FEB 10 2025 AM09:13

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

Date: 1/28/2024

REQUESTER INFORMATION

Name (Please Print – Last, First, Middle)	Researcher ID Card Number
Flynn, Kylie	
E-Mail Address:	**Phone Number:**
knfgbb@umsl.edu	217-440-1332

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
Purcell, Robert, L.		1883 FL

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: 1943 FL

State of Residence (upon entry into service):

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

Researcher Signature:

CIVILIAN SERVICE

(Agency & Location)		
Lighthouse Service (FL)		
From: 1915	To: 1918	
(Agency & Location)		
From:	To:	
(Agency & Location)		
From:	To:	

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

This Space Intentionally Left Blank

STAFF USE ONLY

Appointment Time and Date:

Additional Researchers: ☐ Yes ☐ No

CMRS Service Request Number: 2-305876436 78

Attendant Signature:

CMRS Search Request Number(s):

Remarks: '25 FEB 26 AM11:59:08

SCREENING NOTES

- ☒ Reviewed and Nothing Removed
- ☐ Items Removed and User Informed

Hold Requested: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Total Requests:

Screened Items:

☐ Additional charge outs and signatures on reverse side

Time Out:

Final Return:

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE/LIFESAVING SERVICE—RECORDS CHECKED

Employee Name: PURCELL, Robert L LEE **DOB:** 2/2/1883

Records checked:

Agency: Commerce 6028	Area: Bay 10, Lower Catwalk	positive	negative
Agency: Commerce 6029	Area: Bay 10, Lower Catwalk	positive	negative
Agency: Old Commerce	Area: Bay 10, Lower Catwalk	positive	negative

AND

Agency: Treasury 2189	Area: Bay 13, Lower Catwalk	(positive)	negative
Agency: Treasury 2188	Area: Bay 13, Lower Catwalk	positive	negative
Agency: Old Treasury	Area: Bay 13, Lower Catwalk	(positive)	negative

If Negative:

Agency: Treasury SRCs series 1	Area: Bay 13, Lower Catwalk	positive	negative
Agency: Treasury SRCs series 2	Area: Bay 13, Lower Catwalk	positive	negative
Agency: Treasury SRCs series 3	Area: Bay 13, Lower Catwalk	positive	negative
Agency: Coast Guard SRCs	Area: Bay 13, Lower Catwalk	positive	negative

If Negative:

CMRS: possible CG service	Area: _____	positive	negative
ARCIS: _____	Area: _____	positive	negative

Notes: _____

WJB.

August 23rd, 1921.

Mr. R. L. Purcell,
St.Andrews, Florida.

Sir:

1. Referring to your letter of August 11th. 1920;

2. The records of this office show that you were dismissed from the Service for assaulting the Keeper in charge of the station, and the circumstances in connection therewith show that you are not a desirable person for the position of Assistant Keeper.

Respectfully,

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

WJB
Attach these to Purcell's personnel papers

SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
AUG 22 192
NEW ORLEANS.

St Andrews, Fla,

August 11, 1920.

Mr E.S.Lanphier.

New Orleans, La.

Dear, Sir.

In regards to my removal from the Lighatho use Service on June 30, 1919 and there is still held against me charges of prejudice,

Will say the charges against me of being overbearing, domineering, and of haveing a rude and insulting speach was only for a purpos as you will see and which I can proove.

I never was discharged from a position before, Always gave good sadisfaction in all my work, I never have been arrested and that was the first time I ever came to blows or had any dificulty with any one strictly attend to my busniness,

The Keeper of Pensacola Light used language to me and in the presence of my family that was unbecoming to agentleman

Ibelieve that I did my duty and that I was justifiable in doing as I did and any other Man would have done the same thing if he had of had respect for his Family.

Every thing was made very uncomfortabl for me and my Family at the Station, and the

Keeper Mr Thompson was very unreasonable to wardsme

Ihave held several Offices and gave good sadisfaction.

I carried the U.S.Male for L.M.Ware, one year, Was marshall and Tax Collector of the Town of St, Andrews, two years.

I served one year under Mr L.F.Edgecombe at South Pass, as Seccond, and First Assistant

Have been In the inployment of C.J.Bryant &Co since March The First 1920,and have gave good sadisfaction.

I am A master Mason of St Andrews No 212.

I will give you names of responsiable parties whome will vouch for me if you care to investigate in regards to what I have said.

Bank of St Andrews, St Andrews Fla.
C. J. Bryant& Co St Andrews, Fla.
St Andrews Bar Piolet Associan, St Andrews Fla
Bay Fisheries Co, St Andrews, Fla.
Ware ,Mercantile, Co, St,Andrews, Fla.
Sherriff of Bay County Panama City Fla.
Clerk of Bay County, Court, Panama, City, Fla.
J. H. Drummond. St, Andrews, Fla.

Mr Lanphier I believe you have only one side of this affair And With forther investi gation you will find out that I am right in what I have told you, If I did not think so I Would not be writeing you as I am and I wish

to be cleared of these charges that has been and are still helled against me and be reinstated back in the service in good standing

Hopeing you will give this matter your earliest attention and with an answer from you in regards to same, I am

Yours ,respectfully,

R. L. Purcell

JUL 21 1919 4 PM

July 19, 1919.

Sir:

The Department has given careful consideration to the charges of insubordination and assault on William B. Thompson, Keeper, preferred against you by the Superintendent of the Eighth District, and being convinced that the charges have been sustained in a degree sufficient to warrant such action, it has removed you, upon recommendation of the Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses, from the position of Keeper (First Assistant), at $660 per annum in the Lighthouse Service effective at the close of business on June 30, 1919.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) CLIFFORD HASTINGS

Chief of Appointment Division.

Mr. Robert L. Purcell,
Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

G/KM

Carded

MCC
1 inclosure

July 26, 1919.

Robert L. Purcell, former keeper,
U. S. Lighthouse Service,
St. Andrews, Florida.

1. Transmitted herewith is Department letter dated July 19, 1919, removing you from the position of Keeper (first assistant) at Pensacola Light Station, Florida, effective at the close of June 30, 1919.

2. Check in payment of services rendered by you during the month of June will be forwarded to you at St. Andrews, Florida, in due course.

(Signed) E. S. LANPHIER,

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

Copy furnished William B. Thompson, Keeper, Pensacola Light Station, Fort Barrancas, Florida, for his information and the station files.

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

EP.MCC
5 Inclosures
BY REGISTERED MAIL

Robert L. Purcell,
charges

July 3, 1919.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

1. Transmitted herewith is a letter from William B. Thompson, Keeper, Pensacola Light Station, dated June 25, 1919, reporting the actions of Robert L. Purcell, First Assistant Keeper at Pensacola Light Station. Also inclosed are copies of charges preferred against Purcell, dated June 28th, Purcell's reply of June 30th, supplemental letter of William B. Thompson, Keeper, dated July 1st, and counter-charges of June 30th by Purcell, forwarded through the Keeper. Also letter of resignation dated June 28, 1919, from Purcell.

2. The charges of insubordination and assault having been sustained in a degree sufficient to warrant such action, it is recommended that the resignation of Robert L. Purcell, First Assistant Keeper, Pensacola Light Station, be not accepted, but that he be dismissed from the Service effective at the close of June 30, 1919, the effective date of his suspension. This employee has not been granted leave in excess of the accrued amount.

3. The Keeper, William B. Thompson, has been in the Lighthouse Service since October 18, 1903, having served successively at Ship Shoal, Sabine Bank, Horn Island, Sabine Bank, Matagorda, Sabine Pass, and Pensacola Light Stations. He was commended on two occasions by the Secretary of Commerce for services rendered during the hurricanes of September 23, 1915, and September 28, 1917, and was awarded the Inspector's Efficiency Star for the years 1917 and 1918. The counter-charges preferred by Assistant Keeper Purcell are not deemed worthy of any serious consideration, evidently having been forwarded in the absence of any defense of his own action in assaulting the Keeper.

L.

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

Booked MCC

COPY (ACK) Recd 1 p.m. June 27, 1919.

Pensacola Light Station.

June 25, 1919

Superintendent of Lighthouses,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have to report that this A. M. Mr. R. L. Purcell, First Assistant Keeper at this Station, attacked me in a most vicious manner with the avowed intention of giving me a beating. I defended myself as best I could from his attack, but he bit me severely in the left hand nearly severing one of my fingers. I have had the wound treated by the Medical Officer of the Public Health Service in Pensacola, and respectfully ask for a permit covering said treatment and such further treatment as may prove necessary.

I have at all times acted as kindly toward Mr. Purcell as I possibly could and have tried by every means in my power to avoid trouble with him, and acted strictly on the defensive in the affair in which I was wounded.

I am unable now, by reason of my wounded hand, to protect myself from further assaults by Mr. Purcell and feel that it is not safe for me to be on the same station with him without protection. Mr. Purcell is eighteen years younger and fifteen pounds heavier than myself, from which it will be readily seen that I have no chance of holding my own with him in an encounter such as the one in which I have been beaten up.

I feel sure it will be for the best interests of the service for either Mr. Purcell or myself to be removed from this station. I feel it unsafe for me to be on the same station with him, and owing to his overbearing, domineering manner and rude and insulting speech there has been no harmony on this station in the past and can be none in the future should we both remain here.

