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

JAN 13 2025 AM 11:51

Date: 1/6/2024

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
Sharit, William Mars		1887 Apalachicola 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: 1959

State of Residence (upon entry into service):

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

Researcher Signature: Kylie

CIVILIAN SERVICE

(Agency & Location)	From:	To:
Lighthouse Service		
Hillsboro Inlet Lighthouse, FL	7/8/1910	5/7/1911
Alligator Reef, FL		

Other Identifying Information (Maiden Name, Job Title, etc.)
Went by Willie / Lighthouse Keeper

This Space Intentionally Left Blank

Zeolders

STAFF USE ONLY

Appointment Time and Date:

Additional Researchers: ☐ Yes ☐ No

CMRS Service Request Number: 2-305165558743

CMRS Search Request Number(s):

Attendant Signature:

Remarks:

'25 FEB 14 PM 2:14:32

SCREENING NOTES

☐ Reviewed and Nothing Removed JMP ☐ 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:

File No. _____

SERVICE RECORD CARD

Form 15
Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

Name as it appears in oath and on pay roll—surname first:

Sharit, Willie M.,

PRESENT LEGAL (VOTING) RESIDENCE.

City or town: Apalachicola | State: Fla. | County: Franklin | Cong. Dist.: 3d

Place of birth: Florida. | Date of birth: July 20'76. | Sex: Male. | Pensioner: No. | Colored: No. | Relatives in service: None.

Where employed: Alligator Reef L.S., Fla. | District: 7th | Appropriation: Sals. of Kprs. of Light-Houses

Position: 2d Asst. Keeper | Salary: $40.pm. | Excepted, competitive, or unclassified: Competitive. | Manner of appointment: From Asst. Kpr., L.H.S., exam.

Date of appointment: Apr. 7'09. | Date of oath: Apr. 12'09. | Entered on duty: Apr. 1'09. | Date of classification: May 6'96. | Physical defects: None.

CHANGES IN STATUS:

Date.	Oath.		Salary.	Date.	Oath.		Salary.
190	190			190	190		
Jun. 16'10.	Jul. 25'10.	2A.K. Hillsboro Inlet	$450.				

DRAW NO. 1
FILE NO. 64

Original predecessor:

Charles L. Morrow.

Final successor:

11—2168 M

(OVER.)

Full name:

Mr. Willie Marshall Sharit.

Previous Government (Civil) Service

None.

MILITARY OR NAVAL SERVICE—CIVIL AND S. A. WARS.

Company and regiment or vessel:	Date enlisted:	Date discharged:	Cause of discharge:
None.			

MILITARY OR NAVAL SERVICE OTHER THAN IN CIVIL AND S. A. WARS.

Company and regiment or vessel:	Date enlisted:	Date discharged:	Cause of discharge:
None.			

Occupation prior to entering U. S. Civil Service:

Seaman and Carpenter.

Education—degrees received, institutions, and dates:

Common school.

Special qualifications—professional, technical, mechanical, etc.:

Coast Pilot bet.Mobile and Key West, 200 tons steam vessels.

Civil Service examinations passed:

Asst.Keeper,L.H.Service,Jan.21,1909.

REMARKS:

EFFICIENCY RATINGS:

1909 1.9, good.	1918	1927
1910 0.9, good	1919	1928
1911	1920	1929
1912	1921	1930
1913	1922	1931
1914	1923	1932
1915	1924	1933
1916	1925	1934
1917	1926	1935

11—2168

B. R. SHARIT & SONS.
BOAT BUILDERS
Launches for Hire and for Sale

Department of Commerce and Labor

JAL

LIGHT-HOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

May 26 1911.

Mr. Willie M. Sharit,

Appalachicola, Fla.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith is Department letter of May 13, 1911 dismissing you from the Lighthouse Service as second assistant keeper of Hillsboro Inlet Light Station, Florida, with pay at the rate of $450. per annum, effective at the close of April 29, 1911.

Also enclosed is your check for pay due you from April 1st to 29th, inclusive.

Respectfully,

H. A. Field.

Commander, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

Papers re suspension + dismissal

71

.. SHARIT & SONS.

BOAT BUILDERS

VOUCHER NO.

Launches for Hire and for Sale

Apalachicola, Fla. May 18 191 6

OFFICE OF LIGHT HOUSE INSPECTOR MAY 20 1911 SIXTH DISTRICT CHARLESTON, S.C.

Comander H A Tillol
Inspector 6th L H Dist
Charleston Se

Dear Sir

Please send me my check for the 29 days pay you owe me for april for O. Conn in Mexico at it

Yours Respt
Willie M Sharit

Check sent May 20/11

71

COPY.

Department of Commerce and Labor
Office of the Chief Clerk
Washington

May 13, 1911.

Sir:

Having been charged with (a) insubordination, and (b) disobedience of orders, and the charges having been established in a degree sufficient to warrant such action, the Department has dismissed you from the position of second assistant keeper of Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Florida, with pay at the rate of $450.00 per annum, upon the recommendation of the Commissioner of Lighthouses, effective at the close of April 29, 1911.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

A. Gordon Cumming,
Acting Chief Clerk.

Mr. Willie M. Sharit,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

J. A. SAXON

DEALER IN

GENERAL MERCHANDISE

AND PROPRIETOR OF

POMPANO HOTEL

Pompano, Fla., May 9 — 1911

OFFICE LIGHT HOUSE INSPECTOR
MAY 10 1911
SIXTH DISTRICT CHARLESTON, S.C.

Comanda H A Fiéld
Inspector 6th L H. Dist
Dear Sir
Being suspended with out Pay
since 4th Pm on the 29 of april 1911
not stated how long I am to Re
of duty. I decided to Go home
and wait your orders. Please Send
my check there soon as you can
and all other mail for me
my address

Apalachicola Fla
Yours Respectfully
Willie M Sharit

71

Department of Commerce and Labor
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
Washington

May 2, 1911.

Sir:

In compliance with the Bureau's recommendation of the 27th ultimo, the action of the Inspector of the Sixth Lighthouse District in suspending Mr. Willie M. Sharit, second assistant keeper of Hillsboro Inlet Light Station, Florida, from duty without pay, pending charges to be preferred against him, has been approved by the Department.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

Alford Cummings
Acting Chief Clerk.

The Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Department of Commerce and Labor
Bureau of Light-Houses
Washington
MAY 4 - 1911
Respectfully referred to the Inspector of the 6th Light-House District for the files of his office.
By direction of the Commissioner
Acting Chief Clerk

71, D-Le'

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE SERVICE

Office of Inspector, 6th District
Charleston, S. C.

...e M. Sharit,
...Asst.Kpr.Hillsboro Inlet
...t.Sta., Florida-
Suspension of:

April 27, 1911.

The Commissioner of Light-Houses,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In compliance with instructions contained in circular of January 30, 1906, I respectfully report that in accordance with circular of June 5, 1906, I have forwarded through the Keeper of Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Florida, letter suspending Mr. Willie M. Sharit, 2d Assistane Keeper of said station, without pay, effective upon delivery of letter of suspension.

2. Charges preferred against Mr. Sharit by the Keeper of Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Mr. Alfred A. Berghell, for insubordination and disregard of orderd, were recently received,and Mr. Sharit was imformed of these charges but has not yet had sufficient time to answer.

3. This morning report was received from Mr. Berghell that Mr. Sharit had sworn out a warrant for his arrest and had the warrant served by the sheriff of the county, and further, that Mr. Sharit was insubordinate and causing trouble that might interfere with station

3. Pending charges to be preferred against Mr. Sharit, approv- of my action in suspending him is respectfully requested.

4. As soon as Mr. Sharit's reply to these charges is received in this office, the papers in the case will be forwarded to the Bureau.

Respectfully,

H. A. Field,

Commander, U.S.N.,

Inspector, 6th L.H. District.

Sheriff's letter of Nov. 12/10 requesting transfer

INDORSEMENT SLIP

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT

CHARLESTON, S. C.

November 14, 1910 ~~190~~

1st *Indorsement*

Respectfully returned with the information that all official communication to this office should be forwarded through the keeper of the station. You are directed to submit this letter to the keeper in order that he may forward it to this office with indorsement.

W. L. Field.

Commander, U.S.N.
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

Department of Commerce and Labor

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. May 7, 1911.

OFFICE LIGHT HOUSE INSPECTOR
MAY 9 1911
SIXTH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S.C.

Sir:-

Mr. Willie M. Sharit The 2d, Assistant Keeper of this Station "Deserted" from this Station At 12 noon, mowing to Pompano with all his things. He gave me no warning of same but left a note with the 1st, Assistant keeper asking me to give his check to Mr. nauman as soon as same arrieved.

From the caracter of man, he is, I am not going to take any chances of being shot at from ambush. From the way he has been speaking and acting he is very likely to hide and commit such an act, when I have to run the launch in the canal he has all the chanses in the world to hide on the bank withouth any one seeing him.

I am going to be prepared for any emergency, and as the state law demands a premit to carry weapens I have written to West Palm beach for same. Hillsboro Inlet Is in West Palm Beach Co, not Dade Co,.

Respectfully,

Alfred A. Reichell

Keepr.

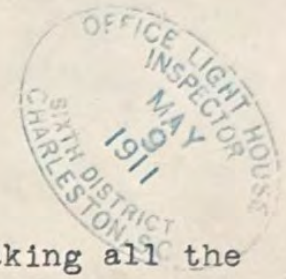
No. 205
Ed. 5-25-09—350,000

F!

Department of Commerce and Labor

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. May 7, 1911.

mander H.A.Field, U.S.N.,
Inspector 6th L.H.District,
Charleston, S. C.



Sir:-

The 2d, Assistant Sharit is going around making all the trouble he can at the station. He has been over to a fisherman and had him to sign some paper about me. When I received notice from your office concerning the Game And Fish law I spoke to the assistants about same and that fisherman who is a friend of Sharits said if I began to bother the fishermen about same I may get hurt etc. I told them that as long as I was in charge of the station I would uphold the law no matter what the consequences were.

Sharit is bothering the workmen too, criticising the work done by the foreman etc. I have warned him to keepto his own business, and told the foreman if there is any more folisness from Sharit he was at liberty to stop it any way he saw fit.

As Sharit is still working to try to get a trial against me , and as I heard that the former warrant was sworn out from his lying report I have as you adviced me , written to the U.S.District Attorney at Jacksonville, for advice.I sent him copy of sharits report and my reply to same , the statements of the men at the station, etc,in fact a detailed account of the affair, and asked him to send me advice at the earliest possible moment.

Respectfully,

Myer A Deyhle

Keeper.

No. 205
Ed. 5-25-09—350,000

71.

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

May 5, 1911.

E. Rodgers, Esq.,
Justice of the Peace,
Seventh District,
Pompano, Fla.

Sir:

I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of May 3, 1911 relative to the case of A. A. Berghell, Keeper Hillsboro Light-Station.

In criminal cases of this kind where the alleged crime is said to have been committed on a Government Reservation, the case should be brought before the U.S. Commissioner of the District and warrant served by his marshal.

The Government's interests in this case have been placed in the hands of the U. S. District Attorney, Jacksonville, Fla., to whom I have the honor to refer you and request that you will apply to him for further information in the case.

Respectfully,

Commander, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

Pompano Fla
May 3rd - 1911

mmander H. A. Field
Charleston S. C.

Dear Sir I am writing to you to know if you have any otherity to turn over an Employee of the Federal Government to the Civil otherities to be dealt with for a Felony Committed on the Government Reservation if So pleas turn over to me A A Berghell of the Hillsboro Ligh House as I am being Pressed to try him in My Court pleas let me know about the matter at once

Yours Truly
E Rodgers
Justice of the Peace
Seventh District
Palm Beach County

H.

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

May 1, 1911.

Mr. Alfred A. Berghell, Kpr.,
Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station,
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Sir:

There is enclosed herewith a copy of a letter from this office to the U. S. District Attorney at Jacksonville, Fla., in whose district is situated the Hillsboro Light-Station.

If you have any further trouble from the warrant sworn out by Mr. Sharit or wish any advice concerning same, you are authorized to furnish detailed information to the U. S. District Attorney who will advise you in the matter.

Respectfully,

Rear Admiral

Commander, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

URTS.

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ril.
April.

Department of Justice.

Office of United States District Attorney,

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA.

April 29, 1911.



H. A. Field, Esq.,

Commander, U. S. N.,

Inspector, 6th L.H.District,

Charleston, S. C.

SIR:

I have yours of the 27th inst. with reference to Keeper of the Hillsboro Light-Station.

Such station is located within this district and if you will have the Keeper give me detailed information, I shall be pleased to advise him.

Respectfully,

Rent P Marks

Ass't. U. S. Attorney.

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

April 27, 1911.

e U.S. District Attorney,

Jacksonville, Fla.

r:

The Keeper of the Hillsboro Light-Station, Dade unty, Florida, has had trouble with one of the Assistant eepers, Willie J. Sharit, who swore out a warrant before Justice of the Peace at Pompano, Florida, the charge being, s far as this office knows, offering or threatening personal iolence.

The warrant was served on the Keeper, Alfred A. Borghell, at the Light-Station by a Deputy Sheriff of the County. This I believe to be highly irregular and I have to request that you will extend to Keeper Borghell the protection of your office should my belief be correct.

While not being familiar with the details of the law of Florida, governing in this case, it is believed that the Keeper was correct in refusing to leave the Light-Station which is a U.S. Government Reservation where process in civil suits can extend, but in criminal suits, as is the one in question, action must be taken before a U.S. Commissioner and

ess served by the U.S. Marshall or his Deputy.

I will appreciate an early reply and an expression opinion from you in this case.

Should your office not have jurisdiction over the ality in question, I have to request that you will dly forward this to the proper office.

Respectfully,

H. A. Field.

Commander, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

Department of Commerce and Labor

Hillsboro Inlet L.S.April 30-1911.

Commander H.A.Field, U.S.N.,
Inspector 6th L.H.District,
Charleston, S. C.

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of the 25, instant concerning report from MR. W.M.Sharit not being inclosed, I wish to state that I made a reply to same from copy handed to me. I told Sharit to hand me the original for mailing to you,which he refused saying he could mail his own letters.I then sent in my report, thinking that he mailed the original himself.

I here enclose reports handed in to me to day atl p.m. signed as "true as stated" by Mr. G.B.Nauman the 1st assistant. I mailed yeasterday a certified statement from the men of the working party at present at this station,and signed by all of them. I warned them not to add their signature if they found anything that was incorrect. I was compelled to do so as Mr. Nauman told me he would swear to the truth of anything for Sharit, meaning I suppose at the expected trial by the Justice of Peace and the Jury he had here last week Monday the 24 of April. The Justice put the trial off till Thursday the 27, and that is the last I have heard of same

Sharit has been running around trying to get some one of the men to back him up but so far has not succeeded. He refer to Mr. Propst about the truth in this matter. Mr. Propst was on the warf at the time and can prove Sharit report which Nauman Signed to be a falsehood from beginning to end.Nauman seem to be the only one who seem willing to back Sharit and his statements. In other words he is willing to perjure himself to help the other man out.

If I had acted as the assistants charge me with. I ought to be disharged from the service at once, but if it is proven that the two of them conspired and made false report I expect the same for them. Therefor if there is to be an investigation I would respectfully ask same had while the men are here -if possible.

Respectfully,

Alfred A Berghell
Keeper

No. 205
Ed. 5-25-09—350,000

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

April 25, 1911.

Mr. Alfred A. Berghell,

Kpr. Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station,

Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Sir:

In your letter of April 21, 1911, you mention

"Enclosed charges against me dated the 19th --"

This report was not enclosed in your letter and has not been received to date.

Respectfully,

H.A.Field,

Commander, U. S. N.,

Inspector,6th L.H.District.

Reed 5/3/11 under Shaw's letter of April 29th H.H.

Sent through the Keeper

Hillsboro Inlet. Fla. April 19th 1911

Comander H A Field.
inspector 6th L.H. District
Charleston S.C.

Dear Sir

I left the Station this morning in perfect Peace and Harmony under the orders of the Keeper. to go to Ft Lauderdail to take the foreman. Mr Proprt. and get some supplyes. and to show Mr Norman how to Run the engine as I had Showed the Keeper how to Run it. and He wanted me to Learn Mr Norman. So when I arived back to the light House Wharf it was about 2 Pm. not knowing on my arival that the Keeper had a Premeditated

dezine to do me a bodily ingury
With out giveing me any warning
at all. after staping the engine
I went forward in the Boat
and started to stoop down to
shut the valve on the oil tank
and when I did the keeper
jumped on the deck ob the
Boat. and struck at me
through the doore ob the
Boat With a Piece of Some
kind of metal in his hand
and if I had not ob dodged
my head he mary have killed me
on the spot. then I jumpe Back
By the engine. then I ark him
"What war the matter With him
then he began to Curse and
abuse me. and said that he
war going to beat. Hell out

of me. Then I told him to go and let me alone for I did not want to have any trouble. That I had not done any thing for him to act that way for. Then he told me to get out of the Boat and that He was going to Beat Hell out of me just as soon as I did With a Profane Oath. and if I did not get out of the boat that He was going to Report me and make me leave my Job so I got out of the cabbin from the opersit end of the Boat to get on the Wharf and he started for me cursing and abuseing me. and I saw he was going to do me

a bodily injury. and I had
to do Some thing in Self
defence. and I grab the Boat
Hook. and told him that
if he come any closer to me
that I would have to use
it in Self defence. then
he stoped. Then I laid the
Boat Hook down and got on
the Wharf. and started to
my Haure. and he jumped on
the Wharf after me cursing
and abusing me. I never made
any Reply Back to him But
kept going on to my Haure to
get away from him for I
did not want to have any
trouble at the station. I
never gave him any cause for
him to do this Dark act

and I believe after he has done this treacherous act that he intends doing me some Bodily harm the first chance he gets and I ask for your Protection against Violence While I am at this Station. I gave the keeper a copy of this Report and gave him three days to answer it Before mailing this to you and he forbid me using the Boat, and for Bid me to enter it again. every thing in the Report is the truth to the Best of my knowledge

Your Respt
Willie M Shank 2nd asst Keeper

The above report is true just as stated
Geo B Mannan 1st Asst Kpr

Light-House Establishment.

Office of Engineer, Sixth District,

Charleston, S. C.,

Inclosures.

