2025 JUL 21 AM 8:54:49

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

Date: 7/21/2025

REQUESTER INFORMATION

Name (Please Print – Last, First, Middle)	Researcher ID Card Number
Burns, Andrew	4563213
E-Mail Address:	**Phone Number:**
afbfg4@umsl.edu	636-415-7353

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
Sisson, Robert, A.		1844 Quebec

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: 1914 SC

State of Residence (upon entry into service):

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

Researcher Signature: Andrew Burns

CIVILIAN SERVICE

(Agency & Location)		
Lighthouse Service (SC)		
From: 1879	To: 1914	
(Agency & Location)		
From:	To:	
(Agency & Location)		
From:	To:	

2 folders

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

This Space Intentionally Left Blank

STAFF USE ONLY

Appointment Time and Date:

Additional Researchers: ☐ Yes ☐ No

CMRS Service Request Number: C-000160111224

Attendant Signature:

CMRS Search Request Number(s): Submitted to Arc. search 7/23/25 SBS

Remarks:

25 JUL 29 AM10:23:45

SCREENING NOTES

☐ Reviewed and Nothing Removed

☐ Items Removed and User Informed

Hold Requested: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Total Requests:

Screened Items:

☐ Additional charge outs and signatures on reverse side

Time Out:

Final Return:

Robert A. Sisson

STATE FROM WHICH APPOINTED
S. C.

INACTIVE

Robert A. Sisson

STATUS

DESIGNATION	SALARY	OFFICE, BUREAU, OR DIVISION	DATE APPOINTED
Keeper, Bloody Point L. Sta., S. C.	$660 pa.	Light-House	
"	720 pa		2-7-07
Resigned clerk Apr 30. 1908.			
Keeper Bloody Point Rg. L.S.S.C	$552.	L.H.	Aug. 10, 1910
2nd Asst Kpr Tybee L.S. Ga	456.	"	Nov 15, 12
Asst. Keeper. Hilton Head Rg. L.S.S.C.	480.	"	May 20, 1913
Died June 16, 1914.			

INACTIVE

PERSONAL INFORMATION SHEET

NOTE.—This sheet is to be used only in cases of persons transferred to the Department of Commerce and Labor, by operation of law, July 1, 1903.

Department of Commerce and Labor

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington

May 15, 1904.

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

For the purpose of enabling the Department to obtain a complete record of its officers and employees, you are hereby requested to furnish the information called for in Part II of this form, relative to each appointee or employee, now in the service, who was serving in your Bureau June 30, 1903, and was transferred to the Department of Commerce and Labor July 1, 1903, pursuant to the acts of Congress approved February 14, 1903, and March 3, 1903, and to have every such person answer each of the questions in Part I of this form and sign the same. Officers in charge, subordinate to heads of Bureaus, are expected to review this sheet, after it has been executed, to see that all questions have been answered, and, after doing so, to forward it immediately to the head of the Bureau for transmission to the Department.

Geo. B. Cortelyou

Secretary.

PART I.

(Blanks in Part I are to be filled 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 is to 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.)

Robert Augustus Sisson

2. How do you write your name on the pay roll? R A Sisson

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

Dawfuskie Isld (City or town.) South Carolina (State or Territory.) Beaufort (County.) 2nd Con Dist (Congressional district.)

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

5. Where were you born? Quebec, Dominion of Canada

6. When were you born? March (Month.) 10th (Day.) 1844 (Year.)

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

11—1433

8. Are there any members of your family, besides yourself, in the civil service of the United States Government? (If so, give below their names, relationship, the Departments and Bureaus or Services in which they are employed, and the positions they occupy.)

Name.	Relationship.	Department.	Bureau or Service.	Position.
Charles L Sisson	Son	Light House Dept of Commerce & Labor	Light House	Keeper

9. How long were you in the civil service of the United States Government prior to July 1, 1903?

14 years

10. 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: "Appointed before position was classified;" or, "By reinstatement;" or, "By transfer from ————," stating Department, Bureau or Service, position, and salary, if known.)

Nominated by Coll Customs Beaufort SC before Classification

11. Have you any physical disabilities? (If so, describe briefly. If you have defective eyesight, state whether corrected by glasses.)

No use glasses at night to read

12. Were you in the military or naval service of the United States during the Civil or Spanish-American wars? (If so, give the information called for by the blanks below.)

Regiment and company, or vessel.	Date enlisted.	Date discharged.	Cause of discharge.
15th & 54th N J Vols	Augt 1863	April 14th 1866.	Mustered out of Regt

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

Regiment and company, or vessel.	Date enlisted.	Date discharged.	Cause of discharge.
Did not			

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 9, 12, and 13.)

Reading Clerk S C Senate US Commissioner Bank Teller Post Master

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.")

Grammar & High Schools in Ontario Canada

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

Varied business qualifications

17. What, if any, civil service examinations have you passed? (State name and date of each, as near as you recollect.)

None

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 by me

19. State the date upon which the above blanks were filled. May 28th, 1904

Witness:

(Signature) P A Sipson

In case signature is by mark.

P. O. Address: Savannah
City or town.

Can St Louis
Number and street.

Georgia
State or Territory.

JUL 13 1904

Reviewed, approved, and forwarded ____, 190

(Signature) A C Hodgson

(Official title) Cond'r U. S. N. Light House Inspr. 6th. District.

PART II.

(Blanks in Part II are to be filled 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 above questions was employed July 1, 1903.

Lt. House Service (Bureau or Service.) Bloody Point, S. C. (Place (city, town, or station).) Sixth (District.)

2. What position did he hold July 1, 1903? Keeper

3. On what date was he appointed to this position? Oct. 11, 1881

4. How long had he served in the Bureau or Service in which he was employed July 1, 1903?

23 years, 7 months, 6 days

5. What was his salary July 1, 1903? $600. per annum

6. From what appropriation was he paid July 1, 1903?

Salaries of Keepers

7. Was the position he held July 1, 1903, excepted, competitive, or unclassified under the civil service rules?

Competitive

11—1433

8. If the position was classified, state the date of classification. May 6, 1896

9. If the appointee or employee was appointed through examination, state the kind of examination. If not so appointed, state how he entered the position. (Examples: "Appointed before position was classified;" or, "By reinstatement;" or, "By transfer from ———— ————," stating Department, Bureau or Service, position, and salary, if known.)

Appointed before position was Classified.

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

(Signature) A C Hodgson

(Official title) Comd'r U. S. N. Light House Inspr. 6th. District.

Date: JUL 13 1904, 190

11—1433

Memo.

Department of Commerce and Labor

Mr. Sisson stated, in reply to a query from the Inspector, that he had requested the Hon. J. O. Patterson (M.C.) to assist in getting his pay increased.

The Inspector, however, stated in his indorsement, quoted from in Dept. letter, that neither the Executive Order of Jan. 31, 1902, nor the amended Order of Feb. 8, 1906, had been sent out to E.H. employees in the Sixth Dist, but that copies of that part of circular No. 107, referring to the subject of solicitation had just been sent to them.

Department of Commerce and Labor

JL
File No. 10313.

LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD

Washington 25 Jan'y, 1907.

Three enclosures.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
RECEIVED
JAN 26 1907
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
RECEIVED
JAN 28 1907
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

The Honorable,

The Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Sir:

The Board has the honor to ask that the pay of the position of keeper of the Bloody Point Range, S. C., Light-Station, be increased to date from 1 Feb'y, '07, from $660 to $720 a year, an increase of $5 a month, and that the pay of Mr. Robert A. Sisson of Ohio, the present keeper of this light-station be increased accordingly.

The Board begs to enclose herewith papers in the case of Mr. Sisson and to invite attention to the endorsement of 22 Jan'y, '07, of the Inspector of the Sixth Light-House District, on a letter from the Hon. J. O. Patterson recommending that Mr. Sisson's pay be increased.

The return of these papers is respectfully requested.

Respectfully,

Note
Efficiency
6
10 Board

1-28-07

U. Sebree

Captain, U. S. N.,

Naval Secretary.

6/30-06

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
FORWARDED
JAN 26 1907
TO APPOINTMENTS
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

INDEXED

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
AUTHORIZED
FEB 7 1907
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

WROTE BOARD
JAN 28 1907

RECEIVED
JAN 26 1907
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

January 14, 1907.

Chairman Light-House Board,

Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I write you in behalf of Mr. Robert A. Sisson, Keeper of Bloody Point Light House, Daufuskie Island, Beaufort County, South Carolina. Mr. Sisson has been keeper of this station for twenty eight years and from duration of service I suppose that his services have been satisfactory. His salary now is $660.00, being less than is paid to any keeper on the Savannah river. I also under tand that his lights are the most important on the river and that he has all of the work to do, having no assistant, and that three Inspectors have recommended an increase of his salary; that the lights on the other end of the Island are only used in the day time and that the keepers of these receive $720.00 per year. Under the circumstances, therefore, could not his salary be increased $5.00 per month so that his yearly salary would be $720. I will appreciate it if you will look into this matter and advise me.

Very respectfully yours,

J. D. Patterson

Robert A. Sisson, Ohio.
Kpr. Bloody Point Lt. S.C.
$660.yr.

1-28-07

ARD
3
d. 1773

1907

RSON, M. C.
entatives
D. C.
Jan'y 14, 1907.

f Mr. Robert A.
increased $5 per

TT. Light-House Board,

Washington. 16 Jan'y '07.

Respectfully referred to the Inspector of the Sixth Light-House District, for his information, report, and return to this Office; also with a statement as to whether this keeper applied to the Congressman for an increase in his pay.

Captain, U. S. N.,
Naval Secretary.

To be returned to
The Light-House Board.

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD
JAN 24 1907
10313
Received.

Office Light-House Inspector,
6th District, 1773
Charleston, S.C., Jan. 22, 1907.

Ent'd JAN 24 1907.

Respectfully returned. Mr. Robert A. Sisson has been in the L.H. Service twenty-seven years, and served in the Union Army during the Civil War.

I have always found his lights and station in very good condition. Upon my first inspection he called my attention to the difference in pay between him and Mr. Stonebridge, Keeper of the Daufuskie Island Range lights. I was impressed with the justness of his claim, but told him I had directions not to recommend the increase of any salaries, but that if he would send in an application to the Board I would put a strong endorsement upon it and recommend that his pay be raised to $60.00 per month. He stated that his relations with Rear Admiral Lamberton, who was then Chairman of the Board, had been very pleasant and he thought he would help him. I told him I saw no objection to his writing a personal letter to the Admiral at the same time he put in his application, but have always insisted that he must send in his application

Two Enclosures Received.

Bloody Point - Ls Ke.
Jany. 19th 07

OFFICE LIGHT HOUSE INSPECTOR JAN 22 1907 SIXTH DISTRICT CHARLESTON, S.C.

Comdr W S Benton USN
Insp 1
Charleston SC

Sir

I beg to respectfully to state in reply to your letter of 17th Inst. That I did ask one Mr Mr J C Patterson if Assistant to get my pay increase I mentioned the matter to you and you said you saw no reason why I should not ask Mr P for assistant.

In reply to letter of 16th Inst. re Asst Kpr at Jones Isd Range I am sorry that I have incurred your displeasure. I did it with the best intentions

Respectfully R A Sifson
Kpr.

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

January 17, 1907.

Mr. Robert A. Sisson,

Keeper Bloody Point Range Light-Station,

Savannah, Georgia.

Sir:

Please inform this Office if you made application to Mr. J. O. Patterson, Member of Congress, to assist you to have your salary increased.

Respectfully,

(Sgd.) W. S. Benson,

Commander, U.S.N.,

Inspector.



Department of Commerce and Labor
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington

10313

January 28, 1907.

Gentlemen:

The Department acknowledges receipt of the Board's letter of January 25, 1907, asking that the pay of the position of keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station, South Carolina, be increased from $660 to $720 per annum and that the pay of the present keeper, Mr. Robert A. Sisson, be increased accordingly.

In reply the Department invites attention to the report of the Inspector, Sixth Light-House District, on the efficiency of the employees in that district, in which Mr. Sisson is rated as 6-10 Good, and to his indorsement of January 22, 1907, on the request of Hon. J. O. Patterson, M. C., for the increase of Mr. Sisson's pay, in which he states as follows:

> "I have always found his lights and station in very good condition. Upon my first inspection he called my attention to the difference in pay between him and Mr. Stonebridge, keeper of the Daufuskie Island Range lights. I was impressed with the justness of his claim, but told him I had directions not to recommend the increase of any salaries, but that if he would send in an application to the Board I would put a strong endorsement upon it and recommend that his pay be raised to $60 per month."

The Department would be pleased to be informed whether the Inspector's indorsement quoted above is to be taken as a revision of his report of June 30, 1906, as to Mr. Sisson's efficiency.

Action on the Board's request for Mr. Sisson's promotion

will be deferred pending receipt of the information requested.

Respectfully,

[illegible]
Assistant Secretary.

The Light-House Board.

D-W

5

ATJ.

File No. 10313.

One Inclosure.

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD
Washington

6 Feb'y, 1907.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
RECEIVED
FEB 7 - 1907
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

FEB 7 1907

The Honorable,

The Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Sir:-

Referring to Department letter of 28 Jan'y, '07, relative to an increase in the pay of Mr. Robert A. Sisson, Keeper of the Bloody Point Range, S. C., Light-Station, the Board has the honor to inclose herewith a copy of a letter of 1 Feb'y, '07, from the Inspector of the Sixth Light-House District, giving additional reasons for an increase in the pay of Mr. Sisson, and stating that if the Department is of the opinion he has erred in the efficiency marks given Mr. Sisson, his indorsement be considered as a revision of his report of 30 June, '06, as to Mr. Sisson's efficiency.

The Board begs to renew its recommendation of 25 Jan'y, '07, that the pay of the position of Keeper of Bloody Point Range, S. C., Light-Station, be increased from $660 to $720 a year, and that the pay of the present Keeper, Mr. Robert A. Sisson, be increased accordingly.

2-7-07

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
FORWARDED
FEB 7 - 1907
TO APPOINTMENTS
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR
INDEXED.

