouses, Staten Island, N. Y., with request that the inclosed forms be filled out and returned to the Bureau in triplicate.

(Signed) H. B. BOWERMAN

Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses.

WJL: AJS

Office of Supt. of Lighthouses, 3rd Dist.,
Staten Island, N. Y., November 12th 1925

Returned to Commissioner of Lighthouses:

The forms having been filled out as directed.

J. A. Lees

Superintendent

COMMISSIONERS
HARRY B. MITCHELL, PRESIDENT
LUCILLE FOSTER McMILLEN
LEONARD D. WHITE
LAWSON A. MOYER, CHIEF EXAMINER

UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

ADDRESS ONLY
"CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION"
IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
FILE
AND DATE OF THIS LETTER SRR:AMD:ZA

LIGHTHOUSES
MAR 24 10 11 AM '37

March 20, 1937

The Honorable
The Secretary of Commerce

5/7/37 remarked

Sir:

The Commission's attention has been called to the probable dual service of Thomas J. Conklin in contravention of the Act of May 10, 1916, as amended, while an employee of the Navy Yard, New York, New York, and of the Lighthouse Service, Department of Commerce, during the period December 17, 1917, to March 15, 1918, as shipfitter, $3.84 per diem, and assistant keeper, $516 per annum, respectively.

As this office has been requested by the General Accounting Office to report cases of dual employment which come to its attention, information in duplicate report as to the amount Mr. Conklin received, the name of the disbursing officer, his symbol number, voucher number, and date of payment should be forwarded to the Commission. This information is necessary to expedite a search of the pay roll records in the General Accounting Office.

2nd asst. Keeper Little Gull Isl. N.Y. - 4/4/12 - 5/1/14
Shamacock Bay, N.Y. 5/2/14 - 4/15/16.
Romer Shoal N.Y. 5/2/17 - 3/15/18

By direction of the Commission:

Very respectfully,

- - - - - -

L. A. Moyer
Chief Examiner

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington, D.C.,
March 29, 1937.

Referred to Superintendent of Lighthouses, Staten Island, N.Y.,
For report and return.

For the Commissioner:

Chief, Personnel Division.

Copy transmitted to the Bureau of Lighthouses.

Chief, Division of Personnel

Form 84 b

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

May 5, 1937

RECEIVED
MAY 10 1937
SUPT. OF LIGHTHOUSES
STATEN ISLAND, N.Y.
LIGHTHOUSES
MAY 13 8 44 AM '37

Superintendent of Lighthouses, Staten Island, N. Y.

Subject: dual service Thomas J. Conklin

Bureau (indorsement) dated March 29, 1937 on Civil Service Commission letter of March 20, 1937.
Your ( ) dated

No report has been received from your office on the above subject. Submit report or advise when same may be expected.

For the Commissioner:

C. J. Ludwig, Jr.
Chief Clerk, Bureau of Lighthouses.

To be prepared in duplicate. Indicate in blank space inclosed in parentheses whether letter, indorsement, etc.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1933

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
STATEN ISLAND, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

WJLcBS

LIGHTHOUSES
MAY 13 8 44 AM 37

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
3D DISTRICT, STATEN ISLAND, N. Y.

May 12, 1937

Returned to Commissioner of Lighthouses:-

SUBJECT: Dual service Thomas J. Conklin

REFERENCE: Bureau endorsement 3/29/37 on Civil Service Commission letter of March 20, 1937 and Bureau Form 84b of 5/5/37.

1. Thomas John Conklin was employed as Assistant Keeper of Romer Shoal Light Station from May 12, 1917 to March 15, 1918 at $516.00 per annum.

2. It is impracticable to furnish details as to the payment of his salary between December 17, 1917 and March 15, 1918, as the records are no longer available.

J.T.Yates
Superintendent.

Advise C S
Com -

apparently total compensation not exceed $2000 per annum

E-K

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington, D. C.,
May 13, 1937.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for information, attention being invited to Department indorsement of March 22 on Civil Service Commission letter of March 20. The special disbursing agents for the period in question were Willis A. Voorhees and F. W. Ockenfels. It does not appear that Mr. Conklin's salary exceeded $2000 per annum, during the period in question.

For the Commissioner:

Chief, Personnel Division.

Thomas J. Conklin.

MR. THOMAS J. CONKLIN

INACTIVE

LEGAL RESIDENCE
N. Y.

STATUS

DESIGNATION	SALARY	BUREAU OR OFFICE	DATE OF EFFECT OF ACTION AUTHORIZED
2nd Asst. Kpr. Little Gull Isl-N.Y.	$456.	L.H.	Jan 14. 1912
1st " " " " " "	$480	"	Oct. 25, 1912
2nd " " Shinnecock Bay L.I.N.Y.	$456	"	May 2, 1914
Resigned eff Apr 15. 1916			
Asst Kpr Roms Shoal L.S. N.Y. Post appt	$516.	L.H.	May 12, 1917
Resigned eff March 15. 1918			

INACTIVE

Form 73 ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT, PROMOTION, OR TRANSFER OF APPOINTEE.

PWP

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK RECEIVED JAN 20 1912 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES JAN 18 1912 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, Third DISTRICT,

Tompkinsville, N.Y., January 15, 1912.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION RECEIVED JAN 20 1912 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

The following recommendation is submitted:

Action proposed, probationary appointment

Name, Thomas J. Conklin Legal residence, New York

Position, 2nd assistant keeper Salary, $456 per annum

Location, Little Gull Island Light-Station, N. Y.

Effective Jan. 14, 1912 the actual date of entrance on duty.

Former position, Former salary,

Location,

Rank in list of eligibles, 3 Rating, Asst.Kpr. Percentage, 83.0

Other eligibles considered, George J. Thomas - declined*
William H. Follett - declined.

Letters of declination inclosed, Thomas and Follett.

Previous incumbent, George L.Brightman Services terminated, Dec.30,1911

Reason, dismissed Resigned. Charges preferred for failure to give due notice of intention to resign.

Remarks: Payable from "Salaries,Keepers of Lighthouses."

*Mr.Thomas at first accepted the position, but on being ordered to the station, stated he would be unable to go,as per attached letter.

No employee of the district desired transfer to this position.

C. D. STEARNS,
Commander,U.S.N.,Inspector.

FORWARDED TO JAN 26 1912 APPOINTMENTS

Department of Commerce and Labor

THREE inclosures BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES JANUARY 19, 1912.

WASHINGTON

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, approved.

11—2314

Commissioner.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION APPOINTMENT WRITTEN JAN 26 1912 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT—PRIOR DATE

Department of Commerce and Labor
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
Washington

January 27, 1912.

Sir:

You have been appointed, subject to taking the oath of office,

Second Assistant Keeper

in the Lighthouse Service

at a salary of Four Hundred and Fifty-six dollars

per annum, for a probationary period of six months, effective

beginning January 14, 1912, on and after which date you have

continuously served in the above-mentioned position.

Retention in the service after the expiration of your proba-

tionary period shall be equivalent to absolute appointment.

(Civil-service certificate No. ——)

(Vice George L. Brightman.)

CARDED.

CHANGE REPORTED
DEC - - 1911
C. S. COMMISSION.
APPOINTMENT DIVISION.
REPORTED
JAN 29 1912
TO DISBURSING CLERK
DEPT. OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

Mr. Thomas J. Conklin,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

A. M. Bonnell
Chief Clerk.

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

F

11—3606

Form 111

OATH OF OFFICE

(Prescribed by Section 1757, Revised Statutes)

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
RECEIVED
MAR 30 1912
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES
MAR 16 1912
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

I, Thomas J Conklin[3] .....

do solemnly[1] swear (See below.) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter: So HELP ME GOD.

Thomas J Conklin
(Appointee signs here.)

[2] Sworn to (See below.) and subscribed before me, this[3] 1st day of March, A. D. 191 2

(Affix Official seal here.)

[4] (Name) Chas Boyer

(Official title) Notary Public

Official Title.	Rate of Pay.	Name of Station, Vessel, or Place of Employment.
Second Asst. Keeper	$456.00, p.a.	Little Gull Island Lt.Sta., N.Y.

(The above should be filled in by the district officer before sending to appointee.)

CANCELED.

Office of Lighthouse Inspector, Third District

Tompkinsville, N.Y. (Address.) Mar 13, 1912 (Date.)

The above-named appointee entered upon duty on Jan 14, 1912 (Date.)

C. D. Stearns
(Signature.)
Commander, U. S. Navy,
Inspector, 3rd Lt House Dist.

RECEIVED
MAR 16 1912
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

[1] Insert here "swear" or "affirm," as the case may be.

[2] Insert here "sworn to" or "affirmed," as the case may be.

[3] The oath may be taken any time after the date of appointment and prior to the payment of compensation, but no compensation shall be paid until the oath is executed in proper form.

[4] This oath should be taken before a justice of the peace, notary public, judge, clerk of a court, or any other officer having authority to administer oaths, but never before a collector of customs, as he has no power to administer oaths in such cases. In case the officer administering the oath has no seal, his official character should be duly certified to by the clerk of the proper court or the proper county clerk.

Failure to fill out this oath properly will result in its return for correction.

Ent'd MAR 29 1912

LIGHT-HOUSE INSPECTOR 2d DIST. MAR 15 10 RECEIVED TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

PERSONAL QUESTION SHEET

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES MAR 16 1912 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Department of Commerce and Labor

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington

May 15, 1909.

To the Chiefs of Bureaus of the Department of Commerce and Labor:

For the purpose of enabling the Department to maintain a complete record of its officers and employees, you are requested to have every person hereafter appointed or employed in your Bureau, immediately upon his entrance on duty, answer each of the questions in Part I of this form and sign the same. The information given in Part I should be reviewed and approved in accordance with instructions. The information in Part II should be supplied as indicated and the form forwarded to the Department.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK RECEIVED MAR 16 1912 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK MAR 18 1912 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Charles Nagel
Secretary.

CARDED.

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS RECEIVED MAR 18 1912 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

PART I.

(Part I should be filled out by the appointee or employee; but, if he is unable to write legibly, another person may write the answers at his dictation. In either case the statement should be signed by the appointee or employee. If he is unable to write, he may sign by mark in the presence of one witness. If he is unable to answer any question, he should indicate that fact.)

1. What is your full name? (Do not use initials, but spell out each name and state whether Mr., Miss, or Mrs. Example: Mr. John Richard Doe.)
Mr Thomas John Conklin

2. How do you intend to write your name on the pay roll? (*This should agree with signature to your oath of office.*)
Thomas J Conklin

3. What is your present legal (voting) residence? (Give city or town, State or Territory, county, and Congressional district.)
Brooklyn (City or town.) New York (State or Territory.) Kings (County.) 6 (Congressional district.)

4. What is your race? (Answer "white," "colored," or "Mongolian.") White

5. Where were you born? Brooklyn N. Y.

6. When were you born? July (Month.) 22 (Day.) 1884 (Year.)

7. Are you pensioned by the U. S. Government? (Answer "Yes" or "No.") No

11—1434

8. Give name and address of person whom you would like to have notified in case of accident.

Thomas Conklin (Name.) 417 Myrtle Ave (Number and street.)

Brooklyn (City or town.) New York (State or Territory.)

9. Are there any members of your family, besides yourself, in the civil service of the United States? (If so, give below their names, relationships, the Departments and Bureaus or Services in which they are employed, and the positions they occupy.)

Name.	Relationship.	Department.	Bureau or Service.	Position.
		No		

10. If you were appointed through a civil service examination, state, as near as you recollect, the name and date of the examination. If not so appointed, state how you entered the service. (Examples: "By reinstatement," or "by transfer from ———," stating Department, Bureau or Service, position, and salary, if known.)

August 30 1910 Local Civil Service Examination Oct 3/1911

11. Have you any physical disabilities? (If so, describe briefly. If you have defective eyesight, state whether corrected by glasses.)

No

12. Have you ever held any other position in the civil service of the United States? (If so, give below the Department and Bureau or Service in which you served, the position held, the salary you received, and the dates of your appointment and separation from the service.)

Department.	Bureau or Service.	Position.	Salary.	Appointed.	Separated.
		No			

13. Do you hold any State or municipal office? (If so, state name of such office and compensation attached.)

No

14. Were you in the military or naval service of the United States during the Civil or Spanish-American War? (If so, give the information called for by the blanks below.)

Regiment and company, or vessel.	Date enlisted.	Date discharged.	Cause of discharge.
		No	

15. If you served in the military or naval service of the United States at any time other than during the Civil or Spanish-American Wars, indicate such service in the spaces below.

Regiment and company, or vessel.	Date enlisted.	Date discharged.	Cause of discharge.
		No	

16. What was your occupation prior to entering the United States civil service? (It is intended that the answer to this question shall state briefly the lines of work followed by you before receiving your present appointment, with the exception of your service indicated in answer to questions 12, 13, 14, and 15.)

A first class shipfitters helper doing mechanic work at the New York Navy yard.

17. What education have you received? (Indicate the grades of schools you have attended, and, in case you have attended schools of higher grade than high schools, give the institution, degrees received, and date in each case. Example: Public school; high school; business college; Cornell University, A. B., 1900; Columbia University, LL. B., 1903.)

Public School

18. What special qualifications have you—educational, professional, technical, mechanical, etc.? (Examples: Qualified as "Lawyer," or "Civil Engineer," or "Translator," or "Interpreter," or "Draftsman," or "Carpenter").

Shipfitting

19. What, if any, civil service examinations have you passed? (Give names and dates as near as you recollect.)

Local Civil Service Examination No Oct 2/11

20. Were the answers to the foregoing questions written by you? (If not, state the name and address of the person who wrote them for you.)

Yes

21. State the date upon which the above blanks were filled. March 1, 1912

Witness:

(Signature) Thomas J Conklin

P. O. Address Little Gull Island N Y
City or town.
or Fort Mitchie
Number and street.
New York.
State or Territory.

In case signature is by mark.

(Where the appointee is to be employed outside of the District of Columbia the information given in Part I should be reviewed and approved by the officer in immediate charge before forwarding to the Bureau. Where he is to be employed in the District of Columbia, Part I should be reviewed and approved by the officer who executes Part II.)

Reviewed, approved, and forwarded March 13, 1912, 19

(Signature) C. D. Stearns

Commander, U. S. Navy,

(Official title) Inspector, 3rd Lt. House Dist.

11—1434

PART II.

(Part II should be executed by the executive officers of the various Bureaus of the Department, or, at their direction, by some official who can give the information desired. If unable to answer any question, indicate that fact.

---

1. State the Bureau or Service, place, and district in which the person who answered the foregoing questions is employed

L. H. Service (Bureau or Service.) Little Gull Island L.T. Sta. N.Y. (Place (City, town, or post office) or vessel.) Third (District.)

2. To what position has he been appointed? Second Asst. Keeper

3. State the date of appointment. Jan 27, 1912

4. State the date the appointment was effective. (If appointment was made to take effect on date of oath, so state.)

Jan 14, 1912

5. State the date of the oath. Mar 1, 1912

6. State the date the employee entered on duty. Jan 14, 1912

7. What is his salary? $456.00 per ann.

8. From what appropriation is he paid? Salaries Keepers

9. Is the position excepted, competitive, or unclassified under the civil service rules? competitive

10. If classified, state the date of classification. May 6, 1896

11. In what manner did the employee enter the service? (Examples: "From stenography and typewriting examination;" or "without examination;" or "by reinstatement;" or "by transfer from ——," stating Department, Bureau or Service, position, and salary, if known.)

Local Civil Service Examination Oct 3, 1911

12. Is the employee required to give bond? No

13. When the legal residence given in answer to question 3, Part I, differs from that given in the certificate of appointment, the discrepancy should be explained.

Reviewed, approved, and forwarded to the Department.

(Signature) C. D. Stearns

(Official title) Commander, U. S. Navy, Inspector, 3rd Lt. House Dist.

Date: ——————, 19

Form 73 ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT, PROMOTION, OR TRANSFER OF APPOINTEE

JHG

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, Third DISTRICT,

Tompkinsville,N.Y.

October 14,1912 , 191

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES OCT 15 1912 DEPT OF COMMERCE

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

The following recommendation is submitted:

Action proposed, Promotion

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK RECEIVED OCT 16 1912 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Name, Thomas J. Conklin Legal residence, New York

Position, 1st Assistant Keeper Salary, $480 per annum

Location, Little Gull Island Light Station,N.Y.

Effective October 25,1912 or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty. ~~on the actual date of entrance on duty.~~

CHIEF CLERK FORWARDED TO OCT 16 1912 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Former position, 2nd Assistant Keeper Former salary, $456. per annum

Location, Little Gull Island Light Station,N.Y.

Rank in list of eligibles, Rating, Percentage,

Other eligibles considered,

APPOINTMENT DIVISION RECEIVED OCT 16 1912 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Letters of declination inclosed,

Previous incumbent, Thomas Pickup Services terminated, October 24,1912

Reason, Transferred. recommended

Remarks:

Payable from "Salaries,Keepers of Lighthouses"

Yates

Department of Commerce and Labor

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES

WASHINGTON

OCT 15 1912

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, approved.