Subject:

Hilbora Inlet. L. S. april 21-1911

Comander H A Field
Inspector 6th L H dist
Charleston S.C.

Dear Sir

In answer to the charge the Keeper has made against me inregard to the quarter of the working Party was satisfactory arraingred between Mr J R Prahst and the three keepers at this station on tuesday april the 18th 1911 and if I can do any thing more in Regard to the matter. I kindly refer you to Mr J R Prahst

Yours Respectfully
Willi M Sharit 2nd Asst

Geo B Mannen
1st Asst Keeper

OFFICE LIGHT HOUSE INSPECTOR
MAY
15
1911
SIXTH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S.C.

May 12th 1911

Commander H.A. Field U.S.N.
Inspector 6th Light House District-
Charleston S.C.

Sir

In Reply to your letter of 9th in Regards to the Trouble Between the Keeper and assistants at this Station I arrived here april 11th and was Informed By mr Berghell the Keeper that it was your orders for the 1st and 2nd asst to furnish Sleeping quarters for the men of the Repair Party and it was so arranged Before I came mr Norman 1st asst taken one man and mr Larit 2nd asst gave one room for Two men and had Two vacant Rooms left on april 16th mr Shavit called me into his Store Room and ask if I would have those Two men to Sleep in the store Room as they Talked at night and he could not Sleep I Told him it was your orders that the men Sleep in the Dwelling and I would not order them out of it and have them in the Store Room with no Screens But if they

went on their own will I would not stop them
on the morning of 18th Sharit taken the
things Belonging to the two men out of his
Dwelling and locked the door I was away
on Business at the time when I Returned
near noon mr W.m. Sharits Father came
to me on wharf saying that his son willie
had ask the men out and they Refused to go
and ask me if I would se that they did go out
But did not tell me then that they had locked
them out as I learned later from the workmen
I at once Reported the matter to mr Berghell
the Reefer and ask him if he would arrange with
the asts for the two of them to live in one House
and let me have one for the workmen
the Reefer called the two assistants in the
office and Reminded Sharit that it was
your orders that he furnish Sleeping Room
for some of the men when I ask for one of
the Dwellings Mr Norman at once said I
should use his Dwelling he went in the
other Dwelling with mr Shant-
those workmen are very quiet men and
I do not se that mr Sharit had any
just cause for locking them out of his
Dwelling

In Regard to the trouble Between the Keeper and 2nd asst- mr Sharit- at the Boat- the cap on the Gasoline Pipe on the Boat- was lost off somehow the Keeper sent mr Sharit- to Run the Boat to Fort Saundedale and allowed Mr Norman to go and learn something about the Engin I went up on Business the same trip mr Sharit- told me on the way Back that- the Keeper was after him for loosing the cap as he Sharit- had filled the Gasoline Tank a few days previous to this he said when I get Back I will look overboard where I filled the tank and maybe I can find it- when the Boat landed at the light- station I got on the wharf and met the Keeper with the cap in his hand he said to me here is the cap I used a water glass and found it- where Sharit- lost it- when he filled the tank I had to dive several times to get it- and it does look strange that- Sharit- could not come to me like a man and tell the truth about it- and not- have the

tank Standing there until I found it-
out myself and then allowed me to go and
find it- mr Sharit was still in the
Boat and after those words I went on
in the Boat House about my own
Business I left the Reiper standing on the
wharf calling to Sharit- Mr Norman was
on the Stern of the Boat Paring up the
groceys to the wharf During the few
minuts I was in the Boat house I
could hear them talking But could not
understand what they said as I steped
to the door I saw mr Sharit standing
on the aft Part of cabin with Boat hook
in his hand threatening Reiper with it-
I heard Reiper say you Put that Boat Hook
and get on the wharf or I will Break
Every Compound Bond in your Body
mr Sharit Put the Boat hook down got
on the wharf and went on to his
Dwelling Reiper Remained on Boat.

I wish to state here also that after
mr Sharit was laid off Duty he ask me
to write you a letter and try to save
him from loosing his job I told

him that if I wrote I would only tell you the truth and I did not think that would help him very much as he had already Disobayed your orders By locking the Door on those men without a cause and this seemed to make him mad at me and he since that has Been continually meddling with me and the other members of the working Party until last Sunday when he left the station without saying anything to Keper or anyone

Respectfully
John R Probst
Fort Laudndale Fla

71

Recommending to Bureau with papers for dismissal

Department of Commerce and Labor

JAL

LIGHT-HOUSE SERVICE

Willie M. Sharit,
2d Asst. Kpr.,
Hillsboro Lt. Sta.,
Dismissal of.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.
May 3, 1911.

The Commissioner of Lighthouses,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

1. I have to recommend the dismissal from the Lighthouse Service of Willie M. Sharit, Second Assistant Keeper at Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Florida, for insubordination and disobedience of orders.

2. Since Mr. Sharit has been at this station he has been grossly insubordinate to the Keeper and has failed to cooperate with him for the best interests of the service.

3. April 10, 1910, I inspected this station and investigated the trouble between the Keeper and the 2d Assistant and decided that the latter, Mr. Sharit, was in error. Verbal instructions were given at the time which I hoped would straighten out affairs. - At the same time I gave orders to the Keeper and Assistants relative to quartering and taking care of the members of a repair party about to begin general repairs at the station. After my departure, Mr. Sharit, in direct disobedience of my orders to him that he was to keep some of the party in

his dwelling, having two vacant rooms, drove the men quartered there from the house.

4. Since then and after I had written Mr. Sharit giving him an opportunity to make any statement that he wished as to why he should not be separated from the Lighthouse Service, I learned that he had sworn out a warrant for the arrest of the Keeper, charging him with attempt at bodily harm. This action I believe was without just cause and was done with malicious intent and might have resulted to the detriment of the Service by preventing the efficient care of the Hillsboro Light through the enforced absence of the Keeper.

5. Enclosed herewith is correspondence in connection with this matter including, Sharit's statement, a statement signed by the Repair Party relative to the behavior of the Keeper since they have been at the Station, which is for the time covered in the charges, and some earlier correspondence throwing light on Mr. Sharit's conduct before the Hillsboro Light-Station was transferred to this District.

6. I consider Mr. Sharit as a trouble maker and that his longer continuation in the Lighthouse Service will be a detriment to its discipline and efficiency; I respectfully request that the Bureau may take early action in this case, and it my recommendation be approved that he be dismissed effective from close of business April 29, 1911, the date letter from this office suspending him from duty without pay was delivered to him.

7. If affirmative action be taken, I request to be notified by wire in the interests of the service and in justice to Mr. Sharit, in order that no further delay may be had in the case.

8. Correspondence, etc., letters "A" to "R" inclusive, are herewith enclosed.

Very respectfully,

Commander, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

May 3, 1911.

Correspondence relative charges made by Mr. Alfred A. Berghell, Keeper, Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Fla., against Mr. Willie M. Sharit, 2d Assistant Keeper of said Station.

A. Report dated April 19, 1911 from Mr. Berghell, Keeper of Station, that Mr. Sharit had made members of working party move out of quarters. assigned to them by Inspector, and to the effect that he was not properly attending to his duties.

B. Report dated April 19, 1911 from Mr. Sharit against Mr. Berghell for assault, cursing, etc.

C. Letter dated April 21, 1911 from Mr. Berghell in answer to preceding.

D. Letter dated April 21, 1911 from Mr. Sharit in answer to report of Keeper of April 19, 1911 (marked "A")

E. Letter dated April 26, 1911 from Inspector to Mr. Sharit calling for answer to charges preferred by Keeper.

F. Letter dated April 29, 1911 from Mr. Sharit in answer to charges of Keeper and letter of Inspector of April 26, 1911.

G. Report dated April 23, 1911 signed by Foreman John R. Propst and all members of working party (said party has been employed at station since April 9, 1911) corroborating the report of Keeper, that Mr. Sharit made working party leave quarters assigned them and testifying that Mr. Berghell had not abused assistants during the period working party has been at station.

H. Letter dated April 24, 1911 from Mr. Berghell reporting that Mr. Sharit had sworn out a warrant for his arrest and had warrant served by Sheriff of County.

I. Letter dated April 26, 1911 to Mr. Geo B. Nauman, 1st Asst. Keeper, Hillsboro Light-Station, calling for report why he failed to comply with paragraph 2 of General Instructions, Light-House Keepers.

J. Letter dated April 30, 1911 from Mr. Nauman in answer to preceding.

K. Letter dated April 27, 1911 from Inspector to Mr. Sharit suspending him from duty without pay.

L. Letter dated April 27, 1911 from Inspector to Mr. Berghell forwarding letter of suspension for delivery to Mr. Sharit.

M. Letter dated April 30, 1911 from Mr. Berghell answering charges contained in letter from Mr. Nauman of April 30, 1911.

N. Letter dated April 29, 1911 from Mr. Berghell reporting Mr. Sharit suspended from duty April 29, 1911 in accordance with instructions from this office of April 27, 1911, (Letter marked "L")

O, P, Q & R. Letters referred to in last part of paragraph 5 of accompanying letter as "some earlier correspondence throwing light on Mr. Sharit's conduct before the Hillsboro Station was transferred to this District."

COPY.
JAL A

Department of Commerce and Labor
Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 19-1911.

Commander, H.A.Field, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.
Charleston, S.C.

Sir:-

I hereby submit to you the following report about Mr. Willie M. Sharit, 2d assistant at this station.

1. The 10 instant when you were here I told Mr. Sharit that he would have to cook for the men for supper that night, and the meals the next day till I could arrange otherwise, as I had to go to Ft. Lauderdale for the foreman. He said he could not do it except I made out a menu for every meal and what ingredients to put in etc. I ordered him to hash up anything temporatily, but he came to me and said he could not cook this and that, and I had to go and show him how to wisp meal into boiling water etc. That night he claimed to be sick and the next morning I had to put Mr. Nauman into the kitchen as I had to go to Lauderdale.

2. The 14 inst, I put Mr. Sharit to fill the gas into the launch tank. Returning from Fort Lauderdale the next day the cap over filling hole was missing. I asked Sharit what he had done with same he denied knowing anything about it, when I told him to get a new cap yesterday he let fall a remark which set me thinking that he knew that the cap was overboard, and I asked him squarely if such was the case-he said he did n not know anything about it. I went and got the water glass and found the cap beside the wharf, when I asked him what his idea was not to report the loss of same but let the tank be uncovered for 24 hours, he still kept on denying any knowledge of it. He filled the tank last and tried to hide the loss of the cap so as to blame some one else.

3. Yesterday the 18inst. Mr. Propst the foreman came to me and said that Sharit had ordered the workmen out of his dwelling, into the store-room, saying that he could not sleep at night etc, having the men on the upper floor over his head they disturbed him too much. I called the assistants into the office and reminded them that it was by your orders that the m en were in the dwellings and would have to continue so. The foreman Mr. Propst asked Mr. Nauman to let the men have his dwelling for the men to which he consented and moved over to Sharits house. Sharit had nothing to complain about as he has 4 rooms and could have put the men into any of the other-But he wants to be continually kicking about e everything, and does not want to conform to the rules of the Service.

Enclosed please find the former reports to the other district from which you can see what I have had to put up with since he came to this station.

It is not alone that he causes trouble about work but be is leading the other assistant into his way of thinking and get him to act ugly to and I would respectfully recommend that he be removed from the station for the good of the service.

Respectfully,
Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper.

I testify to the correctness of paragraph 3 in the above letter.
John R. Propst.

Gave copy of this report to Sharit and told him to reply to same if he saw fit.

B

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 19, 1911.

Commander, H.A.Field, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District,
Charleston, S.C.

Dear Sir:

I left the station this morning in perfect peace and harmony, under the orders of the Keeper, to go to Fort Lauderdale to take the foreman Mr. J.R.Propst to get some supplings, and to show Mr. Nauman how to run the engine, as I had showed the Keeper how to run it, and he wanted me to learn Mr. Nauman. So when I arrived back to the light house wharf it was about 2 P.M. not knowing that on my arrival that the keeper had a premeditated design to do me a bodily injury without giving me any warning at all. After stopping the engine I went fprward in the boat and started to stoppddown to shut the valve on the oil tank and when I did the keeper jumped on the deck of the boat and struck at me through the door of the boat, With a piece of some kind of metal in his hand and if I had not of dodged my head be may have killed me on the spot, then I jumped back by the engine then I asked him what was the matter with him then he gegag to curse and abuse me and said that he was going to beat hell out of me then I told him to go and let me alone for I did not want to have any trouble that I had not done any thing for him to act that way for, then he told me to get out of the boat and that he was going to bea hell out of me just as soon as I did, With a profane oath and if I did not get out of the boat that he was going to report me and make me lose my job. So I got out of the cabin from the oppsite end of the boat to get on the wharf and he started for me cursing and abusing me and I saw he was going to do me a bodily injury and I had to do something in self defence and I grabbed the boat hook and told him that if he came any closer to me that I would have to use it in self defence then he stopped then I laid the boat hook down and got on the wharf and started to my house and he jumped on the wharf after me cursing and abusing me. I never made any reply back to him but kept going on to my house to get away from him, for I did not want to have any trouble at the station I never gave him any cause for him to do this rash act and I believe after this treacherous act that he intends doing me some bodily harm the first chance he gets and I ask for your protection against violence while I am at this station. I gave the keeper a copy of this report and gave him three days to answer it before mailing this to you and he forbade me using the boat and for-bid me to enter it again. Everything in this report is the truth to the best of my knowledge.

Yours respectfully,
Willie M. Sharit, 2d Asst. Kpr.
Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Florida.

The above report is true just as stated.
Geo. B. Nauman.
1st Asst. Keeper.

Department of Commerce and Labor
Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 21, 1911.

Commander, H.A.Field,U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District,
Charleston, S.C.

Sir:-

I told Mr. Sharit to have his reply ready to the report of the 19 instant. Instead of handing in a reply to same, he completely ignored same and came at 5 p.m. the 20, with the enclosed charges against me-dated the 19 as if he had given me the report on that date. His charges are a mass of falsehoods from the beginning to end, which can easily be proved by the working party here if necessary. As Nauman has se seen fit to sign the report as true in every respect, and told me that he would swear to anything concerning same I would respectfully ask for an investigation as soon as possible.

His report begins that he went to Fort Lauderdale in peace and harmony (from my report of the 19 you can see how much peace he has given me at the station since you were here). The true version of the affair is as follows.

The 19 I sent him and the assistant to Fort Lauderdale while they were gone I went to look for the cap of gasoline tank which I suspected he had lost overboard at the wharf; I had to dive for a long while before I recovered same as the tide was running pretty strong. I had just managed to get the cap and dress myself when the launch arrived from Lauderdale. I went aboard and had the cap in my hand to put same on the filling hole, Sharit was back at the engine and I showed him the cap in my hand, saying here is the cap you lost overboard "why could not you be m man enough to tell the truth about it (this is his version of my trying to do him a bodily injury) he answered back and ran out aft and grasped the boat hook and said I will jab this into you if you make me out a liar (I was at the time on my knees on the forward deck screwing on the cap to the filling hole. When I saw him with the boat hook threatening I jumped up and ordered him to drop same at once, saying "Confound you if you dont drop the boat hook and get on the wharf out of here I will break every bone in your body" he went on the wharf-"and I did not follow him as he says cursing and using profane oaths". My children were on the wharf and I am not in the habit of using any of the expressions that he accuses me of, he is aggravating enough to make a saint use bad language, but he deliberately lies about the expressions used.

I do not see what has gotten into Nauman-for a long time he used to come to me saying that Sharit was a mischief maker etc., but lately he has acted ugly expressly since the working party came to the station and the question of cooking came up. Since that he seem to approve of any sort of insubordination. He and Sharit has studied over this report and tells me that they will stick together in anything mentioned therein. Nauman has seen fit to testify to the charges without making any report of his own which he had been in duty bound to do if said charges were true. This shows that there is a conspiracy afoot between the two. There for I ask the previlege when there is to be an investigation that I be permitted to take the men one at a time into your presence, and question them and I will prove to you in a few minutes that their report is a falsehood from beginning to end.

I think the foreman Mr. Propst could if he chose testify to the correctness of the above explanation. I do not want to mix him into the affair if I can prevent it. He has seen how I have treated the men and know that I have been considerate under all provocation.

Respectfully,
Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper.

1 COPY. D

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 21, 1911.

Commander H. A. Field, U.S.N.,

Inspector, 6th L.H.District,

Charleston, S. C.

Dear Sir:-

In answer to the charge the keeper has made against me in regards to the quarters of the working party was satisfactorily arranged between Mr. J. R. Propst and the 3 keepers of this station on Tuesday April 18th and if you wish to anything more in regards to this matter I kindly refer you to Mr. J. R. Propst.

Youre respectfully,

Willie M. Sharit, 2d Asst.

Geo. B. Nauman,
1st Asst. Keeper.

K. E

original register p.

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

April 26, 1911.

Mr. Willie M. Sharit,
2d Asst.Kpr.Hillsboro Inlet Lt.Sta.,
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Sir:

I have to request that you will submit, without delay, through the proper official channel, such statement as you may think proper as to why you should not be separated from the service, for

(a) Insubordination. In generally questioning the Keeper's orders, failing to promptly obey same, and not using your best efforts in the interest of and for the efficiency of the Light-House Service.

(b) Disobedience of Orders. Having been personally told by the Inspector, April 10, 1911, that some of the members of a repair party were to be given quarters in the 2d assistant keeper's dwelling at the Light-Station and that you and the other keepers were to look out for them, you nevertheless ordered these men from the dwelling without authority, thus disobeying orders and disregarding the Regulations of the Light-House Establishment.

Respectfully,

H. A. Field,

Commander,U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

COPY.

F

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 29, 1911.

Commander, H.A.Field, U.S.N.,

Inspector, 6th L.H.District,

Charleston, S. C.

Dear Sir:-

In reagrd to the keepers charge against me not doing my duty and not taking interest in the work at the station is a falsehood and was made against me through malice and I want you to make him prove his statement against me the only thing I ask is a fair inpartial trial in this matter and I know that I will be reinstated.

Yours respectfully,

Willie M. Sharit, 2d Asst.

The above statement is correct and true.

Geo. B. Nauman,
1st Asst. Keeper.

COPY.

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 23, 1911.