I am remaining on duty at this station but will have to have my hand treated each day in Pensacola while necessary.

Very respectfully,

COPY

W. B. Thompson, Keeper.

JUL 18 1919 8:58 AM

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

APPOINTMENT DIVISION

WASHINGTON

LIGHT
JUL 18 1919
HOUSES

July 17, 1919.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

In accordance with the Bureau's recommendation of the 11th instant, the Department has approved the suspension from duty of Robert L. Purcell as First Assistant Keeper at Pensacola Light Station, Fla., effective at the close of June 30, 1919, pending disposition of charges preferred against him.

By direction of the Secretary:

Hydrog.
Engr. Corps
Mar. Engr
~~Personnel~~
Accounts.
Contracts
Chief Clerk
Dep. Comm'r.
Comm'r.

Clifford Harding
Chief of Appointment Division.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
JUL 22 1919

G-M

To Superintendent of Lighthouses, New Orleans, La.,

for his information, guidance, and files of office.

Conway
Acting Commissioner.

Carded mge

MCC

July 3, 1919.

Robert L. Purcell,
suspension

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

1. The Bureau is informed that Robert L. Purcell, First Assistant Keeper, Pensacola Light Station, was suspended from duty effective at the close of June 30, 1919, pending disposition of charges of insubordination and assault which have been preferred against him.

L.

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

ESL-MCC
Inclosure.
BY REGISTERED MAIL.

June 28, 1919.

Robert L. Purcell, 1st Asst. Keeper,
Pensacola Light Station,
Fort Barrancas, Florida.
(Through the Keeper.)

1. Referring to the attached letter, dated June 25, 1919, from the Keeper of Pensacola Light Station, Mr. William B. Thompson, reporting that on the morning of June 25th you assaulted him in such a manner as to require treatment by the U. S. Public Health Service.

2. In view of the above, you are hereby suspended from duty and charged with insubordination and assaulting the Keeper, and you will be given three (3) days from the date of the receipt of this letter to make such reply as you deem proper. Your suspension will become effective at the close of the date you receive this letter and will continue for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days pending disposition of the above charges. You and your family will vacate the dwelling and leave the Lighthouse reservation immediately upon receipt of this letter and, furthermore, you are cautioned not to have any further difficulty with the Keeper, who will be given every protection by the Government.

3. This suspension shall be with lawful pay and allowances if you are exonerated of the charges or if they are not found to be sufficiently substantiated to justify suspension without pay and allowances; and shall be without pay and allowances if they are sustained in a degree sufficient to warrant such action.

(Signed) E. S. LANPHIER,

First Assistant Superintendent in Charge.

Copy furnished William B. Thompson, Keeper, Pensacola Light Station, Fort Barrancas, Florida, for his information and the station files. Advise this office the exact date Mr. Purcell receives above letter and the date he leaves the station. You are also directed to submit an account of the causes which led to the difficulty with First Assistant Keeper Purcell, and a full report of the assault.

Inclosed is application for necessary medical treatment by the U. S. Public Health Service.

L.
First Assistant Superintendent in Charge.

COPY (MCC) Recd., 9 a.m., July 2, 1919.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

8th District
Pensacola Light Station
June 30, 1919

Superintendent of Lighthouses,
8th District,
New Orleans, La.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of June 28th, through the Keeper W.B.Thompson, will say that ina fight he was hurt on his finger on the morning of June 25th.

Yours respectfully,

ROBT. L. PURCELL,

1st Asst. Kpr.

Through the Keeper.
W.B.Thompson.

COPY (MCC) Recd., 9 a.m., July 3, 1919.

Pensacola Light Station,
Pensacola, Fla.
July 1st, 1919.

Superintendent of Lighthouses,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of June 28th, 1919, directing me to submit an account of the causes which led to the difficulty with Mr. Purcell, I will respectfully say that the immediate cause of the assault upon me by Mr. Purcell was his refusal to obey my directions.

In the barn which stands on the Keeper's side of the premises at this Station I have certain Government property stored and in the stalls attached to the barn are a number of nests where my hens are accustomed to lay their eggs. Mr. Purcell on several occassions recently has gone into the barn and created a disturbance among the laying hens there, and I requested him to keep out unless he had some business in the barn, in which case I would accompany him.

The morning that Mr. Purcell assaulted me he pursued his usual tactics by entering the barn without notifying me of his intention. When he came out and entered the side porch of the dwelling I remonstrated with him for disregarding my instructions. He thereupon informed me in a most insulting manner that he would go where he pleased and do what he liked. I stated to him that I would not quarrel but would report the matter to your office. He then became very abusive and threatened me with a beating. I walked away and he followed, still abusing me until just opposite the front door to my apartments, when it became evident that he intended to execute his threats. I turned to defend myself just as he sprang at me like a wild animal. He soon had the index finger of my left hand in his mouth and nearly bit it off. Of course after that I was quite unable to defend myself, but fortunately Mr. V. M. Anderson, the 2d Assistant Keeper, was nearby and hearing the noise came and saved me from any further beating.

Unfortunately there was no witness to the actual assault, Mr. Anderson not being present but coming on the scene when he heard the noise.

Mr. Purcell does not claim to have had any business in the barn the day he assaulted me but evidently wished to annoy me and show his contempt for my authority.

Mr. Purcell has at all times since I took charge of this station assumed a bullying manner toward me and has insulted me on numerous occasions, specific instances of which I can give if desired by your office.

In conclusion I wish to respectfully call attention to the fact that during the more than thirteen years that I have been Keeper of different Light Stations in this District no trouble of any description has ever occurred before this between the Assistant Keeper and myself.

Very respectfully,

(Sgd.) W. B. THOMPSON, Keeper.

COPY (MCC) Recd. 9 a.m., July 2, 1919. L.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

8th District
Pensacola Light Station
June 30, 1919.

Superintendent of Lighthouses,
8th District,
New Orleans, La.

Dear Sir:

I repsectfully prefer charges against the Keeper, W. B. Thompson, of Pensacola Light Station, for going to sleep while on duty and allowing the Linse to stop, and telling me he would not treat me as a friend. I refer you to George Darby, Warrington, Florida, Asst. Keeper of Ft. McRee Lights. For ordering me out of his barn as I was after my own property and following me around on my side of the House and calling me out to settle it after we was parted. He continued to want to fight after I had told him to leave me be, using profane language before my wife and cursing me in a manner that caused a fight. I refer you to V. M. Anderson, Second Asst. of Pensacola Light Station.

Also for telling Mr. Henry Lynse of Warrington, Fla., that I was a snapping Dog.

I respectfully ask for a hearing to be held at Pensacola Light Station in regards to this matter.

Yours repsectfully,

(Sgd.) ROBT. L. PURCELL,

First Asst. Kpr.

COPY (MCC) Recd. 9 a.m., July 2, 1919. L.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

8th District
Pensacola
June 30, 1919

Superintendent of Lighthouses,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I enclose letter from Mr. R. L. Purcell, preferring charges against me as Keeper of this Station. I forward this communication without endorsement as the statements therein are false and malicious.

Very respectfully,

(Sgd.) W. B. THOMPSON, Keeper.

COPY (MCC) Recd. 9 a.m., June 30, 1919. L.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

8th District
Pensacola Light Station
June 28, 1919.

Superintendent of Lighthouses,
8th District,
New Orleans, La.

Dear Sir:

I respectfully tender my resignation to take affect July 14, 1919, for reasons I do not care to mention.

Yours respectfully,

ROBERT L. PURCELL,

1st Asst. Keeper.

THROUGH THE KEEPER.
W.B.Thompson.

EP-ACK

July 2, 1919

Robert L. Purcell, 1st Asst. Keeper,
Pensacola Light Station,
Fort Barrancas, Fla.
Through the Keeper.

1. Referring to your letter of June 28th tendering your resignation, which you desire to become effective July 14, 1919, received in this office June 30:

2. You are informed that in view of the fact that you are under suspension pending disposition of charges preferred against you, no recommendation can be made pending the receipt of your response to the charges.

L.

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

EP-ACK

July 2, 1919

W. B. Thompson, Keeper,
Pensacola Light Station,
Fort Barrancas, Florida.

1. Several days ago you were requested to submit report to this office stating the circumstances which lead up to the difficulty between yourself and the First Assistant Keeper. Up to date no reply has been received from you, and you are, therefore, again requested to forward the report to this office by return mail. Submit full report of incident.

L.

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE



EIGHTH DISTRICT

Pensacola
(Station, Depot, or Vessel)

July 2, 1919

Superintendent of Lighthouses.
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that your letter of June 28, 1919. to Mr R L Purcell through the Keeper, was received by me and handed to Mr Purcell on July 1st 1919.

Mr Purcell and family have this day vacated the dwelling and left the Lighthouse reservation. Mr Purcell has performed no duties at this station since June 30th on which day I showed him the copy of your letter sent for my information and station files as the original had not been received at that time.

Very Respectfully.

WB Thompson, Keeper



St Andrews. Fla.
July 4th. 1919.

Superintendent of Light Houses.
8th District,
New Orleans La.

Dear Sir;-

In reply to yours of the 28th of June. 1919. wish say that the Keeper of Pensacola Lt Station Mr H. B. Thompson handed me on June the 30th a copy of the Charges that was perferd against me & in Your letter I see there are further Charges. First Charges was answered on the 30th of June to the best of my memory. The Second Charge is that the Keeper Mr H. B. Thompson did not act strictly on the defense in which He was wounded as He continued to want to fight.

As to my overbearing & domineering manner & rude & insulting speach. wish say I have always treated the Keeper Mr H. B. Thompson

with the highest of respect. at all times performing my duties impartial upon me

As to the charges. I will refer you to Mr L. F. Edgecombe. Keeper of South Pass Rear Range Lt Station. Fort Eads, La. in regards to my overbearing, domineering rude & insulting speech. as I was Second & First Asst under Mr L. F. Edgecombe for one Year or more.

I will further say I have never become intoxicated. arrested for my offence & this was my first difficulty I have ever had with any one. as I have always strictly attended to my own business.

By being suspended from the service & loosing the pay will be working a hardship on me now & in the future.

Thanking you for your kind interest in this matter, I am

Yours respectfully
Robt L Purcell

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE



EIGHTH DISTRICT

Pensacola
(Station, Depot, or Vessel)

July 5, 1919

Superintendent of Lighthouses.
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I herewith enclose copy of original letter to your office, mailed at Fort Barrancas on July 1st 1919,

Very Respectfully.
WB Thompson, Keeper.

copy

Pensacola Light Station,
Pensacola, Fla.,
July 1st., 1919.

Superintendent of Lighthouses,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of June 28th., 1919, directing me to submit an account of the causes which led to the difficulty with Mr. Purcell, I will respectfully say that the immediate cause of the assault upon me by Mr. Purcell was his refusal to obey my directions.

In the barn which stands on the Keeper's side of the premises at this Station I have certain Government property stored and in the stalls attached to the barn are a number of nests where my hens are accustomed to lay their eggs. Mr. Purcell on several occasions recently has gone into the barn and created a disturbance among the laying hens there, and I requested him to keep out unless he had some business in the barn, in which case I would accompany him.

The morning that Mr. Purcell assaulted me he pursued his usual tactics by entering the barn without notifying me of his intention. When he came out and entered the side porch of the dwelling I remonstrated with him for disregarding my instructions. He thereupon informed me in a most insulting manner that he would go where he pleased and do what he liked. I stated to him that I would not quarrel but would report the matter to your office. He then became very abusive and threatened me with a beating. I walked away and he followed, still abusing me until just opposite the front door to my apartments, when it became evident that he intended to execute his threats. I turned to defend myself just as he sprang at me like a wild animal. He soon had the index finger of my left hand in his mouth and nearly bit it off. Of course after that I was quite unable to defend myself, but fortunately Mr. V. M. Anderson, the 2nd. Assistant Keeper, was nearby and hearing the noise came and saved me from any further beating.

Unfortunately there was no witness to the actual assault, Mr. Anderson not being

present but coming on the scene when he heard the noise.

Mr. Purcell does not claim to have had any business in the barn the day he assaulted me but evidently wished to annoy me and show his contempt for my authority.

Mr. Purcell has at all times since I took charge of this Station assumed a bullying manner toward me and has insulted me on numerous occasions, specific instances of which I can give if desired by your office.

In conclusion I wish to respectfully call attention to the fact that during the more than thirteen years that I have been Keeper of different Light Stations in this District no trouble of any description has ever occurred before this between the Assistant Keeper and myself.

Very respectfully,

W B Thompson, Keeper.

GENERAL APPOINTMENT—FIXED DATE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

LIGHT HOUSES NOV 21 1918 P.M.
NOV 21 1918
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR NOV 25 1918 New Orleans, La.

November 19, 1918.

Mr. Robert L. Purcell,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

You have been appointed, subject to taking the oath of office, and to actual entrance upon duty (unless on authorized leave) on the date indicated, Keeper in the Lighthouse Service at a salary of Six Hundred and Sixty dollars per annum, effective November 1, 1918.

By promotion from first assistant keeper at $564 per annum.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(Signed) Clifford Hastings.

Chief of Appointment Division

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Vice: New position, (By increase in compensation.)

Legal Residence: Florida.

11—1393

4

Pensacola L.S., Fla.

COPY (MCC) Recd., 8:30 a.m., Dec. 2, 1918. D.

Form 111

OATH OF OFFICE

(Prescribed by Section 1757, Revised Statutes)

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

I, Robert L. Purcell,

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.

(Sgd.) ROBT. L. PURCELL
(Appointee signs here)

[2] Sworn to (See below) and subscribed before me, this [3] 29th day of November, A. D. 191 8.

(Affix official seal here)

S(Archie Benton,
E(Notary Public
A(State of Florida
L(at Large

[4] (*Name*) Archie Benton

(*Official title*) Notary Public

My commission expires May 18, 1920.

	Official Title	Rate of Pay	Name of Station, Vessel, or Place of Employment.
Present	Keeper in the Light-house Service	$660 p.a.	Pensacola Light Station, Florida.
Former	First Asst.Kpr.in the L.H. Service	$564 p.a.	do.

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

SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES

MCC

Office of ~~Lighthouse Inspector~~, Eighth District

New Orleans, La., December 4, 1918.
(Address) (Date)

The above-named appointee entered upon duty on November 1, 1918.
(Date)

5

(Signature, followed by title) SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES

[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, a chief clerk in the office of a lighthouse inspector or other employee in the Lighthouse Service designated by a chief clerk, or any other officer having authority to administer oaths, but never before a collector of customs or postmaster, as neither officer has 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, except in the case of chief clerks in the offices of lighthouse inspectors and other employees in the Lighthouse Service designated by them, who are not required to have a seal.
[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

Carded MCC

MCC-EC
2 inclosures

November 25, 1918.

Robert L. Purcell, First Asst. Keeper,
Pensacola Light Station,
Fort Barrancas, Florida.
(Through the Keeper)

Transmitted herewith is Department letter dated November 19, 1918, promoting you to the position of Keeper in the Lighthouse Service and increasing your salary to $660, effective commencing November 1, 1918.

Subscribe to inclosed "Oath of Office" before a notary public or other person authorized to administer oaths and return same promptly, as no compensation can be paid you under this appointment until the oath is received in proper form.

(Signed) B. B. DORRY,

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

Copy furnished Wm. B. Thompson, Keeper, Pensacola Light Station, Florida, for his information and the station files.

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

Robert L. Purcell

Robert L. Purcell

LEGAL RESIDENCE.
Florida

INACTIVE

STATUS

DESIGNATION	SALARY	BUREAU OR OFFICE	DATE OF EFFECT OF ACTION AUTHORIZED
2nd Asst. Kpr., South Pass Range Rear Lt.	$480	L. H.	July 26, 1915.
1st " " " " " " " "	660.	"	May 12, 1916.
2nd " " Pensacola L. S. Fla	456	"	Sept. 24, 1916
1st " " " " "	564	"	Apr. 16, 1917.
Keeper " Inc.	660	"	Nov 4 1918
Removed - Close June 30, 1919			

INACTIVE

Form 73

TJC-MCC

NOMINATION

SPECIAL

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, Eighth DISTRICT,

New Orleans, La. (City.) July 14 (Date.), 1915.

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

Action recommended, Probationary appointment.

Name, Robert L. Purcell. Legal residence, Florida.

Position, Second Assistant Keeper in the Lighthouse Service. Salary, $480 per annum.

Location, South Pass Range Rear Light-Station, Louisiana. Appropriation, Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses, 1916.

Effective July 20, 1915. { 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, 1st. Rating Assistant Keeper. Percentage, 90.2, Other eligibles considered:

Eaf A. Barnes, C., Henry D. Barnes, C.

Previous incumbent, James N. Howard. Services terminated, Not to be terminated. end

Reason, Promoted to First Assistant Keeper of South Pass Range Rear Light-Station.

Relatives in Government Service, None.

Remarks: Robert L. Purcell has never been employed in any branch of the Department of Commerce. Quarters are not provided for the family of the Assistant Keeper. Early action on this recommendation is requested.

Selection regular, subject to the action of the U. S. Civil Service Commission. July 16, 191 v

to record clk acting

W. D. Beasley
Secretary, 10 Civil Service District.

Sorry
Inspector. 2nd

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON
JUL 19 1915

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce, approved.

7-19-15

Acting Commissioner

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

11—2314

PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

Mr. Robert L. Purcell, July 19, 1915.

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 Eighty dollars per ~~annum~~, effective on the date on which you enter upon duty in the above-mentioned position.

(By selection from certificate No. ____, and subject to a probationary period of not to exceed six months as provided by paragraph (c) of section 1 of civil-service rule VII, to be found on the reverse hereof.)

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) CLIFFORD HASTINGS

Acting Chief of Appointment Division.

R
C

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.
Vice: James H. Howard.
Legal Residence: Florida.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION ENTERED JUL 19 1915 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

CHANGE REPORTED JUL 19 1915 U. S. COMMISSION.

11—1394

Form 111

OATH OF OFFICE

(Prescribed by Section 1757, Revised Statutes)

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT AUG 6 1915 HOUSES
CHIEF CLERK AUG 19 1915
APPOINTMENTS AUG 20 15

I, Robert L. Purcell,

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.

Robert L Purcell
(Appointee signs here)

[2] Sworn to (See below) and subscribed before me, this[3] 24th day of July, A. D. 1915.

(Affix official seal here)

[4] (Name) Thomas J. Conway

(Official title) Chief Clerk

Official Title	Rate of Pay	Name of Station, Vessel, or Place of Employment
Present: Second Assistant Keeper in the L.H. Service.	$480 p.a.	South Pass Range Rear L.S., Louisiana.
Former[5]: Probationary appointment.		

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

Office of Lighthouse Inspector, Eighth District

New Orleans, La., (Address), August 4, 1915. (Date)

The above-named appointee entered upon duty on July 26, 1915. (Date)

CARDED

B B Dorry
(Signature, followed by title)
Inspector.

[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

Encl'd

PERSONAL QUESTION SHEET

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

March 5, 1913.

LIGHT AUG 8 1915 HOUSE

CHIEF CLERK AUG16 1915

APPOINTMENTS AUG 16 1915

To the Chiefs of Bureaus of the Department of Commerce:

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.

William C. Redfield
Secretary.

CARDED

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. If name itself is merely a letter, it should be so stated.)

Mr Robert Lee Purcell

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

Robt L Purcell

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

Panama	Fla	Bay	3rd.
City or town.	State or Territory.	County.	Congressional district.

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

5. Where were you born? Ecanfina Fla

6. When were you born? Feb 2 1883
Month. Day. Year.

11—1434

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

Mrs Robt L. Pearce
Name.

Number and street.

St Andrews
City or town.

Fla
State or Territory.

8. 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				

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: "By reinstatement," or "by transfer from ——," stating Department, Bureau or Service, position, and salary, if known.)

Assistant Light House Keeper May 15th 1915

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 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					

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

No

13. 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.)

Company and regiment, or vessel.	Date enlisted.	Date discharged.	Cause of discharge.
No			

14. 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.

Company and regiment, or vessel.	Date enlisted.	Date discharged.	Cause of discharge.
—			

15. Are you the widow or orphan of an honorably discharged soldier or sailor? (If so, give the information called for by the blanks below.)

No

Name under which service was rendered.....

Company and regiment, or vessel.	Date enlisted.	Date discharged.	Cause of discharge.

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 11, 12, 13, and 14.)

Carpenter

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.)

Common 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.")

Carpenter

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

Assistant Light House Keeper
May 15th 1915

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. July 23rd, 1915

(Signature) Robert L Purcell

Witness:

In case signature is by mark.

P. O. Address: St Andrews
City or town.

Number and street.

Fla
State or Territory.

(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 August 4, 1915., 19

(Signature) B B Dorry

(Official title) Inspector. 29th

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:

Lighthouse Service (Bureau or Service.) South Pass Range Rear Lt. Station. (Place (city, town, station, or vessel.)) Eighth (District.)

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

3. State the date of appointment. July 19, 1915.

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

Date of entrance on duty.

5. State the date of the oath. July 24, 1915.

6. State the date the employee entered on duty. July 26, 1915.

7. What is his salary? $480 pa.

8. From what appropriation is he paid? Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

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.)

Examination Assistant Keeper May 15, 1915.

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.

St. Andrews, Fla.

14. If foreign born, state when and where naturalization papers were taken out. No.

Reviewed, approved, and forwarded to the Department.

(Signature) B B Doerr

(Official title) Inspector.

Date: August 4, 1915., 19

11—1434

Form 73

TJC-MCC

NOMINATION

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, Eighth DISTRICT,

LIGHT HOUSES MAY 8 1916

New Orleans, La., May 6 - - -, 1916.
(City.) (Date.)

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

Action recommended, Promotion and appointment.

Name, Robert L. Purcell. Legal residence, Florida.

CHIEF CLERK MAY 9 1916

Position, First Assistant Keeper in the Light-house Service. Salary, $660 per annum.

Location, South Pass Range Rear Light Station, Louisiana. Appropriation, Salaries of Keepers of Lighthouses, 1916.

Effective June 15, 1916, { the actual date of entrance on duty; or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

APPOINTMENTS MAY 9 1916

Former position, Second Assistant Keeper. Former salary, $480 per annum.

Location, South Pass Range Rear Light Station, Louisiana.

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

- - - -

GENERAL APPOINTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

May 9, 1916.

Mr. Robert L. Purcell,

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 Six Hundred and Sixty 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 $480 per annum.)

CARDED.

ENTERED DIVISION
MAY 9 1916
JOURNAL
DEPT. OF COMMERCE

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) CLIFFORD HASTINGS

Chief of Appointment Division.

C

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Vice: James N. Howard.

Legal Residence: Florida.

CHANGE REPORTED
MAY 1916
U. S. COMMISSION

11—3892

Form 111

OATH OF OFFICE

(Prescribed by Section 1757, Revised Statutes)

4534

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Lighthouse Inspector MAY 22 1916 New Orleans.

Lighthouse Inspector MAY 26 1916 New Orleans.

LIGHT MAY 29 1916 HOUSES

APPOINTMENTS JUN 1 1916

I, Robert L. Purcell,

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.

Robert L. Purcell
(Appointee signs here)

[2] Sworn, (See below) and subscribed before me, this[3] 24th day of May, A. D. 1916

(Affix official seal here)

[4](Name) T. S. Sudlam

(Official title) Captain in Light House Service

	Official Title	Rate of Pay	Name of Station, Vessel, or Place of Employment
Present	1st Asst.Kpr.in the Lighthouse Service	$660 p.a.	South Pass Range Rear Light Station, La.
Former	2nd Asst.Kpr.in the Lighthouse Service	$480 p.a.	South Pass Range Rear Light Station, La.

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

CARDED.

Office of Lighthouse Inspector, Eighth District

New Orleans, La., (Address), May 27, 1916. (Date)

The above-named appointee entered upon duty on May 12, 1916. (Date)

B B Darby
(Signature, followed by title)
Inspector.

[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

Relieving for Compensation - (Oath)
JUN 1 - 1916

Form 73

NOMINATION

MCC
1 enclosure.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT HOUSES SEP 11 1916

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, Eighth DISTRICT,

New Orleans, La., September 8 (City.) (Date.), 1916.

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

CHIEF CLERK SEP 12 1916 5

Action recommended, Transfer and appointment.

Name, Robert L. Purcell. Legal residence, Florida.

Position, Second Assistant Keeper in the Light-house Service. Salary, $456 per annum.

Location, Pensacola Light Station, Florida. Appropriation, Salaries of Keepers of Lighthouses.

Effective September 16, 1916, {~~the actual date of entrance on duty~~, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS NECESSARY ACTION SEP 12 1916 IN CONFORMANCE

APPOINTMENTS SEP 12 1916 12

Former position, First Assistant Keeper. Former salary, $660 per annum.

Location, South Pass Range Rear Light Station, Louisiana.

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

- - - -

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Lighthouse Inspector
SEP 8 1916
New Orleans.

LIGHT
SEP 11 1916
HOUSES

EIGHTH DISTRICT

South Pass Range Rear Light
(Station, Depot, or Vessel)

Sept 6th, 1916

Light House Inspector
8th District
New Orleans La

"Through the Keeper."

Sir,-

I wish accept the position as Second Assistant Keeper at Pensacola Light Station, Florida. Will be ready to leave as soon as I am notified.

Yours respectfully
Robert L. Purcell
First Asst. Kpr.

Affixed $.

Leonard F. Edgecombe

GENERAL APPOINTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

September 12, 1916.

Mr. Robert L. Purcell,

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 $660 per annum.)

APPROVED.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION ENTERED SEP 12 1916 DEPT. OF COMMERCE

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) W. S. GILCHRIST

Acting Chief of Appointment Division.

BC

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Vice: George C. Pickett.

Legal Residence: Florida.

OFFICE REPORTED SEP 1916 U. S. COMMISSION

11—3692

Lighthouse Inspector
SEP 26 1916
New Orleans.

Form 111

OATH OF OFFICE

(Prescribed by Section 1757, Revised Statutes)

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

APPOINTMENTS
OCT 6 1916

CHIEF CLERK
OCT 6 1916

LIGHT
SEP 29 1916
HOUSES

I, Robert L. Purcell,

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.

Robert L Purcell
(Appointee signs here)

[2] Sworn to (See below) and subscribed before me, this[3] 25th day of September, A. D. 1916

(Affix official seal here)

[4](Name) Mae O. Wheat

(Official title) Notary Public

Official Title	Rate of Pay	Name of Station, Vessel, or Place of Employment
Present 2d Asst. Kpr. in the Lighthouse Service	$456 p.a.	Pensacola Light Station, Florida.
Former 1st Asst. Kpr. in the Lighthouse Service	$660 p.a.	South Pass Range Rear Light Station, La.

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

MCC

Office of Lighthouse Inspector, Eighth District

New Orleans, La., September 27, 1916.
(Address) (Date)

The above-named appointee entered upon duty on September 24, 1916.
(Date)

CARDED.

Carded 9-27-16
mcc

R B Dorsey
(Signature, followed by title) Inspector.

[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

OCT - 6 1916

Form 73

JAS-MCC

NOMINATION

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, Eighth DISTRICT,

LIGHT HOUSES APR 13 1917

New Orleans, La., April 11 - - , 191 7.
(City.) (Date.)

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

Action recommended, Promotion and appointment.

1917 S

CHIEF CLERK APR 14 1917

5

Name, Robert L. Purcell. Legal residence, Florida.

Position, First Assistant Keeper in the Lighthouse Service. Salary, $564 per annum.

Location, Pensacola Light Station, Florida. Appropriation, Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Effective April 16, 1917, { the actual date of entrance on duty, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

APPOINTMENTS APR 14 1917

Former position, Second Assistant Keeper in the Lighthouse Service. Former salary, $456 per annum.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION NECESSARY ACTION TAKEN APR 14 1917 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Location, Pensacola Light Station, Florida.

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

GENERAL APPOINTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

April 14, 1917.

Mr. Robert L. Purcell,

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 Five Hundred and Sixty-four 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.)

CARDED

By direction of the Secretary:

APPOINTMENT DIVISION ENTERED APR 16 1917 DEPT. OF COMMERCE JOURNAL

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) CLIFFORD HASTINGS

C

Chief of Appointment Division.

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Vice: Adrian Whiting.

Legal Residence: Florida.

11—3692

Form 111

OATH OF OFFICE

(Prescribed by Section 1757, Revised Statutes)

Lighthouse Inspector
APR 25 1917
New Orleans.

LIGHT
APR 28 1917
HOUSES

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

I, Robert L. Purcell,

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.

Robert L. Purcell
(Appointee signs here)

CHIEF CLERK
APR 17 1917

[2] Sworn to (See below) and subscribed before me, this [3] 23rd day of April, A. D. 1917

(Affix official seal here)

MAE O. WHEAT NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF FLORIDA AT LARGE

[4] (Name) Mae O. Wheat

(Official title) Notary Public

My commission expires Augt 24, 1918

	Official Title	Rate of Pay	Name of Station, Vessel, or Place of Employment
Present	First Asst. Keeper in the Lighthouse Service	$564 p.a.	Pensacola Light Station, Florida.
Former [5]	Second Asst. Keeper in the Lighthouse Service	$456 p.a.	Pensacola Light Station, Florida.

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

MCC

Office of Lighthouse Inspector, Eighth District

New Orleans, La., April 26, 1917.
(Address) (Date)

The above-named appointee entered upon duty on April 16, 1917.
(Date)

CARDED.

(Signature, followed by title) Inspector.

[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, a chief clerk in the office of a lighthouse inspector or other employee in the Lighthouse Service designated by a chief clerk, or any other officer having authority to administer oaths, but never before a collector of customs or postmaster, as neither officer has 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, except in the case of chief clerks in the offices of lighthouse inspectors and other employees in the Lighthouse Service designated by them, who are not required to have a seal.
[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.

McC-HEV

DEC 4 1917

Sir:

The Department is in receipt of report of the damage caused by the hurricane of September 28, 1917, and takes pleasure in commending you for maintaining the light at Pensacola Light Station, at full intensity and with proper characteristic under very trying circumstances during the hurricane referred to. The fact that you have been commended will be noted on the records as part of your official history.

Respectfully,

WILLIAM C. REDFIELD

Secretary.

Mr. Robert L. Purcell,
First Assistant Keeper,
Pensacola Light Station, Fla.
(Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses)

LIGHTHOUSES---Appointment Division's files

Exact copy as signed by WILLIAM C. REDFIELD

Mailed DEC 5 - 1917 by RSw

File
Fmb

USE TYPEWRITER—SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON BACK.

UNITED STATES
BUREAU OF EFFICIENCY.
FORM 8.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS.
8—4789-2

LIGHT HOUSES

MAKE NO ENTRIES IN THIS COLUMN.

JAN 2 1917

RECORD OF CIVIL EMPLOYEE.

JULY 1, 1916.

1. Name: (Surname first. Given name in full. For women write Miss or Mrs. before given name.)

Purcell, Robert Lee

2. Department:

Commerce

3. Bureau, office, or service:

Lighthouse

4. Designation of position:

1st Assistant Keeper

5. Occupation (if not clearly shown by answer to question 4):

Care of light and govt. property

6. Annual earnings:

$660

7. Kind of appropriation:

LS

8. Present rate of pay:

$ AS

9. Initial rate of pay:

$ 480 P A

10. Total length of service (give the total of ALL U. S. GOVT. SERVICE with the exceptions stated on the back of this card)—

Substitute—		Regular—	
Years:	Months:	Years:	Months:
		-1-	11

11. State, Territory, or foreign country of birth (do not give town):

Florida

12. Race:

W

13. Sex:

M

14. Date of birth—

Month: February

Year: 1883

15. Kinds of schools attended, years attended, and degrees taken:

E12

16. Marital condition:

M

17. War veteran?

No

18. Appointed from—

Congressional district and State: 3 Fla.

County: Bay

19. Civil service status:

C

20. Method by which classified status was obtained:

CE

21. Place of employment—

City: Port Eads

State: La.

DO NOT FOLD THIS CARD.

11—6869

GENERAL APPOINTMENT FIXED DATE

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

November 19, 1918.

Mr. Robert L. Purcell,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

You have been appointed, subject to taking the oath of office, and to actual entrance upon duty (unless on authorized leave) on the date indicated, Keeper in the Lighthouse Service at a salary of Six Hundred and Sixty dollars per annum effective November 1, 1918.

By promotion from first assistant keeper at $564 per annum.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION
NOV 19 1918
RECEIVED

CARDED

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

BASIS OF THIS ACTION DATED 11-15-18
1096-8

(Signed) Clifford Hastings.

Chief of Appointment Division

HH
Ho

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Vice: New position, (By increase in compensation.)

Legal Residence: Florida.

11—1383

Form 111

OATH OF OFFICE

(Prescribed by Section 1757, Revised Statutes)

5

LIGHT DEC 9 1918 HOUSES

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

DEC 9 1918 9 45 AM

I, Robert L. Purcell,

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.

CHIEF CLERK

1918 DEC 9 PM 12 06

☞ Robt L Purcell

(Appointee signs here)

[2] Sworn to (See below) and subscribed before me, this [3] 29th day of November, A. D. 1918.

(Affix official seal here)

[4] (Name) Orchie Benton

(Official title) Notary Public

My commission expires May 16, 1920

Official Title	Rate of Pay	Name of Station, Vessel, or Place of Employment.
Present: Keeper in the Light-house Service	$660 p.a.	Pensacola Light Station, Florida.
Former: First Asst.Kpr.in the L.H. Service	$564 p.a.	do.

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

SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES

MCC

Office of ~~Lighthouse Inspector~~, Eighth District

New Orleans, La., December 4, 1918.

(Address) (Date)

The above-named appointee entered upon duty on November 1, 1918.

(Date)

CARDED

R R Doorly

(Signature, followed by title) SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES

[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, a chief clerk in the office of a lighthouse inspector or other employee in the Lighthouse Service designated by a chief clerk, or any other officer having authority to administer oaths, but never before a collector of customs or postmaster, as neither officer has 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, except in the case of chief clerks in the offices of lighthouse inspectors and other employees in the Lighthouse Service designated by them, who are not required to have a seal.

[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

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 8TH DISTRICT
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

July 3, 1919.

MCC

APPOINTMENTS

19 JUL 12 PM 1 07

Robert L. Purcell,
suspension

1919 JUL 12 PM 12 51

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

1. The Bureau is informed that Robert L. Purcell, First Assistant Keeper, Pensacola Light Station, was suspended from duty effective at the close of June 30, 1919, pending disposition of charges of insubordination and assault which have been preferred against him.

Respectfully,
Superintendent of Lighthouses.

Bureau of Lighthouses
JUL 11 1919

recommended for approval.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce

Approved:
A. L. Thurman
Acting Secretary

1919 JUL 12 PM 12 05

Commissioner

JUL 15 PM 4 09 APPOINTMENTS

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

5

EP-MCC
7 inclosures
BY REGISTERED MAIN

OINTMENTS

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, 8TH DISTRICT
NEW ORLEANS, LA.
July 3, 1919.

LIGHT
JUL 7 1919
HOUSES

JUL 17 PM 3 14

CHIEF CLERK

Robert L. Purcell,
charges

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

1. Transmitted herewith is a letter from William B. Thompson, Keeper, Pensacola Light Station, dated June 25, 1919, reporting the actions of Robert L. Purcell, First Assistant Keeper at Pensacola Light Station. Also inclosed are copies of charges preferred against Purcell, dated June 28th, Purcell's reply of June 30th, supplemental letter of William B. Thompson, Keeper, dated July 1st, and counter-charges of June 30th by Purcell, forwarded through the Keeper. Also letter of resignation dated June 28, 1919, from Purcell.

1918 JUL 17 PM 2 36

2. The charges of insubordination and assault having been sustained in a degree sufficient to warrant such action, it is recommended that the resignation of Robert L. Purcell, First Assistant Keeper, Pensacola Light Station, be not accepted, but that he be dismissed from the Service effective at the close of June 30, 1919, the effective date of his suspension. This employee has not been granted leave in excess of the accrued amount.