11—2314

APPOINTMENT DIVISION APPOINTMENT WRITTEN OCT 16 1912 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

J. A. Ormsby

Acting Commissioner

GENERAL APPOINTMENT

Department of Commerce and Labor
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
Washington

October 16, 1912.

Mr. Thomas J. Conklin,
Through
the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

You have been appointed, subject to taking the oath of office,

First Assistant Keeper

in the Lighthouse Service

at a salary of Four Hundred and Eighty dollars per annum,

effective on the date on which you enter upon duty in the above-mentioned position.

(By promotion from second assistant keeper at $456 per annum.)

CANCELED.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

APPOINTMENT DIVISION. RECEIVED OCT 16 1912. CLERK

(SIGNED) M. O. SHIELDS

Chief of Appointment Division.

ED

Acting

Appropriation:
Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Vice:
Thomas Pickup.

Legal Residence:
New York.

CHANCE REPORTER OCT - - 1912 U. S. COMMISSION.

11-43602

Form 111

OATH OF OFFICE

(Prescribed by Section 1757, Revised Statutes)

OFFICE OF DISBURSING CLERK
RECEIVED
NOV 4 1912
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Carded in the Disbursing Office

OCT 31 1912
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

I, Thomas J. Conklin do solemnly[1] swear (See below) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter: So HELP ME GOD.

Thomas J Conklin
(Appointee signs here)

[2] Sworn to (See below) and subscribed before me, this[3] 22nd day of October, A. D. 1912

(Affix official seal here)

[4] (Name) Wallace D Johnson

(Official title) Notary Public

Official Title	Rate of Pay	Name of Station, Vessel, or Place of Employment
1st Assistant Keeper	$480. p.a.	Little Gull Island Lt.Sta.,N.Y.

(The above should be filled in by the district officer before sending to appointee)

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
RECEIVED
NOV 5 1912
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

CARDED.

Office of Lighthouse Inspector, 3rd District

Tompkinsville,N.Y., Oct 30/1912
(Address) (Date)

The above-named appointee entered upon duty on Oct 30/1912
(Date)

Formerly 2nd Asst.Keeper,
Little Gull Island Lt.
Sta.,at $456. p.a.

Yates
(Signature, followed by title)

[1] Insert here "swear" or "affirm," as the case may be.

[2] Insert here "sworn to" or "affirmed," as the case may be.

[3] The oath may be taken any time after the date of appointment and prior to the payment of compensation, but no compensation shall be paid until the oath is executed in proper form.

[4] This oath should be taken before a justice of the peace, notary public, judge, clerk of a court, or any other officer having authority to administer oaths, but never before a collector of customs, as he has no power to administer oaths in such cases. In case the officer administering the oath has no seal, his official character should be duly certified to by the clerk of the proper court or the proper county clerk.

Failure to fill out this oath properly will result in its return for correction.

11—944

Copy.

July 28, 1913.

APPOINTMENTS
JUL 28 1913

Sir:

Referring to the assistance rendered by you and the keeper and second assistant keeper of Little Gull Island Light Station, New York, on April 27, 1913, to the Captain and crew of the schooner Pell S. C. Vought which foundered on Little Gull Island Reef, the Department commends you for the service rendered on the occasion in question and will note the fact on the records as part of your official history.

Respectfully,

WILLIAM C. REDFIELD

(Signed)

Secretary.

Mr. Thomas J. Conklin,
First Assistant Keeper, Little Gull Island Light Station, N.Y.,
Through Commissioner of Lighthouses.

LIGHTHOUSES--Appointment Division's files.

WILLIAM C. REDFIELD

Exact copy as signed by----------

Mailed JUL 28 1913 by----------

(COPY)

CLERK
MAR 24 1914
5

HRW-D

March 21, 1914.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION
ACKNOWLEDGED
MAR 25 1914
DEPT OF COMMERCE

Thomas F. Conklin.
First Assistant Keeper, Little Gull Island Light-Station, N.Y.
(Through Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville, N.Y.)

APPOINTMENTS
MAR 24 1914
21

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
ANSWERED
MAR 25 1914
DEPT OF COMMERCE

Referring to the freezing and bursting of the engine and compressor cylinders at Little Gull Island Light-Station, on the night of February 11, 1914,

It appears that you failed to take reasonable precautionary measures, such as blowing the water out of the jacket of the cylinders, (although you knew that such action had been taken twice during the present winter season to prevent freezing,) starting engine occasionally to prevent freezing, and using heating torch to keep cylinders warm.

You are reprimanded for your negligence in this instance and cautioned that a recurrence of such neglect will result in more drastic action being taken in your case.

The fact that you have been reprimanded will be entered in the files of the Department, the Bureau and the Inspector's as a part of your official history.

(Signed) G T Putnam
Acting Secretary.

HRW-D

Bureau of Lighthouses,
March 21, 1914.

To Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville, N.Y., for his information, guidance and files of his office. You are requested to have Conklin given full instructions as to the care of machinery at this station.

(Signed) J. S Conway
Acting Commissioner.

Bureau of Lighthouses,
March 21, 1914.

5-Inclosures.

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce. Inclosures are papers submitted by the Inspector in the case and their return is requested as soon as they have served their purpose.

J. S Conway
Acting Commissioner.

LIGHT
MAR 25 1914
HOUSES

March 25, 1914.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

The Department is in receipt of the Bureau's communication of the 21st instant, and the action taken with regard to the neglect of duty on the part of Thomas J. Conklin, first assistant keeper of Little Gull Island Light Station, New York, has been noted. The papers enclosed with the Bureau's communication are returned herewith as requested.

(SIGNED) E. F. SWEET

Acting Secretary.

Enclosure No. 617.
C-M

FRO/EJC.

LIGHT
MAR251914
HOUSES

March 24th, 1914.

MAR 28 1914
APPOINTMENTS
MAR 28 1914
257

Thomas J.Conklin, 1st Asst.Keeper,
(THROUGH THE KEEPER,)
Little Gull Island Light Station,
Fort Michie, Gull Island, N.Y.

The Keeper of Little Gull Island Light Station has advised this office that when he left the station on December 30th, 1913, he left orders for the lens and brass work to be polished, and the tower to be kept clean, also that the fog signal apparatus and fog signal house be kept clean and in good order, but that when he returned to the station which had been temporarily under your charge during the keeper's absence, he found same in a filthy condition, also that when he left the station on February 7th, he left orders that the North Engine and compressor be cleaned and brass work polished, which work you failed to do. The keeper also reports that on March 14th, the date on which you left the station for seven days leave of absence, you requested of him an additional five days leave, which the keeper disapproved, and that you then declared that you would go to the office and get the additional leave over the keeper's head, which you attempted to do when you called at this office on March 18th, and applied for leave in addition to that previously granted.

The Keeper also reports that your work at the station is not satisfactory in that you slight your duties and do the work assigned you by the keeper in a slovenly manner.

HOUSES

Your conduct as reported by the Keeper is of an insubordinate nature, and indicates a lack of desire on your part to execute with promptitude and zeal, the lawful orders of your superior.

You are informed that such conduct on your part will not be tolerated, and you are warned that a repetition will result in action being taken by this office towards your dismissal from the Lighthouse Service.

YATES

Tompkinsville, N.Y., March 24th, 1914.

Copy forwarded to Commissioner for information contained.

yates

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
MAR 26 1914

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for his information. See Bureau reprimand of March 21, 1913, to this employee.

E. E. Putnam
Commissioner.

April 6th, 1914.





Dear Congressman Maher:-

In response to your personal call at this office in the interest of Mr. Thomas J. Conklin regarding the charges preferred against him, let me say that the department has decided to reprimand Mr. Conklin for negligence and to caution him that a recurrance of such negligence will result in more drastic action in his case. I am sure that under the circumstances you will see the justice of this action.

I herewith return letter left by you at this office.

Yours very truly,

Private Secretary.

Hon. James P. Maher,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

Inc.

INDEXED

Dale
Kane

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

April 13, 1914.

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
NECESSARY
ACTION TAKEN
APR 14 1914
DEPT OF COMMERCE

The Acting Secretary:

There is attached hereto communication dated April 9, 1914, from the Commissioner of Lighthouses, transmitting letter and enclosures from the Inspector of the Third District relative to the discord existing between the keeper and first assistant keeper of Little Gull Island Light Station, New York.

It appears that on March 16, 1914, William J. Murray, the keeper, addressed a letter to the Inspector in which he charged the first assistant keeper, Thomas J. Conklin, with insubordination and conduct detrimental to the proper maintenance of the station. As the outcome of the correspondence between the keepers and the Inspector formal charges were preferred against Mr. Conklin on March 26, 1914. The charges, in brief, were as follows:

Absence from duty without permission.
Instigating a controversy between himself and the keeper with regard to a requested extension of leave.
Failure to comply with orders of the keeper.
Improper performance of his duties.

Mr. Conklin's reply to the charges was so unsatisfactory that the Inspector directed Assistant Superintendent Verner to make a personal investigation of the entire matter. Mr. Verner's report, dated April 1, 1914 (marked in attached correspondence), indicates that although Messrs. Murray and Conklin were both at fault, yet

the keeper acted within his rights and that any action which may be taken should be directed against the first assistant keeper, Mr. Conklin. Mr. Verner suggested that the transfer of Mr. Conklin would probably offer a satisfactory disposition of the case. Mr. Conklin is anxious to secure a transfer and under date of March 28, 1914, informed the Inspector that unless a transfer was effected he would resign from the service.

In its communication of the 9th instant the Bureau recommends that it be authorized to submit, at the proper time, nomination for Mr. Conklin's transfer to the position of second assistant keeper of Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, at $456 per annum, and in view of the circumstances it is suggested that the Bureau's recommendation be approved.

Geo. W. Kingsley

APPROVED:

Albert Lee Thurman
Acting Secretary.

APPOINTMENTS
APR 13 1914

CV

HRW-McC.

Krakenmeyer
APR 13 1914

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

April 9, 1914.

CHIEF CLERK
APR 10 1914
5

Subject: Thomas J. Conklin, transfer.
Orig appr - Jan 14. 1912 - Ef not applied

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
NECESSARY ACTION TAKEN
APR 14 1914
DEPT OF COMMERCE

APPOINTMENTS
APR 10 1914
3120

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for his information, concurring in the recommendation of the Inspector.

The Bureau recommends that it be authorized to submit, at the proper time, nomination for the transfer and reduction of Conklin from the position of first assistant keeper of Little Gull Island Light Station, New York, at $480 per annum, to the position of * second assistant keeper of Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, at $456 per annum. Should the Department approve this recommendation, appropriate nominations will be submitted to the Department as soon as the same are received from the Inspector.

Approval of the above recommendation, for the reasons given by the Inspector, will not be in violation of section 2, rule I, civil service rules.

There is also inclosed the Third Inspector's letter of April 7, 1914, inclosing one from Mr. Conklin dated March 28, 1914, in regard to his desire to resign from the Service, in the event of his not being transferred from his present position.

* new position, authorized D. Z. 11/7/13

G. R. Putnam

Note - Call up.
Jesse Orton - asst keeper same sta.
designation should be changed
to 1st asst. kpr. auth D Z 11/7/13

4-10-14

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT
APR 7 1914
HOUSES

JHG

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

April 6,1914

Commissioner.

The following correspondence re Thomas J.Conklin, 1st Assistant Keeper of Little Gull Island Light Station, is enclosed for the Bureau's consideration:-

1. Letter dated March 16 from keeper Murray.
2. Memo dated March 18, made by Chief Clerk.
3. Copy of letter dated March 19 to Keeper Murray.
4. Letter dated March 21 from Keeper Murray.
5. Copy of letter dated March 24 to Asst.Kpr.Conklin.
6. Letter (undated) from 1st Asst.Conklin.
7. Letter dated March 27 from Keeper Murray.
8. Letter dated March 23 from Keeper Murray.
9. Telegram dated March 25 from Keeper Murray.
10. Letter of charges dated March 26 to 1st Asst.Conklin.(Copy)
11. Letter dated April 3 from 1st Asst.Conklin.
12. Letter dated March 26 from Keeper Murray.
13. Report, dated April 1, of Asst.Supt.Verner.

In view of the fact that the inharmonious conditions at Little Gull Island Light Station have been caused by the conduct of 1st Asst.Conklin, it is recommended that he be transferred to the position of 2nd Asst.Keeper of Shinnecock Bay Lt.Sta., with a view to giving him an opportunity to demonstrate that his services are up to the required standard, and that he is a desirable person to retain in the service.

The attention of the Bureau is invited to its letter of reprimand, dated March 21, addressed to Conklin, and also letter of warning addressed to him by this office under date of March 24, copy of which was furnished the Bureau.

yates

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

JHG

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT
APR 8 1914
HOUSES

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

April 7,1914

Commissioner.

Referring to letter from this office dated April 6,1914, forwarding correspondence re Thomas J.Conklin, 1st assistant keeper of Little Gull Island Light Station, New York.

Enclosed herewith is letter, dated March 28,1914, received from Mr.Conklin, which should have accompanied our letter above referred to.

yours

2

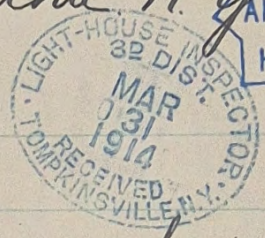
Imp 37.
cc- charges are pending. 1

auth Cor 4-7

Little Gull Island
Fort Michie N. Y.
4/3

3/28/14.





Inspector 3rd District

Sir:

If there is a chance of my being transfered from this station soon, kindly accept my resignation to take affect by April 15. 1914. I have no fault to find with this station, only the keeper I cannot agree, Trusting to receive a favorable reply soon, I am

Respt.

Conklin
1 Asst.

Murray. Keeper.

Little Gull Island Light Station
Front Michiel Gull Is. N.Y. 18

March 16th 1914

To
Light-House Inspector 3d District
Tompkinsville N.Y.

LIGHT
APR 7 1914
HOUSES

LIGHT-HOUSE INSPECTOR 3D DIST. MAR 18 1914 RECEIVED TOMPKINSVILLE N.Y.

Sir

The 1st Assistant Keeper of this station Mr. Thomas J. Conklin applied for & received 7 days leave of absence March 14th To 21st Inclusive Before leaving he asked me to extend his leave 5 days more which I refused in view of the fact that Mr Conklin being charged with neglect of duty. I told him it would not be advisable He stated he would get the extended leave of absence over my head by going direct to the office. I request that any application from Mr Conklin for extended leave be denied I charge him with contempt and disrespect and with being a most conflicting element at the station and a detriment to the maintainence of an efficient Light & Fog Signal

William J Murray. Keeper

Keeper in Charge of Light House Promptly
asks give action in which he hereby charges. (for action)

3/18/14

3/15

one

19

2

Light
APR 7 1914
HOUSES

Mr. Conklin called here with copy of letter from Piper of 3/16/14. Said everything was alright when he left station and that he had not asked for extra lamp —

He asked if he could get 2 extra drip lamps — Told him that if he wanted to ask for additional lamps he should send his request through the Inspector

COPY

3

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

FWO/EJC

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT
APR 7 1914
HOUSES

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

March 19th, 1914

Wm. J. Murray, Keeper,

Little Gull Is.Lt.Station,

Fort Michie, Gull Island, N.Y.

Referring to your letter of March 16th, 1914, relative to 1st Asst.Keeper Thos.J.Conklin, charging him with contempt and disrespect, and with being a most conflicting element at the station and a detriment to the maintenance of an efficient light and fog signal.

You are requested to forward to this office statement giving full details of occasions and occurences on which you base your charges, in order that such action may be taken as may be deemed proper in the matter.

You are requested to report by mail whether or not Mr. Conklin returns to the station at the expiration of the leave granted him. For your information, it may be stated that Mr. Conklin called at this office on March 18th and asked for two days additional leave, and he was informed that if he desired any additional leave, it would be necessary for him to apply for same in the proper manner through the Keeper of the station.

YATES

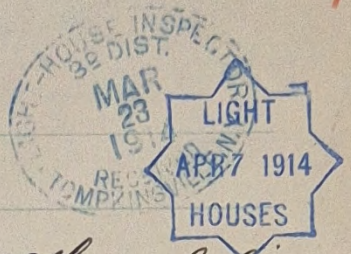
Little Gull Is. Light Station
Fort Michie Gull Is. N.Y.
March. 21st 1914

13

4

Light House Inspector. 3d Dist.

Tompkinsville
N.Y.



Referring to your letter of March 19th relative to my letter of March 16th Containing Charges against the 1st Asst. Keeper Thomas. J. Conklin. Requesting me to forward details of occasions and occurences on which I base my Charges.

