JUN 04 2025 AM09:07

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

Date: 6/1/2025

REQUESTER INFORMATION

Name (Please Print – Last, First, Middle)	Researcher ID Card Number
Burns, Andrew	
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
Curry, Samuel Rob ert Austin		1874 Bahama

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):
1947	

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

Researcher Signature: andrew burns

CIVILIAN SERVICE

(Agency & Location)	
Lighthouse Service	
From:	To:
(Agency & Location)	
Hillsboro Inlet Lighthouse, FL	
From: 6/12/1908	To: 6/21/1909
(Agency & Location)	
Fowey Rocks Lighthouse, FL	
From: 1907	To: 1908

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

This Space Intentionally Left Blank

STAFF USE ONLY

Appointment Time and Date:	Additional Researchers: ☐ Yes ☐ No
CMRS Service Request Number: C-00058253 22	Attendant Signature:
CMRS Search Request Number(s): Civilian Lighthouse	Remarks: Archival search 6/16

2025 JUN 24 AM 9:37:55

SCREENING NOTES

☐ Reviewed and Nothing Removed	☐ Items Removed and User Informed
Hold Requested: ☐ Yes ☐ No	Total Requests:
☐ Additional charge outs and signatures on reverse side	Screened Items:

Time Out:	Final Return:

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD
JUN 8 1909
NO. 35
7-4

EFFICIENCY REPORT

(Read the instructions on the reverse side of this Form before attempting to fill it out.)

1. Bureau Light-House - 7th Dist. 2. Where employed Hillsboro Inlet L.S., Fla.
3. Name Curry, Samuel R.A., 4. Where born Bahamas.
5. Age 35 yrs. 6. Position 2nd Assistant Keeper.
7. Compensation $500. pa. 8. When appointed (a) March 8, 1907.
9. How appointed (b) Through Civil-Service Examination.
10. Appointed from — State Florida. Congressional District 1st. County Monroe.
11. Status under Civil Service Rules (c) Classified Competitive.
12. Is the employee an honorably discharged soldier or sailor? No.
13. Other Government service None.
14. Duties (describe fully) Tends light and keeps station in order.
15. Efficiency — Quantity of work (d) 0.7 Quality of work (e) Average. Interest manifested in work (f) Yes; average interest.
16. Is this employee fully earning the salary he is now receiving? Yes.
17. Remarks (g) Efficiency impaired somewhat by petty differences with keeper.

Head of Bureau or Office.

JUN 5 - 1909, 19

11—3005

SAMUEL R. A. CURRY

INACTIVE

STATE FROM WHICH APPOINTED
Florida

STATUS

DESIGNATION	SALARY	OFFICE, BUREAU, OR DIVISION	DATE APPOINTED
2d A. K. Fowey Rocks, Florida	$500pa	Light-House	March 8, 1907
" " Hillsboro Inlet F.S. Fla.	"	"	June 1, 1908.
Removed Close June 30, 1909.			
INACTIVE			

RECEIVED
MAR 2- 1907
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

✓ Sec. L

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD
Washington

ATJ.

File No. 10419. 1 March, 1907.

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
RECEIVED
MAR 4 1907
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

The Honorable,

The Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Sir:-

The Board has the honor to ask the probationary appointment of Mr. Samuel R. A. Curry of Florida, to the position of Second Assistant Keeper at the Fowey Rocks, Fla., Light-Station, with pay at the rate of $500 a year, to date from 8 March, '07, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty, in the place of Mr. Robert H. Thompson, whose transfer has been asked. March 8 or EOD

Mr. Curry has passed the required Civil Service examination and received a rating of 80 per cent in Class IV.

Respectfully,

3-4-07
Papers ok

2d on eligible list.
Considered with:
Harry Mingo
John T. Knowles

U. S. Geo. Lee
Captain, U. S. N.,
Naval Secretary.

7th Insp. D.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
FORWARDED
MAR 2 - 1907
TO APPOINTMENTS
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

INDEXED.