Respectfully,

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
APPOINTMENT WRITTEN
FEB 7 1907
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Captain, U. S. N.,

Naval Secretary.

ATJ. Copy.

Department of Commerce and Labor.

Light-House Establishment

Office of Inspector, 6th District

Charleston, S. C.

February 1, 1907.

THE CHIEF CLERK
RECEIVED
FEB 7- 1907
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

The Light-House Board,

Washington, D. C.

Sirs:

Referring to the Department's letter of January 23, 1907, File No. 10313, regarding the increase in salary of the keeper at Bloody Point Range Light-Station, S. C., I have the honor to state the conditions as follows:-

On the eastern end of Daufuskie Island there are two lights constituting the Daufuskie Island Range, guiding into Calibogue Sound from Tybee Roads. This channel is used only by vessels of moderate draft and engaged in inside traffic consequently not so important as a range marking a channel for deep draft vessels coming in from outside. The keeper of this range has a very nice residence, well located and the rear light of the range is on the top of the residence. The front light is 3/8 mile from the rear light, with a good pathway to it from the dwelling. The keeper of this range receives $60.00 per month. His lights, residence and the station have as a rule been in excellent condition.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
FORWARDED
FEB 7 - 1907
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

On the western end of this same island are two lights constituting the Bloody Point Range and marks the channel in crossing Savannah River Bar after leaving the Tybee Range, and

consequently is of vital importance to outside shipping. Both of these lights are situated outside of the keeper's dwelling, one about a hundred yards away. The lantern has to be hoisted and lowered each day about 70 feet, thus requiring considerable labor.

The front light is 5/8 of a mile away from this on a larger tower than the corresponding light at Daufuskie Island Range, thus requiring more labor to keep in order, &c. The keeper of this range has a nice dwelling and comfortable house, but more isolated than the one on the eastern end.

Taking all these points into consideration I considered, when my attention was first called to the matter, and still consider that the keeper at Bloody Point Range Light-Station should receive at least as much pay as the keeper at Daufuskie Island Range Light-Station so long as the duties were satisfactorily performed.

While I am unable to discover any marked inconsistency between my report of June 20, 1906, as to Mr. Sisson's efficiency and my indorsement of January 22, 1907, on the request of Hon. J. O. Patterson, M. C., for the increase of Mr. Sisson's pay, if the Department considers that I have erred in the marks given this keeper, having the above facts before it, I respectfully request that my endorsement be considered as a revision

of my report of June 30, 1906, as to Mr. Sisson's efficiency.

Respectfully yours,

W. S. Benson

Commander, U. S. N.,

Inspector 6th L. H. District.



February 7, 1907.

Mr. Robert A. Sisson, of South Carolina, is hereby appointed

Keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station, S. C.,

in the Light-House Service,

at a salary of Seven Hundred and Twenty dollars per annum,

this appointment to take effect February 7, 1907.

Payment of the compensation authorized in this appointment is subject to the oath of office being taken.

(By increase in compensation from $660 per annum.)

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
REPORTED
FEB 8 - 1907
TO DISBURSING CLERK
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

CARDED

Assistant Secretary.

Date of oath: , 190

11—1393

The Light-House Board.

CHANGE REPORTED
FEB — 1907
C. S. COMMISSION.



10313

Form 111

OATH OF OFFICE

(PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 1757, REVISED STATUTES)

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
RECEIVED
MAR 5 1907
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

I, R. A. Sissow

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.**

R A Sissow

[b] Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 23d day of February, A. D. 1907

[c] Name: H. J. Grant

Official title: Notary Public
South Carolina

{Affix official seal.}

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
RECEIVED
MAR 5 1907
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

NAME OF OFFICE.	NAME OF STATION.	State or Country in which born.	State or Territory from which appointed.
Keeper.	Bloody Point Rge.	Canada.	Ohio.

[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 or 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. *The oath should be taken on or after the date of the appointment.*

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.

Light House Board,
Entered upon duty.
Date Feb 11 1907.

R A Sissow

Chief Clerk.

CARDED
FORWARDED
MAR 5 1907
INDEXED.

APR 9 1908
LIGHT HOUSE BOARD
10313
Received.

B

Bloody Point-Light House Station S.C.
March 31st 1908

OFFICE APR 9 1908
LIGHT HOUSE INSPECTOR
APR 2
1908
SIXTH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S.C.

To
Comdr Hugh Rodman U.S.N.
Insp 6th L.H. Dist.
Charleston S.C.

Sir

Having served the Govt of the United States for nearly 29 years as a L.H. Keeper at Hilton Head on this Island. And as a Soldier in the Civil War. (K. 157th N.J. Vols.) I beg leave to retire. And herewith respectfully resign my office as Keeper of Bloody Point-Range Lights S.C. to take effect April 30th 1908. I have been a faithful servant of the Govt for 31 years. And have an honorable discharge from the U.S.A. and ask for an honorable discharge from the L.H. Dept.

Yours respectfully

Robert A. Sisson
Keeper

(Robert A Sisson) 720 Jm

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
AND LABOR

4-13-08

103.5

April 15, 1908.

Gentlemen;

In accordance with the Board's recommendation of the 10th instant, the resignation of Robert A. Sisson as keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station, South Carolina, at a compensation of $720 per annum, is hereby accepted effective at the close of April 30, 1908.

Respectfully,

CARDED

Charles Earl
Acting Secretary.

To Light-House Board.

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
REPORTED
APR 14 1908
TO DISBURSING CLERK
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

CHANGE REPORTED
APR 15 1908

Form 73 ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT, PROMOTION, OR TRANSFER OF EMPLOYEE

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK RECEIVED MAY 21 1910 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS RECEIVED MAY 21 1910 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Office of the Inspector, 6th L. H. Dist.,
Charleston, S.C.,
May 3, 1910.
(Date)

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

Sirs: I have the honor to recommend the (1) reinstatement and appointment
(Probationary appointment, transfer, promotion, etc.)
of (2) Mr. Robert A. Sisson of (3) South Carolina
(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) Keeper
(Salary now paid) (Official title of position, as Keeper, First Assistant Keeper, etc.)
at (8) Bloody Point Range Light-Station, S.C., at
(Official name of aid, as given in Light List, as Absecon Light-Station, N. J.)
$552 per annum
(9) $ 46.00 p.m., effective beginning (10) June 1, 1910, ~~the date of his entrance on duty~~ (or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty)
(Salary recommended)
(Strike out the clause not appropriate)
in the place of (11) Mr. Charles L. Sisson,
(State name of *last* person holding position)
who (12) is recommended for transfer on (13) May 31, 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
was considered with (18) ———
(19) letters of declination of ——— herewith.

Respectfully,

J. H. Tuckerman Jr.
Comdr., U.S.N., Ret'd, Inspr., 6th L.H.District.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK FORWARDED MAY 21 1910 TO APPOINTMENTS DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

HB-ATJ.
10313
One inclosure

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS APPOINTMENT WRITTEN JUN 6 1910 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD

May 20, 1910., 190

Approved, and respectfully forwarded to the Honorable the Secretary of Commerce and Labor. Attention is invited to a copy of the Inspector's letter of the 3d instant, attached hereto. This nomination was delayed pending the transfer of Mr. Charles L. Sisson.

W. P. Clapton
Captain, U. S. N.,
Naval Secretary.

WROTE BOARD MAY 21 1910

11—4314

ATJ. Copy

K.

Department of Commerce and Labor
Light-House Establishment

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

Robert A. Sisson-
Recommending reinstatement in L.H. Service.

May 3, 1910.

The Light-House Board,

Washington, D. C.

Sirs:

I have the honor to recommend the reinstatement in the Light-House Service of Mr. Robert A. Sisson, and that he be appointed Keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station, S. C., to date from June 1, 1910, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

2. Mr. Sisson resigned from the Light-House Service, Keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station, May 1, 1908, after 28 1/2 years' service in this district as a light keeper. He was an efficient employe and had an excellent record as light keeper.

3. Mr. Sisson is a veteran of the Civil War. He enlisted as corporal, in Company I, 54th Regiment of New York Veteran Volunteers August 7, 1863, and was honorably discharged April 14, 1866.

4. While Mr. Sisson resigned from the service two years ago it is recommended that he be reinstated under Regulation IX, Civil Service Regulations governing the Light-House Service. It is understood that the one year limitation does not apply in cases where the applicant had served in the U. S. Army during the Civil War.

5. Though Mr. Sisson is 66 years of age his physical condition is very good. During his long service he has necessarily become thoroughly

familiar with the duties of a light keeper and his case is considered especially meritorious.

6. The Board has authorized the removal of Bloody Point Range lights, by letter of September 17, 1908, (2169), to positions in the water on the shoals off Bloody Point and the illuminant changed to acetylene, and it is expected that this change will take place during the next fiscal year. This will necessitate that the care of the new lights be given to the keepers at Tybee Or Oyster Beds Range Lights, and the present position of Keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station will become vacant. Mr. Sisson understands this and will expect to be discharged when the above-mentioned change takes place.

7. It is considered desirable to fill the position of Keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station by reinstatement of Mr. Sisson rather than transfer some younger man already in the service to a position of uncertain duration.

8. In accordance with the schedule of pay fixed by the Committee on Equalization of Pay, the salary allowed for Bloody Point Light-Station when a new keeper is appointed, is only $46.00 per month.

9. Enclosed herewith is Form 73, nomination Mr. Robert A. Sisson for this position.

Very respectfully,

J. H. Hetherington

Commander, U.S.N., Ret'd,

Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

10313

May 21, 1910.

Gentlemen:

The Department acknowledges receipt of the request for the reinstatement of Robert A. Sisson to the Light-House Service, as keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station, South Carolina, forwarded approved by the Board on the 20th instant.

The Board is informed that before acting upon this request it will be necessary for Mr. Sisson to state whether there are not two or more members of his family already in the public service.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

Chief Clerk.

The Light-House Board.

D-Le

Department of Commerce and Labor

HB-ATJ.
10313

LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD

Washington

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
RECEIVED
MAY 31. 1910
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
RECEIVED
MAY 31. 1910
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

May 28, 1910.

Robert A. Sisson,
relatives in the Service.

The Honorable

The Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Sir:

Referring to Department letter of the 21st instant requesting a statement from Mr. Robert A. Sisson, whose reinstatement as keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station, South Carolina, has been recommended by the Board, as to whether or not there are two or more members of his family already in the public service, the Board has the honor to state that Mr. Sisson has only one relative in the government service.

Respectfully,

W. W. Kimball

Captain, U. S. N.,

Naval Secretary.

Reinstatement requested.

MAY 30 1910

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
FORWARDED
MAY 31 1910
TO APPOINTMENTS
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Department of Commerce and Labor.

May 31, 10.

Robert A. Sisson

of Keeper of Bloody Point Range, South Carolina Light-Station, South Carolina,

552 pa

Light-House Service

Mr. Sisson

is

resignation April 30, 1906

Keeper of Bloody Point Range, Light-Station, South Carolina,

720 pa

Light-House Service.

Mr. Sisson has only one relative in the Government Service.

By direction of the Secretary:

A. H. Galehouse

Chief Clerk.

Le
B

Form 1788. (First sheet.)
Aug., 1909.

No. 883

RECEIVED
JUN 6 - 1910
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

CERTIFICATE AUTHORIZING REINSTATEMENT.

United States Civil Service Commission,

Washington, D. C., June 4, 1910.

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
RECEIVED
JUN 6 1910
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

To the

Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Sir:

In response to your request dated May 31, 1910 for a certificate authorizing the REINSTATEMENT of Robert A. Sisson of South Carolina as Keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station, South Carolina, at $ 552 per annum in the classified service of the Light-House Service, Department of Commerce and Labor, certification is hereby made that such REINSTATEMENT is permissible, it appearing that he was separated without delinquency or misconduct from the position of Keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station, South Carolina at $ 720 per annum in the classified service of the Light-House Service, Department of Commerce and Labor on April 30, 1908, and that he was honorably discharged from the military service of the United States during the war of the rebellion.

Very respectfully,

T. P. Chapman

ACTING Secretary.

0415b5500-8-09

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK,
FORWARDED
JUN 6 1910
TO APPOINTMENTS
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

I-2

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
APPOINTMENT WRITTEN
JUN 6 - 1910
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

4

GENERAL APPOINTMENT

Department of Commerce and Labor
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
Washington

10513

June 6, 1910.

Sir:

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

Keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station, South Carolina,

in the Light-House Service,

at a salary of Five Hundred and Fifty-two dollars per annum,

effective beginning June 6, 1910, or as soon thereafter

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

(Vice Charles L. Sisson.)

(By reinstatement in accordance with Certificate No. 843.)

CHANGE REPORTED
JUN 1910
C.S. COMMISSION

By direction of the Secretary:

CARDED.

Respectfully,

Chief Clerk.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION
REPORTED
JUN 6-1910
TO DISBURSING OFFICER
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Mr. Robert A. Sisson,

Through the Light-House Board.

Appropriation:
Le
D,

11—3072

Form 111

OATH OF OFFICE

(PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 1757, REVISED STATUTES)

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

I, R. A. Sissou

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.

R A Sissou
(Appointee signs here.)

[b] Sworn to (See below.) and subscribed before me, this 10th day of August, A. D. 1910

(Affix official seal here.)

[c] (Name:) W W Scouten

(Official title:) Magistrate

OFFICIAL TITLE.	PAY.	NAME OF STATION.	State or Country in which born.	State or Territory from which last appointed.
Keeper in the L.H.Service	$552.00 per annum	Bloody Point Range Light-Station, SC.	Canada	South Carolina.

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

OFFICE OF THE Inspector, 6th LIGHT-HOUSE DISTRICT,

Charleston, S.C. (Address.), August 23, 1910. (Date.)

The above-named appointee entered upon duty on August 10, 1910. (Date.)

CARDED.

(Signed:) W. Wield

Comdr., U.S.N., Inspr., 6th L.H.District.

[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 shall 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 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.

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS RECEIVED SEP 8 1910 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Ent'd SEP 7 - 1910

READ THE INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE 3

40

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 Robert A. Sisson 2. Age 67 (Last birthday.)