In the past year the 1st asst's manner and bearing towards me has been Contemptible and disrespectful perpetualy. The occasions have occured generally through the 1st asst slighting and doing slovenly any work I requested done by him. Instead of following out my orders he would do the work to please himself. Never Caring what I thought about it or how much & often I protested. You will ask why I did report this man before now. I beg to state that I know this parents. also. that I am a peaceable man and try my best to avoid trouble.

LIGHT-HOUSE INSPECTOR 3d DIST. MAR 23 1914 RECEIVED TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.
LIGHT APR 7 1914 HOUSES

while I was on leave of absence from Dec. 30th 1913 to Jan. 13th 1914 I left orders for the Lens and Brasswork to be polished and the Tower to be Kept Clean I instructed also that the Fog Signal apparatus and House be Kept Clean & in good order. When I returned on Jan. 14th I found the station in a filthy Condition which fact I entered in the journal.

I left the Station again on Feb. 7th to go to the office Concerning a vacancy at the Stratford Point Light Station.

I left orders that the North Engine & Compressor (which same Machinery was damaged by Freezing) be Cleaned the Brasswork polished and put in first Class order for laying up. These orders were disobeyed the slightest attention not being paid to them—

LIGHT-HOUSE INSPECTOR 3d DIST. MAR 23 1914 RECEIVED TOMPKINSVILLE
LIGHT APR 7 1914 HOUSES

On leaving here March 14th for 7 days leave of absence Mr Conklin requested an additional 5 days leave I refused in a polite & respectful way and told him it would be better for him that he get back at the expiration of the stated time. He then declared that he would get the extended leave in spite of me. Saying. I dont need your Consent I will go to the office and get the leave over your head.
I advised him to use a little Common sense and to abide by my decision. As the Boat way pulling away I asked him 3 time When he intended returning he refused to answer me I Called to him the 4th time and he answered he would let me know after being to the office. In Concluding I will state that Mr Conklin is the Cause of petty annoyances & trouble frequently.

Respectfully-

William J. Murray. Keeper.

JHG

5

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.
FWO/EJC

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

LIGHT
APR 7 1914
HOUSES

March 24,1914

Thomas J.Conklin, 1st Asst.Keeper,
(THROUGH THE KEEPER)
Little Gull Island Light Station,
Fort Michie, Gull Island,N.Y.

The Keeper of Little Gull Island Light Station has advised this office that when he left the station on December 30th, he left orders for the lens and brass work to be polished, and the tower to be kept clean, also that the fog signal apparatus and fog signal house be kept clean and in good order, but that when he returned to the station which had been temporarily under your charge during the keeper's absence, he found same in a filthy condition, also that when he left the station on February 7th, he left orders that the North Engine and compressor be cleaned and brass work polished, which work you failed to do. The Keeper also reports that on March 14th, the date on which you left the station for seven days leave of absence, you requested of him an additional five days leave, which the keeper disapproved, and that you then declared that you would go to the office and get the additional leave over the keeper's head, which you attempted to do when you called at this office on March 18th, and applied for leave in addition to that previously granted.

The Keeper also reports that your work at the station is not satisfactory in that you slight your duties and do the work assigned you by the keeper in a slovenly manner.

Your conduct as reported by the Keeper is of an insubordinate nature, and indicates a lack of desire on your part to execute with promptitude and zeal, the lawful orders of your superior.

You are informed that such conduct on your part will not be tolerated, and you are warned that a repetition will result in action being taken by this office towards your dismissal from the Lighthouse Service.

YATES

Tompkinsville,N.Y., March 24th,1914

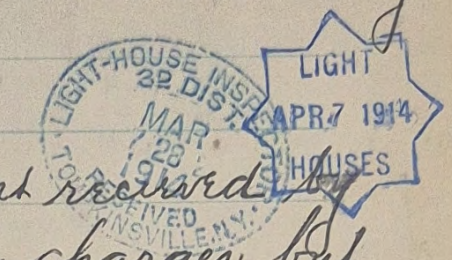
Copy forwarded to Commissioner for information contained.

YATES

Dec. 1913

Little Gull Island
Fort Michie N.Y.

Inspector 3rd District
Sir



Your letter of the 24 inst received by me on the 26, 1914. and all the charges but one are false, now on Dec. 30, 1913. I returned and landed on the Fort dock at 3.30 p.m. & as soon as I got of the Government transport the keeper Mr Murray got on and the only words he said were hello & goodbye. During the time he was away 2 Asst Mr Collins was sick and just able to keep his watch & not able to work and when the keeper returned I reported it to him. When the keeper left this station on Feb. 7 to 13, 6 days with out leave of absence he left orders by the ~~to~~ 2 Asst to clean the north engine & compressor & clean the brass work which the 2 Asst & myself did clean & when the keeper returned the Fog Signal engine & comp-

reason + house were in a first class condition. Now it is very strange after me being here ah this station going on 2½ years that keeper Mr Murray should have waited this long to put charges against me the whole trouble is I am to long with him. I am the longest man ever to stay with him I never have drank or used tobacco in any form and if a investigation was started I could put quite a few charges again ah the keeper and for the good of the service the best thing for me to do is be transfered as the keeper and I cannot get along, I respectfully request a transfer to some family quarter station as if I stay here much longer the keeper will find fault with every thing I do and then I should resign, you will find by looking over my record + application I was working under some hot tempered men for 5 years in the Bklyn Navy Yard + I still have a good record there

Respt.

Keeper refuses to sign this

Conklin 1 Asst

Insp. C.L. 1 1 2d

Little Gull Is. Light Station. 7
Fort Michie Gull Is. N.Y.
March. 27th 1914.

Light House Inspector 3d District.

Tompkinsville S.I.
N.Y.

LIGHT-HOUSE INSPECTOR 3d DIST. MAR 28 1914 RECEIVED TOMPKINSVILLE
LIGHT APR 7 1914 HOUSES

Sir

It is not my wish to Continue this troublesome correspondence but under the circumstances I think I am justified in this instance. On March 26th 2.30 P.M I told the 2nd assistant to get ready to help me row the Boat to the Fort as I had mail to go. The 1st assistant overheard the remark and without my knowledge or permission he and his Wife tried to get the Boat off the beach. I Called to him asking? Where are you going. He answered. to the Fort. I said you are not. He insisted he was. I informed him once more that he Could not go He asked? who is going to stop me. I told him I would he declared I Couldent. I told him he would have to take the boat over my dead body.

admitted by Conklin but in a dif. Spirit

He declared that would be easy. I went down alongside the Boat to prevent him from taking it. He said if I Cant have the Boat neither Can you and his language was most threatning. His Conversation from this point was ungentlemany and insulting In fact. He said. I was a drunkard and would do anything for a drink of whiskey also that I Couldent make a living outside my present position and would starve to death if ever I lost it and many other insulting remarks too numerous to mention I have to state. that Mr. Conklins actions are altogether beyond my Controle and positivly refuses to recognise my position and I ask you to Kindly Consider the advisability of his transfer or removal from here

Respectfully-

William. J Murray. Keeper.

12c Little Gull Island Light Station
Fort Michie Gull Is New York

March. 23d 1914

Light House Inspector 3d District
Tompkinsville N.Y.





Sir

Referring to your letter of March 19th 1914 requesting me to report wheather or not Mr Canklin 1st Asst. Keeper returns to the Station at the expiration of the leave of absence granted him From March 14th to 21st Inclusive.

Mr Canklin returned to the Station 9.30 a.m March 24th

Thereby showing Contempt & Defiance for his superiors at the Office & myself

Respectfully-

William J. Murray. Keeper

See Kpr's telegram Mar 25
Stating date to be 24 instead of 23

Form 1

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

INCORPORATED

25,000 OFFICES IN AMERICA. CABLE SERVICE TO ALL THE WORLD

This Company **TRANSMITS** and **DELIVERS** messages only on conditions limiting its liability, which have been assented to by the sender of the following message. Errors can be guarded against only by repeating a message back to the sending station for comparison, and the Company will not hold itself liable for errors or delays in transmission or delivery of **Unrepeated Messages**, beyond the amount of tolls paid thereon, nor in any case beyond the sum of **Fifty Dollars**, at which, unless otherwise stated below, this message has been valued by the sender thereof, nor in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after the message is filed with the Company for transmission. This is an **UNREPEATED MESSAGE**, and is delivered by request of the sender, under the conditions named above.

THEO. N. VAIL, PRESIDENT — BELVIDERE BROOKS, GENERAL MANAGER

NUMBER	SENT BY	REC'D BY	CHECK
16	My	Cm	15 Paid

U.S. LIGHT-HOUSE INSPECTOR'S OFFICE MAR 25 1914 RECEIVED PLACE TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

LIGHT HOUSES APR 7 1914

RECEIVED AT ST. GEORGE, S. I., N. Y. Mar 25 1914

DATED New London Depot Conn 25

To Light House Inspector

Tompkinsville NY

1st assistant Conklin returned

March 24th inst 23rd as

reported

Murray Keeper

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

JHG

REGISTERED MAIL
RECEIPT REQUESTED

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

LIGHT
APR 7 1914
HOUSE

March 26,1914

Thomas J.Conklin, 1st Asst.Keeper,
Through the Keeper,
Little Gull Is.Lt.Sta.,
Fort Michie, Gull Is.,N.Y.

You are hereby charged:-

1. With being absent from your duty as 1st assistant keeper of Little Gull Island Lt.Sta. without leave, from March 21st to 24th,1914, you having left the station on March 14th on 7 days leave of absence, and not returning to the station until March 24.

2. With having instigated a controversy between yourself and the keeper re the extension of the leave granted you by this office, making a threat to the keeper that you would go to this office and get additional leave over his head, which you attempted to do, you having called at this office on March 18 and requested two days additional leave, which was not granted and you were told at that time that any request for leave must come through the keeper of the station.

3. With failure to comply with the orders of the keeper, in that when he left the station on leave on Dec.30,1913, he left orders for the lens and brass work to be polished and the tower to be kept clean, also that the fog signal apparatus and fog signal house be kept clean and in good order, but that when he returned to the station, which had been temporarily under your charge during his absence, he found same in a filthy condition; also, in that when he left the station on Feb.7, he left orders that the north engine and compressor be cleaned and brass work polished, which work you failed to do.

4. With failure to do your work at the station in a satisfactory manner, slighting your duties, and doing the work assigned you be the keeper in a slovenly manner.

A copy of letter from Keeper Murray is attached hereto.

You are directed to submit any statement you may desire to make, through official channels, within three days from the receipt of this letter. Any statement made must be couched in temperate language, free from countercharges and confined to the point at issue.

If you desire to make no statement, you will so state in writing.

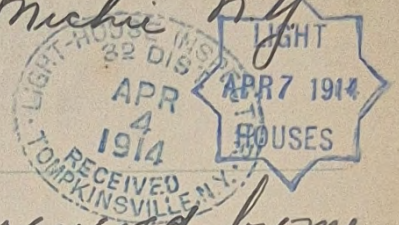
YATES

4/3/14 Little Gull Island

Fort Michie N.Y.

11

Imp 4
cc



Inspector 3rd District

Yours of the 26th received by me on March 31, and I hear by answer the charges that Mr Murray put against me. On March 14, I left the above said station for 7 days leave of absence and two weeks before I left Mr Murray granted me 5 days more than the 7 days leave and on the morning I left, Mr Murray came to me and told me to take 2 days instead of 5 and I had made arrangments for the five days over my leave, I got a little angry and so Mr Murray and I had a few words and so when I got to Brooklyn I recieved a letter from Mr murray on the 18, with charges against me and I went to the office to see about the letter & not about any leave over the keeper's head and I then wrote out a request of 3 days leave of absence and forworded same to the keeper and told him to sign it

See my memo of 3-18-14

and send it to the office and I then stayed away from the station 3 days thinking the keeper had sent it to the office and when I left the station on March 14. the keeper asked me when I was coming back and I told him I did not know. On December 30, 1913. I return to the above said station and as I got off the boat at the fork Mr Murray got on and all he said was hello & goodbye and when I returned to the station, I found the 2 Ass't very sick and he was sick all the time Mr Murray was away he was just able to do his watch and I kept the place as clean, the best one man could do and it is a rule to clean the brass here once every 3 months, and it was not dirty while I was in charge so I did not touch it, but I did keep the tower in good condition, on Feb 7. Mr Murray left the station

III

for 6 days with leave and he left orders with the 2 Asst to tell me to clean the North engine and brass and to cover it so, the 2 Asst & I went in the engine room and spent 1 whole morning cleaning up and when the keeper returned it was in first class condition and on Feb 14. 1914. the keeper found that we had a freeze out in the north engine. I am charged with failure to do my work at the station, and with doing my work in a slovenly manner. All I can say to these charges is I generally do what I am told and dont have to be told twice and my work here is done just the same as the keeper and 2 Asst's is done, and, when the keeper leaves the station to stay away over night he sometimes leaves some work to be done & when he returns and is not feeling in good humor every thing we have done

does not suit ~~(illegible)~~ him it is funny Mr Murray waited this long to put such charges against a man who never drank or used tobacco in any form and ever since I am able to work I have never been in such trouble and as I am not to blame for all these charges I think the best thing for me is to have me transfered as I do not want to leave the light house service

Respt.

Thomas J Coutchin
1 Asst

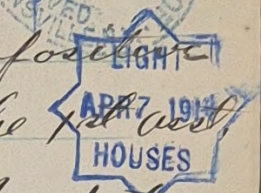
Statements hereon are incorrect-
William J. Murray- Keeper

Insp. C.C.

Little Gull Island Light Station
Front Michie Gull Is. N.Y.
March 26th 1914

Light House Inspector 2nd District
Tompkinsville N.Y.





Sir

It is my duty to inform you That I have positive information That the statements made by the Asst Keeper Thomas J. Conklin in Answer to the Inspectors Charge of Neglect of duty in letting the water jackets of Engine & Compressor freeze & Burst on Feb. 11th & 12th were false throughout.

Mr Conklin stated to the Asst-Supt. in person & to the Inspector by letter That he had to stay in the Tower & give all his attention to the Light to keep it from freezing & going out Etc and that he had been on duty 48 hours without sleep Both statements are false in every particular.

Feb. 11th he went to bed (delayed) at 9.30 P.M and Mrs John G. Collins stood watch until 1.30 A.M Feb. 12th he went to bed at 8.30 P.M and Mrs Collins stood watch until 2.00 A.M This information has just come to my Knowledge

Respectfully.

William J. Murray. Keeper.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

WV-HMD

LIGHT HOUSE
APR 7 1914

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

April 1, 1914.

Inspector:-

Investigation, as per your instructions dated March 30, 1914, of the trouble between Keepers at the Little Gull Island Light Station, discloses the statements, contradictions, cha rges and countercharges usual in such cases. All, though containing much truth, useless as evidence upon which a definite and impartial conclusion could be based, because of the differing standpoints of view and the conflicting, yet perhaps honest convictions and ideas entertained by the different persons as to duty, discipline, justice, etc., I have gone fully and carefully over the entire matter with all the Keepers and their families, singly and collectively, and the gist of it all is; that all are in certain measure to blame and lack of employment more than all else.

As to the charges themselves, everyone is susceptible of a somewhat satisfactory explanation and a wholly different interpretation, but the salient facts are:

Conklin, the 1st Assistant, a fine, clean and husky fellow - excellent material for a good keeper - is young, impulsive, full of a commendable spirit of American confidence and independence, but somewhat careless, lacking good judgment, or a proper realization of the importance of discipline. He has been quick at times to re-

sent the remarks and actions of the Keeper and, while not openly disobedient, has incurred his enmity, lost his confidence and contributed largely to bring about open rupture by insisting open doing his own work in his own and a way not satisfactory to the Keeper, nor in a proper spirit, all of which the Assistant now realizes and for which he expresses a willingness to make amends by future proper conduct and attention to duties. To this end I endeavored, but without success, to arrange a temporary truce contingent upon the Assistant's future conduct, etc., as outlined above, to which the Keeper however would not assent, declaring it "impossible to longer get along with him" (the Assistant), for these and the other reasons set forth in his charges against him.

The Keeper's letter of March 26, 1914, submitted as additional evidence of the falsity of the statements contained in the Assistant's letter of March 7, 1914, may serve as an illustration of the little reliance that should be placed upon much of the evidence submitted in this and the majority of similar cases.

Mrs. John G. Collins confirms in part only, Keeper's statements as to nights of 11th and 12th of February and says, "I told Mr. Conklin to go to bed and I would look after things and call him if anything happened. I heard him go upstairs but whether to his room or not, I couldn't say. Upon both nights after finishing our card playing, I rapped on his door and received prompt answer from him. Of course, I couldn't say whether he was in bed or not, nor for what length of time he had been in his room".

Conklin admits the truth of the foregoing and says in explan-

ation, that he had upon the nights referred to gone to his room, but a few moments before Mrs. Collins' call, for a cup of coffee and something to eat as is usual about those hours, and more particularly upon such nights as those were.