3. The Keeper, William B. Thompson, has been in the Lighthouse Service since October 18, 1903, having served successively at Ship Shoal, Sabine Bank, Horn Island, Sabine Bank, Matagorda, Sabine Pass, and Pensacola Light Stations. He was commended on two occasions by the Secretary of Commerce, for services rendered during the hurricanes of September 23, 1915, and September 28, 1917, and was awarded the Inspector's Efficiency Star for the years 1917 and 1918. The counter-charges preferred by Assistant Keeper Purcell are not deemed worthy of any serious consideration, evidently having been forwarded in the absence of any defense of his own action in assaulting the Keeper.

Lanphier.
Superintendent of Lighthouses.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION
NECESSARY
ACTION TAKEN
JUL 19 1919
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

JGL 7/18/19

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
JUL 16 1919

Set Incls.
Submitted to Secretary of Commerce recommending approval.

1919 JUL 18 AM 9 03

1919 JUL 17 PM 2 04
APPOINTMENTS

Commissioner.

C. S. REPORT DATA ENTERED

Approved:

A. L. Thurman
Acting Secretary.



Pensacola Light Station,

June 25, 1919.

Superintendent of Lighthouses,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

I have to report that this A. M. Mr. R. L. Purcell, First Assistant Keeper at this Station, attacked me in a most vicious manner with the avowed intention of giving me a beating. I defended myself as best I could from his attack, but he bit me severely in the left hand nearly severing one of my fingers. I have had the wound treated by the Medical Officer of the Public Health Service in Pensacola, and respectfully ask for a permit covering said treatment and such further treatment as may prove necessary.

I have at all times acted as kindly toward Mr. Purcell as I possibly could and have tried by every means in my power to avoid trouble with him, and acted strictly on the defensive in the affair in which I was wounded.

I am unable now, by reason of my wounded hand, to protect myself from further assaults by Mr. Purcell and feel that it is not safe for me to be on the same Station with him without protection. Mr. Purcell is eighteen years younger and fifteen pounds heavier than myself, from which it will be readily seen that I have no chance of holding my own with him in an encounter such as the one in which I have been beaten up.

I feel sure it will be for the best interests of the service for either Mr. Purcell or myself to be removed from this Station. I feel it unsafe for me to be on the same Station with him, and owing to his overbearing, domineering manner and rude and insulting speech there has been no harmony on this Station in the past and can be none in the future should we both remain here.

I am remaining on duty at this Station but will have to have my hand treated each day in Pensacola while necessary.

Very respectfully,

WB Thompson, Keeper.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATION TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
NEW ORLEANS LA.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Inclosure.
BY REGISTERED MAIL.

SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES.
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 8TH DISTRICT
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

June 26, 1919.

Robert L. Purcell, 1st Asst. Keeper,
Pensacola Light Station,
Fort Barrancas, Florida.
(Through the Keeper.)

1. Referring to the attached letter, dated June 25, 1919, from the Keeper of Pensacola Light Station, Mr. William B. Thompson, reporting that on the morning of June 25th you assaulted him in such a manner as to require treatment by the U. S. Public Health Service.

2. In view of the above, you are hereby suspended from duty and charged with insubordination and assaulting the Keeper, and you will be given three (3) days from the date of the receipt of this letter to make such reply as you deem proper. Your suspension will become effective at the close of the date you receive this letter and will continue for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days pending disposition of the above charges. You and your family will vacate the dwelling and leave the Lighthouse reservation immediately upon receipt of this letter and, furthermore, you are cautioned not to have any further difficulty with the Keeper, who will be given every protection by the Government.

3. This suspension shall be with lawful pay and allowances if you are exonerated of the charges or if they are not found to be sufficiently substantiated to justify suspension without pay and allowances; and shall be without pay and allowances if they are sustained in a degree sufficient to warrant such action.

(Signed) E. S. LANPHIER,
First Assistant Superintendent in Charge.

Copy furnished William B. Thompson, Keeper, Pensacola Light Station, Fort Barrancas, Florida, for his information and the station files. Advise this office the exact date Mr. Purcell receives above letter and the date he leaves the station. You are also directed to submit an account of the causes which led to the difficulty with First Assistant Keeper Purcell, and a full report of the assault.

Inclosed is application for necessary medical treatment by the U. S. Public Health Service.

(SIGNED) LANPHIER
First Assistant Superintendent in Charge.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE



EIGHTH DISTRICT

Pensacola Lt Station
(Station, Depot, or Vessel)

June 30th, 1919

Superintendent of Light Houses.
8th District.
New Orleans. La.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your letter of June 28th. through the Keeper W. B. Thompson will say that in a fight. He was hurt on his finger, on the morning of June 25

Yours respectfully
Robt. L. Purcell.
First Asst Kpr.

Through the Keeper. W B Thompson.



Pensacola Light Station,
Pensacola, Fla.,
July 1st., 1919.

Superintendent of Lighthouses,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of June 28th., 1919, directing me to submit an account of the causes which led to the difficulty with Mr. Purcell, I will respectfully say that the immediate cause of the assault upon me by Mr. Purcell was his refusal to obey my directions.

In the barn which stands on the Keeper's side of the premises at this Station I have certain Government property stored and in the stalls attached to the barn are a number of nests where my hens are accustomed to lay their eggs. Mr. Purcell on several occasions recently has gone into the barn and created a disturbance among the laying hens there, and I requested him to keep out unless he had some business in the barn, in which case I would accompany him.

The morning that Mr. Purcell assaulted me he pursued his usual tactics by entering the barn without notifying me of his intention. When he came out and entered the side porch of the dwelling I remonstrated with him for disregarding my instructions. He thereupon informed me in a most insulting manner that he would go where he pleased and do what he liked. I stated to him that I would not quarrel but would report the matter to your office. He then became very abusive and threatened me with a beating. I walked away and he followed, still abusing me until just opposite the front door to my apartments, when it became evident that he intended to execute his threats. I turned to defend myself just as he sprang at me like a wild animal. He soon had the index finger of my left hand in his mouth and nearly bit it off. Of course after that I was quite unable to defend myself, but fortunately Mr. V. M. Anderson, the 2nd. Assistant Keeper, was nearby and hearing the noise came and saved me from any further beating.

Unfortunately there was no witness to the actual assault, Mr. Anderson not being

JUL 3 1919 NEW ORLEANS

present but coming on the scene when he heard the noise.

Mr. Purcell does not claim to have had any business in the barn the day he assaulted me but evidently wished to annoy me and show his contempt for my authority.

Mr. Purcell has at all times since I took charge of this Station assumed a bullying manner toward me and has insulted me on numerous occasions, specific instances of which I can give if desired by your office.

In conclusion I wish to respectfully call attention to the fact that during the more than thirteen years that I have been Keeper of different Light Stations in this District no trouble of any description has ever occurred before this between the Assistant Keeper and myself.

Very respectfully,

WB Thompson, Keeper

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE



EIGHTH DISTRICT

Pensacola Lt Station
(Station, Depot, or Vessel)

June 30 1919

Superintendent of Light houses.
8th District.
New Orleans. La.

Dear Sir:-

I respectfully prefer Charges against the Keeper H.B. Thompson of Pensacola Lt Station. for going to sleep while on duty & allowing the Lines to stop. & telling me He would not treat me as a friend. I refer you to Georg Darby. Asst Keep of Ft Mc Rae Lights. Fairington Fla

For ordering me out of his Barn as I was after my on Property. & following me around on my side of the House & calling me out to settle it after we was parted. He continued to want to fight after I had told Him to leave me be. using profaine language before my Wife & cursing me in a manner that caused a fight I refer you to V.M. Anderson. Seccond Asst of Pensacola Lt Station.

Also so for telling Mr Henry Lyons, of

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE



EIGHTH DISTRICT

.....
(Station, Depot, or Vessel)

....., 191

Harrington. Fla. that I was a snapping Dog.

I respectfully ask for a hearing to be held at Pensacola Lt Station in regards to this matter.

Yours Respectfully
Robt. L. Purcell
First Asst Kpr

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

Inclosure.

BY REGISTERED MAIL.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATION TO
SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES
NEW ORLEANS LA.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT
HOUSES

SUPERINTENDENT OF LIGHTHOUSES.
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 8TH DISTRICT
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

June 26, 1919.

Robert L. Purcell, 1st Asst. Keeper,
Pensacola Light Station,
Fort Barrancas, Florida.
(Through the Keeper.)

1. Referring to the attached letter, dated June 25, 1919, from the Keeper of Pensacola Light Station, Mr. William B. Thompson, reporting that on the morning of June 25th you assaulted him in such a manner as to require treatment by the U. S. Public Health Service.

2. In view of the above, you are hereby suspended from duty and charged with insubordination and assaulting the Keeper, and you will be given three (3) days from the date of the receipt of this letter to make such reply as you deem proper. Your suspension will become effective at the close of the date you receive this letter and will continue for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days pending disposition of the above charges. You and your family will vacate the dwelling and leave the Lighthouse reservation immediately upon receipt of this letter and, furthermore, you are cautioned not to have any further difficulty with the Keeper, who will be given every protection by the Government.

3. This suspension shall be with lawful pay and allowances if you are exonerated of the charges or if they are not found to be sufficiently substantiated to justify suspension without pay and allowances; and shall be without pay and allowances if they are sustained in a degree sufficient to warrant such action.