3. Bureau Lighthouses (6th Dist.) 4. Position Keeper

5. Compensation $552. p.a. 6. Where employed Bloody Point Range Light-Station, S. C.

7. When appointed (*a*) Nov. 24, 1879 8. How appointed (*b*) Prior to Classification, above date original entrance in Lighthouse Service - By reinstatement June 6, 1910.

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

10. Is the employee an honorably discharged soldier or sailor? Yes, soldier.

11. Does the employee receive a pension? Yes If so, state the amount $240.00 per annum

12. Other Government service Served in Co. "K" 157th N.Y. Vols. & Co. "I" 54th N.Y.Vols. August 7, 1863 to April 14, 1866, Honorable discharge as Corporal. Resigned from position as Keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station, S.C., effective close of April 30, 1908. Reinstated and appointed Keeper Bloody Point Range Light-Station, S.C. from June 6, 1910, in accordance with certificate No. 883.

13. Duties (describe fully) Must be familiar with the workings of the apparatus in his charge. Responsible for the care and management of the light and all government property in his care.

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	85	2	170
Quality of work	85	3	255
Interest manifested in work (see also Question 17)	85	3	255
Attendance		2	
Total		8 10	680
Average percentage			85

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS RECEIVED JUN 1 1911 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

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.) Routine employee

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.) Salary is a fair equivalent for service rendered. If the present salary is above or below a fair equivalent, state what, in your opinion, it should be.

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

20. Remarks: (*e*) Mr. Sisson is elderly but able to perform his present duties.

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

H. Reed.

Comdr U. S. N. Light House Insp. 6th. Dist.

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

G. R. Putnam

Chief of Bureau or Office.

T. S. C

Department of Commerce and Labor

Mr Robert A. Sisson

Has been employed as Keeper of Bloody Point Range L.S.S.C. since Oct 11, 1881.

See file as to address.

11-25-11

No. 203
Ed. 5-9-11—700,000

THE REVIEW OF REVIEWS COMPANY
13 ASTOR PLACE
NEW YORK

CREDIT DEPARTMENT
ROBERT H. VAN COURT, *Manager*

November
23
1911

NOV 25 1911

APPOINTMENT DIVISION
RECEIVED
NOV 25 1911
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

Officer in Chief,
Department of Commerce and Labor
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir:

We have received an order for our books from Robert A. Sisson, who gives his address as Bloody Point, Light House Station, S.C..

Will you be so kind as to let us know if this gentlemen is employed in this service and if he has given us his correct address?

We greatly regret having to trouble you for this information but would not do so if we had any other way in obtaining it.

Yours very truly

THE REVIEW OF REVIEWS COMPANY

File #13330

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
ANSWERED
NOV 25 1911
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

INDEXED

November 27, 1911.

Gentlemen:

Referring to your inquiry of the 23rd instant, the Department has to advise you that Mr. Robert A. Sisson is employed as keeper of Bloody Point Range Light Station, South Carolina. He should be addressed in care of the Inspector of the Sixth Lighthouse District, Charleston, South Carolina.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

Chief Clerk.

The Review of Reviews Company,
13 Astor Place,
New York City.

Enclosure 3005.

DUPLICATE

Form 73 **ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT, PROMOTION, OR TRANSFER OF APPOINTEE**

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, 6th DISTRICT,

Charleston, S.C. August 28 1912.

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

The following recommendation is submitted:

Action proposed, Transfer of

Name, Robert A. Sisson Legal residence, South Carolina

Position, 2nd Asst.Keeper Salary, $456.00 per annum

Location, Tybee Light Station, Ga.

Effective Oct. 15, 1912 or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty / on the actual date of entrance on duty.

Former position, Keeper Former salary, $552.00 per annum

Location, Bloody Point Range Light Station, S. C. Position abolished D. L. Sept. 12

Rank in list of eligibles, ---------- Rating, ---------- Percentage, ----------

Other eligibles considered, ----------

Letters of declination inclosed, ----------

Previous incumbent, Reinhard Heisser Services terminated,

Reason, Transfer of m.e.o.d.

Remarks: This transfer involving a reduction in compensation is made without prejudice, as the position of Bloody Point Range Station is to be abolished. Mr. Sisson was offered position of 2nd Asst. at Tybee Station. Copy of letter to him and his acceptance by telegram are attached.

H. D. King,

Inspector 6th, Lighthouse District

---

1 Incl

Department of Commerce and Labor

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES

WASHINGTON

SEP 11 1912

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, approved.

11—2314

9-13-12

J. Conway

Acting Commissioner

289 B.

NIGHT LETTER

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

INCORPORATED

25,000 OFFICES IN AMERICA CABLE SERVICE TO ALL THE WORLD

This Company TRANSMITS and DELIVERS messages only on conditions limiting its liability, which have been assented to by the sender of the following Night Letter. Errors can be guarded against only by repeating a message back to the sending station for comparison, and the Company will not hold itself liable for errors or delays in transmission or delivery of Unrepeated Night Letters, sent at reduced rates, beyond a sum equal to ten times the amount paid for transmission; nor in any case beyond the sum of Fifty Dollars, at which, unless otherwise stated below, this message has been valued by the sender thereof, nor in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after the message is filed with the Company for transmission.

This is an UNREPEATED NIGHT LETTER, and is delivered by request of the sender, under the conditions named above.

ROBERT C. CLOWRY, PRESIDENT — BELVIDERE BROOKS, GENERAL MANAGER

RECEIVED AT 17

OFFICE LIGHT HOUSE INSPECTOR AUG 20 1912 SIXTH DISTRICT CHARLESTON, S.C.

12SHW 50 NL 1 EXTRA.

SAVANNAH GA AUG 19-12.

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES AUG 30 1912 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

KING, LIGHT HOUSE INSPECTOR,

CHARLESTON, S. C.

SEP 9 1912 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

WILL ACCEPT TRANSFER TYBEE LIGHT MY WIFE IN CALL FOR MONDAY WE WERE UP TO SO SANDSON, GIVE US TIME TO PACK, SIGN PUT ON PROPERTY RECD WILL PUT THEM UP AT ONCE AND REPORT SUPPOSE THIS IS BEST CAN ACCEPT BUT DON'T GIVE UP MY BEING CITIZEN SOUTH-CAROLINA.

SESSION, KEEPER.

906PM.

PF-JS

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

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

August 16,1912.

R. A. Sisson, Bloody Point Ranges, Genl. Delv. Savannah, Georgia.

Sir:-

There will probably be a vacancy as 2nd Assistant Keeper at Tybee Light Station, Georgia, at a salary of $38.00 per month, and 30¢ per day rations. Quarters are provided for family of 2nd Assistant Keeper. Three Keepers are allowed this station. Inform this office if you desire transfer to said station.

H. D. King

Inspector.

BUREAU OF LIGHT HOUSES
SEP 9 1912

GENERAL APPOINTMENT

Department of Commerce and Labor
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
Washington

M
Mr. Robert A. Sisson, September 13, 1912.

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

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

Second Assistant Keeper

in the Lighthouse Service

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

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

(By change from keeper at $552 per annum).

CARDED.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION. REPORTED SEP 14 1912 TO DISBURSING CLERK DEPT. OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) M. C. LATIMER

Chief of Appointment Division.

Re
D

Acting

APPOINTMENT DIVISION REPORTED NOV 1 1912 U. S. CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Vice: Reinhard Heisser.

Legal Residence: South Carolina.

11—3692

Form 111

OATH OF OFFICE

(Prescribed by Section 1757, Revised Statutes)

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES
NOV 25 1912
DEP'T OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

RECEIVED

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Carded in the Disbursing Office.

I, Robert A. Sisson

do solemnly[1] Swear (See below) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter: So HELP ME GOD.

Robert A. Sisson
(Appointee signs here)

---

[2] Sworn to (See below) and subscribed before me, this[3] 19th day of November, A. D. 1912

(Affix official seal here)

[4](Name) Jos. J. Carr

(Official title) Dep. Clerk Superior Court Chat Co. Ga

Official Title	Rate of Pay	Name of Station, Vessel, or Place of Employment
Present 2nd Asst. Keeper	$456.00 p.a.	Tybee Light Station, Ga.
Former[5] Keeper	$552.00 p.a.	Bloody Point Range Lt. Sta., S.C.

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

CARDED.

Office of Lighthouse Inspector, Sixth District

Charleston, South Carolina, (Address) November 22, 1912. (Date)

The above-named appointee entered upon duty on November 15, 1912. (Date)

H. D. King
(Signature, followed by title)
Inspector, 6th L. H. District.

---

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

[2] Insert here "sworn to" or "affirmed," as the case may be.

[3] The oath may be taken any time after the date of appointment and prior to the payment of compensation, but no compensation shall be paid until the oath is executed in proper form.

[4] This oath should be taken before a justice of the peace, notary public, judge, clerk of a court, or any other officer having authority to administer oaths, but never before a collector of customs, as he has no power to administer oaths in such cases. In case the officer administering the oath has no seal, his official character should be duly certified to by the clerk of the proper court or the proper county clerk.

[5] Give this information in all cases where new oath is required.

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

11—944

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES U. S.,

Danville, Ill., Sept. 13, 1912.

Washington, D. C., ... , *19* .

OF THE SECRETARY
RECEIVED
SEP 16 1912
DEP'T OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Respectfully referred to

~~Hon. Chas. Nagel, Secretary of~~ Commerce and Labor, Washington, D.C. Kindly have sent to the writer of the attached letter the information he desires regarding the provision of the legislative, executive, and judicial appropriation bill to which he refers.

CHIEF CLERK
RECEIVED
SEP 16 1912

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
ANSWERED
SEP 17 1912
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Very respectfully,

FORWARDED TO
SEP 16 1912
APPTS.

9—28

M. C., 1912 *District.*

APPOINTMENT DIVISION
RECEIVED
SEP 16 1912
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

Department of Commerce and Labor

BLOODY POINT,
Light House Station, S. C.

Sept 11th 1912

CHIEF CLERK
RECEIVED
SEP 16 1912

Hon J. J. Lennon M.C. 18th Dist Ill.

Dear Sir

Will you kindly let me know of the Legislative Executive and Judicial Appropriation Bill which had a Rider tacked on to it, certaining a provision in regard to Veterans of the Civil War as I have read it in my National Tribune of Sept 5th 1912 as if it only applied to the classified Service in the Dist of Columbia. Which I wish to know is does it apply to the Dept of Com & Labor in which Light House Dept is.

DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR
RECEIVED
SEP 12 1912
ANSWERED
DIVISION OF

You clerks make the provision really effective the penalty clause I have been a Principal Light House Keeper over 32 years with good record was a boy in blue 2 years 7 & 8 months

My Lights are to be discontinued about Oct 10th

I am afe of shifting of the Sand
& will be found in the water can't get back.
I'll loose my place, Under Report of Secty
Com & Labor Mr Chas Nagle of April 26th 12
to President Taft. Report Says all Keepers will
be Removed who have not served & who are Vets
I'm an old time Republican & I want you to
help me with Hon Chas Nagle Show him
that Commr of Light Houses Keeps me in
a Suitable place and ask you & you will
kindly help me I know you great friend of
an old Soldier & when time comes
I will ask you to help me Please let
me know

Yours very sincerely
R A Sisson

Address R A Sisson
Genl Delivery
Savannah
Ga

Dear Sir:

Will you kindly let me know if the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation which had a hard trip but passed, containing a provision in regard to Veterans of the Civil War as I have read it in my National Tribune of September 5 looks as if it only applied to the classified service of the District of Columbia. What I wish to know is does it apply to the Dept of Com & Labor in which Lighthouse Department is.

Your clincher (?) makes the provision really effective the penalty clause and I have been a principal Light Ho Keeper over 32 years with good record Was a boy in blue 2years and 8months.

My lights are to be discontinued about October 15th and be put in the water on account of shifting of the sand, and perhaps I'll loose my place, under report of Secretary of Commerce & Labor Mr. Chas. Nagel of April 26,'12 to President Taft. Report says all keepers will be retained who have good record & who are Vets. I am an old time Republican & I want you to help me with Hon Chas Nagle to have him see that Commr of Light Houses keeps me in a suitable place and ask you if you will kindly help me I know your past friendship for an old soldier & when time comes I will ask you to help me Please let me know.

Yours very sincerely

(Signed) R A Sisson.

September 21, 1912.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 11th instant addressed to Hon. J. G. Cannon with reference to obtaining information concerning a certain provision of the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation Act for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1913, was referred to this Department for reply.

In response you are advised that while the Department has had no ruling as to whether the provision referred to applies to the field service, it seems clear that it would not apply to your case in any event, as the discontinuance of your position does not involve the question of reduction in the ordinary sense. The exigencies of the service require that the particular place be discontinued, and the only thing the Department can do is to endeavor to find another position for you. This has been done, and in compliance with the Bureau's recommendation and your acceptance of the position, you have been appointed Second Assistant Keeper of Tybee Light Station, Georgia, effective upon the discontinuance of the Bloody Point Light Station.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) R. M. PINDELL, JR.

Chief Clerk.

Mr. Robert A. Sisson,
General Delivery,
P-S-Re Savannah, Georgia.

September 30, 1912.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

The Department transmits herewith, for remark and return, letters dated the 23rd and 25th instant from Senator B. R. Tillman and Representative James F. Byrnes, respectively, requesting that Mr. R. E. Sisson, Second Assistant Keeper of Tybee Light Station, Georgia, be appointed to a clerical position in the Office of the Inspector of the Sixth Lighthouse District.

By direction of the Secretary:

(SIGNED) R. M. PINDELL, JR.

~~Acting~~ Chief Clerk.

INDEXED

Enclosure 8659.
D-Re

McC.
TWO inclosures.
R. A. Sisson,
application, clerk.

Department of Commerce and Labor
BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
Washington

October 3, 1912.





Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Referring to Department letter of the 30th ultimo, transmitting, for remark and return, letters dated the 23d and 25th ultimo, from Senator B. R. Tillman and Representative James F. Byrnes, respectively, requesting that Mr. R. A. Sisson, second assistant keeper of Tybee Light Station, Georgia, be appointed to a clerical position in the Office of the Inspector of the Sixth Lighthouse District.