On the whole, the Keeper, though not without sin, is in the main, right and justified in his actions, which, it would seem, were, in the circumstances, necessary for the maintenance of discipline and for the good of the Service, and that the change at his station, which he suggests to that end, is necessary, must be admitted.

I would suggest, however, the transfer rather than the dismissal of Conklin, as there is in him the making of a good and valuable man, and he comes, as I have learned, of a very worthy and respectable family.

Hilders Verner

Asst. Superintendent, LHS.

April 14, 1914.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

Receipt is acknowledged of the Bureau's communication of the 9th instant, transmitting letter dated April 6, 1914, and enclosures, from the Third Inspector relative to the discord existing between the keeper and first assistant keeper of Little Gull Island Light Station, New York.

After careful consideration of all the facts as presented, the Department concurs in the opinion that the transfer of the first assistant keeper, Thomas J. Conklin, to the position of second assistant keeper of Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, at $456 per annum, will offer a satisfactory disposition of the case, and the Bureau's recommendation to the effect that it be authorized to submit, at the proper time, nomination for Mr. Conklin's transfer is approved.

4-15-14

(Sgd) Wm. J. Harris

Acting Secretary.

C

JHG

Form 73

NOMINATION

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT APR 20 1914 HOUSES

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, Third DISTRICT,

Tompkinsville, N.Y. (City.) April 18, 1914 (Date.), 191

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

CHIEF CLERK APR 21 1914 5

Action recommended, Transfer and demotion.

Name, Thomas J. Conklin Efficiency not reported Legal residence, New York

Position, 2nd Assistant Keeper Salary, $456.00 per annum

Location, Shinnecock Bay Light Station, N.Y. Appropriation, Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses

APPOINTMENT DIVISION APPOINTMENT WRITTEN APR 21 1914 DEPT OF COMMERCE

Effective May 1, 1914 { [1] ~~the actual date of entrance on duty, or~~ as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

APPOINTMENTS APR 21 1914 212

Former position, 1st Assistant Keeper Former salary, $480 per annum

Location, Little Gull Island Light Station, N.Y.

Rank on eligible list, Rating, Percentage, , Other eligibles considered:

Previous incumbent, New position — auth. D.L. 11/7/13 Services terminated,

Reason,

Relatives in Government Service,

Remarks: Transfer approved by Department letter of April 14, 1914. Approval of this recommendation will not be in violation of Section 2 of Civil Service Rule 1.

Selection regular, subject to the action of the U. S. Civil Service Commission. , 191

Secretary, *Civil Service District.*

McC.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON April 20, 1914.

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce, approved.

See Department letter of November 7, 1913, authorizing the above referred to position.

4/21/14

Acting Commissioner.

[1] Strike out the clause which does not apply.

11—2314

Rec. Form 111

OATH OF OFFICE

(Prescribed by Section 1757, Revised Statutes)

LIGHT MAY 27 1914 HOUSES

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

CHIEF CLERK JUN 8 1914

I, Thomas J. Conklin

do solemnly[1] swear (See below) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter: So HELP ME GOD.

APPOINTMENTS JUN 8 1914

Thomas J. Conklin
(Appointee signs here)

[2] Sworn to (See below) and subscribed before me, this[3] 4th day of May, A. D. 1914

(Affix official seal here)

[4] (Name) Geo. D. Squires

(Official title) Notary Public

	Official Title	Rate of Pay	Name of Station, Vessel, or Place of Employment
Present	2nd Asst. Keeper	$456 p.a.	Shinnecock Bay Lt.Sta., N.Y.
Former[5]	1st Asst. Keeper	480 p.a.	Little Gull Is. Lt.Sta., N.Y.

(The above should be filled in by the district officer before sending to appointee)

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, Third DISTRICT

Tompkinsville, N.Y. (Address), May 26, 1914 (Date)

CARDED.

The above-named appointee entered upon duty on May 2, 1914 (Date)

Yates
(Signature, followed by title)

[1] Insert here "swear" or "affirm," as the case may be.

[2] Insert here "sworn to" or "affirmed," as the case may be.

[3] The oath may be taken any time after the date of appointment and prior to the payment of compensation, but no compensation shall be paid until the oath is executed in proper form.

[4] This oath should be taken before a justice of the peace, notary public, judge, clerk of a court, or any other officer having authority to administer oaths, but never before a collector of customs, as he has no power to administer oaths in such cases. In case the officer administering the oath has no seal, his official character should be duly certified to by the clerk of the proper court or the proper county clerk.

[5] Give this information in all cases where new oath is required.

Failure to fill out this oath properly will result in its return for correction.

M—944

HRW-McC.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

April 24, 1914.

CHIEF CLERK
APR 25 1914

SECR
APR 25 191

Memorandum for Mr. Smith, Private Secretary to Secretary of Commerce:

Thomas J. Conklin entered the Lighthouse Service January 14, 1912. He was 26 years of age on his last birth day. Under date of March 21, 1914, he was reprimanded for having failed to take reasonable precautionary measures with reference to the engine and compressor at the Little Gull Island Light Station, New York, with the result that they froze and burst on the night of February 11, 1914. On March 24, 1914, he was warned for disobedience of orders, unsatisfactory work and insubordination to the keeper. On March 16, 1914, the keeper, William J. Murray, addressed a letter to the Third Inspector, in which he charged Conklin with insubordination and conduct detrimental to the proper maintenance of the station. As an outcome of the correspondence between the keepers and Inspector, formal charges were preferred against Conklin, dated March 26, 1914, for the following reasons:

CHIEF CLERK
MAY 7 1914
APPOINTMENTS
MAY 7 1914

Absence from duty without permission; instigating a controversy between himself and the keeper with regard to a request for extension of leave; failure to comply with orders of the keeper, and improper performance of duties. Mr. Conklin's reply to the charges was so unsatisfactory that it was necessary for the Inspector to direct an assistant superintendent to make a personal investigation of the entire matter. The report of that employee indicates that although Messrs. Murray and Conklin were both at fault, the keeper acted within

his rights, and that any action to be taken should be directed against the first assistant keeper, Mr. Conklin. The matter was carefully considered, with the result that it was considered a satisfactory disposition of the case could be made by transferring Conklin, who, under date of March 28, 1914, informed the Third Inspector that unless a transfer was effected he would resign from the service.

Mr. Conklin will, accordingly, at an early date, be transferred from Little Gull Island Light Station to the position of second assistant keeper of Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York. In view of the fact that the inharmonious conditions at Mr. Conklin's present station were caused by his conduct, it is considered that this action is justified and will enable Mr. Conklin to demonstrate whether or not his services are up to the required standard and he is a desirable person to be retained in the service.

G. R. Putnam

April 25th, 1914.

CHIEF CLERK
MAY 7 1914

Dear Congressman Maher:-

In response to your personal call at this office in behalf of Mr. Conklin I herewith enclose memorandum made by Mr. Putnam, Commissioner of Lighthouses, which explains in detail the attitude of the Bureau toward Mr. Conklin. I think now it is up to him to demonstrate to us, as Mr. Putnam says, "Whether or not his services are up to the required standard and he is a desirable person to be retained in the service."

Copy

I am also returning the letter left by you. With kind regards, I am

Yours very truly,

Private Secretary.

Hon. James P. Maher,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

INDEXED

Enclosure.

May 6th, 1914.

CHIEF CLERK
MAY 7 1914

Dear Congressman Maher:-

By mistake the enclosed was not returned to your as stated in my favor of the 25th ultimo.

Yours very truly,

Private Secretary.

Hon. James P. Maher,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

B
Inc.

INDEXED

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT HOUSES MAY 9 1914

JHG

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

May 8, 1914

CHIEF CLERK MAY 20 1914 5

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS NECESSARY ACTION TAKEN MAY 21 1914 DEPT OF COMMERCE

APPOINTMENT MA. 20 914 1045

Commissioner.

The following correspondence re William J.Murray, keeper of Little Gull Island Light Station, New York, is enclosed for the Bureau's consideration:

1. Letter, undated, from Thomas J.Conklin, 1st Asst.Keeper.
2. " " " " " " " " "
3. Copy of letter of charges, dated April 30,1914 to William J.Murray, Keeper.
4. Letter dated May 5,1914 from Keeper Murray.
5. Copy of letter dated May 5 to Commanding Officer, Fort Michie, N.Y.
6. Letter dated May 7th from Sergt.Bert Herbst, in charge of Fort Michie,N.Y.
7. Letter dated May 5th, signed by Privates Silas A.Clawson, and Henry Downs, Fort Michie,N.Y.

It is not considered by this office that the charges preferred by 1st assistant keeper Thomas J.Conklin against keeper William J. Murray are proven, and it is believed they were made in a spirit of revenge on account of Mr.Conklin's recent difficulties which resulted in his being transferred to Shinnecock Bay Light Station.

It is recommended that no further action be taken against Mr. Murray, and that a letter of caution be addressed to Mr.Conklin directing him to exercise greater care in the future to ascertain actual facts before making charges against any employee.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington.

MAY 19 1914

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce recommended for approval.

Set inclosures.

Inspector's recommendation. A copy of the letter of caution to Conklin will be submitted to the Department for its files if this recommendation is approved.

See Instructions for the Personnel, 1911, page 144, "Malicious talebearing", etc., and the Regulations, 1911, page 91.

G. R. Putnam

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

3

FWO/WJL

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

LIGHT
MAY 9 1914
HOUSES

REGISTERED.
RECEIPT REQUESTED.

April 30,1914.

William J.Murray, Keeper,
Little Gull Island Light Station,
Ft.Michie, Gull Island, N.Y.

You are hereby charged:

1. With selling intoxicating liquor at the Little Gull Island Light Station to soldiers from Fort Michie.

2. With failing to exhibit the light in your charge at sunset on December 25th 1913 you having failed to return to the station from Fort Michie, N.Y., until one hour after sunset.

Copies of two letters undated which were submitted to this office by Thomas J.Conklin, 1st Assistant Keeper of the Little Gull Light Station on April 25th 1914, are enclosed.

You are directed to submit to this office any statement you may desire to make through official channels within three days from the receipt of this letter. Any statement made must be couched in temperate language free from countercharges and confined to the point at issue. If you desire to make no statement you will so state in writing.

Yates

Department of Commerce and Labor

Little Gull Island
Fork Michie N.Y.
via New London, Conn.

Inspector 3rd District

I do hereby charge William J. Murray, Keeper, of the above said station with selling intoxicating liquor at this station to soldiers from Ft Michie also he was caught with whiskey when landing in a boat at Fort Michie and was brought up on charges, the same which are withheld from your office

Conklin

LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD INSPECTOR'S OFFICE
APR 25 1914
RECEIVED
LIGHT
MAY 9 1914
HOUSES

Department of Commerce and Labor

Little Gull Island
Fork Michie N.Y.
Inspector 3rd District.
Sir

I, Thomas J. Conklin Asst
herebye make charges a-
gainst William J Murray
Keeper of the above said
station, On December 25 1913
Mr Murray was over to Fork
Michie N.Y along with the 2
asst John P. Collins and he
did not return to station
until one hour after sun
set and the light was out

LIGHT HOUSE INSPECTOR 3RD DIST. APR 25 1914 RECEIVED PORTSMOUTH N.H.
MAY 9 1914 LIGHT HOUSES

(45) forty five minutes until the 2 d wife puch a lamp in ih two soldiers accompanied Mr Murray & Mr Collins home in a row boah I have two witnesses to this charge, "the two soldiers who were in the boah"

Respt.

Thomas J Conklin
1 Asst

Witness— S. A. Lawson 125th Co
1 1 1 1 Henry Downs 157 Co.

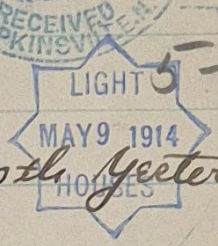
5-12

Little Gull Island Light Station
Front michis Gull Is. N.Y.
May 5th 1914

4

Lt House Inspector 3rd District-
Tompkinsville. S.I.
N.Y. att to Cor





5-12

Sir

I received your letter of April 30th yesterday & contents carefully noted.

I deny the charges as they are libelous and malicious falsehoods.

I beg to state that I do not or never have sold whiskey to anyone Also that I have never been brought up on charges at Front michis for any offence my relations with Officers & Men are friendly & always have been

Respectfully.

Wm J Murray - Keeper.

COPY

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

5

FWO-WJL

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

LIGHT
MAY 9 1914
HOUSES

May 5,1914

Commanding Officer,

Fort Michie, N.Y.

It has been reported to this office that William J.Murray, Keeper of the Little Gull Island Light Station had some difficulty with the War Department officials at Fort Michie on account of whiskey having been found in his possession when landing in a boat at Fort Michie.

Will you have the kindness to furnish this office with such information as may be practicable concerning this matter?

(Signed) YATES

Inspector

6

Fort Michie, N.Y.
May 7th 1914

Lighthouse Inspector,
Tompkinsville, N.Y.

Dear Sir:-

LIGHT-HOUSE INSPECTOR 2d DIST. MAY 8 1914 RECEIVED TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

LIGHT MAY 9 1914 HOUSES

Your inquiry of the 5th at hand and in reply will say that during three years that I have been in charge of Fort Michie, N.Y. there has been no difficulty between the War Department Officials and the Navy.

It is my duty as Sergt. in charge of Fort Michie, N.Y. to board every boat that docks here, and make an inspection for whiskey or contraband articles and have never found any being brought in by the Navy.

I have known the Navy during the three years I have been in charge here to be a sober, careful and faithful employee of the Department of Commerce.

Bert Herbst
Sergt. in charge.

mf
cc

Fort Michie
New York
May 5th 1914

LIGHT-HOUSE INSPECTOR 3D DIST. MAY 7 1914 RECEIVED POMPKINSVILLE N.Y.

LIGHT MAY 9 1914 HOUSES

Dear Sir
I thought I would drop you a few lines to let you know that I know nothing to amount to any thing about Mr Merry or rather in plainer words the keeper of little gull light or Mr Conklen eather and I wish to inform you that I never said I knew all that I know is that I was at little gull light on the night of the 25 of December 1913 and there was a small light burning instead of the regular light but I dont see as that would help any one out and further more if I have got to I will swear to that and no more

and I never said how long the little light was burning for I thought it was none of my buisness and as far as the liquor is conserns I dont know one thing about it and dont care to know and what I have writen is a true statement and I know nothing more and I dont know that what I know would help eather of them, I have nothing against eather one of them and as far as I am conserned I dont care to be mixed up with there buisness

Very Sincerly yours

Pvt Silas A Clawson
of 125 Co Fort Wichie N.Y.

Pvt Henry Downs. 15th. Co.

May 21, 1914.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

The Department is in receipt of the Third Inspector's letter of the 8th instant, and enclosures, forwarded by the Bureau on the 19th instant, relative to certain charges preferred by Thomas J. Conklin, formerly first assistant keeper of Little Gull Island Light Station, New York, against William J. Murray, keeper of that station.

It appears from the correspondence in the files of the Department that bad feeling has existed between Messrs. Conklin and Murray for some time in the past, in view of which the Department, on April 14, 1914, approved a recommendation from the Bureau to the effect that it be authorized to transfer Mr. Conklin to the position of second assistant keeper of Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York. It was recognized that Mr. Conklin was the instigator of most of the trouble at the station, but as he desired to be assigned to some other station it was thought that such action would result in a satisfactory disposition of the case.

The fact that Mr. Conklin has preferred charges against Mr. Murray which upon investigation could not be proved indicates that he does not appreciate the purport of the regulations which prohibit disrespect and detrimental criticism towards a superior

officer. The Bureau's recommendation to the effect that it be authorized to address a letter of caution to Mr. Conklin with respect to his conduct is therefore approved, it being noted that a copy of the letter will be furnished the Department for its files.

(SIGNED) E. F. SWEET

Assistant Secretary.

5-29-14

C-M

Copy

HRW-McC.

Reprimand.

May 19, 1914.

CHIEF CLERK
MAY 29 1914
5

APPOINTMENTS
JUN 1 1914
9.14

Thomas J. Conklin,
Second Assistant Keeper,
Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York,
(Through Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville, New York).

Referring to two undated letters recently addressed by you to the Inspector of the Third Lighthouse District, and received by him on April 25, 1914, in which you charge William J. Murray, keeper, Little Gull Island Light Station, New York, with selling intoxicating liquor at the Little Gull Island Light Station, New York, to soldiers from Fort Michie, etc.

You are advised that a careful investigation of the matter fails to substantiate your charges and it would appear that they were made by you in a spirit of revenge against the keeper referred to on account of the recent decision to transfer you from Little Gull Island Light Station, New York, on account of your conduct at that station. In this connection your attention is invited to page 144 of the Instructions for the Personnel, 1911, where it is stated that malicious talebearing to officers in authority or detrimental criticism of the same character will be considered cause for the dismissal of the offender. You are reprimanded for your action in the matter, and are warned that further unsatisfactory conduct on your part may result in more drastic action being taken in your case.

