Treasury Department
November 5th 1853

Sir:

You will herewith receive a copy of the Power of Attorney bearing date the 31st of March last, from Francis X. Kelly to Peter A. Kelly, in reference to the contract for the construction of Light Houses on the Pacific Coast, asked for in your letter of the 3d inst.

Very respectfully
Your obt. Sert.
James Guthrie
Secretary of the Treasury

Francis A. Gibbons Esq
Baltimore Maryland.

Treasury Department
November 8th 1853

Sir:

I return herewith for further explanation the deed executed by the Governor of Virginia, conveying to the United States conditionally certain sites for Light Houses on James River, received with your letter of the 7th inst.

The act of the Legislature of Virginia, under the authority of which the deed is executed, authorizes the Governor to convey to the United States certain sites for Light Houses, provided said sites are ungranted and below low water mark, and in order to enable the Attorney General of the United States to give an opinion on the validity of the title conveyed by the deed in question, it is necessary to show that the sites selected come within the conditions prescribed by said Act and you will please therefore procure and transmit to this Department the necessary proof and information required.

Very Respy Yr obt. Sert.

Sir:

You will herewith receive a copy of the Power of Attorney bearing date the 30th of March last from Francis X. Kelly to Peter A. Kelly, in reference to the contract for the construction of Light Houses on the Pacific Coast, asked for in your letter of the 3d inst.

Very respectfully
Your obt. Sert.
James Guthrie
Secretary of the Treasury

Francis A. Gibbons Esq
Baltimore, Maryland.

Treasury Department
November 8th 1853

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Very Respy Yr obt. Sert.
James Guthrie
Secretary of the Treasury

Thornton A. Jenkins Esq
Secy to Light House Board.

Treasury Department
April 27. 1854

Sir;

I return herewith the title papers to certain sites for Beacon Lights on James River, Va, with the opinion of the Attorney General thereon, from which you will perceive that, in his judgement, the deed of the Governor of Virginia covys a valid title to the United States.

J. A. Jenkins Esq
Sec't L. H. B.

Very &c
P. G. W.
Acty Sec't &c

Treasury Department
April 28th 1854

Sir;

I return herewith the title papers to the sites for the Beacon Lights in the Hudson River, New York, together with a new opinion of the Attorney General, from which you will perceive that having reconsidered the subject, he states that it is impossible for him to certify that the deeds of the parties convey a valid title to the United States.

He also suggests, that an enquiry be had as to the previous history of the lands, with a view to ascertain against whom it is that the possession has been usurped, and if the State of New York has a dormant interest, to make application for a relinquishments from her to the United States, and I have to request that the District Attorney of the United States, may be directed to carry into effect the above suggestions of the Attorney General.

J. A. Jenkins Esq
Secretary of L. H. Board

Very &c
P. G. W.
Acty. Sec'y &c

Treasury Department
April 28. 1854