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
APPOINTMENT WRITTEN
MAR 1907
DEPT OF LABOR

RECEIVED
MAR 2- 1907
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD
Washington

ATJ.

File No. 10419. 1 March, 1907.

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
RECEIVED
MAR 4 1907
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

The Honorable,

The Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Sir:-

The Board has the honor to ask the probationary appointment of Mr. Samuel R. A. Curry of Florida, to the position of Second Assistant Keeper at the Fowey Rocks, Fla., Light-Station, with pay at the rate of $500 a year, to date from 8 March, '07, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty, in the place of Mr. Robert H. Thompson, whose transfer has been asked. Mar 8 or EOD

Mr. Curry has passed the required Civil Service examination and received a rating of 80 per cent in Class IV.

Respectfully,

3-4-07
papers called

2d on eligible list.
Considered with:
Harry Mingo
John T. Knowles
2d Insp. D.

W. S. Schree
Captain, U. S. N.,
Naval Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
FORWARDED
MAR 2 -1907
TO APPOINTMENTS
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

INDEXED.

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
APPOINTMENT WRITTEN
MAR 4 1907
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT—WITHOUT FIXED DATE

Department of Commerce and Labor

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington

10419

March 4, 1907.

Mr. Samuel R. A. Curry, of Florida, having qualified under the civil-service regulations, is hereby appointed Second Assistant Keeper of Fowey Rocks Light-Station, Florida, in the Light-House Service, with compensation at the rate of Five Hundred dollars per annum, for a probationary period of six months, effective beginning March 8, 1907, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty. (Vice Robert H. Thompson)

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

Payment of the compensation authorized in this appointment is subject to the oath of office being taken.

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
REPORTED
MAR 5 1907
TO DISBURSING CLERK
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Assistant Secretary.

CARDED

The Light-House Board.

CHANGE REPORTED
MAR — 1907
C. S. COMMISSION.

Form 111

OATH OF OFFICE

(PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 1757, REVISED STATUTES)

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

MAY 13 1907

I, Samuel R. A. Curry

do solemnly[a] Swear 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.**

Samuel R. A. Curry

[b]Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 10th day of May, A. D. 1907.

[c]Name: W. J. Shore

Official title: Notary Public

My Commission Expires July 12th 1909

[d] Affix official seal.

Light House Board,
Entered upon duty.
Date 8 March '07

E. B. Johnson
Chief Clerk.
E.W.B.

NAME OF OFFICE.	NAME OF STATION.	State or Country in which born.	State or Territory from which appointed.
Second Assist. Keeper	Sunny Rock L.S.	Bahama Isls.	Florida.

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

[b] Insert here "Sworn to" or "Affirmed," as the case may be.

[c] 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. *The oath should be taken on or after the date of the appointment.*

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.

FORWARDED MAY 13 1907 TO AUDITOR

INDEXED CARDED

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS RECEIVED MAY 13 1907 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

11-911

PERSONAL QUESTION SHEET

NOTE.—This sheet is to be used only in cases of persons appointed in the Department of Commerce and Labor after June 30, 1903.

Department of Commerce and Labor

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington

May 10, 1904.

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

For the purpose of enabling the Department to obtain a complete record of its officers and employees, you are hereby requested to furnish the information called for by the questions in Part II of this form, relative to each person appointed or employed in your Bureau after June 30, 1903, now serving or hereafter appointed or employed, and to have every such person answer each of the questions in Part I of this form and sign the same. Officers in charge, subordinate to heads of Bureaus, are expected to review this sheet, after it has been executed, to see that all questions have been answered, and, after doing so, to forward it immediately to the head of the Bureau for transmission to the Department.

CARDED

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
RECEIVED
MAY 8 1907
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR
G

Geo. B. Cortelyou

Secretary.

PART I.

(Blanks in Part I are to be filled 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 is to 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. Samuel Robert Austin Conroy

2. How do you write your name on the pay roll? Samuel R A Conroy

3. What is your present legal (voting) residence? (Give city or town, State or Territory, county and Congressional district.)

Key West (City or town.) | Fla (State or Territory.) | Monroe (County.) | First (Congressional district.)

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

5. Where were you born? Green Turtle Key Bahamas

6. When were you born? May (Month.) 26 (Day.) 1878 (Year.)

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

11—1434

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

Name.	Relationship.	Department.	Bureau or Service.	Position.
Mr. Henry Archer	Cousin	Engineering		Helper

9. 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: "Appointed before position was classified;" "by reinstatement;" or "by transfer from ——," stating Department, Bureau or Service, position and salary, if known.)

second asst Keeper L H Service Dec 15 1906

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

no

11. Have you ever held any position in the civil service of the United States prior to the time of your present appointment? (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.)

no

12. 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		

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

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

14. 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 for the Government, indicated in your answers to questions 11, 12, and 13.)

Seaman

15. 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

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

None

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

asst L H Service Dec 15 1906

18. 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

19. State the date upon which the above blanks were filled May first, 1907

Witness:

(Signature) Samuel R A Conroy

In case signature is by mark.

P. O. Address: Key West
City or town.

808 Fleming Street
Number and street.

Fla.
State or Territory.

Reviewed, approved, and forwarded May 2, 1907

(Signature) L Ladd Comdr, U. S. R.S.

(Official title) Inspector 7th L. H. District.

PART II.

(Blanks in Part II are to be filled 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 above questions is employed.

Light-House (Bureau or Service.) Tortugas Rocks L.S., (Place (city, town, or station).) 7th (District.)

2. To what position has he been appointed? 2nd asst. Keeper.

3. State the date of appointment. Mar. 4 '07.

4. State the date the appointee or employee entered on duty. Mar. 6 '07.

5. What is his salary? $500 per annum.

6. From what appropriation is he paid? Salaries of Keepers of Light Houses

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

8. If classified, state the date of classification. Dec. 15 '06.

9. In what manner did the appointee or employee enter the service? (Examples: "Appointed before position was classified;" or "by reinstatement;" or "by transfer from ——," stating Department, Bureau, or Service, position and salary, if known.)

By examination as Asst. Keeper, L. H. Service.

10. Is the appointee or employee required to give bond? No.

(Signature) L Ladd Comdr, U. S. N.,

Date: May 2, 1907. (Official title) Inspector 7th L. H. Dist.

11—1434

ATJ.
10419

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD
Washington

Samuel R. A. Curry,
transfer.

May 8, 1908.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
RECEIVED
MAY 9- 1908
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Department of Commerce and Labor
DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
MAY 9

The Honorable,

The Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Sir:-

The Board has the honor to ask the transfer of Mr. Samuel R. A. Curry, of Fla., from second assistant keeper at Fowey Rocks Light-Station, Fla., at $500 a year, to second assistant keeper at Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Fla., at $500 a year, effective beginning June 1, 1908, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty, in the place of Mr. Robert H. Thompson, whose transfer in Mr. Curry's place is this day asked.

Respectfully,

Captain, U. S. N.,
Naval Secretary.

6 Ltr 5-9-08

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
FORWARDED
MAY 9 - 1908
TO APPOINTMENTS
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
APPOINTMENT WRITTEN
MAY 9 1908
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

GENERAL APPOINTMENT—WITHOUT FIXED DATE

10419

Department of Commerce and Labor
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington

May 9, 1908.

Mr. Samuel R. A. Curry, of Florida, is hereby appointed Second Assistant Keeper of Hillsboro Inlet Light Station, Florida, in the Light-House Service, with compensation at the rate of Five Hundred dollars per annum, effective beginning June 1, 1908, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty. (vice Robert H. Thompson.)

Payment of the compensation authorized in this appointment is subject to the oath of office being taken.

(By transfer from Second Assistant Keeper of Ragay Rocks Light-Station, Florida, at $500 per annum.)

CARDED

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
REPORTED
MAY 11 1908
TO DISBURSING CLERK
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Acting Secretary.

The Light-House Board.

Le
D

CLERK RECEIVED
JUN 2 1908

Enclosures.

