RG 26- RECORDS OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD

Lighthouse Service

LETTERS RECIEVED FROM DISTRICT ENGINEERS AND INSPECTORS
FEB. 1853- DEC. 1900

Fifth District Engineer, July 3, 1873- July 30, 1874, July 2, 1873 Dec. 27, 1873
Vol. 341, A-B

Box 176 entry 24

B

Office of Light-House Insp[illegible]

FIFTH DISTRICT,

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 1st, 18[illegible]

Sir:

Referring to your note of reference, [illegible] Sept. 1st 1873, endorsed on a letter of Mr W. A. Hines to the Board, under date of Aug. 23rd 1873 claiming back pay alleged by him to be due for services as Keeper of White Shoal Light House in 18[illegible] I have the honor to report:- that Mr. Hines has furnished the enclosed certificates from creditable persons that he was forcibly taken from his station in 1861 by armed men, & by them prevented from longer exhibit his light.

There are no records, either in this Office or that of the Supt. of Light to show that Mr. Hines was ever the Keeper of White Shoal Lt. House: there are therefore none, touching the point as to whether he has been paid or not, for services as Keeper of that Station.

Mr. Hines would seem to be a [illegible] person, but [illegible]

Office of Light-House Ins[pector]

FIFTH DISTRICT,

Norfolk, Va., ..., 18[..]

fact that he has suffered this matter to rest so l[ong]
is well calculated to throw suspicion on his claim. The p[apers]
are herewith returned.

Very Respectfully,

L. H. Inspector

Prof. Joseph Henry,
Chairman L. H. Board.
Washington, D.C.

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Office of Light-House

FIFTH DISTRICT

Norfolk, Va., March 5th, 1

Sir,

I respectfully inform you that I h
in obedience to the order contained in your lett
of the 23rd ult. enclosing a copy of a report m
by the Engineer of this District in regard t
the condition of Deep Water Shoals Light Sta
enquired into the matter, and find that the
Principal Keeper is entirely to blame: On
the morning of the day of the Engineer's vi
to the Station, the Principal Keeper Wm. E.
Crockett left it, taking the Assistant
with him. The Principal denies that th
house was in a filthy condition, he does
not however deny that the lens and
lamps were not cleaned or attended
to, but says in explanation that he had
occasion to go to the store, and was

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obliged to leave the Station, as soon his light was put out, or he could not get within four or five hundred yards of the shore, all of which I consider. His letter of explanation contains several disrespectful remarks, concerning the Engineer, which alone would have justified me in recommending his dismissal, had he not at the same time forwarded his resignation.

I think that the Assistant keeper S. A. Wood is entirely free from blame, as he was taken on shore by the principal. He is a very good keeper, cleanly in his dress, and very intelligent.

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Very

Office of Light-House In

FIFTH DISTRICT,

Norfolk, Va., ...,

respectfully

F. W. Baker

L. H. Inspector

Professor,

Joseph Henry

Chairman Light House

Board - Washington D.C.

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Office of Light-House In

FIFTH DISTR

Norfolk, Va., March 5th, 187

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Sir,

I respectfully enclose herewith the resignation of Mr. E. Crockett, Principal Keeper at Deep Water Shoals Light Station, and recommend that the Assistant Keeper Santa A. Morse be promoted to Principal Keeper. I also enclose the Superintendent's nomination for Assistant Keeper, in case Mr. Morse is promoted as recommended.

Very respectfully

J. H. Baker

L. H. Inspector

Professor,

Joseph Henry

Chairman Light House

Board Washington D.C.

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Office of Light-House Ins[illegible]

FIFTH DISTRICT

Norfolk, Va., March 16th, 18[illegible]

Sir,

Wm E. Crockett principal Keeper at Deep Shoals Light Station, whose resignation I forwarded the Board on the 5th inst., writes to the Superintend[illegible] of Lights here, that he is anxious to leave his Stat[illegible] and also to be allowed to turn over his charge to Assistant Keeper. I respectfully ask shall I a[illegible] thorize him to do so, and shall I give the Assistan[illegible] a temporary appointment as principal, and dire[illegible] him to give receipts for the property to Crockett? Also shall a temporary appointment be given to Thos. Hunt as assistant until action is taken on my recommendation of the 5th inst. to promote the form[illegible] and appoint the latter.

Professor

Joseph Henry

Chairman L.H. Board, Washg D.C.

Very respectfully

T. H. Baker

L. H. Inspector

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THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

Office of Light-House Inspector

FIFTH DISTRICT

Norfolk, Va., March 20th 1874

Sir:

In the absence of Commander F. A. Baker, L.H.I. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th inst., enclosing a copy of a letter addressed to the Hon. I. A. Platt, H. R., M.C., by Mr. Wm. A. Hines, relative to his claim for services rendered as Keeper of the White Oak Light House, in 1861.

I beg leave to say, that this claim of Mr. Hines has been already adjudicated & paid. Notice from the L.H. Board, under date of Dec. 11th 1873, was received at this Office that the Commissioner of Customs had been requested to remit to the Inspector of $383.33/100 to pay this claim. This amount was received on the 20th of Dec. in Customs Draft, No. 2189, dated Dec. 18th/73, & disbursed as directed. A voucher for its payment signed by Mr. Hines & witnessed by John I Brown, was transmitted to the Board with a return of disbursements made Dec. 23rd 1873. It is No. 2. of the Abstract accompanying that return.

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Office of Light-House I...

FIFTH DISTRICT,

Norfolk, Va., ..., 18..

As the letter of Mr. Hines to Col. Platt is und... date, it is presumed that it was written before t... payment above mentioned was made.

Very Respectfully,

Edwin Geer,

for F. H. Baker,

Insp. 5th L.H. Dis...

Prof. Joseph Henry,

Chairman L.H. Board,

Washington, D.C.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Office of Light-House Ins[illegible]

FIFTH DISTRICT

Norfolk, Va., May 5th, 18[illegible]

Sir,

I respectfully enclose herewith a claim for two hundred (200) dollars received at this Office from one Nathaniel Gray, who claims that he was assistant Keeper at White Shoals Light Station, James River, Virginia, from 1st of Jan[illegible] 1861 to 31st of August 1861 inclusive. There are no records as far back as the year 1861 at either this Office or that of the Superintendent of Lights but I am inclined to believe that the claim is a just one. I respectfully call your attention to the fact that W. A. Hines who signed the enclosed affidavit was paid in December last by order of the Board for performing the duties of Principal Keeper at the same station, from Jan[illegible] 1st to August 31st, or for the time for which Mr. Gray claims that he was the assistant Keeper

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Office of Light-House Ins...

FIFTH DISTRICT.

Norfolk, Va., ..., 18..

Very respectfully,
T. H. Baker
L. H. Inspector

Professor.
Joseph Henry
Chairman L. H. Board
Washington D.C.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES