Lyra,---launch, 8th District. 1

(Built at Mobile, Ala., in 1872. Tonnage about 15.)

1872. "A schooner rigged launch, built at Mobile, Ala., in 1872, for $1,100.

Measurement; length 45', beam 15', hold 4' 6", draught not to exceed 3 ft. light. Cost, $1,100 exclusive of sails and rigging. (See Vol. 307. p. 733, of L.R.)

"Built by Wm. Foster of Mobile, Ala., in the spring of 1872 for the 8th Engineer. Cost $1,100, paid for from the appropriation for building Trinity Shoal and Timbalier light-houses The Polaris was built at the same time and place, but the Orion and Arcturus were built by John Mahoney at New Orleans; These four schooner-rigged launches were built for, and paid for from the same appropriation.

1875 Aug. 27, 1875, authority asked to sell this boat.
Sept 7, '75, authority granted.

1876. April 4, 1876, Sold at auction for $429.75 net."

In May, 1872, the 8th Engineer writes, "The four launches Senset, Susan, Pharos, and Corinne, are laid up, and the four

1872. schooners (new) Polaris, Lyra, Orion, and Arcturus are being used very effectually, the two former in the Eastern, and the two latter in the Western portion of the district, in general service." Vol. 307, p. 1020. L.R.

Ri (Copy) Office of Light-House Engineer, 1
8th District,
Mobile, Ala., March 21, 1872.

Professor Joseph Henry,
Chairman Lt.-house Board,
Treasury Department, Washington, D.C.

Sir:

In compliance with letter from Board of 21st ult., desiring me to furnish a list of vessels of all sorts, now owned by the Lt-house Establishment, in this District, describing each with a statement of the work upon which each is engaged, I have the honor to make the following report.

Schooner Magnolia. Two masted schooner, 117.84 tons, built at St. Michaels, Talbot Co., Maryland; now engaged in transporting brick to Bolivar Point Lt-house.

Schooner Florida. Two masted schooner, about 75 tons, engaged during January and February 1872, in running between Mobile, and Tampa Bay, Fla. Despatched to New Orleans, March 13, 1872, for service in western portion of district.

Steam tender tug Ivy. Tonnage (new measurement) 50.41. Stationed at Mobile. Engaged in conveying Lt-house Eng'r, and his assistants, to the various lt-stations, and in towing sail-tenders over the bars in Mobile Bay.

Launches Corinne & Pharos. Two masted luggers, about twelve tons each, engaged in transporting men and material from Mobile to Battery Gladden, Mobile Point, and Sand Island light-stations.

Launch Minnie (new). Periauger rigged launch; half-decked, about twelve tons burthen; stationed at Bolivar Point.

Launch Sunrise. Two masted lugger, half decked, about twelve tons, stationed at Bolivar Point.

Launch Sunset. Two masted lugger, half decked, about twelve tons; stationed in the Mississippi River, carrying material and men for fog-whistles at Pass a Loutre, and S.W.Pass, and for repairs.

Launch Susan. Old two-masted lugger; half-decked, 13 tons, engaged in the Mississippi, in transporting men and material for fog-whistles, and repairs.

Schooners Polaris, & Lyra. Now being built at Mobile, under authority granted by Board, in letter of Dec'r 19, 1871. These boats are to be 45 ft. long; beam 15 ft. and depth of hold 4 ft. 6 in.; draught not to exceed 3 feet light. Cost, $2,200 exclusive of sails and rigging. They are now nearly completed, one of them having been launched this day, (21st inst.) Polaris.

Schooners Orion, and Arcturus. Now being built at New Orleans, under authority noted above, by Mr. Jno. Mahoney; dimentions and cost, same as the Lyra and Polaris. Almost completed. These four schooners are designed for service at Timbalier, and Trinity Shoal light-stations.

(Signed) J.H.Simpson, 8th Engr.
Col. of Eng'rs, U.S.A.

L.R. Vol. 307, p. 726.