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD. RECEIVED JUN 8 1908

No 10419

Form 111

OATH OF OFFICE

(PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 1757, REVISED STATUTES)

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK RECEIVED JUN 12 1908 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS RECEIVED JUN 12 1908 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

I, Samuel R. A. Curry

do solemnly[a] Swear 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.**

Samuel R. A. Curry

Light House Board,
Entered upon duty.
Date June 4, 1908
W. H. Mudmuck
Chief Clerk.
H.B.

[b] Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 2nd day of June, A. D. 1908.

[c] Name: Ernest P. Roberts

{Affix official seal.}

Official title: United States Commissioner

CANCELED.

NAME OF OFFICE.	NAME OF STATION.	State or Country in which born.	State or Territory from which appointed.
Second Asst. Keeper	Hillsboro Inlet L. S.	Bahama Isl'ds.	Florida

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

[b] Insert here "Sworn to" or "Affirmed," as the case may be.

[c] 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. *The oath should be taken on or after the date of the appointment.*

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.

11—944

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK FORWARDED JUN 12 1908 TO APPOINTMENTS DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

113

Department of Commerce and Labor

ATJ.
10419.
Eight Inclosures.

LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD

Washington

Samuel R. A. Curry,
dismissal.

July 7, 1909.



The Honorable

The Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Sir:-

1. The Board has the honor to inclose herewith a letter of the 25th ultimo with its inclosures from the Inspector of the Seventh Light-House District, recommending the dismissal effective June 30, 1909, of Samuel R. A. Curry, second assistant keeper at Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Fla., for insubordination and for threatening bodily injury to his superior officer.

Ef 1909
7
To a. Su file

2. After an examination of these papers the Board believes that it is not desirable to retain Curry in the service and therefore approves the Inspector's recommendation that he be dismissed June 30, 1909.

Respectfully,

7-8-09

Lt. Col.' Corps of Engineers, U. S. A.,
Engineer Secretary.

WROTE BOARD. And letter of dismissal July 10-09

Ent'd JUL 6

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD
JUL 6 1909
NO. 10419

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 7TH DISTRICT
KEY WEST, FLA.

Seven enclosures. Received.

Curry, Samuel R.A.,
dismissal recommended.

June 25, 1909.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
RECEIVED
JUL 8 - 1909
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

The Light-House Board,

Washington, D. C.

Sirs:-

I have to recommend that Samuel R. A. Curry, 2d Assistant Keeper at Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Fla., be dismissed from the Service for insubordination and for threatening the keeper with a knife while objecting to a proper order that the keeper had given him.

2. Under date of January 26 last Mr. Curry sent a long report to this office complaining that the keeper assigned the work of the station in such manner that he (the keeper) had less disagreeable tasks to perform than had the assistants; also that the keeper had mis-applied public property by using paint on a private launch, and had required the assistant keepers to clean and otherwise keep said private launch in order. Upon investigation I found that the private launch had been loaned to the station for use while the station launch was under repairs and that my predecessor, Commander B. Tappan, U.S.Navy, had directed the keeper to take care of it and put it in good condition before returning it. The instances cited of the keeper not doing his full share of the work were trivial and indicated clearly that Curry objected not so much to the work itself but to the fact

July 7/09. Wrote Dept.

that the keeper designated the work each man should do instead of allowing the assistants to do as they pleased.

3. My conclusions after investigation of the matter were put into the form of a letter of reprimand addressed to Curry February 4, 1909, a copy of which is attached, marked "A", for the Board's information. With regard to my proposal to transfer Curry to another station he at once wrote asking the he be allowed to remain where he was; as this request had the approval of the keeper I hoped that there would be no further discord at that station and did not apply to the Board for Curry's transfer as I had intended doing.

4. May 20, 1909, the keeper of the station wrote asking that Curry be transferred elsewhere, and May 21 he forwarded two reports from Curry charging the keeper with assaulting him, together with his reply to the reports. These documents go more fully into details than is desirable I should do in this letter and are attached hereto, marked respectively "B","C","D" and "E". After receiving these reports I wrote to the 1st assistant keeper, Mr. Clifton R.Lopez, for his version of the matter, charging him not to inform either the keeper or Curry that I had written him, which I did in order that he might not be influenced by either in making his report. His reply, dated June 10, 1909, is attached hereto marked "F", and is, I believe, a perfectly truthful account. On June 15 I inspected the Hillsboro Inlet station and learned what more I could verbally of the affair.

5. Stated as briefly as possible, Curry is sullen, unwilling and insubordinate with respect to the keeper under whom he is serving. On May 20, 1909, he objected to obeying a proper order given him by

the keeper and menaced the keeper with an open knife; the keeper forcibly seized him and with the help of the 1st assistant disarmed him.

6. Although convinced that Curry richly merited dismissal, I nevertheless felt that it would be better to transfer him to another station, thereby retaining the services of a man accustomed to a First-order light and avoiding the delay of instructing a new appointee. Being on Carysfort Reef light after investigating the affray at Hillsboro Inlet, I ascertained from the keeper that he would be willing to have Curry transferred to his station; also that the 2d-assistant on Carysfort was willing to go to Hillsboro Inlet. A letter was sent to Curry informing him that he deserved dismissal but that he would be given another chance, and to hold himself in readiness for transfer to Carysfort Reef. He was also directed to inform this office in writing of his willingness to go to that station, which action was taken in order to comply with the Department's letter to the Board of May 11, 1909, requiring such letters to be forwarded with requests for transfer.

7. Curry's reply, received today, states the he is willing to go to Carysfort Reef for the salary he is now receiving ($47.00 per month) but is not willing to go for $40.00 per month, the salary fixed for the 2d-assistant keeper at Carysfort. Such being the case I can take no other action than to recommend his immediate dismissal from the Light-House Service. With his insubordinate and violent attitude toward the keeper of Hillsboro Inlet it is impossible that work there can go on efficiently, and that light is of too much

importance to navigation to be trusted to such an unsafe and intolerable condition of affairs in its management.

8. A copy of the foregoing report was sent to Curry June 25 with information that he had the right to reply to same before submitting it to the Board. His reply, attached hereto marked "G", is so disrespectful as to demand his summary dismissal from the service. I recommend that the dismissal be made effective June 30, 1909, that being the date to which he has been paid by this office.

Very respectfully,

H.H. Bemis

Commander, U.S.N.,
Inspector 7th L.H.District.

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD
JUL 6 1909
NO. 10419

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 7TH DISTRICT
KEY WEST, FLA.

COPY.

"A"

February 4, 1909.

Mr. S. R. A. Curry,
2nd Asst. Keeper Hillsboro Inlet L.S.,
(Through the Keeper) Ft.Lauderdale, Fla.

Sir:-

Referring to your report of the 26th ultimo making a series of charges against the Keeper of the light-station where you are employed, I have to inform you that in no case have you made any charge that is warranted by facts or that is worthy of action on my part. Many of the derelictions of duty or instances of misconduct that you charge the keeper with exist only in your imagination, as they are actually acts that have been ordered by the Inspector; others, wholly proper and legitimate, have been reported by the keeper to the Inspector from time to time.

2. Your report assumes, in tone, that your official status is equal to that of the keeper; that you should decide what work he should do and what you should do, and that you are the censor of his conduct, official and personal. The exact reverse is the case as far as you and the keeper are concerned; he is in charge of the station, and you are subject to his orders. You fail utterly to convince me that the keeper has committed an offence in any of the particulars that you cite, but you have convinced me that you are insubordinate and that it is undesirable that you remain at a station where you are disloyal to your official chief. When-

ever an opportunity offers I shall consider it my duty in the interests of the lighthouse establishment to transfer you to some other station.

Very respectfully,

(Sgd.) F. M. Bennett,

Commander, U.S.N.,
Inspector 7th L.H.District.
A.B.