"To whom it may concern"

We the men of the working party at present at Hillsboro Inlet L.S., can testify to the following facts:

The 2d assistant keeper W?M?Sharit of this station ordered the men occupying his dwelling to move out and during our absence threw out things out and locked the doors so that we could not enter.

The keeper of this station Mr. Alfred A. Berghell has treated the assistant keepers considerately and has never "Attempted to do them" "any bodily harm" no matter what the provocation has been "neither has he used profane and abusive language" towards any one while we have been at the station.

A. E. Lee	Carpenter.
Karl Rather	Skilled Laborer.
Fred Lindfars	" "
Charles Anderson	" "
J. R. Heidrich	" "
J. R. Propst	Foreman.

COPY. H Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 24, 1911.

Commander, H.A.Field, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District,
Charleston, S. C.

Sir:-

During my absence from the station last Saturday Sharit the 2d assistant keeper went to Pompano and swore out a warrant against me. I did not take any notice of that as I could prove by the men at the station that there has been no violence offered.

Yesterday he came to me saying that he was out of bread and milk and wanted to go and get some in the afternoon, which was a lie as he went to Pompano to bring back a Justice of the Peace and a jury to put me to trial. When the Sheriff came and served the warrant I told him that I was not afraid of going with him as I could easily prove that the man had been and swore to a lie, but I refused to leave the station for the following reasons:

His warrant was made out by a Justice of Peace and I asked if he thought same had any jurisdiction over me while I was tending to my duty at the station.

The man that came and served the warrant was a county deputy Sheriff and not a U.S.Marshall.

That it was near lighting up time and it was my watch.

That I could not stay for any length of time from the station as I had men as Asst's who could not even pack a leaky valve if necessary.

Sharit is trying to make all kinds of trouble here after my report to you when you was at the station, and feign being afraid of me. I can prove by the men that I have offered no violence towards any one, and said to Sharit that he was too much beneath contempt for me to soil my hands on him. On the 20 instant he went into the tower to light up (that was after he handed the lying charges to me. He called out from above that a leak was in the tank for me to come up and fix same, he had the tower door locked on the inside and had to come down and open same. I told him to come up in the tower he asked me if I was going to hurt him. I laughed at him and told him I would not - that all his fear was, that I was the same kind of a man as he was himself that his conscience was the only thing that was troubling him. All the men heard me and the next day he went and swore out the warrant.

I would respectfully ask your advice what to do in this matter.

Respectfully,

Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper.

K. I

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

April 26, 1911.

Mr. George B. Nauman,
1st Assistant Keeper
Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station,
Fort Lauderdale, Florida.
(Through the Keeper.)

Sir:

You will immediately report to this office why, if you know of any neglect of duty on the part of the Keeper, you have failed to comply with paragraph 2 of General Instructions to all Light Keepers, and not reported it in writing to the Inspector.

Respectfully,

H.A.Field,
Commander, U. S. N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

J

Hillsboro Light-Station, April 30, 1911.

U. S. Lighthouse Inspector,

Charleston, S. C.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your letter of April 26th asking why I did not make a report in regards to this recent trouble - As I knew of nothing to make a report until after you were here last and as Mr. Berghell said he was going to report Mr. Sharit after the trouble on the dock, and as Mr. Sharit sent in his report to you in regards to the trouble on the dock as I signed Mr. Sharit's report for I knew his statement was correct just as he stated the case so I did not think it necessary to go any further at the time, will say one more word in regards to this matter. On April 11th Mr. Berghell began to kicking about Mr. Sharit for no cause whatever, I reminded Mr. Berghell of what you said when you were here that we all had to live here without having trouble. He said you was referring to Mr. Sharit altogether I told him that I understood you meant whoever was in the wrong be it who it may.

Yours very respectfully,
Geo. B. Nauman,
1st Asst. Keeper.

COPY.

JAL

K

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

April 27, 1911.

Mr. Alfred A. Berghell, Kpr.,
Hillsboro Light-Station,
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Sir:

You will please deliver to Mr. Willie M.Sharit the enclosed letter, wherein he is suspended from duty without pay. Report to this office the date and time of delivery of same.

Respectfully,

H. A. Field,
Commander, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE SERVICE

JAL

COPY.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

April 27, 1911.

(Through the Keeper)

Mr. Willie M. Sharit, 2d Asst. Kpr.,
Hillsboro Light-Station,
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Sir:

You are heveby suspended from duty, without pay, until further orders, pending action relative to charges against you for insubordination and disobedience of orders.

Respectfully,

H. A. Field,
Commander, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

COPY.

M

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 30, 1911.

Commander, H. A. Field, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District,
Charleston, S. C.

Sir:-

Mr. Nauman in his explanation why he failed to make a report of the alleged distrrbance at the station on the 19, inst., tells you that I began to kick with Sharit without cause on the 11 of April.

My report of the 19 stated that I ordered Sharit to cook for the men supper the evening of the 10 and the meals the next day till I could make other arrangements, and that Sharit wanted a menu made out - the ingredients and the amount of food,etc., to give the men and that he alleged he could not cook meal so that I had to go and show him how to wisp same into the pot. That night he claimed that he was too sick to get up and I went in to see how he was at 12 p.m. he told me he had a headache. I told him that he would have to get a man in his place if he was not well enough to tend to his duties. I had been up from 5 a.m. the day you arrived, had watch from 12 m.n. between the 10 and 11 inst., had to go to Lauderdale the next day to get provisions and bring back the foreman, and had watch again till 10 p.m. that night, in other words I had 2 hours sleep out of 42 hours.

Sharit got perfectly well the next day, the whole thing was a sham so as to get out of the cooking for the men. Nauman was in Sharit's kitchen and listened to his arguments-and seemed to approve of same. All what he says about my kicking was, that I told Sharit that I would make out a report if he was not well by the time I came back from Lauderdale as I could not stand to be on duty the whole day without sleep, and Sharit's recovery followed at once which looks pretty suspicious.

Respectfully,
Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper.

COPY. N

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 29, 1911.

Commander, H. A. Field, U.S.N.,

Inspector, 6th L.H.District,

Charleston, S. C.

Sir:-

As per order from you in letter of the 27th instant, I suspended Mr. Willie M. Sharit from duty this 29th day of April at 4 p.m.

Respectfully,

Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper.

COPY.

Department of Commerce and Labor

JAL

Hillsboro Inlet L. S. July 14, 1910.

Commander F. M. Bennett, U. S. N.,
Inspector 7th, L. H. District,
Key West, Fla.

Sir:-

I arrived at the station the 13th, instant at 12 noon. To-day I told the assistant keepers to clear the plank walks of weeds overgrowing them. The "New 2nd, assistant" absolutely refused to do anything of the kind, saying that he is no farmer. I would respectfully ask you how I am going to get the grounds cleaned up if the man refuses to go ahead with the work?

I am at present on my vacation.

Very respectfully,
Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper.

I testify that the abowe is correct.

Ramon Pinder, 1st Asst.

Sharit received a sharp reprimand from Comdr. Bennett with warning of dismissal if he could not do better.

P

Department of Commerce and Labor

JAL

Hillsboro Inlet L. S. July 15, 1910.

COPY.

Commander F. M. Bennett, U. S. N.,
Inspector 7th, L. H. District,
Key West, Fla.

Sir:-

Enclosed please find reply by 2nd, assistant to report sent in the 14th, inst: he says that he had been on constant duty for 19 hours which is inaccurate - he had the morning watch and came down from the tower at 1/2 past 5. I had been working around the house cleaning up (which I generally do throughly while taking my vacation), at a little after 10 I went out and asked the assistants what they had done and as they had not commenced any work I told them to weed along the plank walks. The 2nd, assistant at once refused saying "not me" I am no farmer. I told him that it was work that had to be done by the keepers, and asked what the idea was to refuse to do a little work which would not take more than a few minutes to do. He answered that he had been informed that I am doing a lot of unnecessary work, but can not make him do it and that he consider the weeding unnecessary and would not do it.

The man has been here 4 days and commences his service in this way. What am I to do with such a man?

Very respectfully,
Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper.

JAL

COPY.

Department of Commerce and Labor
Light-House Establishment

Office of Inspector, 7th Dist.,
Key West, Fla.

July 18, 1910.

Mr. Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper Hillsboro Inlet L.S.,
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Sir:-

Referring to your report of the 14th instant regarding disobedience of orders on the part of your 2d assistant, Willie M. Sharit, I regret to inform you that I cannot take immediate steps toward his removal from the service. Insubordination on his part is plainly evident, but the report is fatally defective in your admission that you are on leave, and were so at the time of the occurrence.

2. Being on leave, you cannot be on duty at the same time, and it is unfortunate that you attempted to exercise authority in such circumstances. It is far better for keepers on leave to be away from the station, but when one elects, as you apparently did, to remain at his station he should abstain from interfering with its duties.

3. A letter is forwarded herewith for delivery to Mr. Sharit.

Respectfully,

F. M. Bennett,
Commander, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 7th L.H.District.

Department of Commerce and Labor

COPY.
JAL

Indorsement Slip.
Department of Commerce & Labor
Light-House Establishment
Office of Inspector, 7th Dist.
Key West, Fla.

August 15, 1910.

1st Indorsement

Hillsboro Inlet L.S.- assistant keepers request system of watches at station.

Respectfully returned to the Keeper of Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, who is directed to make such changes in the arrangmentt of watches as may appear to him just and an equal division of labor between the three men.

2. Inform Mr. Sharit that a small detail of this character is not to be imposed upon the Bureau of Light-Houses. It is properly to be settled by the Keeper, but in his failure to do so the Inspector will attend to it.

3. Any further correspondence on this subject must be with the Inspector of the 6th District, to which Hillsboro now belongs.

F. M. Bennett,
Commander, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 7th L.H.District.

No. 204
(Ed. 6-15-05—500,000)

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. August 13, 1910.

Commander F.M.Bennett, U.S.N.,
Inspector 7th L.H.District,
Key West, Fla.

Sir:-

The enclosed letter I received this morning from the second assistant, signed by the 1st, assistant-. The 2nd, asst; says that he has to be on constant duty for 19 hours, which is not quite accurate. He has had his watch from midnight till sunrise, about half after 5, and stays in the house till 8 a.m. when we commence necessary work, I have let him off at 11 a.m. so that he could go home and prepare his meals. From 11 a.m. he again stays home till lighting up time when he goes on duty till 12 M.N. The actual work (besides keeping watch) that he is doing is from 3 to 4 hours. Since I entered the service it has been the same way at all the Light-Stations. I have been, at some more work at others less. At a land light there is always more work, expressly at a new station like this one, and I have never expected any of the assistants to do any work that I have not been willing to do myself-in fact I have let them off and kept working myself the whole day sooner than to have so many arguments about what is to be done or not done.

In conclusion I wish to state that the watches has always been as they are now-that some assistants would not be satisfied except there were neither work nor watches to keep.

Very respectfully,
Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper.

A

Department of Commerce and Labor

A

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 19-1911

Commander H.A.Field, U.S.N.,
Inspector 6th L.H.District,
Charleston, S. C.

Sir:-

I hereby submit to you the following report about Mr. Willie M. Sharit 2d assistant at this station.

-1- The 10 instant when you were here I told Mr. Sharit that he would have to cook for the men for supper that night, and the meal the next day till I could arrange otherwise, as I had to go to Ft: Lauderdale for the foreman. He said he could not do it except I made out a menu for every meal and what ingredients to put in etc. I ordered him to hash up anything temporarely, but he came to me and said he could not cook this and that, and i had to go and show him how to wisp meal into boiling water etc. That night he claimed to be sick and the next morning I had to put Mr. Nauman into the kitchen as I had to go to Lauderdale.

-2- The 14- inst, I put Mr Sharit to fill the gas into the launch tank. Returning from Fort Lauderdale the next day the cap over filling hole was missing. I asked Sharit what he had done with same he denied knowing anything about it , when I told him to get a new cap yeaterday he let fall a remark which set me thinking that he knew that the cap was overboard, and I asked him squarely if such was the case-he said he did not know anything about it. I went and got the water glass and found the cap beside the warf, when I asked him what his idea was not to report the loss of same but let the tank be uncovered for 24 hours, he still kept on denying any knowledge of it. He filled the tank last and tried to hide the loss of the cap so-as to blame some one else.

-3- Yeasterday the 18 inst. Mr. Propst the foreman came to me and said that Sharit had ordered the workmen out of his dwelling, into the storeroom, saying that he could not sleep at night etc, having the men on the upper floor over his head they disturbed him too much. I called the assistants into the office and reminded them that it was by your orders that the men were in the dwellings and would have to continue so. The foreman MR. Propst asked Mr.Nauman to let the men have his dwelling for the men to which he consented and mowed over to Sharits house . Sharit had nothing to complain about as he has 4 rooms and could have put the men into any of the other- <u>But</u> he wants to be continually kicking about everything, and

does not want to conform to the rules of the service.

Enclosed please find the former reports to the other district from which you can see what I have had to put up with since he came to this station.

It is not alone that he causes trouble about work but he is lea ding the othr assistant into his way of thinking and get him to act uggly too and I would respectfully recommend that he be remowed from the station for the good of the service.

Respectfully,

Alfred A Berghell

Keeper.

I testify to the correctness of paragraph 3 in the above letter.

John R Cooper

Gave copy of this report to Sharit and told him to reply to same if he saw fit.

No. 205
Ed. 5-25-09—350,000

B

OFFICE LIGHT HOUSE INSPECTOR
APR
26
1911
SIXTH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S.C.

Hilsboro Inlet L.S. april 19-1911

Comander. H.A. Field. U.S.N.
Inspector 6th L.H. District
Charleston S.C.

Dear Sir

I left the Station this morning in perfect peace and harmony. under the orders of the Keeper. to go to Ft Lauderdail to take the foreman. Mr J.R Brapst to get Some Suplyes. and to Show Mr Norman how to run the engine. as I had Showed the Keeper how to run it. and He Wanted me to Learn Mr Norman. So When I arrived back to the Light Haure Onhand it Was apaast 2 Pm. Nat knowing - that

on my arrival. that the keeper. had a premeditated design. to do me a bodily injury with out giveing me any warning at all. after stopping the engine I went forward in the Boat and started to sloop down to shut the Valve on the oil tank. and when I did the keeper. Jumpped on the deck of the Boat. and Struck at me through the door of the Boat. With a piece of Some kind of metle in his hand and if I had not of dodged my head. he may have Killed me on the Spot. then I Jumpped back by the engine. then I ask him

What was the matter with him
Then he began to curse
and abuse me. and said
that he was going to beat
Hell out of me. Then I
told him to go and let
me alone for I did not
not want to have any
trouble. that I had not done
any thing for him to
act that way for. Then
he told me to get out
of the Boat and that
he was going to beat hell
out of me just as soon
as I did. with a profane
oath and if I did not
get out of the Boat that
he was going to report

me and make me loose my job. So I gat aut of the Cabbin fram the aperset end of the Boat to git on the Wharf and he started far me cursing and abureing me. and I saw he was going to do me a bodily injury and I had to do Something in self defence. and I grabed the Boat Hook. and told him that if he come any closer to me that I would have to use it in self defence. then then he stopped. then I laid the Boat Hook down and gat on the Wharf

and started to my house and he jumped on the wharf after me cursing and abureing me. I never made any Reply Back to him but kept going on to my house to get away from him for I did not want to have any trouble at the station I never gave him any cause for him to do this dark act and I believe after this treacherous act that he intends doing me some Bodily harm the first chance he gets and I ask for your Protection against violence while I am at this station

I gave the Keeper a copy of this Report and gave him three days to answer it Before mailing this to You and he forbade me mureing the Boat, and ~~forbade~~ forbid me to enter it again every thing in this Report is the truth to the best of my knolege

Yours Respectfully
Willis M Sharit 2nd Asst Keeper
Hilsboro Inlet Light Station. Florida

The above report is true just as stated

Geo B Hamman
1st. Asst. Keeper

Department of Commerce and Labor

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 21-1911.

Commander H.A.Field, U.S.N.,
Inspector 6th L.H.District,
Charleston, S. C.

Sir:-

I told Mr Sharit to have his reply ready to the report of the 19 instant. Instead of handing in a reply to same, he completely ingnored same and came at 5 p.m.the 20, with the enclosed charges against me- dated the 19 as if he had given me the report on that date.His charges are a mass of falsehoods from the beginning to end, which can easely be proved by the working party here if necessary. As Nauman has seen fit to sign the report as true in every respect, and told me that he would swear to anything conserning same I would respectfully ask for an inwestigation as soon as possible.

His report begins that he went to Fort Lauderdale in peace and harmony (from my report of the 19 you can see how much peace he has given me at the station since you were here). The true version of the affair is as follows.

The 19 I sent him and the assistant to Ft:Lauderdale while they were gone I went to look for the cap of gasoline tank which I suspected he had lost overboard at the warf; I had to dive for a long while before I recovered same as the tide was running pretty strong.I had just managed to get the cap and dress myself when the launch arrieved from Lauderdale. I went aboard and had the cap in my hand to put same on the filling hole, Sharit was back at the engine and I showed him the cap in my hand, saying here is the cap you lost overboard " why could not you be man enough to tell the truth about it (this is his version of my trying to do him a bodily injury) he answered back and ran out aft and grasped the boat hook and said I will jab this into you if you make me out a liar(I was at the time on my knees on the forward deck screwing on the cap to the filling hole. When I saw him with the boat hook threatening I jumped up and ordered him to drop same at once, saying "confound you if you dont drop the boat hook and get on the warf out of here I will break every bone in your body" he went on the warf -"and I and I did not follow him as he says Cursing and using profane oats" My children were on the warf and I am not in the habit of using any of the expressions that he accuses me of,he is aggravating enough to make a saint use bad language, but he deliberately lies about the expressions used.

I do not see what has gotten into Nauman- for a long time he used to come to me saying that Sharit was a misscheif maker etc, but lately he has acted uggly expressly since the working party came to the station and the question of cooking came up.Since that

he seem to approve of any sort of insubordination. He and Sharit has studied over this report and tells me that they will stick together in anything mentioned therein. Nauman has seen fit to testify to the charges without making any report of his own which he had been in duty bound to do if said charges were true. This shows that there is a conspirasy afoot between the two. There for I ask the privilege when there is to be an investigation that I be permitted to take the men one at a time into your presence, and question them and I will prove to you in a few minutes that their report is a falsehood from beginning to end.