"The Bureau does not deem it practicable to appoint Mr. Sisson to a clerical position in the office of the Sixth Inspector, for the reason that applicants therefor must be typewriters and stenographers, and, in addition, the office work in the Lighthouse Service is complicated and exacting. As Mr. Sisson does not possess the requisite qualifications, he is not considered a suitable person for appointment to the position in question."

The letters of Senator Tillman and Representative Byrnes above referred to are returned, as requested.

S Conway
Acting Commissioner.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
RECEIVED
SEP 27 1912
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

United States Senate.

WASHINGTON, D.C. Trenton, S. C.

September 23, 1912.

Hon. Charles Nagel,

Secretary of Commerce and Labor,

Washington, D. C.

CHIEF CLERK
RECEIVED
SEP 27 1912
COMMERCE AND LABOR

Dear Mr. Secretary:

There is an old Union Soldier in South Carolina, Mr. R. A. Sisson, who has been a Light House Keeper at Bloody Point Light House Station a long, long time. You can get his record from the Light House Board and I believe you will find it very good indeed. He is getting along in years and desires to have lighter duties, and to be appointed to a clerkship in the Light House Inspection Department in Charleston. I hope you can see your way clear to give him this position as I am sure he deserves it. He has a wife, and the two old people want to spend the balance of their days in a civilized city with neighbors and friends close by. Having served so long in the loneliness of the lighthouse on an island away from society, it is natural that they should desire to get in a more pleasant and comfortable situation.

CHIEF CLERK
FORWARDED TO
SEP 28 1912
APPTS.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION
RECEIVED
SEP 28 1912
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR
1:38

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES
OCT 2 1912
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Hoping to hear from you favorably, I am

Very respectfully yours,

R R Dillman

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
ANSWERED
OCT 5 - 1912
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

INDEXED

SIXTY-SECOND CONGRESS.

ARSÈNE P. PUJO, LA., CHAIRMAN.
CARTER GLASS, VA.
J. F. C. TALBOTT, MD.
GEO. W. TAYLOR, ALA.
JOHN M. MOORE, TEX.
CHAS. A. KORBLY, IND.
WM. G. BROWN, W. VA.
ROBT. J. BULKLEY, OHIO.
ROBT. L. DOUGHTON, N. C.
HUBERT D. STEPHENS, MISS.
JAS. A. DAUGHERTY, MO.
JOHN J. KINDRED, N. Y.
JAMES F. BYRNES, S. C.
GEORGE A. NEELEY, KANS.
EDW. B. VREELAND, N. Y.
HENRY MC MORRAN, MICH.
GEO. D. MC CREARY, PA.
EVERIS A. HAYES, CAL.
JAS. MC KINNEY, ILL.
FRANK E. GUERNSEY, ME.
WILLIAM H. HEALD, DEL.
RUFUS W. FONTENOT, CLERK.
A. M. MC DERMOTT, ASST. CLERK.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND CURRENCY,

WASHINGTON.

Aiken, S. C.

Sept. 25, 1912.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
RECEIVED
SEP 27 1912
DEP'T OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

CHIEF CLERK
RECEIVED
SEP 27 1912

Hon. Charles Nagel,

Secretary, Commerce and Labor,

Washington, D.C.

My Dear Sir:-

Mr. R. A. Sisson is now keeper at Bloody Point Light House station, ~~S.C.~~ The position that he now has, will, as I understand it, be abolished before long, and I write to ask that he be transferred to some other position equally as good as he now holds. Mr. Sisson has spent the best part of his life in that service. He is still competent, and I know that the Department is disposed to reward faithful servants when they are capable. If it is possible to have him appointed clerk in the office in Charleston, or some other position of this kind, I shall appreciate it very much.

FORWARDED TO
SEP 27 1912
APPTS.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION
RECEIVED
SEP 27 1912
1:30
DEP'T OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

Yours very truly,

James F. Byrnes

JFB/H.

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES
OCT 27 1912
DEP'T OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

DIVISION OF APPOINTMENTS
ANSWERED
OCT 8 - 1912
DEP'T OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

INDEXED

October 8, 1912.

My dear Senator:

Your letter of the 23rd ultimo requesting that Mr. R. A. Sisson, keeper of Bloody Point Light Station, South Carolina, be appointed to a clerical position in the office of the Inspector of the Sixth Lighthouse District was received at the Department and referred to the Commissioner of Lighthouses, who states that--

> "The Bureau does not deem it practicable to appoint Mr. Sisson to a clerical position in the office of the Sixth Inspector, for the reason that applicants therefor must be typewriters and stenographers, and, in addition, the office work in the Lighthouse Service is complicated and exacting. As Mr. Sisson does not possess the requisite qualifications, he is not considered a suitable person for appointment to the position in question."

The Department regrets that it cannot write you more favorably in the matter. It may be stated, in passing, that Mr. Sisson has been appointed second assistant keeper of Tybee Light Station, Georgia.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) BENJ. S. CABLE

Acting Secretary.

INDEXED

Hon. B. R. Tillman,
Trenton, South Carolina.

S-D-F

October 8, 1912.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 25th ultimo requesting that Mr. R. A. Sisson, keeper of Bloody Point Light Station, South Carolina, be appointed to a clerical position in the office of the Inspector of the Sixth Lighthouse District was received at the Department and referred to the Commissioner of Lighthouses, who states that--

> "The Bureau does not deem it practicable to appoint Mr. Sisson to a clerical position in the office of the Sixth Inspector, for the reason that applicants therefor must be typewriters and stenographers, and, in addition, the office work in the Lighthouse Service is complicated and exacting. As Mr. Sisson does not possess the requisite qualifications, he is not considered a suitable person for appointment to the position in question."

The Department regrets that it cannot write you more favorably in the matter. It may be stated, in passing, that Mr. Sisson has been appointed second assistant keeper of Tybee Light Station, Georgia.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) BENJ. S. CABLE

Acting Secretary.

INDEXED

Hon. James F. Byrnes,
Aiken, South Carolina.

S-D-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

Lighthouse Service.

Office Sixth Inspector.
Charleston, S. C.

HDK-AHT

January 15, 1913.

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES
JAN 17 1913
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Efficienty Rating
Robert L. Sisson.

CHIEF CLERK
RECEIVED
JAN 22 1913
COMMERCE AND LABOR

Mr. Sisson has recently been transferred from Keeper, Bloody Point Range Light Station on account of the consolidation of Bloody Point Range with other lights in the vicinity. Owing to his advanced age he does not readily acquire efficiency in the performance of his duties at a 1st order station. Mr. Sisson is now placed in the most favorable position available in this District, and on account of his long service and record as a Civil War veteran I do not recommend his dismissal. His transfer to the position of Assistant Keeper of a 3rd or 4th order light is recommended, provided there should be a vacancy in a suitable position. There is no such position in this District the duties of which Mr. Sisson is qualified to fill.

CHIEF CLERK
FORWARDED TO
JAN 22 1913
APPTS.
COMMERCE AND LABOR

APPOINTMENTS
RECEIVED
JAN 22 1913
9.27
COMMERCE AND LABOR

2nd a.M. #456
Tybee I.S. Ga.

King
Inspector.

Bureau of Lighthouses,
January 20, 1913.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce and Labor, recommending that Sisson be transferred to the position of assistant keeper of a third or fourth order light in the Sixth District, upon the occurrence of a suitable vacancy.

Noted
1-22-13
Acting Chief Bureau 1-22-13

Form 106

EFFICIENCY RATINGS

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

EFFICIENCY RATINGS of employees holding appointment certificates under direction of the Inspector *of the* Sixth *Light-House District for the period ending* {December 31, / ~~June 30~~} *19* 12, *whose efficiency is BELOW 8-10 for quantity of work, good for quality of work, and good for interest manifested in work.*

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES JAN 22 1913 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR RECEIVED JAN 22 1913 COMMERCE AND LABOR

(a) Indicate amount in tenths, on the basis that $\frac{10}{10}$ equals the amount of the class of work under consideration which can be performed by a thoroughly efficient employee.

(b) For quality and interest manifested in work use terms: Excellent, Good, Average, Fair, Poor. Abbreviate terms.

A recommendation, in duplicate, on a separate sheet of paper, should be made in each case noted on this report.

If the District Officer has no employees below the required standard, this form should be submitted with a statement thereon to that effect.

NAME OF EMPLOYEE (Surname last)	WHERE EMPLOYED (Abbreviate, if necessary)	EFFICIENCY			
		QUANTITY (a)	QUALITY (b)	INTEREST MANIFESTED IN WORK (b)	IS EMPLOYEE FULLY EARNING SALARY
Sisson, Robert A.	Tybee Light Sta., Ga.	7	7	Average	No.

APPOINTMENTS RECEIVED JAN 22 1913 COMMERCE AND LABOR
927

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington,
January 20, 1913.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce and Labor for his information. Attention invited to recommendation in the case of Sisson, submitted in separate communication of this date.

G. R. Putnam
Commissioner.

January 22, 1913.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

For the reasons set forth in the Sixth Inspector's letter of the 15th instant, the Department has approved the Bureau's recommendation that Mr. Robert A. Sisson, second assistant keeper of Tybee Light Station, Georgia, be transferred to the position of assistant keeper of a third or fourth order light in the Sixth District upon the occurrence of a suitable vacancy. As Mr. Sisson is an honorably discharged soldier of the Civil War, and has served in the Lighthouse Service for many years, the Department feels that he should be accorded the utmost consideration.

(Signed) BENJ. S. CABLE

Acting Secretary.

F-JB

March 27, 1913.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

Referring to its letter of January 22, 1913, approving the Bureau's recommendation that Robert A. Sisson, second assistant keeper of Tybee Light Station, Georgia, be transferred to the position of assistant keeper of a third or fourth order light in the Sixth District upon the occurrence of a suitable vacancy, the Department requests to be advised whether the Bureau is now in a position to transfer Mr. Sisson to a light of the character mentioned.

By direction of the Secretary:

(SIGNED) R. M. PINDELL, JR.

F-C

HRW-McC

Department of Commerce ~~and Labor~~

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES

Washington

April 3, 1913.

CHIEF CLERK'S OFFICE RECEIVED APR 5 1913 DEPT OF COMMERCE

CHIEF CLERK'S OFFICE FORWARDED TO APR 5 1913 APPTS. DEPT OF COMMERCE

Subject: Robert A. Sisson, transfer.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for his information, attention being invited to Department letter of March 27, 1913. The Bureau concurs in the statements of the Inspector. Nomination will be submitted to the Department upon the occurrence of a suitable vacancy.

APPOINTMENTS RECEIVED APR 5 - 1913 COMMERCE

Putnam

4/8/13
Fitz says
bring up July 1, 1913
Horner
Please note
& file

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
CHARLESTON, S. C.

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
APR 2 1913
DEPT OF COMMERCE

Dept Bureau 35 4/2

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

March 31, 1913.

Dep. Comptr.
Hydrog.
Engr. Corps.
Mar. Engr.
E. C G.
Examiner.
Personnel
Accounts.
Contracts.
Chf Clk.
Commr.

HDK-CAR

R. A. Sisson,
transfer.

Commissioner:-

Referring to Department letter of March 27, 1913, forwarded under Bureau endorsement of March 28, 1913, for return with report:

I have to state that there is a vacancy in this district at this time as in the position of Assistant Keeper at a third order light, namely, St. Simon Range Light Station, Ga. In view of thefact, however, that this light is a revolving light with incandescent oil vapor lamp and further that the duties of the keepers at this station include the care of St. Simon Range FrontLight, a structure located in the water and necessitating frequent attendance by small boat, Mr. Sisson is not considered qualified to fill this position, the duties of which are considered more arduous than that now filled by him.

On account of his advanced age and limited experience with revolving lights and I. O. V. lamps, Mr. Sisson is not considered well qualified for duty at any station except those involving care only of fixed oil burning lights.

King.

Inspector.

Form 73 ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT, PROMOTION, OR TRANSFER OF APPOINTEE

Department of Commerce ~~and Labor~~

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, Sixth DISTRICT.

Charleston, S.C., May 13, 1913. , 191

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

APPOINTMENT DIVISION APPOINTMENT WRITTEN MAY 17 1913 DEPT OF COMMERCE

SPECIAL

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES MAY 15 1913 DEPT OF COMMERCE

The following recommendation is submitted:

Action proposed, Transfer and promotion

Name, Robert A. Sisson. Legal residence, South Carolina.

Position, Assistant Keeper Salary, $480.00 per annum.

Title of appropriation, Sal. Kprs. Lt. Houses.

CHIEF CLERK MAY 16 1913

Location, Hilton Head Range Light Station, S. C.

Effective May 20, 1913. {~~the actual date of entrance on duty~~, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

APPOINTMENTS MAY 16 1913

Former position, Second Assistant Keeper Former salary, $456.00 per annum.

Location, Tybee Light Station, Georgia.

Rank in list of eligibles, - - - - - - - - Rating, - - - - - - - Percentage, - - - -

Other eligibles considered, - - - - - - - - - - - - -

Letters of declination inclosed, - - - - -

Previous incumbent, Joseph Grisillo Services terminated, rec. May 19, 1913.

Reason, Transfer. recommended. 5/17/13

Remarks: Note: AL 1/23/13 authorized Sisson's transfer to some other station.

AHT

King

Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

5/17/13

Department of Commerce ~~and Labor~~

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES

WASHINGTON

MAY 15 1913

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of Commerce ~~and Labor~~, approved.

E. C. Gillette

Acting Commissioner

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

11—2314

GENERAL APPOINTMENT

Department of Commerce ~~and Labor~~

APPOINTMENT DIVISION

Washington

May 17, 1913.

Mr. Robert A. Sisson,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

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

Assistant Keeper

in the Lighthouse Service

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

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

(By transfer from second assistant keeper at $456 per annum.)

CARDED.

CHANGE REPORTED MAY 1913 O. S. COMMISSION

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) GEO. W. LEADLEY

C
F

Chief of Appointment Division.

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Vice: Joseph Grisillo.

Legal Residence: South Carolina.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION. REPORTED MAY 17 1913 TO DISBURSING CLERK DEPT. OF COMMERCE

1—3692

Form 111

OATH OF OFFICE

(Prescribed by Section 1757, Revised Statutes)

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES JUN 4 1913 DEP'T OF COMMERCE

I, Robert A. Sisson

do solemnly[1] SWEAR (See below) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter: So help me God.

Robert A. Sisson
(Appointee signs here)

CHIEF CLERK JUN 14 1913

[2] Sworn (See below) and subscribed before me, this[3] 30th day of May, A. D. 1913

APPOINTMENTS JUN 14 1913

(Affix official seal here)

[4] (Name) J. R. Hudson

(Official title) Notary Public S.C.

Official Title	Rate of Pay	Name of Station, Vessel, or Place of Employment
Present Asst. Keeper	$480.00 p.a.	Hilton Head Range Light Station, S.C.
Former[5] 2nd Asst. Kpr.	$456.00 p.a.	Tybee Light Station, Georgia.

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

CARDED.

Office of Lighthouse Inspector, Sixth District

Charleston, South Carolina, June 3, 1913.
(Address) (Date)

The above-named appointee entered upon duty on May 20th, 1913.
(Date)

H. D. King
(Signature, followed by title)
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

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

[2] Insert here "sworn to" or "affirmed," as the case may be.

[3] The oath may be taken any time after the date of appointment and prior to the payment of compensation, but no compensation shall be paid until the oath is executed in proper form.

[4] This oath should be taken before a justice of the peace, notary public, judge, clerk of a court, or any other officer having authority to administer oaths, but never before a collector of customs, as he has no power to administer oaths in such cases. In case the officer administering the oath has no seal, his official character should be duly certified to by the clerk of the proper court or the proper county clerk.

[5] Give this information in all cases where new oath is required.

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

11—944

Hilton Head Lt Sta S C
June. 16 1914

Light-House Inspector
6th Dist. Light-House Dist.
Charleston S C.

Sir:-

× Robert A. Sisson, S.C., $480 p.a.

Assistant-Keeper, died at 5.10 am
his mommy was stricken with paralysis
at 3 am. Yesterday mommy was unconscious
from time stricken.

Resp.
C L. Sisson
Keeper.

× added in Bureau

Dep. Commr.
Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Examiner.
Personnel.
Accounts.
Contracts.
Chf. Clk.
Commr.

HDK-AEB.

Office of Inspector, 6th District,
Charleston, S C. June 17, 1914

Forwarded Commissioner of Lighthouses, as information.

Robert A. Sisson
asst. Kpr - $480
Hilton Head Range L.S. SC

Inspector

6-25-14

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
June 24, 1914.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for his information.

Inspector has been asked to state whether or not Sisson had been allowed leave in excess of the accrued rate.

H. B. Bonnicman
Acting Commissioner.

June 25, 1914.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

The Department is in receipt of the Bureau's communication of the 24th instant, reporting the death, on June 16, 1914, of Robert A. Sisson, assistant keeper of Hilton Head Range Light Station, South Carolina, at $480 per annum.

It is noted that proper report will be made as to whether or not Mr. Sisson had been allowed leave in excess of the accrued rate.

By direction of the Secretary:

(SIGNED) GEO. W. [illegible]

CARDED.

APPOINTMENT DIVISION ENTERED JUN 25 1914 ☆ ON JOURNAL OF COMMERCE

CHANGE REPORTED
JUN 1914
U. S. COMMISSION.

M
C

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
CHARLESTON, S. C.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

LIGHT
JUN 29 1914
HOUSE

Dep. Commr.
Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
Examiner.
~~Personnel~~
Accounts.
Contracts.
Chf. Clk.
Commr.

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

CHIEF CLERK
JUL 1 1914

ANT.

R.A.Sisson, leave.

June 26, 1914.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:-

Referring to Bureau letter of June 24, 1914, relative leave of absence, R. A. Sisson:

I have to report that Mr. Sisson has not taken leave in excess of accrued rate.

King
Inspector.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
JUN 30 1914
Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for his information.

Acting Commissioner.

SISSON, ROBERT A.

Robert A. Sisson



Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD
Washington

JL
File No. 10313.
Three enclosures.

25 Jan'y, 1907.

The Honorable,

The Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Sir:

The Board has the honor to ask that the pay of the position of keeper of the Bloody Point Range, S. C., Light-Station, be increased to date from 1 Feb'y, '07, from $660 to $720 a year, an increase of $5 a month; and that the pay of Mr. Robert A. Sisson of Ohio, the present keeper of this light-station be increased accordingly.

The Board begs to enclose herewith papers in the case of Mr. Sisson and to invite attention to the endorsement of 22 Jan'y, '07, of the Inspector of the Sixth Light-House District, on a letter from the Hon. J. C. Patterson recommending that Mr. Sisson's pay be increased.

The return of these papers is respectfully requested.

Respectfully,

Captain, U. S. N.,
Naval Secretary.

10313

Department of Commerce and Labor

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington

10313



January 28, 1907.

Gentlemen:

The Department acknowledges receipt of the Board's letter of January 25, 1907, asking that the pay of the position of keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station, South Carolina, be increased from $660 to $720 per annum and that the pay of the present keeper, Mr. Robert A. Sisson, be increased accordingly.

In reply the Department invites attention to the report of the Inspector, Sixth Light-House District, on the efficiency of the employees in that district, in which Mr. Sisson is rated as 6-10 Good, and to his indorsement of January 22, 1907, on the request of Hon. J. O. Patterson, M. C., for the increase of Mr. Sisson's pay, in which he states as follows:

> "I have always found his lights and station in very good condition. Upon my first inspection he called my attention to the difference in pay between him and Mr. Stonebridge, keeper of the Daufuskie Island Range lights. I was impressed with the justness of his claim, but told him I had directions not to recommend the increase of any salaries, but that if he would send in an application to the Board I would put a strong endorsement upon it and recommend that his pay be raised to $60 per month."

The Department would be pleased to be informed whether the Inspector's indorsement quoted above is to be taken as a revision of his report of June 30, 1906, as to Mr. Sisson's efficiency.

Action on the Board's request for Mr. Sisson's promotion

will be deferred pending receipt of the information requested.

Respectfully,

Lawrence O. Murray

Assistant Secretary.

The Light-House Board.

D-W

10313
910

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

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

February 1, 1907.

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

Sirs:

Referring to the Department's letter of January 23, 1907, File No. 10313, regarding the increase in salary of the keeper at Bloody Point Range Light-Station, S. C., I have the honor to state the conditions as follows:-

On the eastern end of Daufuskie Island there are two lights constituting the Daufuskie Island Range, guiding into Calibogue Sound from Tybee Roads. This channel is used only by vessels of moderate draft and engaged in inside traffic, consequently not so important as a range marking a channel for deep draft vessels coming in from outside. The keeper of this range has a very nice residence, well located, and the rear light of the range in on the top of the residence. The front light is 3/8 mile from the rear light, with a good pathway to it from the dwelling. The keeper of this range receives $60.00 per month. His lights, residence and the station have as a rule been in excellent condition.

On the western end of this same island are two lights constituting the Bloody Point Range and marks the channel in crossing Savannah River bar after leaving the Tybee Range, and consequently is of vital importance to outside shipping. Both of these lights are situated outside of the keeper's dwelling, one about a hundred yards away. The lantern has to be hoisted and lowered each day about 70 feet, thus requiring considerable labor.

The front light is 5/8 of a mile away from this on a larger tower than the corresponding light at Daufuskie Island Range, thus requiring more labor to keep in order, &c. The keeper of this range has a nice dwelling and comfortable house, but more isolated than the one on the eastern end.

#720 Taylor HB

Taking all these points into consideration I considered, when my attention was first called to the matter, and still consider that the keeper at Bloody Point Range Light-Station should receive at least as much pay as the keeper at Daufuskie Island Range Light-Station so long as the duties were satisfactorily performed.

While I am unable to discover any marked inconsistency between my report of June 20, 1906, as to Mr. Sisson's efficiency, and my endorsement of January 22, 1907, on the request of Hon. J. O. Patterson, M. C., for the increase of Mr. Sisson's pay, if the Department considers that I have erred in the marks given this keeper,

ATJ.

File No. 10313.

One Inclosure.

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD
Washington

6 Feb'y, 1907.

The Honorable,

The Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Sir:-

Referring to Department letter of 23 Jan'y, '07, relative to an increase in the pay of Mr. Robert A. Sisson, Keeper of the Bloody Point Range, S. C., Light-Station, the Board has the honor to inclose herewith a copy of a letter of 1 Feb'y, '07, from the Inspector of the Sixth Light-House District, giving additional reasons for an increase in the pay of Mr. Sisson, and stating that if the Department is of the opinion he has erred in the efficiency marks given Mr. Sisson, his indorsement be considered as a revision of his report of 30 June, '06, as to Mr. Sisson's efficiency.

The Board begs to renew its recommendation of 25 Jan'y, '07, that the pay of the position of Keeper of Bloody Point Range, S. C., Light-Station, be increased from $600 to $720 a year, and that the pay of the present Keeper, Mr. Robert A. Sisson, be increased accordingly.

Respectfully,

Captain, U. S. N.

10313

GENERAL APPOINTMENT—FIXED DATE

Department of Commerce and Labor

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington

10313

February 7, 1907.

Mr. Robert A. Sisson, of South Carolina, is hereby appointed

Keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station, S. C.,

in the Light-House Service,

at a salary of Seven Hundred and Twenty dollars per annum

this appointment to take effect February 7, 1907.

Payment of the compensation authorized in this appointment is subject to the oath of office being taken.

(By increase in compensation from $660 per annum.)

(Signed) Lawrence O. Murray,
Assistant Secretary.

G.W.L.

Date of oath: _____, 190

11—1303

The Light-House Board.

W

Form 138

NOTIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT

ATJ.

File No. 10318.

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD

Washington

Two inclosures.

8 Feb'y, 1907.

The Inspector, Sixth L. H. District,

Charleston, S. C.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of 1 Feb'y, '07, the Board incloses herewith Department letter of 7 Feb'y, '07, in duplicate, increasing the pay of Mr. Robert A. Sisson, Keeper of Bloody Point Range, S. C., Light-Station,

to date from 7 Feb'y, '07, from pay at the rate of $600 a year, to that of pay at the rate of $720 a year. in the place of

When Mr. Sisson has taken the prescribed oath the Board requests you to forward it at once to this Office, and state when he entered on duty.

Respectfully,

Chief Clerk.

10313

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

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

February 26, 1907.

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

Sirs:

Referring to the Board's letter of February 8, 1907, File No. 10313, I have the honor to forward the Oath of Office of Mr. Robert A. Sisson, Keeper Bloody Point Range Light-Station, S. C.

Respectfully yours,

W. T. Burton

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

Department of Commerce and Labor

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK

Washington

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
FORWARDED
FEB 14 1908
TO L.-H. BOARD
DEPT. OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Chief of Bureau:

Please prepare a reply for the Secretary's signature, returning the original letter to this office with the reply.

By direction of the Secretary.

W. R. Blackford

ACTING Chief Clerk.

11—1639

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD
FEB 14 1908
10313
Received.

7140

Received. 2 inclosures.

2/13/08

Committee on Claims,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD
FEB 14 1908
Received.
Inclosure.

SIR:

Inclosed please find House bill, now before the Committee on Claims for consideration. Kindly furnish the Committee all facts and information concerning the matter in the possession of your Department; also an opinion touching the merits of the claim.

In case I have made an error in reference, may I ask you to forward the bill to proper Department.

An early compliance with the above request will be appreciated.

Respectfully,

J. M. Miller

Chairman.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
FORWARDED
FEB 14 1908
TO L.-H. BOARD
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR
INDEXED

19 Feby, 08. Dept. wrote Com. on Claims.

60TH CONGRESS, 1ST SESSION.

H. R. 10187.

LIGHT HOUSE BRANCH
FEB 14 1908
10313
Received.
9140
Enclosure
Ent'd FEB 14 1908

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

DECEMBER 16, 1907.

Mr. PATTERSON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Claims and ordered to be printed.

A BILL

For the relief of R. A. Sisson.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to pay, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of eighty-eight dollars and forty-eight cents to R. A. Sisson, light-house keeper of Bloody Point Range, Daufuskie Island, Beaufort County, South Carolina, for the loss and destruction of his property during the cyclone of eighteen hundred and ninety-three.

Private Act Feby 18, 1909 of Pres't.
$88.48 to Salary Lessee Light
41-124-11
NB

FCR.
10313.

Ent'd FEB 20 1908

February 19, 1908.

Dear Sir:

Referring to the Committee's letter of February 13, 1908, enclosing a copy of the bill H. R. 10187, "For the relief of R. A. Sisson," and asking that the Committee be furnished with all facts and information concerning the matter in the possession of this Department, I have the honor to state that in the estimates of appropriations required for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1906, page 248, an item was submitted as follows:

"Reimbursement of Losses of Light-Keepers in the Sixth Light-House District-

Reimbursement of keepers of lights, the officers and crew of a light-vessel, and the keeper of a buoy depot in the Sixth Light-House District for personal losses sustained during the cyclones of August, 1893, while on duty. Submitted.....$2,399.13"

It appears, from the records of the Light-House Board, to which the matter was referred, that an estimate for the reimbursement of losses of light-keepers in the Sixth Light-House District, on account of the cyclone of August, 1893, was first submitted to Congress in the estimates of appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897.

The matter was first called to the attention of Congress by the Treasury Department letter dated November 9, 1893, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, in which recommendation was made that

provision be made by Congress for the reimbursement of the several persons whose statements accompanied that letter, one of whom was Mr. R. A. Sisson, light-house keeper of Bloody Point Range, Daufuskie Island, South Carolina.

This Department therefore knows of no objection to the passage of the bill specified.

Very truly yours,

Secretary.

The Chairman of
The Committee on Claims,
House of Representatives.

6 Private Act #221, Feby 15, 1911,
Appropriated $88.48 for Sisson's Relief
HR-4-24-11



Rec'd MAR 5 1908 Ed'd MAR 24

1908 MAR 5 1908 LIGHT HOUSE BOARD 10313 Received.

C.C.

Hiltonhead S. C.
Mch

MAR 24 1908 LIGHT HOUSE BOARD Received.

Hon. Secty. Light House
Board.
Washington D. C.

OFFICE LIGHT HOUSE INSPECTOR MAR 10 1908 SIXTH DISTRICT CHARLESTON, S.C.

Sir—

Robert A. Sisson. Keeper of Bloody Point Light House. Daufuskie Island S.C. has been making slanderous charges against me. and my family. his language was "Brown is Keping the Post Office. and an assignation house in the same building".

(My wife is Postmaster. and I am Assistant P.M. at this place)

Mr Sisson is an old man. and one would get no credit for giving him a beating. and as he has no property it would be useless to sue him. I therefor request that he should be compelled to prove his charges.

Very truly Yours
W. D. Brown

FCR.
10313.

MAR 26 1908

R.A.Sisson.

March 24, 1908.

Mr. W. D. Brown,

Hiltonhead, S.C.

Sir:

Referring to your letter dated March 3, 1908, relative to Mr. R. A. Sisson, keeper of Bloody Point Light-House, Daufuskie Island, S. C., the Board states that the matter was referred to the Inspector of the Sixth Light-House District, for an investigation and report. The Inspector has replied that upon his next trip of inspection to Hilton Head Range Light-Station he will notify you and hear anything you may have to say on the subject.

Respectfully,

Captain, U. S. N.,
Naval Secretary.

C

Form 0
Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD

10313 10313

SUBJECT INDEX

ROBERT A. SISSON,
Keeper, 6th District.

1907

15 Jan'y — 14 Jan'y — Hon. J. O. Patterson, M. C. asks that salary be raised $5 per mo.

16 Jan — Endsd above ltr to 6 Inspr for report and statement as to whether - applied to Congressman for the incr in his pay

24 Jan'y — 22 Jan'y — 6 Inspr retrns by endrs letter from Congressman Patterson with other correspndence rel to increase of pay which is recmd by Inspr.

25 Jany — Wt Dept asking increase in pay of------

29 Jan'y — 28 Jan'y — Dept asks if present indorsement of Mr. Sisson is revision of ~~xixxxxpxxx~~ 6 Inspr report of efficiancy of June 30, 1906, before making increase in salary.

30 Jan — Endsd to 6 Inspr above ltr for report and return

4 Feb. — 1 Feb. — 6 Inspr retrns letter of 28 Jan'y from Dept with statement that endorsement was intended for revision of report of efficiency of June 30, 1906.

6 Feby — Wrote Dept askg increase in pay of --

8 Feb. — 7 Feb. — Dept makes apptn.

8 Feb. — 7 Feb. — Dept authorizes increase in salary from $660 to $720 per annum.(910)

8 Feb'y. — Wrote 6th Inspr sendg Dept let increasing pay of --

18 Feb. — 15 Feb. — 6 Inspr retrns by endrs above letter.(910)

28 Feb. — 26 Feb. — 6 Inspr trans oath of office.

Mch. 4. — Oath and ---------- Noted and Forwarde

1908

14 Feb — Dept forwards H. R. Bill 10187 re paying---- $88.48 on account of damage to property.

20 Feb — 19 Feb — Wrote for Secy Dept. Com. on Claims re bill H.R. 10187

3 Mar — W.D.Brown, Asst.P.M. Hiltonhead, S.C. writes that Sisson has been making slanderous charges against him.

9 Mar — 9 Mar — Letter from W.D.Brown of 3 Mar referred by en to 6th Insp.

24 Mar — 21 Mar — 6th Inspr. returns letter from W.D. Brown with Sisson's reply thereto. relative to slanderous remarks made by latter against former.

26 Mar — 24 Mar — Wrote W.D. Brown relative to sladerous remarks made by

9 Apr — 31 Mar — R.A.Sisson resigns, acceptance recommended by 6th Inspr. effective close 30 apr. (Fwd to Dept Sheet 2) (Serial 2)

10313

JL- Copy.
10313.

Bloody Point Light House Station, S. C.,

March 31, 1908.

To

Comdr. Hugh Rodman, U. S. N.,

Inspr. 6th Lt. Ho. Dist.,

Charleston, S. C.

Sir:

Having served the Govt. of the United States for nearly 29 years as a Lt. Ho. Keeper at Hilton Head on this Island as as a Soldier in the Civil War, (K. 157th, N.J. Vols.) I beg leave to retire and herewith respectfully resign my office as Keeper of Bloody Point Range Lights S.C., to take effect April 30th, 1908. I have been a faithful servant of the Govt. for 31 years and have an honorable discharge from the U.S.A. and ask for an honorable discharge from the Lt. Ho. Service.

Yours respectfully,

R. A. Sisson,

Keeper.

Office Light House Board.

April 10, 1908

Respectfully forwarded to the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, approved, to take effect April 30'08, inclusive.

(signed) J. M. Helm.

Captain, U. S. N.,
Naval Secretary.

Office of Light-House Inspector,
6th District,
Charleston, S. C., April 8, 1908.

Respectfully forwarded and recommended that it be accepted to take effect at the close of April 30, 1908.

Hugh Rodman
Comdr., U.S.N.,
Inspr. 6th L.H.District.

April 13, 1908, wrote 6 Insps.
" 14 " Copy dept letter of April 10'08 sent 6 Insps.

HB

Department of Commerce and Labor

EAC.
10313.

LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD

Washington

Robert A.Sisson,
Charges against-

March 7, 1908.

Mr. W. D. Brown,

Hiltonhead, S. C.

Sir:-

Referring to your letter of March 3, 1908, relative to remarks alleged to have been made against your family by Mr. Robert A. Sisson, keeper of Bloody Point Light-Station, S. C., the Board states that this a matter in which it cannot properly interfere.

Respectfully,

Captain, U.S.N.,
Naval Secretary.

Refer Sisson to Light House Board to conduct case proper action & report—

Think he can settle the matter
MH

Department of Commerce and Labor

10313

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington

April 13, 1908.

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the Board's recommendation of the 10th instant, the resignation of Robert A. Sisson as keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station, South Carolina, at a compensation of $720 per annum, is hereby accepted effective at the close of April 30, 1908.

Respectfully,

Charles Earl

Acting Secretary.

The Light-House Board.

4'08 copy sent 6th Insp.

Le
D

10313

WLR
10313.
One enclosure.

Ent'd APR 13 1908

R.A.Sisson,
resignation.

April 12, 1908.

The Inspector of

The Sixth Light-House District,

Charleston, S. C.

Sir:-

Referring to your endorsement of April 8, 1908, on the resignation of Mr. R.A.Sisson, keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station, S.C., the Board notes that he requests an honorable discharge, and encloses herewith a certificate of discharge, which it requests that you fill out in such manner as you deem advisable, and send it to Mr.Sisson.

Respectfully,

Captain, U. S. N.,

Naval Secretary.

1 Enclosure. Received.

K. Wtrl.

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD R
MAY 5 1910
NO. 10313

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

Robert A. Sisson-
Recommending reinstate-
ment in L.H.Service.

May 3, 1910.

The Light-House Board,

Washington, D. C.

Sirs:

I have the honor to recommend the reinstatement in the Light-House Service of Mr. Robert A. Sisson, and that he be appointed Keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station, S. C., to date from June 1, 1910, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

2. Mr. Sisson resigned from the Light-House Service, Keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station, May 1, 1908, after 28 1/2 years' service in this district as a light keeper. He was an efficient employe and had an excellent record as light keeper.

3. Mr. Sisson is a veteran of the Civil War. He enlisted as corporal, in Company I, 54th Regiment of New York Veteran Volunteers August 7, 1863, and was honorably discharged April 14, 1866.

4. While Mr. Sisson resigned from the service two years ago it is recommended that he be reinstated under Regulation 1X, Civil Service Regulations governing the Light-House Service. It is understood that the one year limitation does not apply in cases where the applicant had served in the U. S. Army during the Civil War.

5. Though Mr. Sisson is 66 years of age his physical condition is very good. During his long service he has necessarily become thoroughly familiar with the duties of a light keeper and his case is considered especially meritorious.

May 20/10. Navy Dept.

6. The Board has authorized the removal of Bloody Point Range lights, by letter of September 17, 1908, (2169), to positions in the water on the shoals off Bloody Point and the illuminant changed to acetylene, and it is expected that this change will take.place during the next fiscal year. This will necessitate that the care of the new lights be given to the keepers at Tybee or Oyster Beds Range Lights, and the present position of Keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station will become vacant. Mr. Sisson understands this and will expect to be discharged when the above-mentioned change takes place.

7. It is considered desirable to fill the position of Keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station by reinstatement of Mr. Sisson rather than transfer some younger man already in the service to a position of uncertain duration.

8. In accorance with the schedule of pay fixed by the Committee on Equalization of Pay, the salary allowed for Bloody Point Light-Station when a new keeper is appointed, is only $46.00 per month.

9. Enclosed herewith is Form 73, nomination Mr. Robert A. Sisson for this position.

Very respectfully,

J. H. Stockton

Commander, U.S.N., Ret'd,

Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

Form 73

ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT, PROMOTION, OR TRANSFER OF EMPLOYEE

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD
MAY 5 1910
NO. 10313

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

Office of the Inspector, 6th L. H. Dist.,
Charleston, S.C.,

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

May 3, 1910.
(Date)

Enclosure

Sirs: I have the honor to recommend the (1) ~~reinstatement and appointment~~
(Probationary appointment, transfer, promotion, etc.)
of (2) Mr. Robert A. Sisson (Name of person—letter for letter—as reported to Board) of (3) South Carolina (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) $——— (Salary now paid) to (7) Keeper (Official title of position, as Keeper, First Assistant Keeper, etc.)
at (8) Bloody Point Range Light-Station, S.C., (Official name of aid, as given in Light List, as Absecon Light-Station, N. J.) at
$552 per annum
(9) $~~46.00 p.m.~~, (Salary recommended) effective beginning (10) June 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) Mr. Charles L. Sisson, (State name of *last* person holding position)
who (12) is recommended for transfer (Died, transferred, resigned, dismissed, etc.) on (13) May 31, 1910. (Last day of service)
Mr. (14) ——— stands No. (15) ——— in list of eligibles,
Class (16) ———, with an average of (17) ——— per cent, and
was considered with (18) ———
(19) letters of declination of ——— herewith.

Respectfully,

J. W. Harrington

Comdr., U.S.N., Ret'd, Insp., 6th L.H.District.

HB-ATJ.
10313
One inclosure

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD

B

Entered MAY 21 1910

May 20, 1910., 190

Approved, and respectfully forwarded to the Honorable the Secretary of Commerce and Labor. Attention is invited to a copy of the Inspector's letter of the 3d instant, attached hereto. This nomination was delayed pending the transfer of Mr. Charles L. Sisson.

Captain, U. S. N.,
Naval Secretary.

NOTE.—This form should be sent to the Light-House Board in duplicate. Letters of declination, if any, should be sent with this letter.

This letter is returned for correction of items Nos. ———

June 8, 1910, appt. asst. Clerk Insp.

11—2314

4/

10313

Department of Commerce and Labor
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
Washington

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD 13
MAY 23 1910
NO. 10313

May 21, 1910.

Gentlemen:

The Department acknowledges receipt of the request for the reinstatement of Robert A. Sisson to the Light-House Service, as keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station, South Carolina, forwarded approved by the Board on the 20th instant.

The Board is informed that before acting upon this request it will be necessary for Mr. Sisson to state whether there are not two or more members of his family already in the public service.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

A. B. Baldwin

Chief Clerk.

The Light-House Board.

✓

May 24/10. Wrote 6th Insps.
" 28/10 " Def.

D-Le

B

HB-ATJ.
10313
ONE INCLOSURE.

Robert A. Sisson;
relatives in Service.

May 24, 1910.

The Inspector of

The Sixth Light-House District,

Charleston, S. C.

Sir:

Referring to your nomination of the 3rd instant of Robert A. Sisson as keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station, South Carolina, the Board requests you to have Mr. Sisson state whether or not he has two or more members of his family already in the public Service. If he has such relatives in the Service the Board requests that he fill out and forward the inclosed affidavit to this Office at the earliest practicable date.

Respectfully,

Captain, U. S. N.,

Naval Secretary.

K.

Department of Commerce and Labor
LIGHT-HOUSE ESTABLISHMENT

LIGHT-HOUSE BD.
MAY 27 19[illegible]
NO. 10313

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

May 26, 1910.

Robert A. Sisson-
Relatives in service.

The Light-House Board,

Washington, D. C.

Sirs:

Referring to the Board's letter of May 24, 1910, (10313), I have the honor to state that there is only one member of Mr. Robert A. Sisson's family in the government service. Form 1769 is therefore not filled out.

Received.

2. Enclosed herewith is affidavit of Mr. Sisson that there is only one member of his family or relative in the government service under Civil Service.

Very respectfully,

Pattillo Farrow
Chief Clerk

In the absence and by direction of
Inspector, 6th L.H.District.

May 28/10. Prob. dept.

Enclosure.

LIGHT HOUSE BOARD
MAY 27 1910
NO. 10313

Personally appeared before me Robert A. Sisson, who made oath in due form of law that the only member of his family or relative in the Government Service, under the Civil Service, is Charles L. Sisson, Keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station, S. C.

Subscribed and sworn to before by the above-named applicant, this 18th day of May, 1910, at Savannah, County of Chatham State of Georgia

R A Sisson

Jos J Cass
Dy Clerk Superior Ct
(official impression of seal)

May 28/10 Instructions Dept

B

HB-ATJ.
10313

May 28, 1910.

Robert A. Sisson,
relatives in the Service.

The Honorable

The Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Sir:

Referring to Department letter of the 21st instant requesting a statement from Mr. Robert A. Sisson, whose reinstatement as keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station, South Carolina, has been recommended by the Board, as to whether or not there are two or more members of his family already in the public service, the Board has the honnr to state that Mr. Sisson has only one relative in the government service.

Respectfully,

Captain, U. S. N.,

Naval Secretary.