The fact that you have been reprimanded will be noted on the records as part of your official history.

G T Putnam

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
MAY 2 6 1914

(Signed)

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for his information.
See Depr letter of May 21, 1914.

Acting Commissioner.

Commissioner.

Ltr
Rmds

APR 1 - 1915

My dear Congressman:

Referring to letter of March 28, 1915, addressed to you by Mr. Geo. E. Denney, of The Standard Union, Brooklyn, New York, in regard to charges which Mr. Thomas J. Conklin, second assistant keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, states have been preferred against him by the first assistant keeper of the light station referred to, which letter has been received at the Department for attention, I have to advise you that the matter is being investigated and that you will be further advised in regard thereto at an early date.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM C. REDFIELD

Secretary.

Hon. James P. Maher,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

INDEXED

LIGHTHOUSES---Appointment Division's files

Exact copy as signed by WILLIAM C. REDFIELD

Mailed APR 1 1915 by

HRW-McC.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES

WASHINGTON

April 13, 1915.

CHIEF CLERK APR 17 1915

CRITERION OF APPOINTMENTS ANSWERED APR 20 1915 DEPT. OF COMMERCE

Subject: 3d Inspector's letter Apr. 7,1915, and inclosures, misconduct, Thos. J. Conklin, 2d asst. keeper, Shinnecock Bay L.S.

APPOINTMENTS APR 1 3 00

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for his information, the Bureau concurring with the Inspector, in view of the previous record of Conklin, and with recommendation that it be authorized to address Conklin a letter of reprimand and warn him that any further violation of the Instructions for the Personnel will necessitate consideration being given to filing charges against him with a view to his dismissal from the Service. If such letter is authorized by the Department, a copy thereof will be submitted to the Department for its files. Attention in this connection is invited to the Instructions for the Personnel, 1911, page 147, whereon it is stated that an employee who by his personal conduct, or that of his affairs, public or private, brings discredit upon the Lighthouse Service, shall be reported for misconduct.

CHIEF CLERK APR 19 1915

APPOINTMENTS APR 19 1915 2

It is further recommended that the Bureau be authorized to direct the Third Inspector to address a letter to keeper Lake, instructing him to see that proper conduct is maintained by all persons either residing or visiting at the station, and inviting his attention to the fact that it is his duty to give attention to all complaints made by the assistant keepers. Attention in this connection is invited to the Instructions for the Personnel, 1911, page 144, par. headed "Oppression of subordinates,, third sub-par. If this recommendation is approved, a copy of the letter to Lake will be submitted to the Department for its files.

In connection with Department acknowledgment of April 1, 1915, of letter addressed to Hon. James P. Maher, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., by Mr. Geo. E. Denney, of The Standard Union, Brooklyn, N. Y., in regard to the misconduct above referred to on the part of Conklin, the Bureau states that in the event the Department approves the above recommendation a final reply to Congressman Maher will be prepared in this office for signature at the Department, if desired. The return to the Bureau of the letter addressed to Rep. Maher is requested.

G. L. Putnam

April 19, 1915.

APPROVED:

E. F. Sweet

Acting Secretary.

R
CV

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR,
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

JTY/WJL

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT
APR 8 1915
HOUSES

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

April 7,1915.

Commissioner:

Enclosed for the information of the Bureau are the following papers re alleged misconduct of 2nd Assistant Keeper Thomas J. Conklin of Shinnecock Bay Light Station on the night of March 13th 1915.

Letter dated March 15th 1915 from 1st Asst.Keeper Jesse Orton, Shinnecock Bay Light Station.
Letter dated March 15th 1915 from W.H.Lake,Keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station.
Copy of testimony of Assistant Keepers Orton and Conklin, taken at Shinnecock Bay Light Station March 26th 1915.
Copy of Testimony of William H.H.Lake taken at Lighthouse Depot Tompkinsville,N.Y.,on March 27th 1915.

Attention is invited to the previous record of Mr.Conklin.

From the reports and testimony it is evident that Mr.Conklin has not conducted himself as a keeper should, nor has he required proper conduct of parties visiting his quarters at the station.

It is recommended that Mr.Conklin be reprimanded and warned that any further trouble of this or other kind for which he has been previously reprimanded will be considered cause for dismissal, also that this office direct a letter to keeper Lake instructing him to see that proper conduct is maintained by all people, either residing or visiting at the Station, and inviting his attention to the fact that it is his duty to give attention to all complaints made by the Assistant Keepers.

Yours

LIGHT
APR 8 1915
HOUSES

Testimony taken during investigation on March 27th 1915 at 3:P.M., relative to alleged misconduct of Second Assistant Keeper Thomas J.Conklin, Shinnecock Bay Light Station. William H.H.Lake, Jr.Keeper, examined at General Lighthouse Depot, Tompkinsville, N.Y.

BOARD OF INVESTIGATION:

Inspector Joseph T.Yates, Third Lighthouse District, CHAIRMAN
Chief Clerk Frank W.Ockenfels.

QUESTIONS BY MR. YATES.

Q. Mr.Lake we have your letter of March 15th 1915, also Assistant Keeper Orton's letter of March 15th forwarded by you relative to the alleged misconduct of 2nd Assistant Keeper Thomas J.Conklin. We would like to have you tell us as briefly as you conveniently can as to what occurred on that night.

A. Well that is just what I do not know. But around 10 o'clock I heard a wagon and around a little after two o'clock I heard the wagon leaving. There was considerable noise, laughing and talking. The next morning I came off watch at sunrise. I came out the front door and saw on the front lawn a number of whisky and beer bottles. I saw by that that something took place the night before around two o'clock. So about 10:30 when the Second Assistant got up I told him to pick up the bottles and cart them away out of sight. About half an hour after that the first assistant came to me and complained of the noise that was made over his head. He said that he was going to sendin a complaint and try to have it stopped. He was going to send in a complaint and as I did not see anything to complain of I did not see why I should send in one on account of not hearing it.

Q. Have occurrences of this kind ever happened in Mr.Conklin's quarters before?

A. Well he annoyed the First Assistant on several occasions.

Q. Has the First Assistant previously complained to you about being annoyed by noise being made in Mr.Conklin's quarters?

A. Yes, sir. But he would not say so before the Assistant Keeper.

Q. Have you ever heard any noise made by any of Mr. Conklin's parties?

A. Yes, Sir. One night last summer.

Q. What action did you take to stop it? Did you take any?

A. I asked him about it before the First Assistant.

Q. What did he say?

A. He said the first assistant was on watch and he did not think that they made any noise to wake any one up.

Q. Didn't the First Assistant complain to you on more than one occasion?

A. Only on the outside, not officially.

Q. Didn't you think that any complaint made was official?

A. I thought he should come out and say so before the Second Assistant.

Q. Don't you consider it a part of your position to pay attention to complaints when they are received to see that the conduct of the assistant keepers is proper or else take some action about it?

A. He did not consider it as a complaint. I told him to make a complaint and I would see about it. He said he didn't want to make a complaint.

Q. What did he complaint about when he came to you?

A. The noise overhead.

Q. Didn't he say it disturbed his family?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. On this night in question March 13th 1915 when the wagon drove in to the station at 10 o'clock, did you go out to see what it was?

A. No,Sir.

Q. Didn't you think it an unusual enough occasion to warrant going out and see?

A. No, Sir, I didn't.

Q. You heard the wagon when it arrived, didn't you?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you hear any noise, etc., on the station?

A. No, Sir.

Q. You did not know anything of this affair or hear anything of it?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did you know if Mr.Conklin had any intoxicating liquor in the house?

A. No,Sir.

Q. Did you know the people at the station on that night?

A. No,Sir.

Q. Do you know their standing in the vicinity?

A. No,Sir.

Q. Has Assistant Keeper Conklin created any disturbance or any thing else on the station?

A. No, Sir.

Q. What kind of a man is he in regards to work?

A. Alright, but hasn't any regards for the rules.

Q. Has he broken the rules of the station and the Regulations of the Service?

A. No, Sir.

Q. Well, then, why do you say that he has no regards for them?

A. I have to keep after him all the time to see that he does not.

Q. How do you know that he is going to break the rules before he does break them?

A. In a way I don't know; only when he goes out at night and comes home at any old time, that is before he goes on watch; that is some times. I can naturally refuse him. He wants to go off every afternoon. I haven't refused him.

Q. You heard the wagon leave with these people about 2 A.M?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. When they were leaving were they noisy?

A. Yes, Sir.

Q. What form did this noise take?

A. Laughing and talking. It woke me up. I had to go on watch at 2:30.

Q. You stated that you didn't know these people at the station on the night of March 13th. Didn't you know anything about them at all?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did you know how many there were?

A. No, sir. There were several voices.

Q. Did you know that these people were coming to the station that night?

A. Well, his wife was in about 4:30 and she said that several friends of hers were coming for supper, nothing further.

Q. That is the only knowledge you had that there was anyone coming to the station?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What rules have you at the station, about visiting the station?

A. At eight o'clock. I told him several times in regards to noise and after 8 P.M., it should be quiet.

Q. Do you understand, Mr.Lake, that you are in charge of that station?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And you are supposed to see that all people on that station conduct themselves properly and if there is any complaint made to you that you are supposed to look into it?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Well why didn't you take some action when Mr.Orton spoke to you first about these matters, about their making noise in the quarters overhead?

A. Mr.Orton and I had conversation over that at the time and I thought he would not make any complaint.

LIGHT
APR 8 1915
HOUSES

Testimony taken March 26, 1915, at Shinnecock Bay Light Station in connection with the investigation of alledged misconduct on the part of Thomas J? Conklin, 2d Assistant Keeper.

J. T. Yates, Inspector.
F. W. Ockenfels, Chief Clerk.

Testimony of Jesse Orton, 1st Asst. Keeper.

Mr. Yates: Mr. Orton, we have your letter of March 15, 1915, relative to the conduct of the second assistant keeper Mr. Conklin on the night of March 13, 1915, and we would like to have you tell us all of the particulars relative to his conduct on this night, and any otherx matters pertaining to the occurrence, also any similar occurrences.

Mr. Orton: Well he has had these parties more or less ever since he has been here. They would come late in the evening and stay until midnight or so. What objections I had against it have been I could not get to sleep until eleven o'clock. Whether or not a man gets his proper rest he has got to go on watch just the same. That was my objections. They came about ten o'clock; he just came off watch and I went on watch; and they had the graphaphone going and dancing on the bare floor from the time they came here until two o'clock Sunday morning. In the morning when we looked around there was a lot of beer and whiskey bottles on the lawn, and we knew they had been drinking, and we had to pick them all up.

Q. They had beer and other liquors on the station here?

A. Mr. Lake found whiskey and beer bottles; they threw those bottles out of the window.

Q. Was there much loud noise - talking and laughing?

A.. Under the bed room window the language was something fierce, and there was vomiting fierce, and threatening to fight.

Q. Were they all men?

A. Men, women and children.

Q. From the vicinity?

A. Yes.

Q. You say this same thing has happened before?

A. Not so bad as that time.

Q. Similar, only to a lesser degree?

A. Yes.

Q. On these other occasions was their conduct such as to be objectionable?

A. No, only noisy; I could not sleep until they had gone.

Q. Do you know if the keeper has ever spoken to Mr. Conklin about these occurrences?

A. Yes; ~~[illegible]~~

Q. He has warned him?

A. Yes, and I spoke to him. Mr. Lake said he could not do anything unless I made an official complaint.

Q. He (Conklin) knows that the regulations prohibit the having of intoxicating liquors on the reservation?

A. I should think so.

Q. Did the keeper ever state that to him?

A. Not that I know of.

Q. This is the only time intoxicating liquors have been brought here?

A. So far as I know.

Q. Otherwise than this report of yours, have you had any trouble with Mr. Conklin?

A. No; I sometime ago told him I could not sleep on account of his dogs in the cellar barking and whining.

Q. Do you find him an agreeable man to get along with?

A. He is thoughtless about what he does.

Q. Do you find him a careful, willing and conscientious man in his work around the station?

A. Yes, so far as his work is concerned; I don't think there is any complaint in that way. Mr. Lake keeps him right on the job and makes him do it.

Testimony of Thomas J.Conklin,2nd Assistant Keeper.

Mr.Yates:Q. Mr.Conklin, we have a complaint about your conduct at this station on the night of March 13th 1915 that you had several men and several women come to this station at 10 o'clock at night and that they staid here until 2 o'clock in the morning and that you were playing the phonograph and dancing and that you had intoxicating liquor on the station, and that these people were apparently intoxicated, throwing up and talking fight and keeping people awake. We would like to have you tell us what you can about this.

Mr.Conklin:A. I was up in the tower until 10:00 and I came down and prepared to go to bed, and at 10:30 people came down and the wife and I was going to bed and we knew the superintendent, one of the party. He had his wife and children with him. So they came up and staid; just a surprise call. We knew the party and did not like to tell them to go after hours. There was a couple of young fellows in the party that was not supposed to be with them and I told them to go. Everybody in the house was alright and I though everything was alright. Mr.Orton was on watch in the tower. Those fellows must have had some liquor hid down stairs and when I told them to go they came down and drank it and threw the bottles there for spite. I didn't know anything about it until morning. I said there was a complaint brought in and he (the Supt.previously mentioned) said he was sorry, it was done all entirely unknown to me.

Q. Didn't these people come to the station to visit you?

A. No,sir. It was 10:30. This door has a poor lock on it and they came up. I was undressed. I thought everything would be alright as Mr.Orton was up in the tower. When I saw the others, I said, "Who are those fellows." They said that they did not come with the rest.

Q. You did not have liquor in the house?

A. No, sir.

Q. Was there any drink in the house?

A. Not that I know of.

Q. If there was drink there you should have known of it?

A. Yes.

Q. How many people were here that night?

A. Man, wife, three children and his nephew, three other girls and three other fellows. The three other fellows we told to go, and they staid on the stoop.

Q. I understand parties similar to this although not quite so noisy have been heard in the past?

A. No sir. People may come down but not as a party, but come and stay for a while.

Q. Do they come at 10:30 to visit?

A. No, sir. This man on the canal is going away Sunday and he said if anything came up he would tell then what it was. We didn't have anything to do with it.

Q. You are supposed to take care of that house aren't you?

A. Yes. The disturbance was outside of the house.

Q. You claim that the people who made the disturbance outside were the three people you did not want and sent away?

A. Yes. These same folks have a habit of going to someone's house.

Q. At what time did these three people that you claim you ordered away from the station, leave?

A. As soon as they came. They came at 10:30.

Q. What time did they leave the station grounds?

A. I could not say. One party was under the influence of liquor in the first place.

Testimony of 1st Assistant Keeper Orton, recalled.

Q. Mr.Orton, we questioned Mr.Conklin and he states that there was no liquor in the house that night and that the only people that had liquor was three fellows who came that they didn't want and ordered them away. These three staid on the station and drank the beer,etc., and threw the bottles on the lawn for spite?

A. I went on watch and could not swear to it.

Q. Do you know there was drinking in the house?

A. No as I was on watch.

Q. Do you know whether he (Conklin) knew these people were coming here?

A He knew there was some of them coming, at least xx his wife did. She bought some things from the Lakes.

Q. Mr.Conklin claims that practically the only people who made disturbance were the three people whom he ordered away and that they were ordered away as soon as they came here.

A. In that case, who was dancing until 2 o'clock in the morning and playing the phonograph.

Q. What time was this distrubance,etc.,when they were talking under your windows and talking fight talk?

LIGHT-HOUSE INSPECTOR 3D DIST. MAR 16 1915 RECEIVED
LIGHT APR 8 1915 HOUSES

Shinnecock Bay Lt. Sta.

March 15. 1915.

Lighthouse Inspector. 3rd District,
Through the Keeper,

It is with regret that I report to you the conduct of Thomas J Conklin, 2nd Assistant Keeper, of this Station on the night of March 13. 1915.
A company of men and women came at 10 P.M. with a quantity of beer which devoloped into a drunken brawl and continued untill 2. a.m. Sunday morning
The language and conduct of Mr. Conklin's, guests was disgraceful.
We are frequently disturbed by their unnecesary noise untill midnight and after.
I would appreciate that you order Mr Conklin to refrain from unnecesary noise and rough conduct.

Jesse Arton. 1st Ass't Keeper.

William H. H. Lake Jr.
Keeper

Shinnecock Bay
Light Station



March 15th 1915

Inspector.

I respectfully report in answer to Mr Orton's letter of March 15th /15 That Mr Conklin came off watch at 10 P.M. March 13th and I was awakened at 10 P.M. and I heard a wagon come with a party of people, and at 2 A.M. I was awakened again and I heard the wagon leaving. making considerable noise The next morning when I came off watch at sun-rise. the lawn in front of dwelling had a number of beer and whisky bottles on it. Which was evidence enough.