I think the foreman Mr. Propst could if he chose testify to the correctness of the above explanation. I do not want to mix him into the affair if I can prevent it. He has seen how I have treated the men and know that I have been considerate under all provocation.

Respectfully,

Alfred A. Berglund

Keeper.

D

OFFICE LIGHT HOUSE INSPECTOR
APR
26
1911
SIXTH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S.C.

Hebbora Inlet. S. C. april 21-1911

Comander H A Field U. S. N.
Inspector 6th District
Charleston S.C.

Dear Sir

In answer to the charge the Keeper has made against me inregards to the quarters of the Working Party was satisfactory arrainged between Mr J R Brabst and the Keepers of this Station on Tuesday april 18th and if Dam Miss to any thing more in regards to this matter. I kindly Refer Dam to Mr J R Brabst

Yours Respectfully
Willie M Shard 2nd asst

Geo B Rauman.
1st asst Keeper

Original Register

E

K.

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

April 26, 1911.

Mr. Willie M. Sharit,
2d Asst.Kpr.Hillsboro Inlet Lt.Sta.,
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Sir:

I have to request that you will submit, without delay, through the proper official channel, such statement as you may think proper as to why you should not be separated from the service, for

(a) Insubordination. In generally questioning the Keeper's orders, failing to promptly obey same, and not using your best efforts in the interest of and for the efficiency of the Light-House Service.

(b) Disobedience of Orders. Having been personally told by the Inspector, April 10, 1911, that some of the members of a repair party were to be given quarters in the 2d assistant keeper's dwelling at the Light-Station and that you and the other keepers were to look out for them, you nevertheless ordered these men from the dwelling without authority, thus disobeying orders and disregarding the Regulations of the Light-House Establishment.

Respectfully,

H. A. Field,

Commander,U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

F

Light-House Establishment.

Office of Engineer, Sixth District,

Charleston, S. C.,

Inclosures.

Subject:

Halbora Inlet. L.S. april 29-1911

Comander H A Field
Inspector 6th dist
Charleston S.C.

Dear Sir

Inregards to the keeper charge against me not doing my duty and not taking interest in the work at the Station is a false-hood and was made against me through malice and I want you to make him Prove his statement against me. the only thing I ark is a fair unpartial trial in this matter and I feel that I will Be Reinstated

Yours Respectfully
Willi M Sharit 2nd asst
the above statement is correct & true

Geo B Nauman
1st asst Keeper

Department of Commerce and Labor

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 23-1911.

OFFICE LIGHT HOUSE INSPECTOR
APR 30 1911
SIXTH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S.C.

" To whom it may concern"

We the men of the working party at present at Hillsboro Inlet L. S., can testify to the following facts.

The 2d assistant keeper W.M.Sharit of this station ordered the men occupying his dwelling to move out and during our absence trew our things out and locked the doors so that we could not enter.

The keeper of this station Mr.Alfred a.Berghell has treated the assistant keepers considerately and has never"Attempted to do them" "any bodily harm " no matter what the provocation has been " neither has he used profane and abusive language"towards any one while we have been at the station.

A. E. Lee (Carpenter)
Karl Räther. (Shield Laborer)
Fred. Lindfors. (" "
Charles Andersen (" "
J. R. Heidrich (" "
J. R. Propst (Foreman)

No. 205
Ed. 5-25-09—350,000

H

Department of Commerce and Labor

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 24-1911.

Commander H.A.Field,U.S.N.,
Inspector 6th L.H.District,
Charleston, S. C.



Sir:-

During my absence from the station last Saturday Sharit the 2d assistant keepr went to Pompamo and swore out a warrant against me. I did not take any notice of that as I could prove by the men at the station that there has been no violence offered.

Yeasterday he came to me saying that he was out of bread and milk and wanted to go and get some in the afternoon, which was a lie as he went to Pompano to bring back a Justice of the Peace and a Jury to put me to trial . When the Sheriff came and served the varrant I told him that I was not afraid of going with him as I could easely prove that the man had been and swore to a lie, but i refused to leave the station for the following reasons,

His varrantnwas made out be a Justice of Peace and I asked if he thought same had any jurisdiction over me while I was tending to my duty at the station.

-2- Theone that came and served the varrant was a county deputy Sheriff and not a U.S.Marchal.

-3- That it was near lighting up time and it was my watch.

-4- That I could not stay for any lenght of time from the station as I had men as asst's who could not even pack a leaky valve

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if necessary.

Sharit is trying to make all kinds of trouble here after my report to you when you was at the station, and feign being afraid of me. I can prove by the men that I have offered no violence towards any one, and said to Sharit that he was, to much beneath contemt for me to soil my hands on him. On the 20 instant he went into the tower to light up (that was after he handed the lying charges to me. He called out from above that a leak was in the tank for me to come up and fix same, he had the tower door locked on the inside and had to come down and open same. I told him to come up in the tower he asked me if I was going to hurt him. I laughed at him and told him I would not - that all his fear was, that I was the same kind of a man as he was himself that his conecience was the only thing that was troubling him. All the men heard me and the next day he went and swore out the warrant.

I would respectfully ask your advice what to do in this matter.

Respectfully,

Aug. A. Berghell

Keeper.

K.

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE SERVICE

I

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

April 26, 1911.

Mr. George B. Nauman,

1st Assistant Keeper

Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station,

Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

(Through the Keeper.)

Sir:

You will immediately report to this office why, if you know of any neglect of duty on the part of the Keeper, you have failed to comply with paragraph 2 of General Instructions to all Light Keepers, and not reported it in writing to the Inspector.

Respectfully,

H. A. Field,

Commander, U. S. N.,

Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

J

Hillsboro Light Station
April 30th 1911

U S Light House Inspector
Charleston SC.

Dear Sir. - In reply to your letter of Apl 26th - asking why I did not make a report in regards to the recent trouble - as I knew nothing to make a report until after you were here last and as Mr Berghell said he was going to report Mr Shank after the trouble on the dock: and as Mr Shank sent in his report to you in re- - gards to the trouble on the dock as I signed Mr Shank report for I knew his statement was correct just as he stated the case

so & did not think it necessary
to go any further at the time
will say one more word in
regards to this matter. On Apl
10th Mr Berghell began to keep
about Mr Hart for no cause what
ever - & reminded Mr Berghell of what
you said when you were here
that we all had to live here with
out having trouble. he said you
was reference to Mr Hart altogether
& told him that & understood you
meant who ever was in the wrong
he it who it may.

Yours Very Respy
Geo B Norman
1st Asst Keeper

IR

K

Department of Commerce and Labor

JAL

LIGHT-HOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

April 27, 1911.

Mr. Alfred A. Berghell, Kpr.,
Hillsboro Light-Station,
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Sir:

You will please deliver to Mr. Willie M. Sharit the enclosed letter, wherein he is suspended from duty without pay. Report to this office the date and time of delivery of same.

Respectfully,

H. A. Field.

Commander, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE SERVICE

JAL

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

(Through the Keeper)

April 27, 1911.

Mr. Willie M. Sharit, 2d Asst. Kpr.,
Hillsboro Light-Station,
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Sir:

You are hereby suspended from duty, without pay, until further orders, pending action relative to charges against you for insubordination and disobedience of orders.

Respectfully,

H. A. Field.

Commander, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

(See letter of same date to Commissioner reporting Sharit's suspension).

M

Department of Commerce and Labor

Hillsboro Inlet L.S.April 30-1911.

Commander H.A.Field,U.S.N.,
Inspector 6th L.H.District,
Charleston, S. C.

Sir:-

Mr. Nauman in his explanation why he failed to make a report of the alleged distrubance at the station on the 19, inst, tells you that I began to kick with Sharit without cause on the 11 of April.

My report of the 19 stated that I ordered Sharit to cook for the men supper the evening of the 10 and the meals the next day till I could make other arrangements, and that sharit wanted a menu made out -the ingrdients and the amount of food etc., to give the men and that he alleged he could not cook meal so that I had to go and show him how to wisp same into the pot. That night he claimed that he was to sick to get up, and I went in to see how he was at 12 m,n. he told me he had a head ache. I told him that he would have to get a man in his place if he was not well enough to tend to his duties. I had been up from 5 a.m. the day you arrieved, had watch from 12 m.n. between the 10 and 11, inst had to go to Lauderdale the next day to get provission and bring back the foreman, and had watch again till 10 p.m. that night, in other words I had 2 hours sleep out of 42 hours. Sharit got perfectly well the next day, the whole thing was a sham so as to get out of the cooking for the men.Nauman was in Sharits kitchen and listened to his arguments- and seemed to approve of same. All what he says about my kicking was, that I told Sharit that I would make out a report if he was not well by the time I came back from Lauderdale as I could not stand to be on duty the whole day without sleep, and Sharits recovery followed at once which looks pretty suspicious.

Respectfully,

Alfred A Beyhell

Keeper.

No. 205
Ed. 5-25-09—350,000

Department of Commerce and Labor

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 29-1911.

Commander H. A. Field, U.S.N.,
Inspector 6th L.H.District,
Charleston, S. C.

Sir:-

As per order from you in letter of the 27, instant I suspended Mr. Willie M. Sharit from duty, this 29, day of April at 4p.m.

Respectfully,

Alfred A. Berghell

Keeper.

No. 205
Ed. 5-25-09—350,000

Department of Commerce and Labor

"Copy"

Hillsboro Inlet L. S. July 14[illegible], 1910.

Commander F. M. Bennett, U. S. N.,
Inspector 7th, L. H. District,
Key West Fla.

Sir:-

I arrieved at the station the 13th, instantat 12 noon To day I told the assistant keepers to clear the plank walks of weeds overgrowing them. The "New 2nd, assistant " absolutely refused to do anything of the kind, saying that he is no farmer. I would respectfully ask you how I am going to get the grounds cleaned up if the man refus = es to go ahead with the work?

I am at present on my vacation.

Very respectfully,
Alfred A Berglell
Keeper.

I testify that the above is correct.
Ramon Pinder 1.st. asst

Skairt received a sharp reprimand from Comdr Bennett with warning of dismissal if he couldn't do better.

No. 205
Ed. 5-25-09—350,000

Department of Commerce and Labor

"Copy"

Hillsboro Inlet L. S. July 15, 1910.

Commander F. M. Bennett, U. S. N.,
Inspector 7th, L. H. District,
Key West, Fla.

Sir:-

Enclosed please find reply by 2nd, assistant to report sent in the 14th, inst:, he says that he had been on constant duty for 19 hours which is inacurate- he had the morning watch and came down from the tower at 1/2 past 5. I had been working around the house cleaning up (which I generally do throughly while taking my vacation), at a little after 10 I went out and asked the assistants what they had done and as they had not commenced any work I told them to weed along the plank walks. The 2nd, assistant at once refused saying "not me" I am no farmer. I told him that it was work that had to be done by the keepers, and asked what the idea was to refuse to do a little work which would not take more than a few minutes to do. He answered that he had been informed that I am doing a lot of unnecessary work, but can not make him do it and that he consider the weeding unnecessary and would not do it.

The man has been here 4 days and commences his service in this way. What am I to do with such a man?

Very respectfully,

Alfred A. Reynolds

Keeper.

No. 205
Ed. 5-25-09—350,000

Q

Q

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 7TH DISTRICT
KEY WEST, FLA.

July 18, 1910.

Mr. Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper Hillsboro Inlet L.S.,
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Sir:-

Referring to your report of the 14th instant regarding disobedience of orders on the part of your 2d assistant, Willie M. Sharit, I regret to inform you that I cannot take immediate steps toward his removal from the service. Insubordination on his part is plainly evident, but the report is fatally defective in your admission that you are on leave, and were so at the time of the occurrence.

2. Being on leave, you cannot be on duty at the same time, and it is unfortunate that you attempted to exercise authority in such circumstances. It is far better for keepers on leave to be away from the station, but when one elects, as you apparently did, to remain at his station he should abstain from interfering with its duties.

3. A letter is forwarded herewith for delivery to Mr. Sharit.

Respectfully,

Commander, U.S.N.,
Inspector 7th L.H.District.

INDORSEMENT SLIP

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 7TH DISTRICT

KEY WEST, FLA.

August 15, 1910.

1st *Indorsement*

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. - assistant keepers request system of watches at station.

Respectfully returned to the Keeper of Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, who is directed to make such changes in the arrangement of watches as may appear to him just and an equal division of labor between the three men.

2. Inform Mr. Sharit that a small detail of this character is not to be imposed upon the Bureau of Light-Houses. It is properly to be settled by the Keeper, but in his failure to do so the Inspector will attend to it.

3. Any further correspondence on this subject must be with the Inspector of the 6th District, to which Hillsboro now belongs.

W. W. Bennett

Commander, U.S.N.,
Inspector 7th L.H.Dist.

A.B.

R

Department of Commerce and Labor

R

"Copy"

Hillsboro Inlet L. S. August 13, 1910.

Commander F. M. Bennett, U. S. N.,
Inspector 7th, L. H. District,
Key West, Fla.

Sir:-

The enclosed letter I received this morning from the second assistant, signed by the 1st, assistant-. The 2nd, asst; says that he has to be on constant duty for 19, hours, which is not quite accurate. He has had his watch from midnight till sunrise, about half after 5, and stays in the house till 8 a.m. when we commences necessary work , I have let him off at 11 a. m. so that he could go home and prepare his meals . From 11 a. m. he again stays home till lighting up time when he goes on duty till 12 M.N. The actual work (besides keeping watch)that he is doing is from 3 to 4 hours . Since I entered the service it has been the same way at all the Light stations I have been, at some more work at others less. At a land light there is always more work, expresslyat a new station like this one , and I have never expected any of the assistants to do any work that I have not been willing to do myself- in fact I have let them off and keept working myself the whole day sooner than to have so many arguments about what is to be done or not done.

In conclusion I wish to state that the watches has always been as they are now- that some assistants would not be satisfied exept there were neither work nor watches to keep.

Very respectfully,

Alfred A Berghell

Keeper.

No. 205
Ed. 5-25-09—350,000

COPY.
JAL

Department of Commerce and Labor
Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 19-1911.

Commander, H.A.Field, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.
Charleston, S.C.

Sir:-

I hereby submit to you the following report about Mr. Willie M. Sharit, 2d assistant at this station.

1. The 10 instant when you were here I told Mr. Sharit that he would have to cook for the men for supper that night, and the meals the next day till I could arrange otherwise, as I had to go to Ft. Lauderdale for the foreman. He said he could not do it except I made out a menu for every meal and what ingredients to put in etc. I ordered him to hash up anything temporatily, but he came to me and said he could not cook this and that, and I had to go and show him how to wisp meal into boiling water etc. That night he claimed to be sick and the next morning I had to put Mr. Nauman into the kitchen as I had to go to Lauderdale.

2. The 14 inst, I put Mr. Sharit to fill the gas into the launch tank. Returning from Fort Lauderdale the next day the cap over filling hole was missing. I asked Sharit what he had done with same he denied knowing anything about it, when I told him to get a new cap yesterday he let fall a remark which set me thinking that he knew that the cap was overboard, and I asked him squarely if such was the case-he said he did n' not know anything about it. I went and got the water glass and found the cap beside the wharf, when I asked him what his idea was not to report the loss of same but let the tank be uncovered for 24 hours, he still kept on denying any knowledge of it. He filled the tank last and tried to hide the loss of the cap so as to blame some one else.

3. Yesterday the 18inst. Mr. Propst the foreman came to me and said that Sharit had ordered the workmen out of his dwelling, into the store-room, saying that he could not sleep at night etc, having the men on the upper floor over his head they disturbed him too much. I called the assistants into the office and reminded them that it was by your orders that the m en were in the dwellings and would have to continue so. The foreman Mr. Propst asked Mr. Nauman to let the men have his dwelling for the men to which he consented and moved over to Sharits house. Sharit had nothing to complain about as he has 4 rooms and could have put the men into any of the other-But he wants to be continually kicking about e everything, and does not want to conform to the rules of the Service.

Enclosed please find the former reports to the other district from which you can see what I have had to put up with since he came to this station.

It is not alone that he causes trouble about work but be is leading the other assistant into his way of thinking and get him to act ugly to and I would respectfully recommend that he be removed from the station for the good of the service.

Respectfully,
Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper.

I testify to the correctness of paragraph 3 in the above letter.
John R. Propst.

Gave copy of this report to Sharit and told him to reply to same if he saw fit.

COPY.

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 19, 1911.

Commander, H.A.Field, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District,
Charleston, S.C.

Dear Sir:

I left the station this morning in perfect peace and harmony, under the orders of the Keeper, to go to Fort Lauderdale to take the foreman Mr. J.R.Propst to get some supplies, and to show Mr. Nauman how to run the engine, as I had showed the Keeper how to run it, and he wanted me to learn Mr. Nauman. So when I arrived back to the light house wharf it was about 2 P.M. not knowing that on my arrival that the keeper had a premeditated design to do me a bodily injury without giving me any warning at all. After stopping the engine I went fprward in the boat and started to stoop down to shut the valve on the oil tank and when I did the keeper jumped on the deck of the boat and struck at me through the door of the boat, With a piece of some kind of metal in his hand and if I had not of dodged my head be may have killed me on the spot, then I jumped back by the engine then I asked him what was the matter with him then he began to curse and abuse me and said that he was going to beat hell out of me then I told him to go and let me alone for I did not want to have any trouble that I had not done any thing for him to act that way for, then he told me to get out of the boat and that he was going to beat hell out of me just as soon as I did, With a profane oath and if I did not get out of the boat that he was going to report me and make me lose my job. So I got out of the cabin from the oppsite end of the boat to get on the wharf and he started for me cursing and abusing me and I saw he was going to do me a bodily injury and I had to do something in self defence and I grabbed the boat hook and told him that if he came any closer to me that I would have to use it in self defence then he stopped then I laid the boat hook down and got on the wharf and started to my house and he jumped on the wharf after me cursing and abusing me. I never made any reply back to him but kept going on to my house to get away from him, for I did not want to have any trouble at the station I never gave him any cause for him to do this rash act and I believe after this treacherous act that he intends doing me some bodily harm the first chance he gets and I ask for your protection against violence while I am at this station. I gave the keeper a copy of this report and gave him three days to answer it before mailing this to you and he forbade me using the boat and for-bid me to enter it again. Everything in this report is the truth to the best of my knowledge.