Copy of Act - Private ~~~

Department of Commerce and Labor
Bureau of Lighthouses
Washington, D.C.

March 20, 1911.

Respectfully forwarded to
R. A. Sisson, Keeper
Bloody Point Range Lights,
through the Inspector of
the Sixth Lighthouse District, Charleston, South
Carolina.

Acting Commissioner.

1

JAMES F. BYRNES
2D DISTRICT SOUTH CAROLINA

Dept. Commr.
Lt. Dis.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
E. C. G.
Examiner
Personnel
Accounts
Contracts
Chf. Clk.

Refer to 6th Dist. for report as to transfer of keeper [illegible] Byrnes [illegible] 7/31

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON

Aiken, S. C., July 29, 1912.

JUL 31 1912 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

OFFICE LIGHT HOUSE INSPECTOR AUG 5 1912 SIXTH DISTRICT CHARLESTON, S.C.

Mr. George R. Putnam,

Commissioners Light House Service,

Washington, D. C.

BUREAU OF LIGHT HOUSES AUG 7 1912 DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

My dear Mr. Putnam:-

Mr. R. A. Sisson is now in charge of Bloody Point Light House. I am informed that it is the intention of the Department to abolish this Light House sometime this fall, and Mr. Sisson will, therefore, be without a position. Mr. Sisson has been in the service for twenty-eight years. I am satisfied that his record has been a good one. Mr. Sisson is not a Democrat, and therefore, I am interested in him because of personal and not political reasons. He is held in the highest esteem by the people who know him, and I am writing to ask you whether there is any chance of having him retained in the Service for the purpose of looking after this light, which he has been attending to for so many years, and if not, what can be done towards having him transferred to some other Light House.

It does seem to me that after having given to the Service of the Government the best years of his life, that it is a hardship to be thrown out of the employment, not because of his inability to attend to his duties, but because of a re-arrangement of the Service, and I think you will agree with me that where such a re-arrangement is necessary, that if it is possible to continue the faithful servant in the employ of the Government that it should be done, and I can assure you that if you can assist Mr. Sisson, or

8-1-12 Ack 8-9-12 Letter to Rep. Byrnes

JAMES F. BYRNES
2D DISTRICT SOUTH CAROLINA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON

Mr. G. R. P. 2.

can advise me what steps I can take to assist him, I shall appreciate it very much. I am,

Sincerely yours,

James F. Byrnes

JFB-G:

Department of Commerce and Labor
Bureau of Light-Houses
Washington Aug 1-1912

Respectfully referred to the Inspector of the 6th Light-House District for his information, ~~proper action,~~ and return with a report, as to transfer of Sisson

G R Putnam
Commissioner.

EBH

McC.

R.A.Sisson,
transfer.

July 31, 1912.

Honorable James F. Byrnes,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Byrnes:

Referring to your letter of the 29th instant, in regard to the retention in the Service of Mr. R. A. Sisson, keeper of Bloody Point Light Station.

I beg to advise you that the matter is being investigated and that you will be advised in regard thereto at an early date.

Sincerely yours,

Acting Commissioner.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, SIXTH DISTRICT,
CHARLESTON, S. C.

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Dep Commr.
Hydrog.
Engr. Corps
Mat. Engr.
E. C. G.
Examiner
Personnel
Accounts
Contracts
Dist Clk.

HDK-JS

R. A. Sisson

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

August 5, 1912.

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES
AUG 7 1912
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

2nd ENDORSEMENT.

SUBJECT: Transfer of R. A. Sisson, Keeper Bloody Point Range, Ga.

1. Returned to Commissioner.

2. Mr. R. A. Sisson was appointed October 11, 1881, and resigned April 30, 1908. He was reinstated August 10, 1910. The enclosed copy of letter from my predecessor to Mr. Sisson states that he was reinstated with the understanding that the reappointment would be temporary in view of the anticipated discontinuance of the station.

3. The second paragraph of the letter from the member of Congress defines a situation which is an embarassment to the Service as well as to employees, but it does not appear that this office can properly give assurance that Mr. Sisson will be transferred to another station, in fairness to the efficiency of the service, and other more efficient keepers, whose services on their present stations will probably be discontinued by changes anticipated in the near future.

4. Transfer of Mr. Sisson to another station is not recommended, but it may be desirable to retain his services as custodian for a short time after the discontinuance of the lights, pending the final disposition of the Light-House property and reservation.

H. D. King.

Inspector.

8-9-12 Letter to Rep Byrnes, enclosed to Dept

McC.

R.A.Sisson,
Transfer.

August 9, 1912.

Hon. James F. Byrnes,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Byrnes:

Referring again to your letter of the 29th ultimo, in regard to the retention in the Lighthouse Service of R. A. Sisson, keeper, Bloody Point Range, Ga., upon the discontinuance of that light station.

Mr. Sisson was reinstated in the lighthouse Service August 10, 1910, with the understanding that his reappointment would be temporary in view of the anticipated discontinuance of Bloody Point Range, Ga.

Due consideration will be given to his retention in the service after the lights in question are discontinued.

Sincerely Yours,

Commissioner.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR SIXTH DISTRICT,
CHARLESTON, S. C.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
PE-CAR
AUG 29 1912
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Dep. Commr.
Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
E. C. G.
Examiner.
Personnel
Accounts
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Commr.

OK file WE 8/29

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

August 26, 1912.

The Commissioner:

The within papers relative to retention of R. A. Sisson in the service after the discontinuation of the present Bloody Point Range Lights are returned herewith.

A report on this case was forwarded in reply to Bureau endorsement of August 1, 1912, in letter from Hon. Jas. F. Byrnes, M. C.

It is further stated that subsequent to the above mentioned report Mr. Sisson was offered and declined the position of 1st Assistant Keeper at Hillsboro Inlet Light Station. There will occur a vacancy as 2nd Assistant Keeper at Tybee Light Station during the month of September for which Mr. Sisson is being considered among others and which he has reluctantly signified his intention to accept if offered him.

Owing to his length of service and the expressed intention of the Department to give preference to Civil War veterans for retention in the service, Mr. Sisson will probably be recommended for transfer to this station, although owing to his advanced age it is not considered certain that he will be able to perform the full measure of the duties at a first order station, for more than a short period.

It is not practicable to transfer Mr. R. A. Sisson to Charleston Light Station, nor to retain him as Keeper of new Bloody Point A. G. A. Lights.

H. D. King.

Inspector.

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES
AUG 19 1912
DEP'T OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Letter for self 1908/19

OFFICE LIGHT HOUSE INSPECTOR
AUG 26 1912
SIXTH DISTRICT
CHARLESTON, S.C.

Bloody Point-Lt S So

Augt 17th 12

Dep. Commr.
Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
E. C. G.
Examiner.
Personnel.
Accounts.
Contracts.
Chf Clk.
Commr.

Mr E. A. Trott

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES
AUG 20 1912
DEP'T OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Dear Sir

I feel I quite myself in extending to you Congratulations on your promotion in the late letter- We are glad always to know former friends get where reward. You'll know I was disappointed then under Civil Service rules from a Union Vet preference I quote the rule.

"The rule barring reinstatement after a separation of one year does not apply to any person honorably discharged after service in the Civil War (Was out 2 years & 4 months) I am in fair order & consider a remarkable man for my age & do any work that is required. Hoping & trusting that you'll hear from us. We know

He will have your Sympathy
I have not been able to save anything
how could I on my small pay
Of $3,500 for 10 years when I was
Clerk of the Senate & U.S Commr. U.S Courts
& Postmaster
At my age & among such a set of
Crackers as I had to live among
They would only be too glad to see
me in court. Mr Levy ought to appreciate my
position. Tho' extremely sorry & thankful
for the place I could not
accept

R L Siftow

Send Delivery
Savannah
Ga

DEPT. OF COMMERCE AND LABOR
AUG 19 1912

Dft Jadd

Genl Delivy Savannah Ga

Department of Commerce and Labor.

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES
AUG 19 1912
DEP'T OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

BLOODY POINT,
Light House Station, S. C.

Aug 17th 1912

Mr E M Trott

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES
AUG 29 1912
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Supt 1st Genl Duty Bureau of Light Houses
Washington DC

Dear Sir

As my Lights Have ar to be discontinued & Gas ones put in the water Dft. will put us out of our old home when Gov used to supply us Gas offices daily Asst at Hilton Head S.C. of course you will understand I Could not Get a Stock a place for many reasons chief of which is my wifes poor health I have been a Principal Keeper over 32 years I resigned May 1st 1908 to get Charles whom you knew at Venus Point - who was then 1st Asst at Charleston Main St back to this Dist as Keeper And when Charlie was transferred to New Light at Fernandina Fla I shall application to be Civil Service Lake (Boy in blue Civilian) And

and was reappointed as Keeper to take effect Augt 10th 1910. Charles was promoted to Charleston Main Ll as Keeper June 6th 1912 He was mann i last Sept & went down to his wedding Was sorry to part with him & his wife & Kid in Sept Sunday 18th when he will meet his wife Comin from Fla. Hate to be thrown into any Light under some Keeper who would make it unpleasant for us. And perhaps Jim may be able to help us with Mr Putnam. Comm. after my long & faithful Service in the Dept 3 years & over with good recom & 2 years & 8 mos in the Army in the War of the Rebellion I trust that my Case will be looked into & favorably by Mr Putnam will let him that I am not Side tracked. Do you know Mr H D King Supt 6th Dist. Perhaps you would kindly write him in my behalf. If would not be contrary to our rules Now if I could get Asst at Charleston Ll that would just Suit us

See Report of Secy Com & Labor dated
April 26th 1912 which as you will see favors
the Veteran
me. Report Sey Union Soldier in the
Light House Dept with good record will be
retained & Suitable place found for aged Keepers
& Masters are transferd to less responsible
positions at other Lt Station or Depots.
Civil S. Rules and Regulations giving Civil
War Veterans Preference for entrance promotion
and retention are complied with So Says
report. Then report was called for by President
Taft... I want those in Authority in our
Dept to observe the letter and spirit of the
Secty's report. I dont want to ask favor of my
powerful friends to aid me Uncle Sam owes me
my bread & butter for my service in the war
when I bared my breast to the enemy and
suffered awful hardships on the march & in Battle
After the War I was a Chief Clerk in an
Office
important of the Army till April 1866
I could be very useful as a Messenger at

Jour Bureau in Washington or as an
Asst Clerk but a place will I hope be
found for me Now as this is a turning point in my
case. Could you read this letter to
Mr Putnam who am sure will appreciate
my long and faithful services to the Govt
& will do all in peace for me. Cyclone earthquake
& storm surely something will be done for me
My wife sends her regards

Yours Sincerely
R T Sexton

Keeper

If you don't show this to Mr Putnam
How would it do to write him my case
(type write) & send it through our Supt
in regular form. Rules allow this. But I hope
you'll show him this and help us

R T S.

R Admiral R Thomas who was Supt 3rd Dist
offered me a Light on N.J. 3 Dist. when I visited
him at Staten Isl. in 1909. He recommended me

5

To Lt Ho Board April 22nd 1910

Have found upon taping I was a desirable acquisition to the Service than the paper now I did not take Light Keeping on a/c cyclonic R.A.S.

Why Can't I attend the new Gas Station at Fort Pulaski attend new Gas Beacon in front of Tybee Isl pursuant my own boat whitewash them clean glasses. Use land + Dwelling + I does not reward + former owner And I could remain here to have a Valuable Coin Tower here + two Dwelling + new Kitchen + new brick Out house & Building wall in good order

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington.
Aug. 22-1912

To Lighthouse Inspector, Charleston S. C.
for report and return.

Conway
Acting Commr.

LIGHT-HOUSES
OCT 27 1912
DEPT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK
WASHINGTON

Dep. Commr.
Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
E. C. G.
Examiner
Personnel
Accounts
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Commr.

not practicable clerks must be stewards, keepers in office work in LHS complicated by reading, etc JE 10/2

September 30, 1912.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

The Department transmits herewith, for remark and return, letters dated the 23rd and 25th instant from Senator B. R. Tillman and Representative James F. Byrnes, respectively, requesting that Mr. R. A. Sisson, Second Assistant Keeper of Tybee Light Station, Georgia, be appointed to a clerical position in the Office of the Inspector of the Sixth Lighthouse District.

By direction of the Secretary:

A. M. Tidwell
Chief Clerk.

Enclosure 3659.
D-Re 10/3/12 Letter to Supt

McC.
TWO inclosures.
R. A. Sisson,
application, clerk.

October 3, 1912.

Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Referring to Department letter of the 30th ultimo, transmitting for remark and return, letters dated the 23d and 25th ultimo, from Senator B. R. Tillman and Representative James F. Byrnes, respectively, requesting that Mr. R. A. Sisson, second assistant keeper of Tybee Light Station, Georgia, be appointed to a clerical position in the Office of the Inspector of the Sixth Lighthouse District.

The Bureau does not deem it practicable to appoint Mr. Sisson to a clerical position in the office of the Sixth Inspector, for the reason that applicants therefor must be typewriters and stenographers, and, in addition, the office work in the Lighthouse Service is complicated and exacting. As Mr. Sisson does not possess the requisite qualifications, he is not considered a suitable person for appointment to the position in question.

The letters of Senator Tillman and Representative Byrnes above referred to are returned, as requested.

Acting Commissioner.

TSC
Mcc

Form 73

ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT, PROMOTION, OR TRANSFER OF APPOINTEE

Department of Commerce and Labor

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, 6th DISTRICT,

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES AUG 30 1912 DEP'T OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Charleston, S. C. August 28 , 1912.

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

The following recommendation is submitted:

We have duplicate JK

BUREAU OF LIGHT-HOUSES SEP 9 1912 DEP'T OF COMMERCE AND LABOR

Action proposed, Transfer of

Name, Robert A. Sisson Legal residence, South Carolina

Position, 2nd Asst. Keeper Salary, $456.00 per annum

Location, Tybee Light Station, Ga.

Effective Oct. 15, 1912 or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty ~~of the actual date of entrance on duty.~~

Former position, Keeper Former salary, $552.00 per annum

Location, Bloody Point Range Light Station, S. C.