Lake

April 20, 1915.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

The Department acknowledges receipt of the Bureau's communication of the 13th instant, transmitting correspondence from the Third Inspector relative to the charges of misconduct filed by the first assistant keeper of Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, against Thomas J. Conklin, the second assistant keeper.

In view of all the circumstances in the case, and of Mr. Conklin's previous record, the Department has authorized the Bureau to address a letter of reprimand to Mr. Conklin, warning him that any further misconduct will be deemed sufficient cause for filing charges against him with a view to his dismissal from the service.

In accordance with the Bureau's further recommendation, authority has been granted for the Bureau to direct the Third Inspector to address a letter to William H. H. Lake, jr., keeper of the above-mentioned station, instructing him to see that proper conduct is maintained by all persons either residing or visiting at the station, and inviting his attention to the fact that it is his duty to give attention to all complaints made by the assistant keepers. It is noted that copies of the letters addressed to Messrs. Conklin and Lake will be furnished the Department for its files.

The Department returns herewith letter addressed to Hon. James P. Maher, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., by Mr. George E. Denney, of the Standard Union, Brooklyn, New York, in regard to the complaint lodged against Mr. Conklin, in order that the Bureau may prepare a final reply to Congressman Maher for signature at the Department.

By direction of the Secretary:

(SIGNED) GEO. C. HAVENNER

Enclosure 183.
C-R

(COPY)

McC.

Thos. J. Conklin,
charges.

April 28, 1915.

Hon. Lathrop Brown,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Referring again to letter dated March 26, 1915, addressed to you by Mr. Thomas J. Conklin, second assistant keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, which letter was left by you at this office on March 29, 1915, and to undated letter addressed to you by John Martin, and others, of Good Ground, Long Island, which letter was left by you at this office on April 2, 1915, both in regard to charges which were preferred against Mr. Conklin by the first assistant keeper of the light station referred to.

I beg to advise you that after a careful investigation of the matter it has been established that Mr. Conklin has not conducted himself as a keeper should, nor has he required proper conduct of parties visiting his quarters. After careful consideration it has been decided to take no more drastic action in his case at this time than to address him a letter of reprimand and to warn him that any further misconduct on his part will result in consideration being given to taking more severe action in his case.

Respectfully,

(Signed) G. T. Putnam

Commissioner.

(COPY).

McC.

Thos. J. Conklin,
charges.

April 28, 1915.

Mr. Wauhope Lynn,
54-60 Lafayette Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

Referring again to your letter of March 29, 1915, in regard to charges which were preferred against Mr. Thomas J. Conklin, second assistant keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York.

I beg to advise you that after a careful investigation of the matter it has been established that Mr. Conklin has not conducted himself as a keeper should, nor has he required proper conduct of parties visiting his quarters. After careful consideration it has been decided to take no more drastic action in his case at this time than to address him a letter of reprimand and to warn him that any further misconduct on his part will result in consideration being given to taking more severe action in his case.

Respectfully,

(Signed) L. O. Pettus

Commissioner.

INCLOSED

File

(COPY)

HRW-McC.

CHIEF CLERK
MAY 1 1915
5

Reprimand.

April 28, 1915.

Mr. Thomas J. Conklin,
Second Assistant Keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station, N.Y.
(Through Lighthouse Inspector, Tompkinsville, New York).

Referring to the investigation made at the Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, on March 26, 1915, by the Third Inspector, in regard to alleged misconduct on your part at the station on the night of March 13, 1915, it is evident that you have not conducted yourself as a keeper should, and have not required proper conduct of persons visiting your quarters at the station. Your attention is invited to the Instructions for the Personnel, 1911, page 147, whereon it is stated that an employee who by his conduct or that of his affairs, public or private, brings discredit upon the Lighthouse Service, shall be reported for misconduct, and you are reprimanded for your misconduct in this case. In view of this reprimand, Bureau letters of reprimand of March 21 and May 19, 1914, and letter of caution of March 24, 1914, to you, from the Third Inspector, you are warned that any further misconduct by you will necessitate consideration being given to the matter of filing charges against you with a view to your dismissal from the Service.

The fact that you have been reprimanded will be noted on the records as part of your official history.

G F Putnam

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
APR 28 1915

Commissioner.

2 Incls.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for his information. Attached are copies of letters to Messrs. [illegible] Brown and Lyon. See Dept. letter of April 20, 1915, and proposed letter to Rep. Maher, prepared in the Bureau for signature at the Dept, submitted to Dept. today.

Acting Commissioner.

J Conway

File
Rmc

LIGHT HOUSES
MAY 1 1915

MgC.

MAY - 1 1915

CHIEF CLERK
MAR 16 1916
5

APPOINTMENTS
MAR 16 1916
12 30

My dear Congressman:

Referring again to letter of March 28, 1915, addressed to you by Mr. Geo. E. Denney, of The Standard Union, Brooklyn, New York, in regard to charges preferred against Mr. Thomas J. Conklin, second assistant keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, which letter was received at the Department for attention, I beg to advise you that after careful investigation of the matter it has been established that Mr. Conklin has not conducted himself as a keeper should, nor has he required proper conduct from parties visiting his quarters. After careful consideration it has been decided to take no more drastic action in his case at this time than to address him a letter of reprimand, and to warn him that any further misconduct on his part will result in more severe disciplinary measures by the Department.

The letter of Mr. Denney above referred to is inclosed, as requested.

Very truly yours,

A. L. THURMAN Secretary.

Hon. James P. Maher,
Member of Congress,
555 Bedford Avenue,
Brooklyn, New York.

Inclosure.

LIGHTHOUSES---Appointment Division's files

Exact copy as signed by A. L. THURMAN

Mailed MAY - 1 1915 by

File
Mus

McC.

Set inclosures.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES

WASHINGTON

March 27, 1916.

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
ANSWERED
MAR 24 1916
DEPT. OF COMMERCE

CHIEF CLERK
MAR 23 1916

5

APPOINTMENTS
MAR 23 1916

Subject: 3d Inspector's indorsement of March 17, 1916, and accompanying papers, Thos. J. Conklin, 2d asst. kpr.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce concurring in the remarks of the Third Inspector, and recommending that the Bureau be authorized to address a letter to Congressman Hicks, in response to his letter of March 14, 1916, advising him, in effect, that under the regulations, keepers in the Lighthouse Service, in order to be eligible for transfer to other stations, at their own request, must attain the required standard in efficiency and conduct; that Mr. Conklin's efficiency and conduct have not been satisfactory; and that it is not considered that his transfer to the position of assistant keeper of Pecks Ledge Light Station would be in the best interests of the service until such time as his conduct and efficiency warrant such transfer.

It is requested that the letter of Congressman Hicks, dated March 14, 1916, be returned to the Bureau when no longer needed at the Department.

The matters noted in the correspondence from the Fish and Game Commission of the State of Connecticut, referred to by the Inspector in his inclosed report, are now being investigated by the Bureau, and the Department will be further advised in regard thereto at a later date.

Attention is also invited to the inclosed letter dated March 20, 1916, in regard to this case, from the Third Inspector, and it is recommended that the Bureau be authorized to add to the letter to Congressman Hicks the fact that the lights at both Shinnecock Bay Light Station and Pecks Ledge Light Station are provided with incandescent oil vapor equipment, and the effect of the light upon the eyes is practically the same at each station.

G. R. Putnam

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT HOUSES MAR 21 1916

FWO/EJC.

Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Commr.
Commr.

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

March 20th, 1916.

Add to ltr to MC
both ltrs provided with
1.O.V. equipment

Commissioner:

Referring to Bureau endorsement of March 15, 1916, relative to Thomas H. Conklin, Second Asst. Keeper of Shinnecock Bay Light Station.

Supplemental to endorsement from this office of March 17th, the Bureau is advised that there is an oil vapor light at both Shinnecock Bay and Pecks Ledge Light. While the light at Shinnecock Bay is a type B 55 mm., and the light at Pecks Ledge is a type A 35 mm., the effect upon the eyes would be practically the same.

The foregoing was inadvertently omitted from endorsement from this office of March 17th.

In the absence and by direction of Inspector.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT
MAR 18 1916
HOUSES

JTY/WJL

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

March 17,1916.

SUBJECT: Bu.End.March 15,1916 on let.March 14,1916 from Congressman Hicks re transfer of Conklin, 2nd Asst.Keeper, Shinnecock Bay L.S.to Pecks Ledge.

Returned to Commissioner:

Since Mr.Conklin has been in the Lighthouse Service his conduct and services have been far from satisfactory.

In April 1914 he was demoted from the position of First Assistant Keeper of Little Gull Island Light Station to the position he now occupies and permitting him to transfer to any other station is not considered desirable or advisable at this time.

While in the Lighthouse Service Mr.Conklin has been reprimanded and warned on the following occasions:

By Bureau letter March 21st 1914 for permitting the engines at Little Gull Island Light Station to freeze and burst.
For misconduct, by Bureau letter of April 14th 1914 on which occasion he was demoted to the position he now occupies.
For preferring false charges against the keeper of Little Gull Island, by Bureau letter of May 19th 1914.
Reprimanded and warned re conduct, by Bureau letter of April 28th 1915.

Mr.Conklin on October 22nd 1915 addressed a letter to this office requesting that he be permitted to exchange positions with Assistant Keeper Smith at Pecks Ledge Light Station which request was refused. Copy of letter from this office to Mr. Conklin dated October 25th 1915 in regard to the matter is herewith enclosed for the information of the Bureau.

In connection with this matter the Bureau's attention is invited to letter from this office returning correspondence from the Fish and Game Commission, State of Connecticut, relative to the keeper and assistant keeper at Pecks Ledge Light Station. As Assistant Keeper Smith is concerned in this matter this also makes the transfer of Conklin and Smith objectionable.

Copy of 1914 and 1915 correspondence re Mr.Conklin's financial difficulties with the Coney Island Life Guard Association is enclosed for the Bureau's information.

The exchanging of positions by Conklin as requested in the attached correspondence is not recommended.

J.O.Yates

Copy WJL

FWO/WJL

LIGHT
MAR 18 1916
HOUSES

October 25,1915.

Thomas J.Conklin, 2nd Asst.Keeper,
Through the Keeper,
Shinnecock Bay Light Station,
Good Ground,N.Y.

Referring to your letter of October 22nd 1915 enclosing another letter of the same date making application for permission to exchange positions with either Second Assistant Keeper Meyer of Montauk Point Light Station or Benjamin Smith Assistant Keeper of Pecks Ledge Light Station, you are advised that your application is not approved.

In this connection it may be stated that on account of the fact that you were reprimanded and warned during the current year and as your quarters were in poor condition when the station was last inspected no application for transfer to another station or position will be considered until such time as you have proven that your conduct and efficiency warrant such action.

Yates

COPY-EJC.



Shinnecock Bay

Light Station,

Aug. 3rd, 1914.

Supt. of Light Houses,

Inspector

I respectfully state that I am enclosing a letter that was sent to this station.

Signed-Lake.

Dear Sir:-

I beg to state in behalf of this Association that from last reports we find that you have a man by the name of Thomas Conklin employed as light house tender or some other position under the Government's employ around Shinnecock Station.

The said Thos. Conklin was a member of the above association and while holding position of Secretary, collected money from members for dues amounting to $10.00 He also received $5.00 from said association for the purpose of having Beach badge registered in Albany. It is now nearly two years since he collected the $10.00 and almost three years since he received the $5.00. He has kept the entire amount; in other words, stolen the sum of $15.00 from this Association.

If not putting you to any extended trouble, we hope you will assist us in recovering said sum, as he has permanent employment.

Respectfully,

Sgd. Frank West.
1241-56th St.,
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Fin. Sec'y. U.I.L.S. Assn.

Coney Island Life Guard Ass'n
-----(Incorporated 1910)-----

LIGHT
MAR 18 1916
HOUSES

New York, August 27, 1914.

Supt. of Light House,

Shinacock Station,

Good Ground, N.Y.

Dear Sir:-

I beg to state in behalf of this Association that from last reports we find that you have a man by the name of Thomas Conklin employed as light house tender or some other position under the Government's employ around Shinacock Station.

The said Thos. Conklin was a member of the above association and while holding position of Secretary, collected money from members for dues amounting to $10.00 He also received $5.00 from said association for the purpose of having Beach badge registered in Albany. It is now nearly two years since he collected the $10.00 and almost three years since he received the $5.00. He has kept the entire amount; in other words, stolen the sum of $15.00 from this Association.

If not putting you to any extended trouble, we hope you will assist us in recovering said sum, as he has permanent employment.

Respectfully,

Sgd. Frank West,
1241-54th St.,
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Fin. Sec'y. C.I.L.G. Assn.

COPY-EJC.

FWO/WJL.

LIGHT
MAR 18 1916
HOUSES

September 8, 1914.

Thomas J.Conklin, 2nd Assistant Keeper,
Shinnecock Bay Light Station,
Good Ground,N.Y.
Through the Keeper.

Herewith enclosed is copy of letter dated August 27th, 1914 received from the Secretary of the Coney Island Life Guard Association with request that you forward to this office a full and complete statement in regard to the matters referred to therein.

Yates.

of a copy-EJC.

Copy- WJL.



CONEY ISLAND LIFE GUARD ASS'N
Incorporated 1910

New York August 27, 1914.

Supt. of Light House,

Shinacock Station,

Good Ground, N.Y.

Dear Sir:-

I beg to state in behalf of this association that from last reports we find that you have a man by the name of Thomas Conklin employed as light house tender or some other position under the Government's employ around Shinacock Station.

The said Thos.Conklin was a member of the above association and while holding position of Secretary, collected money from members for dues amounting to $10.00 He also received $5.00 from said association for the purpose of having Beach badge registered in Albany. It is now nearly twoe years since he collected the $10.00 and almost three years since he received the $5.00 He has kept the entire amount; in other words, stolen the sum of $15.00 from this Association.

If not putting you to any extended trouble, we hope you will assist us in recovering said sum, as he has permanent employment.

Respectfully,

sgd.Frank West
1241-54th St.,
Brooklyn,N.Y.
Fin., Sec'y/ C.I.L.G. Assn.

LIGHT
MAR 18 1916
HOUSES

COPY-EJC.

FWO/WJL.

September 17, 1914.

Thomas J.Conklin, 2nd Assistant Keeper,
Shinnecock Bay Light Station,
Good Ground, N.J.
Through the Keeper.

Your attention is invited to the fact that reply has not as yet been received to letter addressed to you under date of September 8th, 1914 enclosing copy of letter from the Secretary of the Coney Island Life Guard Association.

You are directed to forward reply by return mail.

In the absence and by direction of the Inspector.

Signed-Haskell,
Superintendent.

COPY-EJC.

LIGHT
MAR 18 1916
HOUSES

Shinnecock Bay,

9/17/14

Inspector, 3rd District.

Sir.

Your letter of Sept. 8, 1914 was received by me Sept.17, 14 and I wish to state that while I was Secretary of the Coney Island Life Guards I collected $10.00 from the members and the next week the Ass'tion was going to break up and as I was done out of money once before by this Ass' when it broke up and the treasurer kept all the money so being I was the oldest member in the Ass' I consequently kept the money and now I see the Ass' is still runnning I wish to state I will send the $10.00 as soon as I can or as much as I can and about the five dollars($5.00) that was given to me to have the beach badges registered at Albany I gave the $5.00 to a lawyer, Redmond at Temple Bar Building on Court Street, Brooklyn, who also has a Real Estate Office at Vanderbilt Ave.& Bergen Street and got a receipt and gave it to the Treasurer Mr. Eldridge so if he is looked up and his book got hold of by the Asstion the receipt will be found or the Ass' can write to Mr.Redmond and he will look it up. A also wish to state that I am sorry it went this far and I will settle with the Coney Island Life Guards as soon as I can.

Signed-Conklin,
2d Asst.

A copy of this has been sent the Coney Island Life Guards.

Wm. H.H. LAKE JR.
KEEPER.

COPY-EJC.

LIGHT
MAR 18 1916
HOUSES

FWO/WJL.

September 19, 1914.

Thomas J.Conklin, 2nd Asst.Keeper,
Shinnecock Bay Light Station,
Good Ground,N.Y.
Through the Keeper.

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of September 17th relative to the matter referred to in copy of letter from the Secretary of the Coney Island Life Guard Association which was forwarded to you with letter of August 27th.

In regard to your notation that a copy of your letter of September 17th has been sent to the Coney Island Life Guard Association your attention is invited to the fact that it is contrary to the Regulations of this Service for any employee to furnish copies of Government papers to any person without proper authority and you are directed to see that this regulation is complied with in the future.

YATES.

LIGHT
MAR 18 1916
HOUSES

COPY-EJC.

FWO/WJL.

September 19, 1914.

Frank West, Financial Secretary,
Coney Island Life Guard Association,
1241 - 54th Street,
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Referring to your letter of August 27th, 1914 relative to Thomas J. Conklin, now Second Assistant Keeper of Shinnecock Bay Light Station who it is alleged collected and retained certain money belonging to the Coney Island Life Guard Association.