Yours respectfully,
Willie M. Sharit, 2d Asst. Kpr.
Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Florida.

The above report is true just as stated.
Geo. B. Nauman.
1st Asst. Keeper.

Department of Commerce and Labor
Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 21, 1911.

Commander, H.A.Field,U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District,
Charleston, S.C.

Sir:-

I told Mr. Sharit to have his reply ready to the report of the 19 instant. Instead of handing in a reply to same, he completely ignored same and came at 5 p.m. the 20, with the enclosed charges against me-dated the 19 as if he had given me the report on that date. His charges are a mass of falsehoods from the beginning to end, which can easily be proved by the working party here if necessary. As Nauman has seen fit to sign the report as true in every respect, and told me that he would swear to anything concerning same I would respectfully ask for an investigation as soon as possible.

His report begins that he went to Fort Lauderdale in peace and harmony (from my report of the 19 you can see how much peace he has given me at the station since you were here). The true version of the affair is as follows.

The 19 I sent him and the assistant to Fort Lauderdale while they were gone I went to look for the cap of gasoline tank which I suspected he had lost overboard at the wharf; I had to dive for a long while before I recovered same as the tide was running pretty strong. I had just managed to get the cap and dress myself when the launch arrived from Lauderdale. I went aboard and had the cap in my hand to put same on the filling hole, Sharit was back at the engine and I showed him the cap in my hand, saying here is the cap you lost overboard "why could not you be a man enough to tell the truth about it (this is his version of my trying to do him a bodily injury) he answered back and ran out aft and grasped the boat hook and said I will jab this into you if you make me out a liar (I was at the time on my knees on the forward deck screwing on the cap to the filling hole. When I saw him with the boat hook threatening I jumped up and ordered him to drop same at once, saying "Confound you if you dont drop the boat hook and get on the wharf out of here I will break every bone in your body" he went on the wharf-"and I did not follow him as he says cursing and using profane oaths". My children were on the wharf and I am not in the habit of using any of the expressions that he accuses me of, he is aggravating enough to make a saint use bad language, but he deliberately lies about the expressions used.

I do not see what has gotten into Nauman-for a long time he used to come to me saying that Sharit was a mischief maker etc., but lately he has acted ugly expressly since the working party came to the station and the question of cooking came up. Since that he seem to approve of any sort of insubordination. He and Sharit has studied over this report and tells me that they will stick together in anything mentioned therein. Nauman has seen fit to testify to the charges without making any report of his own which he had been in duty bound to do if said charges were true. This shows that there is a conspiracy afoot between the two. There for I ask the privilege when there is to be an investigation that I be permitted to take the men one at a time into your presence, and question them and I will prove to you in a few minutes that their report is a falsehood from beginning to end.

I think the foreman Mr. Propst could if he chose testify to the correctness of the above explanation. I do not want to mix him into the affair if I can prevent it. He has seen how I have treated the men and know that I have been considerate under all provocation.

Respectfully,
Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper.

COPY. Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 21, 1911.

Commander H. A. Field, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District,
Charleston, S. C.

Dear Sir:-

In answer to the charge the keeper has made against me in regards to the quarters of the working party was satisfactorily arranged between Mr. J. R. Propst and the 3 keepers of this station on Tuesday April 18th and if you wish to anything more in regards to this matter I kindly refer you to Mr. J. R. Propst.

Youre respectfully,

Willie M. Sharit, 2d Asst.
Geo. B. Nauman,
1st Asst. Keeper.

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE SERVICE

K.

COPY.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

April 26, 1911.

Mr. Willie M. Sharit,
2d Asst.Kpr.Hillsboro Inlet Lt.Sta.
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Sir:

I have to request that you will submit, without delay, through the proper official channel, such statement as you may think proper as to why you should not be separated from the service, for

(a) Insubordination. In generally questioning the Keeper's orders, failing to promptly obey same, and not using your best efforts in the interest of and for the efficiency of the Light-House Service.

(b) Disobedience of Orders. Having been personally told by the Inspector, April 10, 1911, that some of the members of a repair party were to be given quarters in the 2d assistant keeper's dwelling at the Light-Station and that you and the other keepers were to look out for them, you nevertheless ordered these men from the dwelling without authority, thus disobeying orders and disregarding the Regulations of the Light-HouseEstablishment.

Respectfully,

H. A. Field,
Commander, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

COPY.

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 29, 1911.

Commander, H.A.Field, U.S.N.,

Inspector, 6th L.H.District,

Charleston, S. C.

Dear Sir:-

In reagrd to the keepers charge against me not doing my duty and not taking interest in the work at the station is a falsehood and was made against me through malice and I want you to make him prove his statement against me the only thing I ask is a fair inpartial trial in this matter and I know that I will be reinstated.

Yours respectfully,

Willie M. Sharit, 2d Asst.

The above statement is correct and true.

Geo. B. Nauman,
1st Asst. Keeper.

COPY.

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 23, 1911.

"To whom it may concern"

We the men of the working party at present at Hillsboro Inlet L.S., can testify to the following facts:

The 2d assistant keeper W?M?Sharit of this station ordered the men occupying his dwelling to move out and during our absence threw out things out and locked the doors so that we could not enter.

The keeper of this station Mr. Alfred A. Berghell has treated the assistant keepers considerately and has never "Attempted to do them" "any bodily harm" no matter what the provocation has been "neither has he used profaneeand abusive language" towards any one while we have been at the station.

A. E. Lee	Carpenter.
Karl Rather	Skilled Laborer.
Fred Lindfars	" "
Charles Anderson	" "
J. R. Heidrich	" "
J. R. Propst	Foreman.

COPY. Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 24, 1911.

Commander, H.A.Field, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District,
Charleston, S. C.

Sir:-

During my absence from the station last Saturday Sharit the 2d assistant keeper went to Pompano and swore out a warrant against me. I did not take any notice of that as I could prove by the men at the station that there has been no violence offered.

Yesterday he came to me saying that he was out of bread and milk and wanted to go and get some in the afternoon, which was a lie as he went to Pompano to bring back a Justice of the Peace and a jury to put me to trial. When the Sheriff came and served the warrant I told him that I was not afraid of going with him as I could easily prove that the man had been and swore to a lie, but I refused to leave the station for the following reasons:

His warrant was made out by a Justice of Peace and I asked if he thought same had any jurisdiction over me while I was tending to my duty at the station.

The man that came and served the warrant was a county deputy Sheriff and not a U.S.Marshall.

That it was near lighting up time and it was my watch.

That I could not stay for any length of time from the station as I had men as Asst's who could not even pack a leaky valve if necessary.

Sharit is trying to make all kinds of trouble here after my report to you when you was at the station, and feign being afraid of me. I can prove by the men that I have offered no violence towards any one, and said to Sharit that he was too much beneath contempt for me to soil my hands on him. On the 20 instant he went into the tower to light up (that was after he handed the lying charges to me. He called out from above that a leak was in the tank for me to come up and fix same, he had the tower door locked on the inside and had to come down and open same. I told him to come up in the tower he asked me if I was going to hurt him. I laughed at him and told him I would not - that all his fear was, that I was the same kind of a man as he was himself that his conscience was the only thing that was troubling him. All the men heard me and the next day he went and swore out the warrant.

I would respectfully ask your advice what to do in this matter.

Respectfully,

Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper.

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE SERVICE

K.

COPY.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

April 26, 1911.

Mr. George B. Nauman,
1st Assistant Keeper,
Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station,
Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

(Throught the Keeper.)

Sir:

You will immediately report to this office why, if you know of any neglect of duty on the part of the Keeper, you have failed to comply with paragraph 2 of General Instructions t to all Light Keepers, and not reported it in writing to the Inspector.

Respectfully,

H. A. Field,
Commander, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

Hillsboro Light-Station, April 30, 1911.

U. S. Lighthouse Inspector,

Charleston, S. C.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your letter of April 26th asking why I did not make a report in regards to this recent trouble - As I knew of nothing to make a report until after you were here last and as Mr. Berghell said he was going to report Mr. Sharit after the trouble on the dock, and as Mr. Sharit sent in his report to you in regards to the trouble on the dock as I signed Mr. Sharit's report for I knew his statement was correct just as he stated the case so I did not think it necessary to go any further at the time, will say one more word in regards to this matter. On April 11th Mr. Berghell began to kicking about Mr. Sharit for no cause whatever, I reminded Mr. Berghell of what you said when you were here that we all had to live here without having trouble. He said you was referring to Mr. Sharit altogether I told him that I understood you meant whoever was in the wrong be it who it may.

Yours very respectfully,
Geo. B. Nauman,
1st Asst. Keeper.

copy.

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 30, 1911.

Commander, H. A. Field, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District,
Charleston, S. C.

Sir:-

Mr. Nauman in his explanation why he failed to make a report of the alleged disturbance at the station on the 19, inst., tells you that I began to kick with Sharit without cause on the 11 of April.

My report of the 19 stated that I ordered Sharit to cook for the men supper the evening of the 10 and the meals the next day till I could make other arrangements, and that Sharit wanted a menu made out - the ingredients and the amount of food,etc., to give the men and that he alleged he could not cook meal so that I had to go and show him how to wisp same into the pot. That night he claimed that he was too sick to get up and I went in to see how he was at 12 p.m. he told me he had a headache. I told him that he would have to get a man in his place if he was not well enough to tend to his duties. I had been up from 5 a.m. the day you arrived, had watch from 12 m.n. between the 10 and 11 inst., had to go to Lauderdale the next day to get provisions and bring back the foreman, and had watch again till 10 p.m. that night, in other words I had 2 hours sleep out of 42 hours.

Sharit got perfectly well the next day, the whole thing was a sham so as to get out of the cooking for the men. Nauman was in Sharit's kitchen and listened to his arguments-and seemed to approve of same. All what he says about my kicking was, that I told Sharit that I would make out a report if he was not well by the time I came back from Lauderdale as I could not stand to be on duty the whole day without sleep, and Sharit's recovery followed at once which looks pretty suspicious.

Respectfully,
Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper.

COPY.

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 29, 1911.

Commander, H. A. Field, U.S.N.,

Inspector, 6th L.H.District,

Charleston, S. C.

Sir:-

As per order from you in letter of the 27th instant, I suspended Mr. Willie M. Sharit from duty this 28th day of April at 4 p.m.

Respectfully,

Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper.

Department of Commerce and Labor

COPY.

JAL Hillsboro Inlet L. S. July 14, 1910.

Commander F. M. Bennett, U. S. N.,
Inspector 7th, L. H. District,
Key West, Fla.

Sir:-

I arrived at the station the 13th, instant at 12 noon. To-day I told the assistant keepers to clear the plank walks of weeds overgrowing them. The "New 2nd, assistant" absolutely refused to do anything of the kind, saying that he is no farmer. I would respectfully ask you how I am going to get the grounds cleaned up if the man refuses to go ahead with the work?

I am at present on my vacation.

Very respectfully,
Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper.

I testify that the above is correct.

Ramon Pinder, 1st Asst.

Sharit received a sharp reprimand from Comdr. Bennett with warning of dismissal if he could not do better.

Department of Commerce and Labor

JAL

Hillsboro Inlet L. S. July 15, 1910.

COPY.

Commander F. M. Bennett, U. S. N.,
Inspector 7th, L. H. District,
Key West, Fla.

Sir:-

Enclosed please find reply by 2nd, assistant to report sent in the 14th, inst: he says that he had been on constant duty for 19 hours which is inaccurate - he had the morning watch and came down from the tower at 1/2 past 5. I had been working around the house cleaning up (which I generally do throughly while taking my vacation), at a little after 10 I went out and asked the assistants what they had done and as they had not commenced any work I told them to weed along the plank walks. The 2nd, assistant at once refused saying "not me" I am no farmer. I told him that it was work that had to be done by the keepers, and asked what the idea was to refuse to do a little work which would not take more than a few minutes to do. He answered that he had been informed that I am doing a lot of unnecessary work, but can not make him do it and that he consider the weeding unnecessary and would not do it.

The man has been here 4 days and commences his service in this way. What am I to do with such a man?

Very respectfully,
Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper.

Department of Commerce and Labor
Light-House Establishment

AL

COPY.

Office of Inspector, 7th Dist.,
Key West, Fla.

July 18, 1910.

Mr. Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper Hillsboro Inlet L.S.,
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Sir:-

Referring to your report of the 14th instant regarding disobedience of orders on the part of your 2d assistant, Willie M. Sharit, I regret to inform you that I cannot take immediate steps toward his removal from the service. Insubordination on his part is plainly evident, but the report is fatally defective in your admission that you are on leave, and were so at the time of the occurrence.

2. Being on leave, you cannot be on duty at the same time, and it is unfortunate that you attempted to exercise authority in such circumstances. It is far better for keepers on leave to be away from the station, but when one elects, as you apparently did, to remain at his station he should abstain from interfering with its duties.

3. A letter is forwarded herewith for delivery to Mr. Sharit.

Respectfully,

F. M. Bennett,
Commander, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 7th L.H.District.

Department of Commerce and Labor

COPY.
JAL

Indorsement Slip.
Department of Commerce & Labor
Light-House Establishment
Office of Inspector, 7th Dist.
Key West, Fla.

August 15, 1910.

1st Indorsement

Hillsboro Inlet L.S.- assistant keepers request system of watches at station.

Respectfully returned to the Keeper of Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, who is directed to make such changes in the arrangement of watches as may appear to him just and an equal division of labor between the three men.

2. Inform Mr. Sharit that a small detail of this character is not to be imposed upon the Bureau of Light-Houses. It is properly to be settled by the Keeper, but in his failure to do so the Inspector will attend to it.

3. Any further correspondence on this subject must be with the Inspector of the 6th District, to which Hillsboro now belongs.

F. M. Bennett,
Commander, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 7th L.H.District.

No. 204
(Ed. 4-16-06—500,000)

Department of Commerce and Labor

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. August 13, 1910.

Commander F.M.Bennett, U.S.N.,
Inspector 7th L.H.District,
Key West, Fla.

Sir:-

The enclosed letter I received this morning from the second assistant, signed by the 1st, assistant-. The 2nd, asst; says that he has to be on constant duty for 19 hours, which is not quite accurate. He has had his watch from midnight till sunrise, about half after 5, and stays in the house till 8 a.m. when we commence necessary work, I have let him off at 11 a.m. so that he could go home and prepare his meals. From 11 a.m. he again stays home till lighting up time when he goes on duty till 12 M.N. The actual work (besides keeping watch) that he is doing is from 3 to 4 hours. Since I entered the service it has been the same way at all the Light-Stations. I have been, at some more work at others less. At a land light there is always more work, expressly at a new station like this one, and I have never expected any of the assistants to do any work that I have not been willing to do myself-in fact I have let them off and kept working myself the whole day sooner than to have so many arguments about what is to be done or not done.

In conclusion I wish to state that the watches has always been as they are now-that some assistants would not be satisfied except there were neither work nor watches to keep.

Very respectfully,
Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper.

COPY.
JAL

Department of Commerce and Labor
Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 19-1911.

Commander, H.A.Field, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.
Charleston, S.C.

Sir:-

I hereby submit to you the following report about Mr. Willie M. Sharit, 2d assistant at this station.

1. The 10 instant when you were here I told Mr. Sharit that he would have to cook for the men for supper that night, and the meals the next day till I could arrange otherwise, as I had to go to Ft. Lauderdale for the foreman. He said he could not do it except I made out a menu for every meal and what ingredients to put in etc. I ordered him to hash up anything temporatily, but he came to me and said he could not cook this and that, and I had to go and show him how to wisp meal into boiling water etc. That night he claimed to be sick and the next morning I had to put Mr. Nauman into the kitchen as I had to go to Lauderdale.

2. The 14 inst, I put Mr. Sharit to fill the gas into the launch tank. Returning from Fort Lauderdale the next day the cap over filling hole was missing. I asked Sharit what he had done with same he denied knowing anything about it, when I told him to get a new cap yesterday he let fall a remark which set me thinking that he knew that the cap was overboard, and I asked him squarely if such was the case-he said he did n' not know anything about it. I went and got the water glass and found the cap beside the wharf, when I asked him what his idea was not to report the loss of same but let the tank be uncovered for 24 hours, he still kept on denying any knowledge of it. He filled the tank last and tried to hide the loss of the cap so as to blame some one else.

3. Yesterday the 18inst. Mr. Propst the foreman came to me and said that Sharit had ordered the workmen out of his dwelling, into the store-room, saying that he could not sleep at night etc, having the men on the upper floor over his head they disturbed him too much. I called the assistants into the office and reminded them that it was by your orders that the m en were in the dwellings and would have to continue so. The foreman Mr. Propst asked Mr. Nauman to let the men have his dwelling for the men to which he consented and moved over to Sharits house. Sharit had nothing to complain about as he has 4 rooms and could have put the men into any of the other-But he wants to be continually kicking about e everything, and dpes npt want tp conform to the rules of the Service.

Enclosed please find the former reports to the other district from which you can see what I have had to put up with since he came to this station.

It is not alone that he causes trouble about work but be is leading the other assistant into his way of thinking and get him to act ugly to and I would respectfully recommend that he be removed from the station for the good of the service.

Respectfully,
Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper.

I testify to the correctness of paragraph 3 in the above letter.
John R. Propst.

Gave copy of this report to Sharit and told him to reply to same if he saw fit.

COPY.

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 19, 1911.

Commander, H.A.Field, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District,
Charleston, S.C.

