compensation he will afford you a plan and estimate for the monument. If you deem his price reasonable, you will employ him for the purpose.

I am, &c. (Signed) S. Pleasonton
Fifth Auditor

John Anderson Esq.

Treasury Department,
Fifth Auditor's Office, October 31, 1838.

Sir

I have received your letter of the 18th instant, with its enclosures, respecting the fence erected around the St. Johns Light house, and intimating that statements might have been made against you by some designing person. I have to inform you that no such statements have been made against you.

32

I am, &c. (Signed) S. Pleasonton
Fifth auditor

James Dell Esq.

Treasury Department,
Fifth Auditors Office, October 31, 1838.

Sir,

Lieutenant Manning, who is now here, states that one or both the Ipswich Lights is so fitted up that the lower tier of lamps burn the reflectors of those above. As these Lights were built and fitted up by you, I am inclined to believe ~~to believe~~ that Lieut. Manning is mistaken in the fact he relates. I wish however you would send some person there, who understands the subject, to ascertain and report the fact whatever it may be, and if any thing is wrong to remedy it.

16. 30

I am, &c. (Signed) S. Pleasonton
Fifth Auditor

Winslow Lewis Esq.

Treasury Department,
Fifth Auditor's Office, November 1, 1838.

Sir

The Surveyor General at Tallahasee, has sent me drawings of two reservations which he proposes to be made for Light houses,

109.

Treasury Department,
Fifth Auditor's Office, November 13, 1838.

Sir

I have received your letter of the 6th instant. I wrote to Mr. Pomeroy on the 29th ultimo, the same day I wrote to you, and as I have not heard from him in reply, I am apprehensive the letter has miscarried, and that he will have provided other lanterns and lamps for the Light ship. You will therefore not send your lanterns until you hear from him. If he has engaged other lanterns and lamps, we must keep those you have made for some other occasion. I should prefer, however, that you would not have them made, if you have not already begun them, unless they can be employed by Mr. Pomeroy, in lieu of those he was obliged to make. I should be glad you would write to him on the subject, and act as may be proper on the occasion.

I was very desirous of trying these Lamps of Mr. Lewis in the Five fathom Bank boat, so as to test them fully by the Spring, when I could determine whether they ought to be adopted generally or not. Whether you make the Lanterns and Lamps for this boat or not, you will recollect to send me a model, for which I will authorise Mr. Bancroft to pay you. I am, &c.

(Signed) S. Pleasonton
Fifth Auditor.

Winslow Lewis Esq.

Treasury Department,
Fifth Auditor's Office, November 14, 1838.

Sir

I received this morning your letter of the 1st instant, enclosing a letter from Col. Cross, on the subject of Buoys at the mouth

of St. Johns River. You will without delay procure and station Buoys in place of all those heretofore stationed and lost at the mouth of St. Johns
19. / 48 River, and you will also cause those to be provided and placed, which were authorized by the law of the 7th July last.

I should be glad to hear from you on the subject of title to the land on which the Light-house at the mouth of the River, now stands.

I am &c. (Signed) S. Pleasonton
Fifth Auditor.

James Dell Esq.

Treasury Department,
Fifth Auditors Office, November 14, 1838.

Sir,

Having submitted the names of the ten gentlemen you nominated for trying the experiments with lighting apparatus to the Secretary
30. / 44 of the Treasury, I herewith enclose a copy of his answer, by which you will perceive that he has selected Jacob Bigelow, Alfred Greenough, William Sturges and Daniel Treadwell, to perform that service.

I am &c. (Signed) S. Pleasonton
Fifth Auditor

George Bancroft Esq.

Treasury Department,
Fifth Auditors Office, November 15, 1838

Sir

I enclose the appointment of Stephen D. Nichols as Keeper of the Light-house at the Mouth of Kalamazoo river, and Eli
28. / 101 Bates Jr. as Keeper of the Lighthouse at Milwaukie, which you will be pleased to transmit to them. You will inform them that their respective salaries are fixed at three hundred and fifty dollars per Annum. You will also state to them

and I would advise you to
duplicate to this Office, with the Vouchers, and I will lay them, together with the claim of Mr. Watson, before the Secretary of the Treasury, who alone is authorized to decide upon what it may be proper to allow. I am, &c.

(Signed) S. Pleasonton
Fifth Auditor

Lieut. James T. Homans
U.S. Navy, (Erie, Penn.a)

Treasury Department,
Fifth Auditor's Office, November 24, 1838.

Sir

I enclose the appointment of Matthew H. Phillips, as Keeper of the Lighthouse at the mouth of St. Johns River, which you will be pleased to transmit to him. You will state to him the necessity of his residing and being himself steadily in the house provided for the Keeper. I enclose a Copy of the instructions to Keepers of Lighthouses, which you will deliver to him.

32. 155

I am, &c.

(Signed) S. Pleasonton
Fifth Auditor

James Dell Esq.r

46. 50

Treasury Department,
Fifth Auditor's Office, November 24, 1838.

Sir

I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 23d. instant, requesting to be informed what the height of the Lantern on the Lighthouse to be built on Flynns Knoll should be above the highest water line. It is difficult to determine what the height of the Lighthouse ought to be in this case, as there are several Lighthouses in the neighbourhood of it, as well as two Beacons connected with the Sandy Hook Lighthouse, from all which it ought to be distinguished. The opinion entertained by the Committee of Merchants who were sent here

in

in 87

James R. Pringle Esq.