Enclosed for your information is copy of letter dated September 17th received from Mr. Conklin.

If Mr. Conklin does not remit to the Association within a reasonable length of time the $10.00 referred to in his letter, it is requested that you so advise this office.

Yates
Inspector.

Enclosure.

COPY-EJC.

LIGHT
MAR 18 1916
HOUSES

Shinnecock Bay,

9/17/14

Inspector, 3rd District.

Sir.

Your letter of Sept. 8, 1914 was received by me Sept.17, 14 and I wish to state that while I was Secretary of the Coney Island Life Guards I collected $10.00 from the members and the next week the Ass'tion was going to break up and as I was done out of money once before by this Ass' when it broke up and the treasurer kept all the money so being I was the oldest member in the Ass' I consequently kept the money and now I see the Ass' is still runnning I wish to state I will send the $10.00 as soon as I can or as much as I can and about the five dollars($5.00) that was given to me to have the beach badges registered at Albany I gave the $5.00 to a lawyer, Redmond at Temple Bar Building on Court Street, Brooklyn, who also has a Real Estate Office at Vanderbilt Ave.& Bergen Street and got a receipt and gave it to the Treasurer Mr. Eldridge so if he is looked up and his book got hold of by the Asstion the receipt will be found or the Ass' can write to Mr.Redmond and he will look it up. A also wish to state that I am sorry it went this far and I will settle with the Coney Island Life Guards as soon as I can.

Signed-Conklin,
2d Asst.

A copy of this has been sent the Coney Island Life Guards.

Wm. H.H. LAKE JR.
KEEPER.

LIGHT
MAR 18 1916
HOUSES

COPY-EJC.

1241-54th St.,
Brooklyn, N.Y.,
Feb.1st, 1915.

Inspector, 3rd Dist.,

Dear Sir:

Referring to your letter of Sept. 19th/14 about money due this Assn., from Thomas J.Conklin, Second Asst.Keeper of Shinnecock Bay, I wish to state to date he has not made any attempt to any part thereof.

I think if Mr.Conklin had any idea of paying the $10.00 he could have done so long ago or payed part of it in monthly payments.

Hoping you will assist us in securing the money due us, and thanking you for past services,

Very respectfully,

Coney Island Life Guard Assn.

Sgd.Frank West,

Fin.Sect.

LIGHT
MAR 18 1916
HOUSES

COPY-EJC.
COPY-EJC.

FWO/WJL.

1241-54th St.,
Brooklyn, N.Y.,
Feb.1st, 1915.

February 3, 1915.

Inspector, 3rd Dist.,

Dear Sir:

Thomas J.Conklin, 2d Asst.Keeper,
Shinnecock Bay Light Station,
Good Ground,N.Y.
Through the Keeper.

Enclosed is copy of letter dated February 1st,1915 received from Mr. Frank West, Financial Secretary of the Coney Island Life Guard Association concerning the matter of certain money collected by you and referred to in previous correspondence. You are directed to immediately give this matter proper attention and inform this office when you have done so.

Your attention is invited to page 147 of the Regulations, 1911, Paragraph entitled "Payments of Debts."

Yates.
Fin.Sect.

COPY-EJC.

LIGHT
MAR 18 1916
HOUSES

1241-54th St.,
Brooklyn, N.Y.,
Feb.1st, 1915.

Inspector, 3rd Dist.,

Dear Sir:

Referring to your letter of Sept. 19th/14 about money due this Assn., from Thomas J.Conklin, Second Asst.Keeper of Shinnecock Bay, I wish to state to date he has not made any attempt to any part thereof.

I think if Mr.Conklin had any idea of paying the $10.00 he could have done so long ago or payed part of it in monthly payments.

Hoping you will assist us in securing the money due us, and thanking you for past services,

Very respectfully,

Coney Island Life Guard Assn.

Sgd.Frank West,

Fin.Sect.

COPY-EJC.



Shinnecock Bay,

Good Ground, Long Island.

March 1, 1915.

Inspector, 3rd District,

Sir:

Your letter of Feb. 3, 1915 was received by me and I wish to state I have sent part payment of what I owe to the Coney Island Life Guard Ass'n to Frank West. I have not failed to remember what I owe to the Ass'n but until lately it has been impossible for me to reimburse them any. Please pardon the delay.

Signed-Conklin,

2 Asst.

Feb.26, 1915.

William H.H.Lake, Jr.,
Keeper.

LIGHT
MAR 18 1916
HOUSES

COPY-EJC.

Shinnecock Bay,

Good Ground, Long Island.

FWO/WJL.

March 1, 1915.

Frank West, Financial Sec'y,
Coney Island Life Guard Association,
1241- 54th Street,
Brooklyn.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of February 1st, 1915 relative to the indebtedness of Mr. Thomas J.Conklin, 2nd Assistant Keeper of Shinnecock Bay Light Station.

Enclosed herewith for your information is copy of letter of February 26th received from Mr.Conklin.

J.T.YATES. 2 Asst.

William H.H.Lake, Jr.,
Keeper.

COPY-EJC.

LIGHT
MAR 18 1916
HOUSES

Shinnecock Bay,

Good Ground, Long Island.

Inspector, 3rd District,

Sir:

Your letter of Feb. 3, 1915 was received by me and I wish to state I have sent part payment of what I owe to the Coney Island Life Guard Ass'n to Frank West. I have not failed to remember what I owe to the Ass'n but until lately it has been impossible for me to reimburse them any. Please pardon the delay.

Signed-Conklin,

2 Asst.

Feb.26, 1915.

William H.H.Lake, Mr.,
Keeper.

COPY-EJC.

LIGHT
MAR 18 1916
HOUSES

FWO/WJL.

March 1, 1915.

Thomas J. Conklin, 2nd Asst. Keeper,
(Through the Keeper)
Shinnecock Bay Light Station,
Good Ground, N.Y.

Referring to your letter of February 26th relative to your indebtedness to the Coney Island Life Guard Association in which you state that you have forwarded a part payment to the Association referred to, you are requested to inform this office of the amount of the part payment you have made and also when you expect to make payment of the balance due.

As this matter has been the subject of correspondence since August, 1914, it is necessary that same be brought to a close without further delay.

Yates.

LIGHT
MAR 18 1916
HOUSES

COPY-EJC.

AN/EJC.

March 4th, 1915.

Frank West Financial Secretary,
Coney Island Life Guard Association,
1241-54th St.,
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Referring again to your letter of February 1st, and supplementing letter from this office of March 1st, 1915, you are are informed that a letter has been received this morning from Thomas J. Conklin, in regard to his indebtedness to your association, in which he states again that he has sent you $2.00 and expects to pay the balance of $8.00 on receipt of his next pay, which he expects to receive about Saturday or Monday.

Yates

Inspector.

March 24, 1916.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

The Department acknowledges receipt of the Bureau's communication of the 22nd instant, and enclosures, relative to replying to letter dated March 14, 1916, addressed to the Commissioner of Lighthouses by Congressman Frederick C. Hicks on the subject of an exchange transfer desired by Thomas J. Conklin from Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, to Pecks Ledge Light Station, New York.

It is noted that the Bureau is adverse to the proposed transfer for the reason that under the regulations keepers in the Lighthouse Service in order to be eligible for transfer to other stations at their own request must attain the required standard of efficiency and conduct; that Mr. Conklin's efficiency and conduct have not been satisfactory; and that it is not considered that his transfer to the position of assistant keeper of Pecks Ledge Light Station, New York, would be in the best interests of the service until such time as his conduct and efficiency warrant such transfer. With reference to the contention that the light at Shinnecock Bay is working injury to Mr. Concklin's eyes, it is noted that the lights at both Shinnecock Bay Light Station and Pecks Ledge Light Station are provided with incandescent oil vapor equipment, and that the effect upon the eyes is practically the same at each of these stations. In view of these circumstances, the Bureau is authorized to prepare a reply to Congress-

man Hicksalong the lines set forth in its communication.

The letter from Congressman Hicks is returned herewith, as requested.

(SIGNED) E. F. SWEET,

Assistant Secretary.

Enclosure 1532.
C-R

Copy.

MsC.

Thos. J. Conklin,
application.

March 28, 1916.

CHIEF CLERK
MAR 28 1916

APPOINTMENTS
MAR 28 1916

Hon. Frederick C. Hicks,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Hicks:

Referring again to your letter of March 14, 1916, on behalf of Mr. Thomas J. Conklin, second assistant keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, who desires to be transferred to the Pecks Ledge Light Station, New York.

I beg to advise you that under the regulations keepers in the Lighthouse Service, in order to be eligible for transfer to other stations at their own request must attain the required standard of efficiency and conduct, and as Mr. Conklin's efficiency and conduct have not been satisfactory, it is not considered that his transfer to the position of assistant keeper of Pecks Ledge Light Station would be in the best interests of the service until such time as an improvement is shown in the respects stated. It may be further stated that the lights at both Shinnecock Bay Light Station and Pecks Ledge Light Station are provided with incandescent oil vapor equipment, and the effect of the light upon the eyes is practically the same at each station.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) G. L. Putnam

Commissioner.

Bureau of Lighthouses,
MAR 28, 1916

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for his information and attention being invited to Dept. letter of March 14, 1916

Acting Commissioner.

APR 1 1916

APPOINTMENT
APR 1 1916
4

My dear Congressman:

Referring to your letter of March 28, 1916, inclosing a letter addressed to you on March 16, 1916, by Mr. George E. Donnen, on behalf of Mr. Thomas J. Conklin, second assistant keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, who desires to be transferred to the Pecks Ledge Light Station, New York.

I have to advise you that under the regulations keepers in the Lighthouse Service, in order to be eligible for transfer to other stations at their own request, must attain the required standard of efficiency and conduct, and as Mr. Conklin's efficiency and conduct have not been satisfactory, it is not considered that his transfer to the position of assistant keeper of Pecks Ledge Light Station would be in the best interests of the service until such time as an improvement is shown in the respects stated. It may be further stated that the lights at both Shinnecock Bay Light Station and Pecks Ledge Light Station are provided with incandescent oil vapor equipment, and the effect of the light upon the eyes is practically the same at each station.

The letter addressed to you by Mr. Donnen is inclosed, as requested.

Very truly yours,

INDEXED

WILLIAM C. REDFIELD
Secretary.

Hon. James P. Maher,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

LIGHTHOUSES---Appointment Division's files

Inclosure.

Exact copy as signed by

APR 1 - 1916

Mailed by

File

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

FWO/WJL

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT HOUSES APR 4 1916

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

DIVISION OF ACCOUNTS RECEIVED APR 7 1916

April 3,1916.

CHIEF CLERK APR 7 1916

APPOINTMENTS APR 7 1916

SUBJECT: Let.Mch 30,1916 from Conklin,2nd Asst.Keeper, Shinnecock Bay Light Station requesting 6 mo.leave of absence.

Forwarded to Commissioner:

It is not considered that Mr.Conklin's record in the Service justifies favorable action on his request for six months leave of absence, as it is believed that leave of absence for extended periods should be granted only in exceptional and meritorious cases where the employee involved is deserving of special consideration on account of having rendered long, faithful and satisfactory service.

Enclosed for the Bureau's information is copy of a memorandum made by Superintendent Haskell on March 27th 1916.

The approval of the attached application is not recommended.

J. T. Gilles

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
APR 6 - 1916

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce recommended for approval, the Bureau concurring in the remarks of the Inspector.

G. R. Putnam

Commissioner.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

THIRD DISTRICT

LIGHT-HOUSE INSPECTOR 2D DIST. MAR 31 1916 RECEIVED TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

LIGHT APR 4 1916 HOUSES

Shinnecock Bay
(Station, Depot, or Vessel)

March 30, 1916

Light House Inspector
Sir

I respectfully make application for 6 months leave of absence from April 15 1916 to October 15 1916. and if my application is accepted. I can supply a substitute or the office can decide that part. The reason I request the leave of absence is injuries to my eyes while in the Light House Service.

Respectfully.

Conklin
2nd Asst.

Lake
Keeper

Copy WJL

Memorandum

3/27/1916.

LIGHT
APR 4 1916
HOUSES

Mr. Conklin called at office in re transfer from Shinnecock L. Station. I told him his record wasn't clear and he was not entitled to transfer. He claimed his eyes were being effected by light and thought he was entitled to action under liability act. He acknowledged he had not used dark glasses provided. Told him Pecks Ledge was just as bad for eyes and I didn't believe he had any claim under liability act.

sgd RH

April 7, 1916.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

The Department is in receipt of the Third Inspector's communication of the 3d instant, transmitting application of Thomas J. Conklin, second assistant keeper of Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, for six months' leave of absence, and, in accordance with the Bureau's recommendation of the 6th instant, disapproves Mr. Conklin's request, for the reason that his unsatisfactory service record renders him undeserving of special privileges which are granted only in exceptional and meritorious cases.

(SIGNED) E. E. FRA[illegible]

Acting Secretary.

C-R

Form 93

JHG

LETTER TRANSMITTING RESIGNATION

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT APR 11 1916 HOUSES

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, Third DISTRICT,

Tompkinsville, N.Y., April 10, 1916, 191

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

CHIEF CLERK APR 13 1916

Herewith is transmitted the resignation of the following-named employee:

Name, Thomas J. Conklin — Position, 2nd Assistant Keeper

Legal residence, New York — Station, Shinnecock Bay Lt.Sta., N.Y.

Salary, $456.00 per annum

APPOINTMENTS APR 13 1916

The acceptance of this resignation is recommended effective at the close of April 15, 1916.

This employee has not taken leave in excess of the accrued rate.

Remarks:

4-14-16

J. T. Yates

HB-JEL

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES

WASHINGTON

APR 13 1916

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce, approved.

Attention is invited to Bureau indorsement of March 22, 1916, regarding the transfer desired by Conklin, in which reference is made to his lack of efficiency, etc., and also to Department reply of March 24, 1916, on the subject.

11—4623

Acting Commissioner

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE





THIRD DISTRICT

Shinnecock Bay Light Sta
(Station, Depot, or Vessel)

April 7, 1916

Inspector 3rd District

Sir

I sent a letter in to you on Mar. 30, 1916 in regard to six months leave of absence on account of injuries to my eyes while in the service, and up to the present time I have not recieved a reply, Now if my application for the six months leave is not accepted I wish to state that I have tried in every way to have my eyes treated and still be in the serivce, I have requested a transfer to a smaller light and I have asked for a six months leave of absence and I am going on five years in the service and injuries to my eyes coming from the same, I will have to resign, I dont want to resign but I cannot stay here and have my eyes get worse, so if the office cant see where way clear in transfering me to a smaller light or granting me 6 months leave of absence I respectfully send in my resignation to take affect by April 15, 1916.

Respt

Lake

Conklin 2 Asst

Keeper

April 14, 1916.

Sir:

The Department is in receipt of your resignation, dated April 7, 1916, as second assistant keeper of Shinnecock Bay Light Station, New York, at $456 per annum, in the Lighthouse Service, and has accepted the same, upon recommendation of the Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses, to take effect at the close of April 15, 1916.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) CLIFFORD HASTINGS

Chief of Appointment Division.

CHANGE REPORTED
APR 1916

Mr. Thomas J. Conklin,
Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

CARDED.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION ENTERED APR 14 1916

R
C

Form 73

JHG

NOMINATION

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

SECOND U. S. CIVIL SERVICE DISTRICT. RECD APR 27 1917

LIGHT MAY4 1917 HOUSES

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, 3rd DISTRICT,

Tompkinsville, N.Y., April 26,1917, 191
(City.) (Date.)

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:
(Through Sec'y, 2nd C. S. District)
Action recommended, Probationary appointment.

CHIEF CLERK MAY 4, 1917

Name, Thomas J. Conklin

Legal residence, New York

Position, Assistant Keeper

Salary, $516 per annum

Location, Romer Shoal Lt. Sta., N.Y.

Appropriation, Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses

Effective May 3,1917

{ ~~the actual date of entrance on duty,~~ or
{ as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION NECESSARY ACTION TAKEN MAY 5- 1917 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

APPOINTMENT MAY4 1917

Former position,

Location,

Former salary,

Rank on eligible list, 1 Rating, Keeper Percentage, 81.2 , Other eligibles considered:
Frank Jaycox C. Patrick A. Meehan C.

Previous incumbent, Frank Oberly Services terminated, April 30,1917

Reason, Promoted

Members of family in Government Service, None.

Remarks: No employee of District desired transfer to this position. There are no quarters for families of keepers at this station. Nos.1,3,4,7 & 11 on eligible list will only accept appointment to certain specified stations. Nos.6,8,9,10 & 12 will not accept appointment to stations where there are no family quarters provided. No 13 is not eligible for appointment to this position.

Selection regular, subject to the action of the U. S. Civil Service Commission. MAY 2 1917 , 191

W. Parker
Secretary.

Assistant SECOND Civil Service District.

J. T. Yates

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

MCC-NDW May 4, 1917.

5-5-17

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce, approved. Inasmuch as the Inspector has recommended this appointment to be effective May 3, 1917, and that he may have, in accordance with the provisions of Department letter of March 29, 1917, amending Rule VI, Sections 7 and 8, of the Civil Service Regulations for the Lighthouse Service, placed this man on duty on May 3, 1917, it is recommended that the appointment be issued to take effect on that date or as soon thereafter as Conklin enters on duty. It is noted that the above nomination is dated April 26, 1917, and was received by the second civil service district secretary April 27, 1917, but was not forwarded by him until May 2, 1917.

W. B. Bowerman
Acting Commissioner.

[1] Strike out the clause which does not apply.

11—2314

CERTIFICATE OF PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

May 5, 1917.

Mr. Thomas J. Conklin,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

You have been appointed, subject to taking the oath of office and to a probationary period of not to exceed six months as provided by paragraph (c) of section 1 of civil-service rule VII, Assistant Keeper in the Lighthouse Service at a salary of Five Hundred and Sixteen dollars per annum, effective on the date on which you enter upon duty in the above-mentioned position.

By selection from certificate of eligibles (No. - - -) issued by the local Civil Service Board for the Third Lighthouse District.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) W. S. GILCHRIST

Acting Chief of Appointment Division.

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APPOINTMENT DIVISION ENTERED MAY 5 - 1917 DEPT. OF COMMERCE

CARDED

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Vice: Frank Oberly.

Legal Residence: New York.

(See reverse side.)

11—5980

Form 111

OATH OF OFFICE

(Prescribed by Section 1757, Revised Statutes)

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT HOUSES MAY 24 1917

CHIEF CLERK MAY 28 1917

I, Thomas J. Conklin

do solemnly[1] swear (See below) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter: So HELP ME GOD.

Thomas J Conklin
(Appointee signs here)

[2] Sworn (See below) and subscribed before me, this [3] twelfth day of May, A. D. 1917.

(Affix official seal here)

[4] (Name) James O Burke

(Official title) Notary Public.

Official Title	Rate of Pay	Name of Station, Vessel, or Place of Employment
Present Asst.Keeper	$516 p.a.	Romer Shoal Lt.Sta., N.Y.
Former [5]		

(The above should be filled in by the district officer before sending to appointee)

Office of Lighthouse Inspector, 3rd District

Tompkinsville, N.Y. (Address), May 23, 1917 (Date)

The above-named appointee entered upon duty on May 12, 1917 (Date)

CARDED.

J. F. Yates
(Signature, followed by title)

[1] Insert here "swear" or "affirm," as the case may be.

[2] Insert here "sworn to" or "affirmed," as the case may be.

[3] The oath may be taken any time after the date of appointment and prior to the payment of compensation, but no compensation shall be paid until the oath is executed in proper form.

[4] This oath should be taken before a justice of the peace, notary public, judge, clerk of a court, or any other officer having authority to administer oaths, but never before a collector of customs, as he has no power to administer oaths in such cases. In case the officer administering the oath has no seal, his official character should be duly certified to by the clerk of the proper court or the proper county clerk.

[5] Give this information in all cases where new oath is required.

Failure to fill out this oath properly will result in its return for correction.

11—944

May 5, 1917.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

Receipt is acknowledged of the Third Inspector's nominations of the 26th ultimo, forwarded by the Bureau on the 4th instant, recommending the issuance of probationary appointments as follows:

James H. Newman, to be second assistant keeper of Little Gull Island Light Station, New York, at $456 per annum, effective May 3, 1917, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty, vice Ezra Dunn, transferred March 22, 1917.

Earl Moore, to be assistant keeper of Falkner Island Light Station, Connecticut, at $540 per annum, effective May 3, 1917, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty, vice Herbert Mick, resigned April 30, 1917.

Thomas J. Conklin, to be assistant keeper of Romer Shoal Light Station, New York, at $516 per annum, effective May 3, 1917, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty, vice Frank Oberly, promoted April 30, 1917.

The Bureau's statement is noted in each case that inasmuch as the Inspector has recommended the appointment to be effective May 3, 1917, and that he may have, in accordance with the provisions of Department letter of March 29, 1917, amending Rule VI, sections 7 and 8, of the Civil Service Regulations for the Lighthouse Service, placed the nominee on duty on May 3, 1917, it is recommended that the appointment be issued to take effect on that date or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

Except in cases of emergency, inspectors are not authorized to assign a nominee to duty before the date on which appointment is issued by the Department. Unless, therefore, the inspector states on the nomination that the nominee has been or will be assigned to duty on a date named in the nomination, and states that the case is one of emergency necessitating assignment to duty before awaiting receipt of the notice of appointment, the Department would not be justified in issuing an appointment to take effect on a prior date, merely upon the assumption that the inspector may have assigned the nominee to duty before the issuance of the appointment certificate. It is the general rule that appointments are not effective until the date on which actually issued by the Department, and the date of effect recommended in nominations is regarded only as a tentative date unless statement to the contrary is contained in the nomination.

In view of the foregoing, the Department has issued appointments to the above-mentioned persons to take effect this date, or as soon thereafter as they enter on duty, with the understanding that they may be amended at a later date in the event the Inspector states that the interests of the service demanded assignment to duty before the date of issuance of appointments.

SIGNED) E. F. SWEET

Assistant Secretary.

C-L

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

JHG

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 3D DISTRICT
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

LIGHT
JUN 15 1917
HOUSES

June 14,1917

DEPARTMENT DIVISION
SECRETARY
MOTION TAKEN
JUN 21 1917
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

CHIEF CLERK
JUN 20 1917

Commissioner:

Referring to Bureau Circular Letter No.296, dated February 10, 1917, relative to physical examination of keepers and assistant keepers by the Public Health Service, and to paragraph 2 on page 3 of said circular.

The Bureau is advised that on June 13,1917, Thomas J. Conklin, assistant keeper of Romer Shoal Light Station, New York, was given a physical examination by the U. S. Public Health Service, at the Marine Hospital, Stapleton, N. Y., and owing to defective vision he was found physically disqualified.

In view of the difficulty of obtaining men at this time, it is recommended that Mr.Conklin be retained in the service.

J. T. Yates

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
June 19, 1917.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for his information and with recommendation for approval of Inspector's recommendation.

E. R. Tulloss
Commissioner.

June 21, 1917.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

For the reasons stated in the Third Inspector's letter of the 14th instant, and in accordance with the Bureau's recommendation of the 19th instant, the Department hereby approves the retention of Thomas J. Conklin in the position of assistant keeper of Romer Shoal Light Station, New York, notwithstanding the fact that owing to defective vision he was found physically disqualified to receive the benefits of the Act of August 28, 1916, which provides for free medical relief by the Public Health Service to light keepers and assistant keepers of the Lighthouse Service.

(SIGNED) E. F. SWEET

Assistant Secretary.

INDEXED

C-L

Form 93 JHG

NOTICE OF RESIGNATION OR DEATH

LIGHT HOUSES APR 9 1918

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, 3rd DISTRICT.

CHIEF CLERK

Tompkinsville, N. Y., April 8, 1918, 191

1918 APR 17 AM 10 3?

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

Herewith is transmitted the resignation of the following-named employee:

Name, Thomas J. Conklin Position, Assistant Keeper

Legal residence, New York Station, Romer Shoal Lt.Sta., N.Y.

Salary, $516.00 per annum

The acceptance of this resignation is recommended effective at the close of March 15, 1918

This employee has not taken leave in excess of the accrued rate.

Remarks:

APPOINTMENT DIVISION NECESSARY ACTION TAKEN APR 17 1918 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Hydrog.
Engr. Conn.
Mar. Engr.
~~Personnel~~
Accounts.
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Dep. Commr.
Commr.

APPOINTMENTS

1918 APR 17 AM 11 00

H-17-15

J. A. Lees
Twh

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON APR 15 1918

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce, approved. 11—4623

1918 APR 17 AM 10 08

H. B. Bruerman
Acting Commissioner

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ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
TOMPKINSVILLE, N. Y.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

THIRD DISTRICT

Ramer Shoal
(Station, Depot, or Vessel)

Feb 6. 1918

INSPECTOR 3D DIST. MAR 7 1919 RECEIVED TOMPKINSVILLE, N.Y.

LIGHT APR 9 1918 HOUSES

March 7

Sept
gov see me

Inspector 3rd District

Sir

Kindly except my resignation to take effect March 15 1918 as I am returning to Navy Yard New York as a shipfitter and for better service to the Government.

Respectfully

Thos J Conkelin

88 Ryerson Street

Brklyn N.Y.

Frank Oberly
Keeper

17 17

April 17, 1918.

Sir:

The Department is in receipt of your resignation, dated February 6, 1918, as assistant keeper of Romer Shoal Light Station, New York, at $516 per annum, in the Lighthouse Service, and has accepted the same, upon recommendation of the Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses, effective at the close of March 15, 1918.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(Signed) Clifford Blodgett

Chief of Appointment Division.

CARDED.

Mr. Thomas J. Conklin,
Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION ENTERED APR 18 1918 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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C

II. STATEMENT OF DEDUCTIONS FOR RETIREMENT FUND.

(See Instructions No. 3.)

Year.	Amount.	Year.	Amount.	Year.	Amount.	Year.	Amount.	Year.	Amount.
			None						

In case service record shows reentry into service, does the employee claim that he has made redeposit of any amount refunded him at time of separation? ..... (Yes or no.)

The foregoing is a correct abstract of the official record of Thomas J. Conklin (Name of employee.) based on the official records of the Lighthouse (Establishment.) or official certification from the other executive departments or independent establishments in which he was employed.

J. T. YATES
(Signature.)

(Official title.)
Supt. of L.H.-3rd Dist.

Countersigned November 18, 1925

(Signature.)

Chief of Appointment Division
(Official title.)

INSTRUCTIONS.

1. The act, approved February 14, 1922, prescribes that "each executive department, and each independent establishment of the Government not within the jurisdiction of any executive department, shall establish and maintain such record as will enable it to determine the amount deducted within each fiscal year from the basic salary, pay, or compensation of each employee within its jurisdiction to whom this act applies. When such employee is transferred from one office to another a certified abstract of his official record shall be transmitted to the office to which the transfer is made."

2. A complete official record in the Federal service of the employee named should be set forth on this abstract. If an employee is transferred to another department, an abstract will be prepared in duplicate, showing his appointment in the department from which transferred and all changes of grade or compensation while therein. The original, properly executed, will be transmitted to the department to which transferred, the duplicate to be retained in his personal file. Should such employee be again transferred, the second department will prepare an abstract setting forth the data contained in that received by it, with the addition of his record while in the second department, such abstract to be transmitted to the department to which he is transferred, a duplicate being retained.

In the case of a nominal reinstatement for the purpose of transfer, the department to which the employee is transferred should apply to the establishment in which the former service was rendered for an abstract of record in the case. Statements of employees must not be accepted unless verified from official records.

3. In Table II show the amount deducted for the retirement fund during each fiscal year, or part of fiscal year, the employee was in your service.

4. This certificate must be signed and countersigned (if necessary) by an official recognized by the Bureau of Pensions as authorized to sign certificate of administrative officer on application for refunds.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

11—8002

Form A15

WJL-PS

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

ABSTRACT OF OFFICIAL RECORD OF EMPLOYEE.

Lighthouse
(Bureau or Office.)

Staten Island, New York (Place.) Nov. 12, 1925 (Date.)

Name: Conklin, Thomas, J., Mr. (Surname first, Mr., Miss, or Mrs.) July 22, 1887 (Date of Birth.)

I. SERVICE RECORD.

Establishment (a).	Action (b).	Position. (Pay-roll title.)	Rate of Pay (c) per Annum	Date Effective.
Lighthouse-Little Gull Island Light Station	P. A.	2nd Asst. Keeper	456.00	Jan.14, 1912
-d o -	do	1st Asst. Keeper	480.00	Oct.25, 1912
Shinnecock Bay Lt. Sta.	do	2nd Asst. Keeper	456.00	May 2, 1914
- do -	Res.	do	456.00	Apr. 15, 1916
Romer Shoal Light Sta.	P.A.	Asst. Keeper	516.00	May 12, 1917
-do-	Res.	do	516.00	Mar. 15, 1918

(a) Place the name of department, bureau, or office in which the service was performed.

(b) Indicate the nature of the action according to the following key abbreviations: PA, probational appointment; Exc., excepted from examination; E. O., Executive order; Rein., reinstatement; Trans., transfer; Pro., promotion; Red., reduction; Res., resignation; Rem. C., removed for cause; Rem. R., removed reduction of force; L. W. O. P., leave without pay for periods of six months or more.

(c) Under rate of pay, do not include bonuses, allowances, overtime pay, or compensation given in addition to basic pay of positions as fixed by law or regulation.

11—8002

Navy Yd. N. Y.

NL/P16-2(1)(S-2) AMW

NAVY YARD, NEW YORK, N.Y.

LABOR BOARD.

6 Nov 1925

U.S.Lighthouse Service,

Dept of Commerce,
Washington,DC.

CHIEF CLERK
1925 NOV 7 PM 12 22

Subject: Request for abstract of official record.

1. It is requested that C.S.F. Form 2331, Abstract of Official Record of Employees, copy enclosed, be filled out and returned to this office as early as practicable in the case of

Thomas J.Conklin born 22 July 1890

now employed in the Navy Yard, New York as Shipfitter

who claims to have been employed in U.S.LighthouseService

as a ?

from 1912 to 1917

2. This information is necessary in order that report required by the Civil Service Commission in connection with administration of the retirement act may be furnished.

J. T. O'GRADY,
By direction.

COMMISSIONERS
HARRY B. MITCHELL, PRESIDENT
LUCILLE FOSTER McMILLIN
LEONARD D. WHITE
LAWSON A. MOYER, CHIEF EXAMINER

UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

ADDRESS ONLY
"CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION"
IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
FILE SRR:AMD:ZA
AND DATE OF THIS LETTER

March 20, 1937

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
MAR 22 1937
DIVISION OF PERSONNEL

The Honorable
The Secretary of Commerce

Sir:

The Commission's attention has been called to the probable dual service of Thomas J. Conklin in contravention of the Act of May 10, 1916, as amended, while an employee of the Navy Yard, New York, New York, and of the Lighthouse Service, Department of Commerce, during the period December 17, 1917, to March 15, 1918, as shipfitter, $3.84 per diem, and assistant keeper, $516 per annum, respectively.

As this office has been requested by the General Accounting Office to report cases of dual employment which come to its attention, information in duplicate report as to the amount Mr. Conklin received, the name of the disbursing officer, his symbol number, voucher number, and date of payment should be forwarded to the Commission. This information is necessary to expedite a search of the pay roll records in the General Accounting Office.

By direction of the Commission:

Very respectfully,

L. A. Moyer
L. A. Moyer
Chief Examiner

MAR 22 1937
Copy transmitted to the BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
EDW. J. GARDNER
Chief, Division of Personnel
MAR 28 1937

May 17, 1937.

The Civil Service Commission:

Reference is made to your letter dated March 20, 1937, file SRR:AMD:ZA, relative to dual service in the case of Thomas J. Conklin, a former employee of the Lighthouse Service.

You are advised Mr. Conklin was employed from May 12, 1917, to March 15, 1918, as an Assistant Keeper of Romer Shoal Light Station, at $516 per annum. It is impossible to furnish the information requested as the records are no longer available. The special disbursing agents for the period in question were Willis A. Voorhees and F. W. Ockenfels.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

F. A. DELONG MAY 18 1937

Acting Chief, Division of Personnel.

MLH:RGJ

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
STATEN ISLAND, N. Y.

WJLeBS

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

1937 MAY 14 PM 2:50

LIGHTHOUSES
MAY 13 8 44 AM '37

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
MAY 15 1937
DIVISION OF PERSONNEL

GENERAL DEPOT
OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
3D DISTRICT, STATEN ISLAND, N. Y.

May 12, 1937

Returned to Commissioner of Lighthouses:-

SUBJECT: Dual service Thomas J. Conklin

REFERENCE: Bureau endorsement 3/29/37 on Civil Service Commission letter of March 20, 1937 and Bureau Form 84b of 5/5/37.

1. Thomas John Conklin was employed as Assistant Keeper of Romer Shoal Light Station from May 12, 1917 to March 15, 1918 at $516.00 per annum.

2. It is impracticable to furnish details as to the payment of his salary between December 17, 1917 and March 15, 1918, as the records are no longer available.

J.T.Yates
Superintendent.

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E-K

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington, D. C.,
May 13, 1937.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for information, attention being invited to Department indorsement of March 22 on Civil Service Commission letter of March 20. The special disbursing agents for the period in question were Willis A. Voorhees and F. W. Ockenfels. It does not appear that Mr. Conklin's salary exceeded $2000 per annum, during the period in question.

For the Commissioner:

Chief, Personnel Division.