Dear Sir:

I left the station this morning in perfect peace and harmony, under the orders of the Keeper, to go to Fort Lauderdale to take the foreman Mr. J.R.Propst to get some supplies, and to show Mr. Nauman how to run the engine, as I had showed the Keeper how to run it, and he wanted me to learn Mr. Nauman. So when I arrived back to the light house wharf it was about 2 P.M. not knowing that on my arrival that the keeper had a premeditated design to do me a bodily injury without giving me any warning at all. After stopping the engine I went forward in the boat and started to stoppdown to shut the valve on the oil tank and when I did the keeper jumped on the deck of the boat, and struck at me through the door of the boat, With a piece of some kind of metal in his hand and if I had not of dodged my head be may have killed me on the spot, then I jumped back by the engine then I asked him what was the matter with him then he began to curse and abuse me and said that he was going to beat hell out of me then I told him to go and let me alone for I did not want to have any trouble that I had not done any thing for him to act that way for, then he told me to get out of the boat and that he was going to beat hell out of me just as soon as I did, With a profane oath and if I did not get out of the boat that he was going to report me and make me lose my job. So I got out of the cabin from the opposite end of the boat to get on the wharf and he started for me cursing and abusing me and I saw he was going to do me a bodily injury and I had to do something in self defence and I grabbed the boat hook and told him that if he came any closer to me that I would have to use it in self defence then he stopped then I laid the boat hook down and got on the wharf and started to my house and he jumped on the wharf after me cursing and abusing me. I never made any reply back to him but kept going on to my house to get away from him, for I did not want to have any trouble at the station I never gave him any cause for him to do this rash act and I believe after this treacherous act that he intends doing me some bodily harm the first chance he gets and I ask for your protection against violence while I am at this station. I gave the keeper a copy of this report and gave him three days to answer it before mailing this to you and he forbade me using the boat and for-bid me to enter it again. Everything in this report is the truth to the best of my knowledge.

Yours respectfully,
Willie M. Sharit, 2d Asst. Kpr.
Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Florida.

The above report is true just as stated.
Geo. B. Nauman.
1st Asst. Keeper.

Department of Commerce and Labor
Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 21, 1911.

Commander, H.A.Field,U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District,
Charleston, S.C.

Sir:-

I told Mr. Sharit to have his reply ready to the report of the 19 instant. Instead of handing in a reply to same, he completely ignored same and came at 5 p.m. the 20, with the enclosed charges against me-dated the 19 as if he had given me the report on that date. His charges are a mass of falsehoods from the beginning to end, which can easily be proved by the working party here if necessary. As Nauman has se seen fit to sign the report as true in every respect, and told me that he would swear to anything concerning same I would respectfully ask for an investigation as soon as possible.

His report begins that he went to Fort Lauderdale in peace and harmony (from my report of the 19 you can see how much peace he has given me at the station since you were here). The true version of the affair is as follows.

The 19 I sent him and the assistant to Fort Lauderdale while they were gone I went to look for the cap of gasoline tank which I suspected he had lost overboard at the wharf; I had to dive for a long while before I recovered same as the tide was running pretty strong. I had just managed to get the cap and dress myself when the launch arrived from Lauderdale. I went aboard and had the cap in my hand to put same on the filling hole, Sharit was back at the engine and I showed him the cap in my hand, saying here is the cap you lost overboard "why could not you be m man enough to tell the truth about it (this is his version of my trying to do him a bodily injury) he answered back and ran out aft and grasped the boat hook and said I will jab this into you if you make me out a liar (I was at the time on my knees on the forward deck screwing on the cap to the filling hole. When I saw him with the boat hook threatening I jumped up and ordered him to drop same at once, saying "Confound you if you dont drop the boat hook and get on the wharf out of here I will break every bone in your body" he went on the wharf-"and I did not follow him as he says cursing and using ppofane oaths". My children were on the wharf and I am not in the habit of using any of the expressions that he accuses me of, he is aggravating enough to make a saint use bad language, but he deliberately lies about the expressions used.

I do not see what has gotten into Nauman-for a long time he used to come to me saying that Sharit was a mischief maker etc., but lately he has acted ugly expressly since the working party came to the station and the question of cooking came up. Since that he seem to approve of any sort of insubordination. He and Sharit has studied over this report and tells me that they will stick together in anything mentioned therein. Nauman has seen fit to testify to the charges without making any report of his own which he had been in duty bound to do if said charges were true. This shows that there is a conspiracy afoot between the two. There for I ask the previlege when there is to be an investigation that I be permitted to take the men one at a time into your presence, and question them and I will prove to you in a few minutes that their report is a falsehood from beginning to end.

I think the foreman Mr. Propst could if he chose testify to the correctness of the above explanation. I do not want to mix him into the affair if I can prevent it. He has seen how I have treated the men and know that I have been considerate under all provocation.

Respectfully,
Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper.

COPY.

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 21, 1911.

Commander H. A. Field, U.S.N.,

Inspector, 6th L.H.District,

Charleston, S. C.

Dear Sir:-

In answer to the charge the keeper has made against me in regards to the quarters of the working party was satisfactorily arranged between Mr. J. R. Propst and the 3 keepers of this station on Tuesday April 18th and if you wish to anything more in regards to this matter I kindly refer you to Mr. J. R. Propst.

Youre respectfully,

Willie M. Sharit, 2d Asst.

Geo. B. Nauman,
1st Asst. Keeper.

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE SERVICE

K.

COPY.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

April 26, 1911.

Mr. Willie M. Sharit,
2d Asst.Kpr.Hillsboro Inlet Lt.Sta.
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Sir:

I have to request that you will submit, without delay, through the proper official channel, such statement as you may think proper as to why you should not be separated from the service, for

(a) Insubordination. In generally questioning the Keeper's orders, failing to promptly obey same, and not using your best efforts in the interest of and for the efficiency of the Light-House Service.

(b) Disobedience of Orders. Having been personally told by the Inspector, April 10, 1911, that some of the members of a repair party were to be given quarters in the 2d assistant keeper's dwelling at the Light-Station and that you and the other keepers were to look out for them, you nevertheless ordered these men from the dwelling without authority, thus disobeying orders and disregarding the Regulations of the Light-HouseEstablishment.

Respectfully,

H. A. Field,
Commander, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

COPY.

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 29, 1911.

Commander, H.A.Field, U.S.N.,

Inspector, 6th L.H.District,

Charleston, S. C.

Dear Sir:-

In reagrd to the keepers charge against me not doing my duty and not taking interest in the work at the station is a falsehood and was made against me through malice and I want you to make him prove his statement against me the only thing I ask is a fair inpartial trial in this matter and I know that I will be reinstated.

Yours respectfully,

Willie M. Sharit, 2d Asst.

The above statement is correct and true.

Geo. B. Nauman,
1st Asst. Keeper.

COPY.

Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 23, 1911.

"To whom it may concern"

We the men of the working party at present at Hillsboro Inlet L.S., can testify to the following facts:

The 2d assistant keeper W?M?Sharit of this station ordered the men occupying his dwelling to move out and during our absence threw out things out and locked the doors so that we could not enter.

The keeper of this station Mr. Alfred A. Berghell has treated the assistant keepers considerately and has never "Attempted to do them" "any bodily harm" no matter what the provocation has been "neither has he used profanceand abusive language" towards any one while we have been at the station.

A. E. Lee	Carpentor.
Karl Rather	Skilled Laborer.
Fred Lindfars	" "
Charles Anderson	" "
J. R. Heidrich	" "
J. R. Propst	Foreman.

COPY. Hillsboro Inlet L.S. April 24, 1911.

Commander, H.A.Field, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District,
Charleston, S. C.

Sir:-

During my absence from the station last Saturday Sharit the 2d assistant keeper went to Pompano and swore out a warrant against me. I did not take any notice of that as I could prove by the men at the station that there has been no violence offered.

Yesterday he came to me saying that he was out of bread and milk and wanted to go and get some in the afternoon, which was a lie as he went to Pompano to bring back a Justice of the Peace and a jury to put me to trial. When the Sheriff came and served the warrant I told him that I was not afraid of going with him as I could easily prove that the man had been and swore to a lie, but I refused to leave the station for the following reasons:

His warrant was made out by a Justice of Peace and I asked if he thought same had any jurisdiction over me while I was tending to my duty at the station.

The one that came and served the warrant was a county deputy Sheriff and not a U.S.Marshall.

That it was near lighting up time and it was my watch.

That I could not stay for any length of time from the station as I had men as Asst's who could not even pack a leaky valve if necessary.

Sharit is trying to make all kinds of trouble here after my report to you when you was at the station, and feign being afraid of me. I can prove by the men that I have offered no violence towards any one, and said to Sharit that he was too much beneath contempt for me to soil my hands on him. On the 20 instant he went into the tower to light up (that was after he handed the lying charges to me. He called out from above that a leak was in the tank for me to come up and fix same, he had the tower door locked on the inside and had to come down and open same. I told him to come up in the tower he asked me if I was going to hurt him. I laughed at him and told him I would not - that all his fear was, that I was the same kind of a man as he was himself that his conscience was the only thing that was troubling him. All the men heard me and the next day he went and swore out the warrant.

I would respectfully ask your advice what to do in this matter.

Respectfully,

Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper.

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE SERVICE

K.

COPY.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

April 26, 1911.

Mr. George B. Nauman,
1st Assistant Keeper,
Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station,
Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

(Throught the Keeper.)

Sir:

You will immediately report to this office why, if you know of any neglect of duty on the part of the Keeper, you have failed to comply with paragraph 2 of General Instructions t to all Light Keepers, and not reported it in writing to the Inspector.

Respectfully,

H. A. Field,
Commander, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

Hillsboro Light-Station, April 30, 1911.

U. S. Lighthouse Inspector,

Charleston, S. C.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your letter of April 26th asking why I did not make a report in regards to this recent trouble - As I knew of nothing to make a report until after you were here last and as Mr. Berghell said he was going to report Mr. Sharit after the trouble on the dock, and as Mr. Sharit sent in his report to you in regards to the trouble on the dock as I signed Mr. Sharit's report for I knew his statement was correct just as he stated the case so I did not think it necessary to go any further at the time, will say one more word in regards to this matter. On April 11th Mr. Berghell began to kicking about Mr. Sharit for no cause whatever, I reminded Mr. Berghell of what you said when you were here that we all had to live here without having trouble. He said you was referring to Mr. Sharit altogether I told him that I understood you meant whoever was in the wrong be it who it may.

Yours very respectfully,
Geo. B. Nauman,
1st Asst. Keeper.

Department of Commerce and Labor

COPY.

JAL

Hillsboro Inlet L. S. July 14, 1910.

Commander F. M. Bennett, U. S. N.,
Inspector 7th, L. H. District,
Key West, Fla.

Sir:-

I arrived at the station the 13th, instant at 12 noon. To-day I told the assistant keepers to clear the plank walks of weeds overgrowing them. The "New 2nd, assistant" absolutely refused to do anything of the kind, saying that he is no farmer. I would respectfully ask you how I am going to get the grounds cleaned up if the man refuses to go ahead with the work?

I am at present on my vacation.

Very respectfully,
Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper.

I testify that the above is correct.

Ramon Pinder, 1st Asst.

Sharit received a sharp reprimand from Comdr. Bennett with warning of dismissal if he could not do better.

Department of Commerce and Labor
Light-House Establishment

AL

COPY.

Office of Inspector, 7th Dist.,
Key West, Fla.

July 18, 1910.

Mr. Alfred A. Berghell,
Keeper Hillsboro Inlet L.S.,
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Sir:-

Referring to your report of the 14th instant regarding disobedience of orders on the part of your 2d assistant, Willie M. Sharit, I regret to inform you that I cannot take immediate steps toward his removal from the service. Insubordination on his part is plainly evident, but the report is fatally defective in your admission that you are on leave, and were so at the time of the occurrence.

2. Being on leave, you cannot be on duty at the same time, and it is unfortunate that you attempted to exercise authority in such circumstances. It is far better for keepers on leave to be away from the station, but when one elects, as you apparently did, to remain at his station he should abstain from interfering with its duties.

3. A letter is forwarded herewith for delivery to Mr. Sharit.

Respectfully,

F. M. Bennett,
Commander, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 7th L.H.District.

...N TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

INCORPORATED

...RICA. CABLE SERVICE TO ALL THE WORLD.

...RT C. CLOWRY, President and General Manager.

	Time Filed	Check

...ne following message subject to the terms ...k hereof, which are hereby agreed to. } Charleston, S.C., March 23, 1911.

Willie M. Sharit,

Appalachicola, Florida.

Leave extended one week.

Field,

Inspector.

Collect.

☞ READ THE NOTICE AND AGREEMENT ON BACK. ☜

174.A.W. 45 NL., 6 EX., Via Tallahassee.,

Appalachicola Flo March 22-11

Inspector Sixth District Light House Officer

Charleston,S.C.

My leaves of absence will expire Saturday was called home by telegraph of my mothers death my business affairs here are in such condition please give me two weeks longer to settle them up please wire Waiting for answer.,

Willie M.Sharit

Asst Keeper Hillsboro

L-H S.

Ft-Lauderdale. Fla
Nov 12-1910

OFFICE OF LIGHT HOUSE INSPECTOR
SIXTH DISTRICT
NOV 14 1910
CHARLESTON, S.C.

Comandy H A Field
Charleston. S.C.

Dear Sir

Will you pleare put this application on file for a transfer per me to some other light Station in the 6th dist. that is on the coast. I dont want any Build in the Water tenders the dwelling is on the land would you mind seeing if some other Keeper would like to transfer with me. Yours truly

Willis M Sharit

Hillsboro Light Station 2nd asst Keeper

7.35

May 11, 1911.

Willie M. Sharit — 34

Lighthouse (6th Dist.) — 2d Assistant Keeper

$450. p.a. — Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Fla.

April 1,1909 — Through Civil Service Examination.

Classified Competitive.

No

No

None

Perform the duties of the keeper inthis absence and his share of the work in attending the light and care of government property.

Be able to operate motor,boat necessary for station.

No

50		100 00
50		150 00
0		
8		250 00
		31 25

Willie M. Sharit

Lt. Housed

$450. pa

April 1. 1909

2nd asst. Keeper

Hillsboro Inlet Lt. Station

Through Civil Service Examination

Classified Competitive

No.

No.

Name

W. B.

T/O

50 100

50 150

0 —

3.1. %

8) 250 (31 1/4

24

10

8

2

SHARIT, WILLIE M.

Dept letter of May 13, 1911, dismissed Mr. Sharit effective at close of April 29, 1911, for insubordination & disobedience of orders—

Willie M. Sharit

Out

GENERAL APPOINTMENT

Department of Commerce and Labor

559

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK

Washington

June 18, 1910.

Sir:

You have been appointed, subject to taking the oath of office,

Second Assistant Keeper of Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Fla.,

in the Light-House Service

at a salary of Four Hundred and Fifty dollars per annum,

effective beginning July 1, 1910, or as soon thereafter

as you enter upon duty in the above-mentioned position.

(vice Michael L. Shannahan.)

(By transfer from Second Assistant Keeper of Alligator Reef Light-Station, Florida, at $40 per month.)

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(Signed) A. H. BALDWIN

Chief Clerk.

Mr. Willie M. Sharit, of Fla,

Through the Light-House Board.

Appropriation:

Lo

D

11—3692

HSB
SET of inclosures.

Willie M. Sharit-
dismissal.

MAY 6, 1911.

The Honorable

The Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Sir:

1. I have the honor to inclose a letter of the 3rd instant, with its several inclosures, from the Inspector of the Sixth Lighthouse District, recommending the dismissal, for insubordination and disobedience of orders, of Willie M. Sharit, second assistant keeper of Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Florida, effective at the close of April 29, 1911, at which time he was suspended from duty without pay by the Inspector and has not since rendered service.

2. After a careful examination of these papers, the Bureau believes that Mr. Sharit is not a proper person to be employed in the Lighthouse Service, and concurs in the Inspector's recommendation thatnhe be dismissed therefrom, effective at the close of April 29, 1911.

3. There is also inclosed a letter of the 4th instant to this office from the Sixth Inspector, stating that he has preferred charges of conspiracy and making false statements against George B. Nauman, first assistant keeper at Hillsboro Inlet L.S., Fla. When the further papers in his case are received from the Inspector, the same will be submitted to the Department by the Bureau with recommendation.

Respectfully,

Commissioner.

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD
OCT 12 1909
NO.

Enclosure

EFFICIENCY REPORT

(Read the instructions on the reverse side of this Form before attempting to fill it out.)

1. Bureau Light-House - 7th Dist. 2. Where employed Alligator Reef L.S., Fla.
3. Name Sharit, Willie M., 4. Where born Florida.
5. Age 32 yrs. 6. Position Second Assistant Keeper.
7. Compensation $40. pm. 8. When appointed (*a*) April 7, 1909.
9. How appointed (*b*) Through Civil-Service Examination.
10. Appointed from — State Florida. Congressional District 3rd. County Franklin.
11. Status under Civil Service Rules (*c*) Classified Competitive.
12. Is the employee an honorably discharged soldier or sailor? No.
13. Other Government service None.
14. Duties (describe fully) Tends light, keeps station in order, and cooks alternately with Keeper and 1st Assistant.
15. Efficiency — Quantity of work (*d*) 0.9; Quality of work (*e*) Good.; Interest manifested in work (*f*) Yes; good interest manifested.
16. Is this employee fully earning the salary he is now receiving? Yes.
17. Remarks (*g*) Probationary period of six months completed Sept.30,1909.

J. L. Bennett
Head of Bureau or Office.

October 1, 1909.

11—3005

READ THE INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE 3

Department of Commerce and Labor

EFFICIENCY REPORT

May 11, 1911.

(The parenthetical letters refer to instructions on page 3, which instructions should be read and understood before attempting to fill out the form.)

1. Name Willie M. Sharit 2. Age 34 (Last birthday.)

3. Bureau Lighthouse (6th Dist.) 4. Position 2d Assistant Keeper

5. Compensation $450. p.a. 6. Where employed Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Fla.

7. When appointed (*a*) April 1,1909 8. How appointed (*b*) Through Civil Service Examination.

9. Status under Civil Service Rules (*c*) Classified Competitive.

10. Is the employee an honorably discharged soldier or sailor? No

11. Does the employee receive a pension? No If so, state the amount

12. Other Government service None

13. Duties (describe fully) Perform the duties of the keeper in his absence and his share of the work in attending the light and care of government property. Be able to operate motor boat necessary for station.

14. Has the employee special qualifications? No If so, state them

Dismissed

15. Efficiency (*d*):

	Averages.	Relative weights.	Products of averages multiplied by weights.
Quantity of work	50	2	100 00
Quality of work	50	3	150 00
Interest manifested in work (see also Question 17)	0	3	
Attendance		2	
Total		8/10	250 00
Average percentage			31 25

11—4259

16. In the following form state the number of days of annual leave, sick leave, and leave without pay taken in each of the years 1908, 1909, and 1910:

1908.			1909.			1910.		
Annual.	Sick.	Without pay.	Annual.	Sick.	Without pay.	Annual.	Sick.	Without pay.