Hillsboro Inlet Fla. May 20 - 1909

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD
JUL 6 1909
NO. 10419

Commander F. M. Bennett U. S. N.
Inspector 7th L. H. District
Key West Fla:

Sir —

I would respectfully ask that 2nd asst: keeper S R A Curry be transferred, as suggested by You February 4th 1909. I thought when I wrote and asked that he be allowed to remain (letter Feb: 9th 1909) that he would behave better, but that is not the case - he is grouchy and makes things disagreeable at the station. I told him to ask for transfer himself, but he refused to do so — I would respectfully ask that he be removed to some other station. I have given him a copy of this letter.

Very respectfully
Alfred D Bergher

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD
JUL. 6 1909
NO. C 10419

Enclosure

Hillsboro Inlet L. S.
May 21. 1909

Commander F. M. Bennett U.S.N
Inspector 7th L. H. Dist

Sir

In reply to Insr A A Berghell report of May 20/09 asking for my removal or transfer to some other Station would like to say that the cause of his asking for same occured on the 20th day of May 1909 which is as follows we were all at work in the boat house on said day when the 1st assant asked me to open one end door in reply I told him the rain beat in on a part of the engine which was on the work bench at the time. a few seconds later the Keeper said to me in a rough ugly voice open that door I immediately obeyed his order and at the same time I asked why he was speaking to me like that for when before I knew my self he was growling and kicking because I asked him a

question : also at the same time jumping
from the boat grabbing me by the
throat and attempted to strangle or choke
me to death had it not been for the timely
interference of the 1st asst who stopped him
no telling what would have happened
now Sir I respectfully ask if such treatm
ent is allowed by the Light House Depart
ment from a Keeper to an assistant or vice
versa He also threw it my face about the last
report that has nothing to do with this
case I would respectfully ask you to investi
gate this matter thoroughly and if I am
at fault I am satisfied by your decesion
believing that you will give a fear agnare
decesion in this matter I have never dis
beyed no orders of the Keeper pertaining
to the duties of this Stat

awaiting your Reply

I am very Respectfully

Samuel A. A. Conroy 1st Hatteras Inlet Life

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD
JUL 6 1909
NO. 10419

Hallsboro Inlet L S Enclosure

May 31/09

Commander F. E. Bennett U S A

Inspector 7th L H Dist

Sir

I hereby make the following report through the Keeper against the Keeper A A Berghelle of this stat the report as follows may 20/09 the Keeper attempted an assault on me with the intention of shoting or Strangling me to death at the above named Station for causes unknown to me would like for you to investigate same

very Respectfull

Samuel P. A. Conroy

2 asst Keeper Hallsboro Inlet L S

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. May 21st 1909.

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD
JUL 6 19[illegible]
NO. 10419
E

Commander F. M. Bennett U.S.N.
Inspector 7th L.H. District
Key West Fla:

Sir -

Enclos

I hereby submit another exaggerated report by the 2nd asst: S R.A. Curry at this station — The occurence is as follow.

The 20th inst: I asked him why he didnt ask to be transferred to some other station anyway as he never seemed to be satisfied here. I told him that I would have to write and ask for his transfer myself as it was very disagreable to have a sulky man around all the time. I have been very careful in my treatment as far as he is concern ed not to take exceptions and not to cause offence in any way myself —

At 8 30 a.m. I took the two asst: with me in the boat shed for work on launch engine (have had same to pieces for minor repairs) I took 1st asst Lopez in the launch to help me and gave Curry work cleaning rust from

exhaust pipe — As it was a drizzling and cloudy day I told the 1st asst to tell Curry to open the double doors to let in more light - (I was laying flat on the bottom of launch trying to fit in a new key in the reversing gear) - they argued about something and I called out myself to Curry to open the doors. After waiting a while and seeing the doors were not opened I shouted louder (knowing Curry is deaf as I am myself) thinking he had not heard me, and without as he says in a rough ugly voice which as usual is in his imagination — He jumped up with a pocket knife in his hand and shouted back "Who are You hollering at flourishing the knife at the time. I jumped out of the launch caught him by the nape of his neck and knife arm and ordered him to drop the knife - the 1st asst took the knife away from him and I released Curry at once and warned him not to draw a knife on me again if he wanted to avoid trouble — He reports that I tried to choke and strangle him to death, if I had intended any harm to him he would not have come out of it as easily as he

did without least mark or scratch, the only thing I had the intention of doing was to hold him firmly enough to get the knife from him —