(Signed) E. S. LANPHIER,

First Assistant Superintendent in Charge.

Copy furnished William B. Thompson, Keeper, Pensacola Light Station, Fort Barrancas, Florida, for his information and the station files. Advise this office the exact date Mr. Purcell receives above letter and the date he leaves the station. You are also directed to submit an account of the causes which led to the difficulty with First Assistant Keeper Purcell, and a full report of the assault.

Inclosed is application for necessary medical treatment by the U. S. Public Health Service.

(SIGNED) LANPHIER

First Assistant Superintendent in Charge.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE



EIGHTH DISTRICT

Pensacola
(Station, Depot, or Vessel)

June 30, 1919

Superintendent of Lighthouses.
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I enclose letter from Mr. R. L. Purcell, preferring charges against me as Keeper of this Station. I forward this communication without endorsement as the statements therein are false and Malicious.

Very Respectfully.

WB Thompson, Keeper.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE



EIGHTH DISTRICT

Pensacola Lt Station
(Station, Depot, or Vessel)

June 28th 1919



Superintendent of Lighthouses
8th District
New Orleans La

Dear Sir:-

I respectfully tender my resignation to take effect July 14th, 1919. for reasons I do not care to mention

Yours respectfully
Robert L Purcell
First Asst Keeper.

Through the Keeper, WB Thompson.

(COPY)

4

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Office of the Secretary
Washington

May 17, 1919.

LIGHT
JUL 8 1919
HOUSES

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

Transmitted herewith is a statement showing cases in which no report has been made of the effective date of certain changes in the personnel of the Lighthouse Service, and for which no oath of office or personal question sheet has been received.

The Department directs that the Superintendents of the various districts be requested to be more prompt in forwarding oaths of office, reports of effective date of separations of temporary and permanent employees, personal question sheets, and reports of effective date of promotion not requiring an oath of office. Any undue delay in advising the Department of the effective date of changes results in a corresponding delay in reporting such changes to the Civil Service Commission, and compels the Department to keep an unnecessarily and disproportionately large number of incomplets personnel records.

(Sgd) E. F. Sweet
Acting Secretary.

Inclosure No. 4348.
No Inclosure.

Bureau of Lighthouses, May 28, 1919.
Referred to Superintendent of Lighthouses, Philadelphia, Pa., for report called for as per accompanying list.

Be guided accordingly.

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

J. S. Conway
Acting Commissioner.

GCW:D

Office of Superintendent, 4th L. H. Dist.,
Philadelphia, Pa. July 7, 1919.

Commissioner of Lighthouses, Washington, D. C.

1. The report required is forwarded herewith. It is to be regretted that after data was collected the papers were inadvertently mislaid, causing this delay.

Superintendent of Lighthouses.

Statement showing change in the personnel of the Lighthouse Service for which no report of date of effect or last day of service, oath of office, or personal question sheet has been received.

REPORT OF DATE OF EFFECT.

Name	Nature of change	Date
John C. Gray	Reduction	Feb.10, 1919
George W. Shockley	Promotion	Feb. 8, 1919
Robert C. Taylor	Promotion	Feb. 8, 1919
William H. Schollenger	Reduction	Feb. 8, 1919

For all the above named: the effective date of change was March 1, 1919.

Attention is invited to the following notation appearing on each "Notice of Change in Salary" sent to the above.

"No new appointment will be issued to you as a result of this change and on oath of office is not required."

For this reason no oath was sent and as all the above are old employees, these personal question sheets are already on file with the Department.

Department letter of May 19, 1918, states that but one oath of office is to be administered.

In addition to the above, the following is furnished:

Harry H. Palmer promoted from 1st Asst. Keeper, Cape Henlopen L.S. at $780. p. a. to Keeper at $960. (including longevity pay), entering on duty March 1, 1919.

Joseph M. Daisey promoted from 2nd Asst. Keeper of Cape Henlopen at $720. p. a. to 1st Asst. Keeper at $780. (including longevity pay), entering on duty Mar. 1, 1919.

John W. Hill promoted from 1st Asst. Keeper of Del. Breakwater at $780. p. a. to Keeper at $960, E.O.D. 3/1/19.

William H. Johnson promoted from 2nd A. K. at $780. to 1st A. K. at $840 (including longevity pay), E.O.D. March 1, 1919.

John Colofen promoted from Addt'l 1st A. K. of Brandywine Sh. at $900. p.a. to Keeper at $1080. p. a., E. O. D. March 1, 1919.

George A. Jones promoted from 2nd A. K. at $840. p. a. to Addt'l 1st A. K. at $900, entering on duty 3/1/19.

Charles R. Manlove transferred, reduced, and appointed Keeper of Fourteen Foot Bank at $1020. p. a., entering on duty March 1, 1919. Prior to the 1st of March he was Keeper of Brandywine Shoal at $1080. p. a.

Charles E. Marshall transferred, reduced, and appointed Keeper of Cherry Island Rge. Rear at $780. p. a., entering on duty March 1, 1919. He was Keeper of Cape Henlopen at $960. p. a. Mr. Marshall receives longevity pay.

Henry C. Wingate transferred, reduced, and appointed Keeper of Billingsport Range Front at $840. p. a. (including longevity pay), entering on duty March 1, 1919. Prior to March 1 he was Keeper of Delaware Breakwater at $1020. p. a.

Chester P. Joseph transferred, reduced, and appointed Keeper of Fort Mifflin Bar Cut Range Rear at $720. p. a., entering on duty March 1, 1919. Mr. Joseph was Fourteen Foot Bank's keeper at $1020. p. a.

No oaths or personal question sheets exacted in any of these cases.

Superintendent, 4th Lighthouse District.

COPY (MCC) Recd., 9 a.m., July 2, 1919.



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

8th District
Pensacola Light Station
June 30, 1919

Superintendent of Lighthouses,
8th District,
New Orleans, La.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of June 28th, through the Keeper W.B.Thompson, will say that ina fight he was hurt on his finger on the morning of June 25th.

Yours respectfully,

ROBT. L. PURCELL,

1st Asst. Kpr.

Through the Keeper.
W.B.Thompson.

COPY (MCC) Recd., 9 a.m., July 3, 1919.

Pensacola Light Station,
Pensacola, Fla.
July 1st, 1919.

Superintendent of Lighthouses,
New Orleans, La.

LIGHT
JUL 7 1919
HOUSES

Sir:

In reply to your letter of June 28th, 1919, directing me to submit an account of the causes which led to the difficulty with Mr. Purcell, I will respectfully say that the immediate cause of the assault upon me by Mr. Purcell was his refusal to obey my directions.

In the barn which stands on the Keeper's side of the premises at this Station I have certain Government property stored and in the stalls attached to the barn are a number of nests where my hens are accustomed to lay their eggs. Mr. Purcell on several occasions recently has gone into the barn and created a disturbance among the laying hens there, and I requested him to keep out unless he had some business in the barn, in which case I would accompany him.

The morning that Mr. Purcell assaulted me he pursued his usual tactics by entering the barn without notifying me of his intention. When he came out and entered the side porch of the dwelling I remonstrated with him for disregarding my instructions. He thereupon informed me in a most insulting manner that he would go where he pleased and do what he liked. I stated to him that I would not quarrel but would report the matter to your office. He then became very abusive and threatened me with a beating. I walked away and he followed, still abusing me until just opposite the front door to my apartments, when it became evident that he intended to execute his threats. I turned to defend myself just as he sprang at me like a wild animal. He soon had the index finger of my left hand in his mouth and nearly bit it off. Of course after that I was quite unable to defend myself, but fortunately Mr. V. M. Anderson, the 2d Assistant Keeper, was nearby and hearing the noise came and saved me from any further beating.

Unfortunately there was no witness to the actual assault, Mr. Anderson not being present but coming on the scene when he heard the noise.

Mr. Purcell does not claim to have had any business in the barn the day he assaulted me but evidently wished to annoy me and show his contempt for my authority.

Mr. Purcell has at all times since I took charge of this station assumed a bullying manner toward me and has insulted me on numerous occasions, specific instances of which I can give if desired by your office.

In conclusion I wish to respectfully call attention to the fact that during the more than thirteen years that I have been Keeper of different Light Stations in this District no trouble of any description has ever occurred before this between the Assistant Keeper and myself.

Very respectfully,

(Sgd.) W. B. THOMPSON, Keeper.

COPY (MCC) Recd. 9 a.m., July 2, 1919. L.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT
7 1919
HOUSES

8th District
Pensacola Light Station
June 30, 1919.

Superintendent of Lighthouses,
8th District,
New Orleans, La.

Dear Sir:

I repsectfully prefer charges against the Keeper, W. B. Thompson, of Pensacola Light Station, for going to sleep while on duty and allowing the Linse to stop, and telling me he would not treat me as a friend. I refer you to George Darby, Warrington, Florida, Asst. Keeper of Ft. McRee Lights. For ordering me out of his barn as I was after my own property and following me around on my side of the House and calling me out to settle it after we was parted. He continued to want to fight after I had told him to leave me be, using profane language before my wife and cursing me in a manner that caused a fight. I refer you to V. M. Anderson, Second Asst. of Pensacola Light Station.