17. Is this employee a purely routine employee, or does he manifest interest, not only in his own work but also in the work of the office or bureau as a whole, to the extent of overtime work or voluntary efforts by suggestion or otherwise to add to its efficiency? (Answer fully.)

Purely routine.

18. On the basis of efficiency alone, is this employee overpaid or underpaid as compared with others in your office engaged on the same grade of work, or is his salary a fair equivalent for the service rendered? (Answer fully.)

Overpaid

If the present salary is above or below a fair equivalent, state what, in your opinion, it should be. Undesriable at any salary.

19. Is this employee superannuated? No If so, what percentage of salary is unearned?

20. Remarks: (*e*) Recommendation has been made that this employee be discharged from the service.

The official who is primarily responsible for the statements herein submitted will sign here—

N. Ahrendt.

Comd'r U. S. N. Light House Inspr. 6th. District.

The official who approves the statements thus submitted will sign here—

Chief of Bureau or Office.

Willie M. Sharit

STATE FROM WHICH APPOINTED
Florida

INACTIVE

Willie M. Sharit

STATUS

DESIGNATION	SALARY	OFFICE, BUREAU, OR DIVISION	DATE APPOINTED
2nd Asst. Kpr. Alligator Key - Fla.	$40. mo	L. H.	Apr 1. 1909
" " " Hillsboro Inlet — "	$450. p.a.	"	July 25, 1910
Suspended from duty without pay.			
Dismissed close Apr. 29, 1911			

INACTIVE

11—1248

Form 78 ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT, PROMOTION, OR TRANSFER OF EMPLOYEE

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK RECEIVED APR 7 - 1909 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS RECEIVED APR - 1909 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

Office of the INSPECTOR 7TH L. H. Dist.,

KEY WEST, FLA.

The Light-House Board,

Washington, D. C.

April 1, 1909.
(Date)

Sirs: I have the honor to recommend the (1) probationary appointment
(Probationary appointment, transfer, promotion, etc.)
of (2) Willie M. Sharit X of (3) Florida
(Name of person—letter for letter—as reported to Board) (State of legal residence)
~~from (4)~~ .....
(Official title of present position, as Keeper, First Assistant Keeper, etc.)
~~at (5)~~ .....
(Official name of aid, as given in Light List, as Absecon Light-Station, N. J.)
~~at (6)~~ $..... to (7) Second Assistant Keeper
(Salary now paid) (Official title of position, as Keeper, First Assistant Keeper, etc.)
at (8) Alligator Reef Light-Station, Fla. at
(Official name of aid, as given in Light List, as Absecon Light-Station, N. J.)
(Was 500. p.a.)
(9) $40. a month, effective beginning (10) April 1, 1909, (the date
(Salary recommended)
of his entrance on duty) ~~(or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty)~~
(Strike out the clause not appropriate)
in the place of (11) Charles L. Morrow
(State name of *last* person holding position)
who (12) resigned on (13) Feb'y 28, 1909.
(Died, transferred, resigned, dismissed, etc.) (Last day of service)
Mr. (14) Sharit stands No. (15) 2 in list of eligibles,
Class (16) III, with an average of (17) 79.8 per cent, and
was considered with (18) Elmer A. Curry and Thomas F. Britson
(19) letters of declination of Elmer A. Curry enclosed herewith;
no answer received to date from Thomas F. Britson.

Respectfully,

J. M. Bennett. COMDR. U. S. N.
INSPECTOR 7TH L. H. DISTRICT

Papers
E. S. S.

LD
12293
1 inclosure.

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD

April 6, 1909.

Approved, and respectfully forwarded to the Honorable the Secretary of Commerce and Labor. Authority is asked to remove the name of Thomas F. Britson from the eligible register, as no reply was received from him from a tender of this position.

H. T. Mayo

CAPTAIN, U. S. N.
NAVAL SECRETARY

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK FORWARDED APR 7 - 1909 TO APPOINTMENTS DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS APPOINTMENT WRITTEN APR - 7 1909 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

INDEXED

5-7-09

Send declination to Comdr. Bennett

11—2314

PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT—PRIOR DATE

12693

Department of Commerce and Labor
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington

April 7, 1909.

Mr. Willis M. Sherit, of Florida, having qualified under the civil-service regulations, is hereby appointed Second Assistant Keeper of Alligator Reef Light-Station, Florida, in the Light-House Service, with compensation at the rate of forty dollars per month, for a probationary period of six months, effective beginning April 1 1909, he having entered upon duty on that date and since continuously served in the above-mentioned position. [vice Charles L. Morrow.]

Retention in the service after the expiration of probationary period shall be equivalent to absolute appointment.

Payment of the compensation authorized in this appointment is subject to the [illegible] of service being taken.

CERTIFICATE OF APPOINTMENT
REPORTED
APR 8 1909
TO DISBURSING CLERK
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

RDED

Oscar S. Straus
Acting Secretary.

The Light House Board.

CHANGE REPORTED
APR — 1909
C. S. COMMISSION.

Form 111

Enclosure.

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD
APR 15 1909
NO. 12293

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
RECEIVED
APR 19 1909
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

OATH OF OFFICE

(PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 1757, REVISED STATUTES)

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

I, Willie M. Sharit

do solemnly[a] Swear 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.

Willie M Sharit

[b] Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 12 day of April, A. D. 1909

(Affix official seal here.)

[c](Name:) W. B. Roberts

(Official title:) U.S. Commr

OFFICIAL TITLE.	NAME OF STATION.	State or Country in which born.	State or Territory from which appointed.
Second Assist. Keeper	Alligator Reef L.S.	Florida.	Florida.

$40.- per month.

OFFICE OF THE Inspector 7th LIGHT-HOUSE DISTRICT,

Key West, Fla., (Address.) April 12, 1909. (Date.)

The above-named appointee entered upon duty on April 1, 1909. (Date.)

(Signed:) [illegible] COMDR. U.S.

INSPECTOR 7TH L.H. DISTRICT

CARDED

[a] Insert here "swear" or "affirm," as the case may be.

[b] Insert here "Sworn to" or "Affirmed," as the case may be.

[c] 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.

NOTE CAREFULLY.

The oath may be executed at any time subsequent to the actual issuance of the appointment certificate, but no compensation should be paid until the oath is executed in proper form. Whenever possible the oath should be executed upon the date of actual entrance upon duty.

A letter of transmittal (use Form 95) should accompany Oath, stating the **exact** date of the entrance on duty of the appointee and the above blank also filled out and properly signed by the district officer.

Failure to fill out this Oath properly will result in its return for correction.

L.

Ent'd APR 17 1909

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
FORWARDED
APR 19 1909
TO APPOINTMENTS
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
RECEIVED
APR 19 1909

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
RECEIVED
APR 19 1909
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD
APR 15 1909
NO. 12293

Enclosure.

PERSONAL QUESTION SHEET

Department of Commerce and Labor

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington

December 17, 1906.

To the Chiefs of Bureaus of the Department of Commerce and Labor:

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 officer in immediate charge should review the information given by the appointee or employee, and if correct, should forward the form to the Chief of the Bureau without delay. The information called for by the questions in Part II should then be supplied and the form forwarded to the Department.

CARDED

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
FORWARDED
APR 19 1909
TO APPOINTMENTS
DEP'T OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Oscar S. Straus

Secretary.

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
RECEIVED
APR 19 1909
G
DEP'T OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

PART I.

(Part I should be executed 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.)

Mr Willis Marshall Sharit

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

Willis M Sharit

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

Apalachicola (City or town.) Fla (State or Territory.) Franklin (County.) Third (Congressional district.)

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

5. Where were you born? Apalachicola Fla

6. When were you born? July (Month.) 20th (Day.) 1874 (Year.)

7. Are you pensioned by the U. S. Government? (Answer "Yes" or "No.") No

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 keeper L H Service Jan 21 1909

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.)

no

12. 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.)

Regiment and company, or vessel.	Date enlisted.	Date discharged.	Cause of discharge.
no			

13. If you served in the military or naval service of the United States at any time other than during the Civil or Spanish-American War, indicate such service in the spaces below.

Regiment and company, or vessel.	Date enlisted.	Date discharged.	Cause of discharge.
no			

14. 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 for the Government, indicated in your answers to questions 11, 12, and 13.)

Woman & Carpenter

15. 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.)

Public School

16. What special qualifications have you—professional, technical, mechanical, etc.? (Examples: Qualified as "Lawyer," or "Civil Engineer," or "Draftsman," or "Carpenter.")

Coast Pilot Between Mobile & Key West
200 ton [redacted] Vessels

17. What, if any, civil service examinations have you passed? (Give names and dates as near as you recollect.)
Assistant Keeper L.H. Service Jan 21 1909

18. 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

19. State the date upon which the above blanks were filled. Apr 12, 1909

Witness:

(Signature) Willis M Merritt

In case signature is by mark.

P. O. Address: Key West
City or town.
Fla Light House Office
Number and street.
Fla
State or Territory.

Reviewed, approved, and forwarded April 12, 1909.

(Signature) J.W. Bennett. Comdr, U.S.N.;

(Official title) Inspector 7th L.H. District

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.
Light-House (Bureau or Service.) Alligator Reef L.S., Fla. (Place (city, town, or station).) 7th (District.)

2. To what position has he been appointed? 2d-Asst Keeper.

3. State the date of appointment. April 7, 1909.

4. State the date the appointment was effective. (If appointment was made to take effect on date of oath, so state.)
April 1, 1909.

5. State the date of the oath. April 12, 1909.

6. State the date the appointee or employee entered on duty. April 1, 1909.

7. What is his salary? $40. per month.

8. From what appropriation is he paid? Salaries of Keepers of Light-Houses.

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 appointee or 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.)
From Asst. Keeper, L.H. Service, examination.

12. Is the appointee or employee required to give bond? No.

(Signature) Comdr, U.S.N.

Date: April 12, 1909. (Official title) Inspector 7th L.H. District.

11—1434

(CROSS REFERENCE - - E F F I C I E N C Y)

At a conference it was decided to take the action outlined in the following cases:

HENRY J. LEWIS, Give him 60 days in which to improve. Should he fail to improve, dismiss him on charges.
HENRY SHANNAHAN, same as LEWIS.
EUGENE H. SHANNAHAN, same as LEWIS.
WILLIE M. SHARIT, Report efficiency at end of prob. period.
RICHARD PALMER, same as SHARIT.
JOHN L. WILLIAMS, same as SHARIT.
WILLIAM J. KNICKMEYER, Give him 60 days in which to improve. Should he fail to do this, dismiss him on charges.
CHARLES T. WATHEN, Same as KNICKMEYER.
CHARLES W. ELDER, Same as KNICKMEYER.

FILE WITH

SEE MEMO DATED JULY 13, 1909 in file of

MISC. 271/3.

Also see Dept. letter of July 9, in same file.

Bds letter of 9/20/09 acknowledges receipt + says instructions will be obeyed. - See Misc. 271/3

3684

October 16, 1909.

Gentlemen:

Receipt is acknowledged of the Board's letter of the 13th instant making further report on the efficiency of John L. Williams and Willie H. Sharit, at the expiration of their probationary periods.

Based upon the information contained in the Board's letter, the Department has amended the efficiency report of Mr. Williams to read 9/10 on quantity of work and good on quality of work and interest manifested in work, and the report of Mr. Sharit to read 9/10 on quantity of work and good on quality of work.

As the employees are now satisfactorily rated, no further present action will be taken in their cases.

Respectfully,

(Gross Reference)
For basis of this action see
letter dated Oct. 13, 15-4/16-19
in file of John L. Williams

Acting Secretary.

The Light-House Board.

F-Mc.

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD
JUN 8 1909
NO.

EFFICIENCY REPORT

(Read the instructions on the reverse side of this Form before attempting to fill it out.)

79 Fla.

1. Bureau Light-House - 7th Dist. 2. Where employed Alligator Reef L.S.,
3. Name Sharit, Willie M., 4. Where born Florida.
5. Age 32 yrs. 6. Position 2nd Assistant Keeper.
7. Compensation $40. pm. 8. When appointed (a) April 1, 1909.
9. How appointed (b) Through Civil-Service Examination.
10. Appointed from — State Florida. Congressional District 3rd. County Franklin.
11. Status under Civil Service Rules (c) Classified Competitive.
12. Is the employee an honorably discharged soldier or sailor? No.
13. Other Government service None.
14. Duties (describe fully) Tends light, keeps station in order, and cooks alternately with Keeper and 1st Assistant.
15. Efficiency — Quantity of work (d) ~~0.8~~ 9/10 (By 2d Asst Keeper) Quality of work (e) ~~Average.~~ Good 10-16-09 (By 2d Asst Keeper) Interest manifested in work (f) Yes; good interest manifested.
16. Is this employee fully earning the salary he is now receiving? Yes.
17. Remarks (g) Length of service too short (2 months only) to permit of definite conclusions as to this man's capabilities.

O. K.

CAPTAIN, U. S. N.
NAVAL SECRETARY

Head of Bureau or Office.

JUN 5 - 1909, 19

11—3005

Form 73 ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT, PROMOTION, OR TRANSFER OF EMPLOYEE

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS RECEIVED JUN 17 1910 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Office of the INSPECTOR 7TH L. H. Dist.,
KEY WEST, FLA.

RECEIVED JUN 17 1910 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

The Light-House Board,
Washington, D. C.

June 10, 1910.
(Date)

Sirs: I have the honor to recommend the (1) transfer
(Probationary appointment, transfer, promotion, etc.)
of (2) Willie M. Sharit of (3) Florida
(Name of person—letter for letter—as reported to Board) (State of legal residence)
from (4) Second Assistant Keeper
(Official title of present position, as Keeper, First Assistant Keeper, etc.)
at (5) Alligator Reef Light-Station, Fla.,
(Official name of aid, as given in Light List, as Absecon Light-Station, N. J.)
at (6) $ 40. p.m. to (7) Second Assistant Keeper
(Salary now paid) (Official title of position, as Keeper, First Assistant Keeper, etc.)
at (8) Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Fla. at
(Official name of aid, as given in Light List, as Absecon Light-Station, N. J.)
(9) $450 per annum, (Salary recommended), effective beginning (10) July 1, 1910. (~~the date of his entrance on duty~~) (or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty)
(Strike out the clause not appropriate)
in the place of (11) Michael L. Shannahan
(State name of *last* person holding position) July 1. 1910 crcd
who (12) is recommended for transfer ~~on~~ (13) June 30, 1910.
(Died, transferred, resigned, dismissed, etc.) (Last day of service)
~~Mr.~~ (14) ~~stands No.~~ (15) ~~in list of eligibles,~~
~~Class (16) ; with an average of (17) per cent, and~~
This transfer which involves a reduction in pay is made at the request of Mr. Sharit, whose written request is enclosed herewith.
~~was considered with (18)~~
~~(19) letters of declination of herewith.~~

Respectfully,

F. M. Bennett
COMDR. U.S.N
INSPECTOR 7TH L.H.DISTRICT

HB-BTD
559
ONE INCLOSURE.

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD

June 15, 1910., ~~190~~

Approved, and respectfully forwarded to the Honorable the Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

6-17-10

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS APPOINTMENT WRITTEN JUN 17 1910 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

RECEIVED JUN 17 1910 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

A. B. Walker
Captain, U. S. N.,
Naval Secretary.

11-2314

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD
JUN 13 1910
NO. 559
Enclosure

Islamorada Fla
May 7-1910

Inspector
of 7th District

I Received your letter through the Keeper and I will answer it through him. I will accept the Lampers Co Hibbaraugh light at the Reduced Salery of Four Hundred & fifty dollars ($450.00) Per year Please arrainge it for me

Yours Truly
Willis M Short
2nd asst Keeper
Aligator Light Station

GENERAL APPOINTMENT

Department of Commerce and Labor

559 OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK

Washington

June 18, 1910.

Sir:

You have been appointed, subject to taking the oath of office,

Second Assistant Keeper at Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Fla.,

in the Light House Service

at a salary of Four Hundred and Fifty dollars per annum,

effective beginning July 1, 1910, or as soon thereafter

as you enter upon duty in the above-mentioned position.

(vice Michael L. Shannahan.)

(By transfer from Second Assistant Keeper of Alligator Reef Light-Station, Florida, at $40 per month.)

CARDED.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION REPORTED JUN 18 1910 TO DISBURSING CLERK DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

CHANGE REPORTED 1111 1910 U. S. COMMISSION

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

A. W. Gahlon

Chief Clerk.

Mr. Willis M. Sharit.

Through the Light-House Board.

Appropriation:

Lo

D

11—3692

Form 95

LETTER TRANSMITTING OATH OR PERSONAL QUESTION SHEET

OFFICE OF APPOINTMENTS RECEIVED AUG 8 1910 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK RECEIVED AUG 8 1910 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR 7TH L. H. DISTRICT

KEY WEST, FLA.

August 1, 1910.
(DATE)

The Light-House Board,

Washington, D. C.

Sirs:

I have the honor to inclose herewith, properly filled out, the oath and personal question sheet of Willie M. Sharit
(STATE CORRECT NAME OF APPOINTEE)
who was appointed Second Assistant Keeper
(STATE OFFICIAL TITLE HERE)
at Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Fla.,
(STATE OFFICIAL NAME OF AID HERE)
by Department letter of June 18, 1910. Mr. Sharit
(DATE)
actually entered on duty under this appointment on July 1, 1910.
(DATE)

Respectfully,

D. M. Bennett

COMMANDER U. S. NAVY.

INSPECTOR 7TH L. H. DISTRICT

By A. Bruce Chief Clerk.

Strike out "Personal question sheet" if one has already been furnished.

Oaths and personal question sheets should be sent to this Office for transmission to the Department at the earliest practicable date.

11-2M

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK FORWARDED AUG 8 1910 TO APPOINTMENTS DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

CARDED.

Cash

Form 111

OATH OF OFFICE

(PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 1757, REVISED STATUTES)

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
RECEIVED
AUG 8 1910
G
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

I, Willie M. Sharit

do solemnly [a] 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.

Willie M. Sharit
(Appointee signs here.)

[b] Sworn to (See below.) and subscribed before me, this 25th day of July, A. D. 1910

(Affix official seal here.)

[c] (Name:) F. A. Bryan

(Official title:) Notary Public
My commission expires Dec. 9-1911

Official Title.	Pay.	Name of Station.	State or Country in which born.	State or Territory from which last appointed.
Second Asst Keeper	$450.-	Hillsboro Inlet L. S.	Florida.	Florida.