Treasury Department
Fifth Auditor's Office, February 4, 1839.

Sir

W. McCracken the Keeper of the Cape Heidopen Lighthouse has applied to me for a copy of the plat of the land belonging to the Light House; alleging that the people of Lewis Town are making
133. 163 encroachments upon the public land. I send the plat to you in order that you may forward it to him. It appears there are two hundred acres belonging to the Light house. He has also applied to me for an increase of salary. You will inform him that no increase can be allowed him; his salary now being as high as any other Keeper in the United States. I am &c.

(Signed) S. Pleasonton

Henry Whiteley Esq.

Treasury Department,
Fifth auditor's Office, February 4, 1839.

Sir

Your letter of the 17th ultimo, enclosing the opinion of the District Attorney at St. Augustine, as to the title of the land on
48. 194 which the Lighthouse at the mouth of St. Johns River stands. It seems by this that the title is in the heirs of one Andrew Dewees to whom it was granted by the Spanish Government, and in Cornelius Taylor, who purchased the interest of some of the heirs. I regret that you did not send me the names of all the parties interested, as well as information as to the extent of their respective interests, which it appears may be derived from a written application to the Court at Jacksonville, for a division of the property, on file in the Clerks Office.

You will ascertain from this paper the names of the

several heirs with their respective interests, as well as that of Mr. Taylor, and will apply to them to know what will be the lowest sum they will be willing to take for one or two acres of land on which the Lighthouse stands; informing them that we will give them a reasonable sum, but no more, for it. You will forward their names, and their answer on receiving it.

I am, &c. (Signed) S. Pleasonton

James Dell Esq.r

145.
180

Treasury Department,
Fifth Auditor's Office, February 4, 1839.

Sir

Seeing that you had omitted to notice in your valuable publication upon American Civil Engineering, one of our greatest works in that line — the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, I have procured from one of the Officers of the Company a concise description of that work, so far as it has progressed, and have the pleasure to enclose it herewith. Should you publish a second edition of your work, I have no doubt you will find this description sufficiently interesting to claim a place in it.

I am &c. (Signed) S. Pleasonton

David Stevenson Esq.r
Civil Engineer, Edinburgh, (Scotland)

134.
237

Treasury Department,
Fifth Auditor's Office, February 4, 1839.

Sir

I have the honor to request that a remittance of One thousand two hundred and ninety one dollars be made to Ingoldsby W. Crawford,

(Signed) S. Pleasonton

Ingoldsby W. Crawford Esq.

Treasury Department,
Fifth Auditor's Office, April 4, 1839.

Sir

I have just received your favor of the 2d instant. Mr. Lewis having informed me some time ago that the Lighthouse at Sands Point was an important one, and was the only one of the large Lighthouses which was fitted up with 9 inch reflectors, and that these and the lamps were in bad condition I authorised him to refit it with eleven new lamps with 11-16 inch reflectors, and to apply to you for payment, after satisfying you that the work was well done. A copy of my letter to him is herewith enclosed.

252. 263

You will insist upon his refitting this Lighthouse agreeably to the terms of my letter before you pay him the stipulated price.

I have not heard whether the Light Ship has been again moored off Sandy Hook or not. I should be glad of information on the subject.

I am, &c. (Signed) S. Pleasonton

Jesse Hoyt Esq.

Treasury Department,
Fifth Auditor's Office, April 4, 1839.

Sir.

The contractors at New Bedford, on their visit to the St. John's Light house, at the beginning of the year, have made the following report in regard to that Lighthouse.

230. 328

"The window glass in the Lighthouse broken - The iron railing of the Lantern partly gone - the boards of the platform below the deck are so thin that it is dangerous to stand upon them - Sashes of the Lantern need puttying and painting - The dwelling is in a decayed state - the sleepers are so rotten that the floor of the front room has fallen through - Apparatus new, but the keeper is new and will improve, no doubt."

I have to request that you will cause the repairs which appear to be necessary at this Lighthouse, to be made without delay, and upon the best terms that may be in your power. If you cannot have them made at a reasonable rate by private Contract, you will advertise for proposals and accept the lowest offer. I am, &c.

(Signed) S. Pleasonton

James Dell Esq.r

Treasury Department,
Fifth Auditors Office, April 4, 1839.

Sir

The Contractors, on a late visit to the Lighthouses to the South, have made the following reports in regard to the Lighthouses in your District, viz.

Mobile – The dome and lantern leaky, and the whole establishment in a filthy condition in consequence of there being no resident Keeper.* The Capt. of the Revenue Cutter has had the charge and hired a Soldier for a small compensation to attend to the lighting, and the Keeper just appointed lives fifty miles off and retains the same soldier in his employ.

195.
263

*This is no doubt an error, as the Commander of the Fort was heretofore charged with keeping the Light. It is highly necessary however that this should be altered, and that there should be a Keeper specially charged with the Light. I should be glad you would recommend a suitable one.

Choctaw Point – The Lantern leaks and wants reglazing and painting, and the tower whitewashing outside and in – The door of the lantern during a storm lets in a great deal of water which runs down the wall into the Oil butts, and is fast rusting them out, besides injuring the Oil – Wood work much decayed – The dwelling should have gutters to enable the Keeper to save rain water – Keeper attentive and the apparatus in good order and clean