He afterwards explained the reason of having the open knife in his hand was that he was scraping the rust off the exhaust pipe, and didn't mean any harm — and that he only had obeyed my orders when he did so — At the time I didnt think of that. ~~either~~ only seeing an angry man flourishing a knife I was bound to take same away from him —— all I told him afterwards when he reported one, is that this one is as truthfull as the last one he sent in —.

Very respectfully
Alfred A. Berghell
Trooper.

OFFICE OF
LIGHT-HOUSE INSPECTOR,
7th DIST. KEY WEST, FLA
REC'D JUN 14 1909
Ans'd _____ 190..
Ack'd _____ 190..

Hillsboro Inlet Fla.
June 10th 1909

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD
JUL 6 1909
NO. 10419

Enclosu

Comdr. F. M. Bennett. U. S. N.
Inspector 7th L. H. Dist,
Key West, Fla.

Sir -

I submit the following in reply to your letter of June 5th 1909.

On the 20th day of May 1909. The Keeper Mr A. A. Berglund told the 2nd Assistant Mr. S.A.A. Curry. and myself. to come and help him to put the engine back in Station launch. which order we obeyed. The Keeper and myself was at work in the Launch. He was fitting a key in the steering gear. in which I was assisting him in so doing. The Keeper was laying flat on the bottom of the launch, and as he could not see properly to work. he told me to tell Mr Curry to open the double doors to give more light Curry did not do as he was told. "Saying that would beat in on the cylinders which on the bench at the time". The keeper.

then spoke to him twice in an ordinary tone of voice telling him to open the door. when Curry still did not open them. The keeper then spoke in a louder voice when mr Curry jumped up from where he sat close to the door. ah work. scraping the exhaust pipe. and shouted back "who are you hollering at" at the same time holding his pocket knife in hand as though he wanted to use it. The keeper immediately jumped from the launch and took hold of Curry by the throat and the arm in which hand the knife was held. and ordered him to drop the knife which Curry did not do. I immediately also jumped from the launch and caught Curry's hand and took the knife from him. and squeezed myself between the two of them and told them that was enough. as soon as I spoke to them after getting the knife and squeezing myself in the keeper released his hold on Curry. There was no marks or bruises on

Curry to be seen. The only thing he received at the keepers hand was a good scare. The keeper then told him he had better asked for a transfer as he did not intend to take any more foolishness from him. Curry immediately replied he would do no such thing that he was going to stay there if he were discharged Since I have been at this station the keeper has always given his orders both to me and Mr Curry in a considerate and courteous manner.

Very Respectfully
Clifton H. Lopez
1st Asst. Keeper.

Hillsboro Inlet. L. S. Fla.

"G"

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD
JUL 6 1909
NO. 10419

Enclos

Miami Fla
June 28. 1909

Commander F. M. Bennett U S N
Inspector 7. L. H. District
Sir

your copy of the 25th received to day about asking for my dismissal you and the dismissal can go square to hell and the Keeper and first asst at Hallsboro Inlett L Station along with you

very Disrespectfully to such as you

Samuel P. A. Conroy
2 asst Hallsboro L Stat

please forward my check 231 third Street Miami Fla

Department of Commerce and Labor
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington

10419

July 10, 1909.

Gentlemen:

Receipt is acknowledged of the Board's letter of the 7th instant, forwarding a letter of the 25th ultimo, with its enclosures, from the Inspector of the Seventh Light-House District, recommending the dismissal of Samuel R. A. Curry, second assistant keeper of Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Florida, for insubordination and for threatening bodily injury to the keeper of the station.

The Department notes that enclosure "G", a letter from Mr. Curry, was dated June 28, or three days after the Inspector's recommendation for his dismissal was written. The Department assumes that paragraph 8 of the Inspector's letter was an addition to the letter of June 25, made subsequent to the receipt of Mr. Curry's letter of June 28.