(The above should be filled in by the district officer.)

Office of the INSPECTOR 7TH Light-House District,

KEY WEST, FLA. (Address.), August 1, 1910. (Date.)

The above-named appointee entered upon duty on July 1, 1910. (Date.)

(Signed:) F. M. Bennett COMDR. U.S.N.

INSPECTOR 7TH L.H. DISTRICT

By A. Frost, Chief Clerk.

[a] Insert here "swear" or "affirm," as the case may be.

[b] Insert here "Sworn to" or "Affirmed," as the case may be.

[c] 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.

NOTE CAREFULLY.

The oath may be taken any time prior to the payment of compensation, but no compensation should be paid until the oath is executed in proper form.

A letter of transmittal (use Form 95) should accompany Oath, stating the **exact** date of the entrance on duty of the appointee and the above blank also filled out and properly signed by the district officer.

Failure to fill out this Oath properly will result in its return for correction.

Ent'd AUG 8 - 1910 CARDED.

K.

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE SERVICE

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES
APR 29 1911
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION
RECEIVED
MAY 1 1911
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

Willie M. Sharit,
2d Asst.Kpr.Hillsboro Inlet
Lt.Sta., Florida-
Suspension of:

April 27, 1911.

The Commissioner of Light-Houses,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In compliance with instructions contained in circular of January 30, 1906, I respectfully report that in accordance with circular of June 5, 1906, I have forwarded through the Keeper of Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Florida, letter suspending Mr. Willie M. Sharit, 2d Assistane Keeper of said station, without pay, effective upon delivery of letter of suspension.

2nd asst
450
Fa

2. Charges preferred against Mr. Sharit by the Keeper of Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Mr. Alfred A. Berghell, for insubordination and disregard of orders, were recently received, and Mr. Sharit was imformed of these charges but has not yet had sufficient time to answer.

3. This morning report was received from Mr. Berghell that Mr. Sharit had sworn out a warrant for his arrest and had the warrant served by the sheriff of the county, and further, that Mr. Sharit was insubordinate and causing trouble that might interfere with station

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES
APR 29 1911
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

duties. Pending charges to be preferred against Mr. Sharit, approval of my action in suspending him is respectfully requested.

4. As soon as Mr. Sharit's reply to these charges is received in this office, the papers in the case will be forwarded to the Bureau.

Respectfully,

H. A. Field

Commander, U.S.N.,

Inspector, 6th L.H.District.,

WROTE BUREAU
MAY 2 1911

May 2, 1911.

Sir:

In compliance with the Bureau's recommendation of the 27th ultimo, the action of the Inspector of the Sixth Lighthouse District in suspending Mr. Willie M. Sharit, second assistant keeper of Hillsboro Inlet Light Station, Florida, from duty without pay, pending charges to be preferred against him, has been approved by the Department.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

CARDED.

Acting Chief Clerk.

The Commissioner of Lighthouses.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION
REPORTED
MAY 3 1911
TO DISBURSING CLERK
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

D-Le

Department of Commerce and Labor

APPOINTMENT DIVISION

Washington

MEMORANDUM IN RE WILLIE M. SHARIT, SECOND ASSISTANT KEEPER OF HILLSBORO INLET LIGHT STATION, FLORIDA, RECOMMENDED FOR DISMISSAL.

****

The Inspector of the Sixth Lighthouse District charged Mr. Sharit on the 26th ultimo with

> "(a) Insubordination. In generally questioning the keeper's orders, failing to promptly obey same, and not using best efforts in the interest of and for the efficiency of the Lighthouse Service.
>
> (b) Disobedience of orders. Having been personally told by the Inspector, April 10, 1911, that some of the members of a repair party were to be given quarters in the second assistant keeper's dwelling at the Light Station and that you and the other keepers were to look out for them, you nevertheless ordered these men from the dwelling without authority, thus disobeying orders and disregarding the regulations of the Lighthouse Establishment."

With respect to (a), the keeper of the station stated,

(1) That on the 10th ultimo he informed Mr. Sharit that he would have to cook supper for a working party (of six lighthouse employees) and also cook the meals the next day until he (the keeper) could arrange otherwise, as he was obliged to go to Fort Lauderdale for the foreman. However, Mr. Sharit claimed to be unable to do even the simplest kind of cooking, and the keeper was compelled therefore to aid more or less in the work that evening. That night Mr. Sharit reported himself as sick and the first assistant keeper was on that account detailed the next day for the cooking during the keeper's absence. Mr. Sharit was well the next day, which, the keeper claims, establishes the fact that the claim of illness was a sham to get out of cooking for the men.

(2) On the 14th ultimo the keeper assigned Mr. Sharit to fill

the gas (gasoline?) into the launch tank and the next day the cap over the filling hole was missing. Mr. Sharit upon being questioned denied all knowledge of it, but let fall a remark which led the keeper to believe that he knew the cap was overboard. He was therefore taxed with that proposition but claimed to know nothing about it. The keeper thereupon made use of the water glass and located the cap beside the wharf. The keeper states that Mr. Sharit was the last one to fill the tank and made no report of the loss of the cap "so as to blame some one else." He charges Mr. Sharit with endeavoring to foment discord at the station by inducing the first assistant keeper to side with him against the keeper, and cites the first assistant keeper's endorsement of Mr. Sharit's report that the keeper had abused him and offered him bodily violence.

The keeper offers nothing in substantiation of (1)and (2) excepting the first assistant keeper's position in the matter above mentioned.

With respect to (b) the keeper stated,

That on the 18th ultimo the foreman, Mr. Propst, reported that Mr. Sharit, had ordered the workmen out of his dwelling into the storeroom, saying that their presence in the upper floor disturbed his rest at night, and that he(the keeper) thereupon called the assistant keepers into the office and reminded them that it was by the Inspector's orders that the men were in the dwellings and would

have to continue so. At the request of the foreman, the 1st assistant keeper permitted the workmen to occupy his dwelling.

In substantiation of this charge the foreman and workmen unite in stating under date of the 23rd ultimo:

> "The second assistant keeper, W. M. Sharit, of this station ordered the men occupying his dwelling to move out and during our absence threw our things out and locked the door so that we could not enter."

Mr. Sharit, in reply, stated with respect to (a) that it was a falsehood, was made through malice, and asked that the keeper be required to prove his statement. With respect to (b) he stated that the question of quarters for the working party was satisfactorily arranged between the foreman and the three keepers and referred to the foreman for further particulars.

In connection with these charges arose a controversy on the 19th ultimo between the keeper and Mr. Sharit which resulted in the latter swearing out a warrant against the former charging him with attempt at bodily harm. Mr. Sharit, endorsed by the first assistant keeper, is very specific in his statements particularly with reference to the use of foul and abusive language by the keeper, but the latter's version is that Mr. Sharit was the first to make threatening demonstrations and that no profane language was used by him, the keeper.

With respect to this question, the foreman and working party stated:

"The keeper of this station, Mr. Alfred A. Berghell, has treated the assistant keepers considerately and has never 'attempted to do them any bodily harm' no matter what the provocation has been, 'neither has he used profane and abusive language towards any one while we have been at the station.'"

(The trouble between the keeper and Mr. Sharit occurred after the working party had arrived at the station).

Relative to this matter the Inspector stated:

"This action I believe was without just cause and was done with malicious intent and might have resulted to the detriment of the service preventing the efficient care of the Hillsboro Light through the enforced absence of the keeper."

Enclosed copies of correspondence of last summer between the keeper and the Inspector show that Mr. Sharit is of an insubordinate disposition, and strengthens the belief that (a) is established in a degree sufficient to warrant action by the Department. The charge of disobedience of specific orders (b) is fully established. It is believed therefore that the Bureau's recommendation for Mr. Sharit's dismissal should be approved.

It may be noted here that the Sixth Inspector has preferred charges of conspiracy and making false statements against George B. Newman, first assistant keeper of Hillsboro Inlet Light Station, Florida.

Geo. W. Kadley
Chief of Appointment Division.

May 12, 1911.

Approved

D-Le

HSB
SET of inclosures.

Department of Commerce and Labor
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
Washington

Willie M. Sharit-
dismissal.

MAY 6, 1911.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
RECEIVED
MAY 8 - 1911
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

APPOINTMENT DIVISION
RECEIVED
MAY 8 - 1911
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

The Honorable

The Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Sir:

1. I have the honor to inclose a letter of the 3rd instant, with its several inclosures, from the Inspector of the Sixth Lighthouse District, recommending the dismissal, for insubordination and disobedience of orders, of Willie M. Sharit, second assistant keeper of Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Florida, effective at the close of April 29, 1911, at which time he was suspended from duty without pay by the Inspector and has not since rendered service.

2. After a careful examination of these papers, the Bureau believes that Mr. Sharit is not a proper person to be employed in the Lighthouse Service, and concurs in the Inspector's recommendation that he be dismissed therefrom, effective at the close of April 29, 1911.

3. There is also inclosed a letter of the 4th instant to this office from the Sixth Inspector, stating that he has preferred charges of conspiracy and making false statements against George B. Nauman, first assistant keeper at Hillsboro Inlet L.S., Fla. When the further papers in his case are received from the Inspector, the same will be submitted to the Department by the Bureau with recommendation.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
FORWARDED TO
MAY 8 - 1911
APPOINTMENTS
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Respectfully,

G. R. Putnam
Commissioner.

Note letter of transmittal. 5-13-1911

K.

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE SERVICE

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES
MAY 5 1911
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

George B. Nauman,
1st Asst.Kpr.Hillsboro
Inlet Lt.Sta.,Fla.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

May 4, 1911.

The Commissioner of Light-Houses,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

1. Referring to letter from this office of even date recommending the dismissal of Willie M. Sharit, 2d Assistant Keeper, Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Florida, for insubordination and disobedience of orders, and correspondence relative to charges in this case enclosed with said letter.

2. As the evidence submitted in this case implicates Mr. George B. Nauman, 1st Assistant Keeper, for conspiracy and making false statement against the Keeper, I have forwarded letter to Mr. Nauman charging him with this offence, on report of the Keeper of the station, Mr. Berghell.

3. Mr. Berghell's charges against him, Mr. Nauman, are contained in letter marked "C" with correspondence enclosed with the Sharit case. In letters marked "B" and "F" of the Sharit case it will be noted that Mr. Nauman signed the reports of Mr. Sharit as correct.

4. Mr. Berghell's statements are supported by the signed statement, letter marked "G" of Mr. J. R. Propst and other members of the working party now at the station, that the Keeper did not attack the 2d Assistant Keeper or use profane and abusive language.

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES
MAY 5 1911
DEPT. OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

5. Upon receipt of Mr. Nauman's answer to the charges the papers will be forwarded to the Bureau with recommendations in his case.

Respectfully,

H. A. Field.

Commander, U. S. N.,

Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

Department of Commerce and Labor

JAL

LIGHT-HOUSE SERVICE

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES
MAY 5 1911
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR, 6TH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S. C.

Willie M. Sharit,
2d Asst. Kpr.,
Hillsboro Lt. Sta.,
Dismissal of.

May 3, 1911.

The Commissioner of Lighthouses,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

1. I have to recommend the dismissal from the Lighthouse Service of Willie M. Sharit, Second Assistant Keeper at Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Florida, for insubordination and disobedience of orders.

2. Since Mr. Sharit has been at this station he has been grossly insubordinate to the Keeper and has failed to cooperate with him for the best interests of the service.

3. April 10, 1911, I inspected this station and investigated the trouble between the Keeper and the 2d Assistant and decided that the latter, Mr. Sharit, was in error. Verbal instructions were given at the time which I hoped would straighten out affairs. - At the same time I gave orders to the Keeper and Assistants relative to quartering and taking care of the members of a repair party about to begin general repairs at the station. After my departure, Mr. Sharit, in direct disobedience of my orders to him that he was to keep some of the party in

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES
MAY 5 1911
DEP'T OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

his dwelling, having two vacant rooms, drove the men quartered there from the house.

4. Since then and after I had written Mr. Sharit giving him an opportunity to make any statement that he wished as to why he should not be separated from the Lighthouse Service, I learned that he had sworn out a warrant for the arrest of the Keeper, charging him with attempt at bodily harm. This action I believe was without just cause and was done with malicious intent and might have resulted to the detriment of the Service by preventing the efficient care of the Hillsboro Light through the enforced absence of the Keeper.

5. Enclosed herewith is correspondence in connection with this matter including, Sharit's statement, a statement signed by the Repair Party relative to the behavior of the Keeper since they have been at the Station, which is for the time covered in the charges, and some earlier correspondence throwing light on Mr. Sharit's conduct before the Hillsboro Light-Station was transferred to this District.

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES
MAY 5 1911
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

6. I consider Mr. Sharit as a trouble maker and that his longer continuation in the Lighthouse Service will be a detriment to its discipline and efficiency; I respectfully request that the Bureau may take early action in this case, and if my recommendation be approved that he be dismissed effective from close of business April 29, 1911, the date letter from this office suspending him from duty without pay was delivered to him.

7. If affirmative action be taken, I request to be notified by wire in the interests of the service and in justice to Mr. Sharit, in order that no further delay may be had in the case.

8. Correspondence, etc., letters "A" to "R" inclusive, are herewith enclosed.

Very respectfully,

H. Whild

Commander, U.S.N.,
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

JAL

May 3, 1911.

Correspondence relative charges made by Mr. Alfred A. Berghell, Keeper, Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Fla., against Mr. Willie M. Sharit, 2d Assistant Keeper of said Station.

LIGHT-HOUSE ☆ MAY 5 1911 ☆ DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

A. Report dated April 19, 1911 from Mr. Berghell, Keeper of Station, that Mr. Sharit had made members of working party move out of quarters. assigned to them by Inspector, and to the effect that he was not properly attending to his duties.

B. Report dated April 19, 1911 from Mr. Sharit against Mr. Berghell for assault, cursing, etc.

C. Letter dated April 21, 1911 from Mr. Berghell in answer to preceding.

D. Letter dated April 21, 1911 from Mr. Sharit in answer to report of Keeper of April 19, 1911 (marked "A")

E. Letter dated April 26, 1911 from Inspector to Mr. Sharit calling for answer to charges preferred by Keeper.

F. Letter dated April 29, 1911 from Mr. Sharit in answer to charges of Keeper and letter of Inspector of April 26, 1911.

G. Report dated April 23, 1911 signed by Foreman John R. Propst and all members of working party (said party has been employed at station since April 9, 1911) corroborating the report of Keeper, that Mr. Sharit made working party leave quarters assigned them and testifying that Mr. Berghell had not abused assistants during the period working party has been at station.

H. Letter dated April 24, 1911 from Mr. Berghell reporting that Mr. Sharit had sworn out a warrant for his arrest and had warrant served by Sheriff of County.

I. Letter dated April 26, 1911 to Mr. Geo B. Nauman, 1st Asst. Keeper, Hillsboro Light-Station, calling for report why he failed to comply with paragraph 2 of General Instructions, Light-House Keepers.

J. Letter dated April 30, 1911 from Mr. Nauman in answer to preceding.

K. Letter dated April 27, 1911 from Inspector to Mr. Sharit suspending him from duty without pay.

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES
MAY 5 1911
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

L. Letter dated April 27, 1911 from Inspector to Mr. Berghell forwarding letter of suspension for delivery to Mr. Sharit.

M. Letter dated April 30, 1911 from Mr. Berghell answering charges contained in letter from Mr. Nauman of April 30, 1911.

N. Letter dated April 29, 1911 from Mr. Berghell reporting Mr. Sharit suspended from duty April 29, 1911 in accordance with instructions from this office of April 27, 1911, (Letter marked "L")

O, P, Q & R. Letters referred to in last part of paragraph 5 of accompanying letter as "some earlier correspondence throwing light on Mr. Sharit's conduct before the Hillsboro Station was transferred to this District."

READ THE INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE 3

Department of Commerce and Labor

EFFICIENCY REPORT

May 11, 1911.

(The parenthetical letters refer to instructions on page 3, which instructions should be read and understood before attempting to fill out the form.)

1. Name Willie M. Sharit 2. Age 34 (Last birthday.)

3. Bureau Lighthouse (6th Dist.) 4. Position 2d Assistant Keeper

5. Compensation $450. p.a. 6. Where employed Hillsboro Inlet Light-Station, Fla.

7. When appointed (*a*) April 1,1909 8. How appointed (*b*) Through Civil Service Examination.

9. Status under Civil Service Rules (*c*) Classified Competitive.

10. Is the employee an honorably discharged soldier or sailor? No

11. Does the employee receive a pension? No If so, state the amount

12. Other Government service None

13. Duties (describe fully) Perform the duties of the keeper in his absence and his share of the work in attending the light and care of government property. Be able to operate motor boat necessary for station.

14. Has the employee special qualifications? No If so, state them

15. Efficiency (*d*):

	Averages.	Relative weights.	Products of averages multiplied by weights.
Quantity of work	50	2	100 00
Quality of work	50	3	150 00
Interest manifested in work (see also Question 17)	0	3	
Attendance		2	
Total		10	250 00
Average percentage			31 25

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16. In the following form state the number of days of annual leave, sick leave, and leave without pay taken in each of the years 1908, 1909, and 1910:

1908.			1909.			1910.		
Annual.	Sick.	Without pay.	Annual.	Sick.	Without pay.	Annual.	Sick.	Without pay.

17. Is this employee a purely routine employee, or does he manifest interest, not only in his own work but also in the work of the office or bureau as a whole, to the extent of overtime work or voluntary efforts by suggestion or otherwise to add to its efficiency? (Answer fully.) Purely routine.

18. On the basis of efficiency alone, is this employee overpaid or underpaid as compared with others in your office engaged on the same grade of work, or is his salary a fair equivalent for the service rendered? (Answer fully.) Overpaid If the present salary is above or below a fair equivalent, state what, in your opinion, it should be. Undesriable at any salary.

19. Is this employee superannuated? No If so, what percentage of salary is unearned?

20. Remarks: (e) Recommendation has been made that this employee be discharged from the service.

The official who is primarily responsible for the statements herein submitted will sign here—

N. Ifield

Comd'r U.S.N. Light House Inspr. 6th. District.

The official who approves the statements this submitted will sign here—

G. L. Putnam

Chief of Bureau or Office.

T.S.C.

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