Also for telling Mr. Henry Lynse of Warrington, Fla., that I was a snapping Dog.

I respectfully ask for a hearing to be held at Pensacola Light Station in regards to this matter.

Yours repsectfully,

(Sgd.) ROBT. L. PURCELL,

First Asst. Kpr.

LIGHT
JUL 7 1919
HOUSES

COPY (MCC) Recd. 9 a.m., July 2, 1919. L.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

8th District
Pensacola
June 30, 1919

Superintendent of Lighthouses,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I enclose letter from Mr. R. L. Purcell, preferring charges against me as Keeper of this Station. I forward this communication without endorsement as the statements therein are false and malicious.

Very respectfully,

(Sgd.) W. B. THOMPSON, Keeper.

COPY (MCC) Recd. 9 a.m., June 30, 1919. L.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

8th District
Pensacola Light Station
June 28, 1919.

Superintendent of Lighthouses,
8th District,
New Orleans, La.

Dear Sir:

I respectfully tender my resignation to take affect July 14, 1919, for reasons I do not care to mention.

Yours respectfully,

ROBERT L. PURCELL,

1st Asst. Keeper.

THROUGH THE KEEPER.
W.B.Thompson.

July 19, 1919.

Sir:

The Department has given careful consideration to the charges of insubordination and assault on William B. Thompson, Keeper, preferred against you by the Superintendent of the Eighth District, and being convinced that the charges have been sustained in a degree sufficient to warrant such action, it has removed you, upon recommendation of the Acting Commissioner of Lighthouses, from the position of Keeper (First Assistant), at $660 per annum in the Lighthouse Service effective at the close of business on June 30, 1919.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

REPORT DATA ENTERED

CARDED

(SIGNED) CLIFFORD HASTINGS

Chief of Appointment Division.

JUL 21 1919

Mr. Robert L. Purcell,
Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION JUL 21 1919 BUREAU JOURNAL DEPT OF COMMERCE

G/KM

Form 73

TJC-MCC

NOMINATION

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

SPECIAL

July 19, 1915
Ltrd Encln

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, Eighth DISTRICT,

New Orleans, La. (City.) July 14 (Date.), 1915.

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

Action recommended, Probationary appointment.

Name, Robert L. Purcell. Legal residence, Florida.

Position, Second Assistant Keeper in the Lighthouse Service. Salary, $480 per annum.

Location, South Pass Range Rear Light-Station, Louisiana. Appropriation, Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses, 1916.

Effective July 20, 1915. [1 ~~the date of entrance on duty~~, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

Former position, - Former salary, - - - - - - - - - - -

Location, -

Rank on eligible list, 1st. Rating, Assistant Keeper. Percentage, 90.2, Other eligibles considered:

Eaf A. Barnes, C., Henry D. Barnes, C.

Previous incumbent, James N. Howard. Services terminated, Not to be terminated.

Reason, Promoted to First Assistant Keeper of South Pass Range Rear Light-Station.

Relatives in Government Service, None.

Remarks: Robert L. Purcell has never been employed in any branch of the Department of Commerce. Quarters are not provided for the family of the Assistant Keeper. Early action on this recommendation is requested.

Selection regular, subject to the action of the U. S. Civil Service Commission. July 16, 1915

noted

W. D. Beasley
acting Secretary, 10 Civil Service District.

Inspector.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
WASHINGTON

JUL 19 1915

Submitted to the Secretary of Commerce, approved.

Acting Commissioner

[1 Strike out the clause which does not apply.

11—2314

HHG-JWL

Washington D C July 19 1915.

Lighthouse Inspector New Orleans Louisiana

[redacted] Purcell appointed second assistant keeper South Pass Range ~~Rear~~ effective July twenty or entrance thereafter

CONWAY

Acting Commissioner

JPC

Today's journal

Sent telegram July 19/15 4:10 pm

✓

HHG

L

PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

JUL 20 1915
HOUSES

July 19, 1915.

Mr. Robert L. Purcell,

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 Eighty dollars

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

(By selection from certificate No. ------, and subject to a probationary period of not to exceed six months as provided by paragraph (c) of section 1 of civil-service rule VII, to be found on the reverse hereof.)

Ltr July 26, 1915
gr

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) CLIFFORD HASTINGS

R
C

Acting Chief of Appointment Division.

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.
Vice: James M. Howard.
Legal Residence: Florida.

11—1994

JUL 20 1915

Form 73

NOMINATION

TJC-MCC

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT MAY 8 1916 HOUSES

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, Eighth DISTRICT,

New Orleans, La., May 6 - - -, 1916.
(City.) (Date.)

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

Action recommended, Promotion and appointment.

Name, **Robert L. Purcell.** Legal residence, **Florida.**

Position, **First Assistant Keeper in the Light-house Service.** Salary, **$660 per annum.**

Location, **South Pass Range Rear Light Station, Louisiana.** Appropriation, **Salaries of Keepers of Lighthouses, 1916.**

Effective **June 15, 1916,** {~~the actual date of entrance on duty~~, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

Former position, Second Assistant Keeper. Former salary, **$480 per annum.**

Location, **South Pass Range Rear Light Station, Louisiana.**

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

- - - -

GENERAL APPOINTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

LIGHT
MAY 10 1916
HOUSES

May 9, 1916.

Mr. Robert L. Purcell,

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 Six Hundred and Sixty 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 $480 per annum.)

E D May 12, 1916.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) CLIFFORD HASTINGS

Chief of Appointment Division.

C

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Vice: James M. Howard.

Legal Residence: Florida.

11—3692

MAY 10 1916

COPY (MCC) (Recd.,L.H.Inspr.,N.O.,La.,Sept.8,1916.)

LIGHT SEP 11 1916 HOUSES

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Lighthouse Service

8th District,
South Pass Range Rear, Sept. 6, 1916.

Lighthouse Inspector,
8th District,
New Orleans, La.

"THROUGH THE KEEPER."

Sir:

I will accept the position as Second Assistant Keeper at Pensacola Light Station, Florida.

Will be ready to leave as soon as I am notified.

Yours respectfully,

ROBERT L. PURCELL,

First Asst. Kpr.

LEONARD F. EDGECOMBE,

Keeper.

Pencil Memo:-Approved.--D.

Form 73

MCC
1 enclosure

NOMINATION

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, Eighth DISTRICT,

LIGHT SEP 11 1916 HOUSES

New Orleans, La., September 8, 1916.
(City.) (Date.)

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

Action recommended, Transfer and appointment.

Name, **Robert L. Purcell.** Legal residence, **Florida.**

Position, **Second Assistant Keeper in the Light-house Service.** Salary, **$456 per annum.**

Location, **Pensacola Light Station, Florida.** Appropriation, **Salaries of Keepers of Lighthouses.**

Effective **September 16, 1916,** {[1] ~~the actual date of entrance on duty~~, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

Former position, First Assistant Keeper. Former salary, **$660 per annum.**

Location, **South Pass Range Rear Light Station, Louisiana.**

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

- - - -

GENERAL APPOINTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

LIGHT
SEP 13 1916
HOUSES

September 12, 1916.

Mr. Robert L. Purcell,

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 $660 per annum.)

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) W. S. GILCHRIST

Acting Chief of Appointment Division.

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Vice: George C. Pickett.

Legal Residence: Florida.

11—3692

SEP 14 1916

Form 73

JAS-MCC

NOMINATION

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT HOUSES APR 13 1917

Wired 4/14/17

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, Eighth DISTRICT,

New Orleans, La., April 11 - -, 191 7.
(City.) (Date.)

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

Action recommended, Promotion and appointment.

Name, Robert L. Purcell. Legal residence, Florida.

Position, First Assistant Keeper in the Lighthouse Service. Salary, $564 per annum.

Location, Pensacola Light Station, Florida. Appropriation, Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Effective April 16, 1917, {~~the actual date of entrance on duty~~ or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

Former position, Second Assistant Keeper in the Lighthouse Service. Former salary, $456 per annum.

Location, Pensacola Light Station, Florida.

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

- - - -

GENERAL APPOINTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
WASHINGTON

LIGHT
APR 17 1917
HOUSES

April 14, 1917.

Mr. Robert L. Purcell,

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 Five Hundred and Sixty-four 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) CLIFFORD HASTINGS

Chief of Appointment Division.

C

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Vice: Adrian Whiting.

Legal Residence: Florida.

11—3692

APR 18 1917

McC-HEV

LIGHT
DEC 5 1917
HOUSES

DEC 4 1917

Sir:

The Department is in receipt of report of the damage caused by the hurricane of September 28, 1917, and takes pleasure in commending you for maintaining the light at Pensacola Light Station, at full intensity and with proper characteristic under very trying circumstances during the hurricane referred to. The fact that you have been commended will be noted on the records as part of your official history.

Respectfully,

WILLIAM C. REDFIELD

Secretary.

Mr. Robert L. Purcell,
First Assistant Keeper,
Pensacola Light Station, Fla.
(Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses)

Copy files reds Bureau Ind. 12/1/17 (Gale Stevens Columbia)

LIGHTHOUSES---Bureau's files.

Exact copy as signed by WILLIAM C. REDFIELD

Mailed DEC 5 - 1917 by

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington

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

Chief Clerk