Respectfully,

Acting Secretary.

The Light-House Board.

D-le

Department of Commerce and Labor

jr-19 OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington

July 12, 1909.

Sir:

Having been charged with insubordination and with threatening bodily injury to Alfred A. Berghell, keeper of the Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Florida, and the charges being established in a degree sufficient to warrant the action, you are hereby dismissed from the position of second assistant keeper of that station, upon the recommendation of the Light-House Board, to take effect at the close of June 30, 1909.

The Department takes occasion to state that your letter of the 28th ultimo, in reply to a communication of the 25th ultimo, from the Inspector of the Seventh Light-House District, shows that you are totally unfit to hold any position of honor under this Department.

Respectfully,

CARDED.

Acting Secretary.

Mr. Samuel R. A. Curry.

Through the Light-House Board.

REPORTED JUL 14 1909 TO DISBURSING CLERK DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

CHANCE REPORTED JUL 1909 U. S. COMMISSION.

P

I-Le

a/B

Department of Commerce and Labor

ATJ.
10419.

LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD

Washington

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
RECEIVED
JUL 27 1909
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

Samuel R. A. Curry,
dismissal.

July 27, 1909.

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
RECEIVED
JUL 27 1909
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

The Honorable

The Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Sir:-

Referring to Department letter of the 10th instant relative to the dismissal of Samuel R. A. Curry, second assistant keeper of Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Fla., the Board has the honor to state that the Department's assumption in the second paragraph that paragraph 8 of the Inspector's letter was in addition to the letter of June 25, made subsequent to the receipt of Mr. Curry's letter of June 28, is correct.

Respectfully,

Jno. R. Curry

Lt. Col., Corps of Engineers, U. S. A.,
Engineer Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
FORWARDED
JUL 27 1909
TO APPOINTMENTS
DEPT OF COMMERCE

(CROSS REFERENCE - - E F F I C I E N C Y)

At a conference it was decided to take the action outlined in the following cases:

CHARLES MOORE, Give him 60 days in which to improve in his work. Failing to improve, dismiss him on charges.
WILLIAM M. QUINN, Same as MOORE.
JEFFERSON D. MILLER, Give him 60 days in which to bring about improved conditions at his station. Failing in this, dismiss on charges.
SAMUEL R. A. ~~BRRKXX~~ CURRY, Same as MILLER.
WILLIAM W. CULLEN, Give him 60 days in which to improve. Failing to improve, dismiss him on charges.
CHARLES E. MORRIS, same as CULLEN.

FILE WITH

SEE MEMO DATED JULY 13, 1909, IN FILE OF

MISC. 271/3.

Also see Dept. letter of July 9, 1909, in same file.

This employee removed June 30-09
F

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD
JUN 8 1909
NO.

EFFICIENCY REPORT

(Read the instructions on the reverse side of this Form before attempting to fill it out.)

1. Bureau Light-House - 7th Dist. 2. Where employed 7 Insp Hillsboro Inlet L.S., Fla.
3. Name Curry, Samuel R.A., 4. Where born Bahamas.
5. Age 35 yrs. 6. Position 2nd Assistant Keeper.
7. Compensation $500. pa. 8. When appointed (a) March 8, 1907.
9. How appointed (b) Through Civil-Service Examination.
10. Appointed from — State Florida. Congressional District 1st. County Monroe.
11. Status under Civil Service Rules (c) Classified Competitive.
12. Is the employee an honorably discharged soldier or sailor? No.
13. Other Government service None.
14. Duties (describe fully) Tends light and keeps station in order.
15. Efficiency — Quantity of work (d) 0.7 Quality of work (e) Average. Interest manifested in work (f) Yes; average interest.
16. Is this employee fully earning the salary he is now receiving? Yes.
17. Remarks (g) Efficiency impaired somewhat by petty differences with keeper.

CAPTAIN, U. S. N.
NAVAL SECRETARY

Head of Bureau or Office.

JUN 5 - 1909, 19

11—3005