Rank in list of eligibles, ---------- Rating, ---------- Percentage, ----------

Other eligibles considered, ----------

Letters of declination inclosed, ----------

Previous incumbent, Reinhard Heisser Services terminated,

Reason, Transfer

Remarks: This transfer involving a reduction in compensation is made without prejudice, as the position of keeper, Bloody Point Range Station is to be abolished. Mr. Sisson was offered position of 2nd Asst. at Tybee Station. Copy of letter to him and his acceptance by telegram are attached.

H. D. King

Inspector, 6th, Lighthouse District

Department of Commerce and Labor

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES

WASHINGTON

SEP 11 1912

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, approved.

11—2314

C

Acting Commissioner

mcc TSC

GENERAL APPOINTMENT

Department of Commerce and Labor
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
Washington

Mr. Robert A. Sisson, September 13, 1912.

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

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

Second Assistant Keeper

in the Lighthouse Service

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

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

(By change from keeper at $552 per annum).

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) E. C. SHELSB

Acting Chief of Appointment Division.

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Vice: Reinhard Heisser.

Legal Residence: South Carolina.

11—3692

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

Lighthouse Service.

Office Sixth Inspector.
Charleston, S. C.

HDK-AHT

January 15, 1913.

Efficienty Rating
Robert L. Sisson.



Mr. Sisson has recently been transferred from Keeper, Bloody Point Range Light Station on account of the consolidation of Bloody Point Range with other lights in the vicinity. Owing to his advanced age he does not readily acquire efficiency in the performance of his duties at a 1st order station. Mr. Sisson is now placed in the most favorable position available in this District, and on account of his long service and record as a Civil War veteran I do not recommend his dismissal. His transfer to the position of Assistant Keeper of a 3rd or 4th order light is recommended, provided there should be a vacancy in a suitable position. There is no such position in this District the duties of which Mr. Sisson is qualified to fill.

King

Inspector.

Bureau of Lighthouses,
January 20, 1913.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce and Labor, recommending that Sisson be transferred to the position of assistant keeper of a third or fourth order light in the Sixth District, upon the occurrence of a suitable vacancy.

pc

6tte rept + ret MC 3/28

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ~~AND LABOR~~

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK

WASHINGTON

Dep. Commr.
Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
E. C G.
Examiner.
Personnel
Accounts
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Commr.

March 27, 1913.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES MAR 28 1913 DEP'T OF COMMERCE

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES APR 2 1913 DEP'T OF COMMERCE

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

Referring to its letter of January 22, 1913, approving the Bureau's recommendation that Robert A. Sisson, second assistant keeper of Tybee Light Station, Georgia, be transferred to the position of assistant keeper of a third or fourth order light in the Sixth District upon the occurrence of a suitable vacancy, the Department requests to be advised whether the Bureau is now in a position to transfer Mr. Sisson to a light of the character mentioned.

By direction of the Secretary:

Last paragraph of Sixth Inspector's letter of 3-31-13, in response to Bur's indorsement of 3-28-13:

On account of his advanced age and limited experience with revolving lights and I.O.V. lamps, Mr. Sisson is not considered well qualified for duty at any station except those involving care only of fixed oil burning lights.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington

March 28-1913

To Lighthouse Inspector, Charleston, S. C.

for ~~remarks~~ report and return.

Conway

Acting Commissioner.

F-C

FRT-McC

April 3, 1913.

The indorsement appearing below was written on the Sixth Inspector's letter of March 31, 1913.

Subject: Robert A. Sisson, transfer.

Submitted to Secretary of Commerce for his information, attention being invited to Department letter of March 27, 1913. The Bureau concurs in the statements of the Inspector. Nomination will be submitted to the Department upon the occurrence of a suitable vacancy.

McC.

Robt. A. Sisson,
transfer.

April 8, 1913.

Hon. B. R. Tillman,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir:

Referring to your letter of April 7, 1913, inclosing a communication from friends and constituents of yours in Beaufort, South Carolina, on behalf of the transfer of Mr. Robert A. Sisson, to a position at Paris Island Light Station, South Carolina.

I have the honor to advise you that the matter is being investigated and that you will be further advised in regard thereto at an early date.

Very respectfully,

Commissioner.

BENJAMIN R. TILLMAN, S. C., CHAIRMAN.
JOHN R. THORNTON, LA. GEORGE C. PERKINS, CAL.
CLAUDE A. SWANSON, VA. BOIES PENROSE, PA.
NATHAN P. BRYAN, FLA. MOSES E. CLAPP, MINN.
CHARLES F. JOHNSON, ME. HENRY CABOT LODGE, MASS.
WILLIAM E. CHILTON, W. VA. WILLIAM ALDEN SMITH, MICH.
JAMES A. O'GORMAN, N. Y. CARROLL S. PAGE, VT.
JOHN WALTER SMITH, MD. MILES POINDEXTER, WASH.
J. BROADUS KNIGHT, CLERK.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
APR 8 1913
DEP'T OF COMMERCE

United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON NAVAL AFFAIRS.

April 7th, 1913.

4-17-13 Answered
5-21-13 Wrote Sen Tillman

Dep. Comm'r,
Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
E. C. G.
Examiner.
Personnel.
Accounts
Contracts.
Chf. Clk.
Comm'r.

Ack to Sen
Letter for report + rec
4/11

OFFICE LIGHT HOUSE INSPECTOR
APR 11 1913
SIXTH DISTRICT CHARLESTON S.C.

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
APR 14 1913
DEP'T OF COMMERCE

Hon. George R. Putnam,

Chief of the Light-house Bureau,

Washington, D.C.

My dear Sir:-

I enclose you a communication just received from friends and constituents of mine in Beaufort, South Carolina, which explains itself. I know Mr. Sisson personally and he is a gentleman; was an old Union Soldier, but for some reason he has been treated very shabbily. I want this transfer made, because he deserves it, and ought to have had it long ago. You, of course, understand that I will appreciate anything you may do in his behalf.

Very respectfully,

B. R. Tillman

Enc.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
April 8-1913.

To Lighthouse Inspector, Charleston S.C.
For report and return, with recommendation.

Commissioner.

4-8-13 Ack

Copy for Bureau

Beaufort, S. C., March 18th, 1913.

Hon. B. R. Tillman, United States Senator,

Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

We respectfully recommend Mr. Robt. A. Sisson, who has been a resident and voter of our County for 30 years, and has been a Light House Keeper for 30 years, and who has been refused proper recognition, and put down as Assistant Keeper and hope you will have him transferred and to a proper position at Paris Island Light, in our County, his long and faithful service should be properly rewarded, now that we have a Democratic Administration, and this place is now being filled by a Negro we the understand respectfully ask that you have him appointed to this position or something better,

Respectfully,

(Signed) G. Sanders, County Treasurer,

J. B. Black, County Auditor,

M. O. D. White, Sheriff,

M. M. Cooler, Deputy Sheriff,

J. M. Y. Kirkland, Judge of Probate,

S. H. Rodgers, Clerk of Court,

B. H. Boyd, County Supt. of Education,

R. R. Legare, County Chairman,

J. B. Walker, Supervisor.

file

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR
CHARLESTON, S.

Department of Commerce ~~and Labor~~

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

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

April 11, 1913.

HDK-HMD
4-14/2 Hroto Sen
Tillman, copy 6.
R. A. Sisson,
Transfer.

Dep. Commr.
Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.
E. C. G.
Examiner
Personnel
Accounts
Contracts
Chf. Clk.
Govmr.

Say not pos to transfer Sisson but case turned in mind to appro. letter

DE 4/14

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES
APR 14 1913
DEP'T OF COMMERCE

Commissioner:-

Referring to letter from Hon. B. R. Tillman, Senator from South Carolina, enclosing petition from citizens of Beaufort County relative to transfer of Mr. R. A. Sisson:

I beg to refer to the correspondence on file relative to this employee.

Mr. Sisson was formally keeper of Bloody Point Range Lights. On November 15, 1912, owing to the installation of automatic gas lights on this range, this position was discontinued and although Mr. Sisson was appointed to this position by reinstatement with the understanding that the position was to be discontinued within a short time, every effort was made upon the discontinuance of this position to place Mr. Sisson in a position which he could satisfactorily fill.

Owing to the fact that Mr. Sisson's experience in Light House Service, though extending through a long period of years, was very limited in its character, he has so far shown himself unable to properly fill the position which he even now holds as Second Assistant Keeper. Owing to his previous military service and to his many years in the light-house service, this office has made every attempt to place Mr. Sisson in a place which he could fill with satisfaction to himself and to the Light House Service.

I do not, however, consider Mr. Sisson now competent or qualified to again become keeper of any station which he has expressed a willingness to accept.

The present Keeper of Paris Island Range (Reflectors) to which the petitioners request the transfer of Mr. Sisson is thoroughly efficient and has, upon one or two occasions, been especially commended by this office for the excellent condition of his station. Unless, therefore, the Bureau and the Department desire the change to be made upon grounds of political affiliations and of color, I am unable to recommend the transfer requested.

No change rec Dec 4 14

King
Inspector.

HRW-WcO.
~~ONE inclosure.~~ one Inclosure (orig petition)
Robt. A. Sisson,
transfer.

April 21, 1913.

Hon. B. R. Tillman,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir:

Referring again to your letter of April 7, 1913, on behalf of Mr. Robert A. Sisson, I have the honor to advise you that Mr. Sisson, resigned on April 30, 1908, as keeper of Bloody Point Range Light Station, South Carolina, and was reinstated on August 10, 1910, to the same position, with the understanding that the assignment would be temporary, in view of the proposed installation of automatic gas lights on this range, not requiring the services of a keeper. When the change was made, out of consideration for his long service, Mr. Sisson was transferred to his present position, the most favorable position available.

It is not possible to transfer Mr. Sisson at the present time, but he will be given consideration when any position becomes vacant for which he is considered qualified.

Very respectfully,

Acting Commissioner.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington,
4-21-13 Commissioner.

Copy To Lighthouse Inspector, Charleston, S C,
for his information, guidance, and files of office.

Gillette
Acting Commissioner.

Petition which accompanied Sen Tillman's letter, returned with this letter.

2

McC.

Robt. A. Sisson,
transfer & promotion.

May 21, 1913.

Hon. B. R. Tillman,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir:

Referring again to your communication of April 7, 1913, on behalf of Robert A. Sisson, I have the honor to advise you that Mr. Sisson has been promoted from the position of second assistant keeper of Tybee Light Station, Georgia, at $456 per annum, to the position of assistant keeper of Hilton Head Range Light Station, South Carolina, at $480 per annum.

Very respectfully,

Commissioner.

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington
May 21-1913

Copy To Lighthouse Inspector ...Charleston, S.C.....
for files of his office. By direction of the Commissioner:

TSC

Chief Clerk.

Form 73

ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT, PROMOTION, OR TRANSFER OF APPOINTEE

Per

Department of Commerce ~~and Labor~~

LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

OFFICE OF LIGHTHOUSE INSPECTOR, **Sixth** DISTRICT,

5-21-13 Wrote Sen Tillman, copies to 6th

Charleston, S.C., May 13, 1913. , 191

THE COMMISSIONER OF LIGHTHOUSES:

The following recommendation is submitted:

SPECIAL

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES ☆ MAY 15 1913 ☆ DEPT. OF COMMERCE

Action proposed, **Transfer** and promotion

Name, **Robert A. Sisson.** Legal residence, **South Carolina.**

Position, **Assistant Keeper** Salary, **$480.00 per annum.**

4th order reflector Title of appropriation, **Sal. Kprs. Lt. Houses.**

Location, **Hilton Head Range Light Station, S. C.** formerly

Effective **May 20, 1913.** { ~~the date he reports for duty~~, or as soon thereafter as he enters on duty.

Former position, **Second Assistant Keeper** Former salary, **$456.00 per annum.**

acetylene 10 V 1st order

Location, **Tybee Light Station, Georgia.** formerly

Rank in list of eligibles, - - - - - - - Rating, - - - - - - Percentage, - - - -

Other eligibles considered, - - - - - - - - - - - - -

Letters of declination inclosed, - - - - -

Previous incumbent, ✓ **Joseph Grisillo** Services terminated, **rec. May 19, 1913.**

Reason, **Transfer.**

Remarks:

AHT

Jad A H Kuig

Inspector, 6th L.H.District. P.S.

Department of Commerce ~~and Labor~~

BUREAU OF LIGHTHOUSES

WASHINGTON

MAY 15 1913

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of Commerce ~~and Labor,~~ approved.

G

Acting Commissioner

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

11—2314

GENERAL APPOINTMENT

Department of Commerce ~~and Labor~~
APPOINTMENT DIVISION
Washington

May 17, 1913.

Mr. Robert A. Sisson,

Through the Commissioner of Lighthouses.

Sir:

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

Assistant Keeper

in the Lighthouse Service

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

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

(By transfer from second assistant keeper at $456 per annum.)

E D
May 20, 1913.

By direction of the Secretary:

Respectfully,

(SIGNED) GEO. W. LEADLEY,

C
F

Chief of Appointment Division.

Appropriation: Salaries, Keepers of Lighthouses.

Vice: Joseph Grisillo.

Legal Residence: South Carolina.

11—3092

R.A.Sisson,
leave.

June 24, 1914.

Lighthouse Inspector, Charleston, S.C.

Referring to your indorsement of June 17, 1914, on report of the death of Robert A. Sisson.

State whether or not Sisson had been allowed leave in excess of the accrued rate in accordance with Bureau Circular 156, of August 15, 1912.

B.

Acting Commissioner.

Dep. Commr.
Hydrog.
Engr. Cons.
Mar. Engr.

Examiner.
~~Personnel.~~
Accounts.
Contracts.
Chf. Clk.
Genser.

LIGHT
JUN 26 1914
HOUSES

June 25, 1914.

Commissioner of Lighthouses:

The Department is in receipt of the Bureau's communication of the 24th instant, reporting the death, on June 16, 1914, of Robert A. Sisson, assistant keeper of Hilton Head Range Light Station, South Carolina, at $480 per annum.

It is noted that proper report will be made as to whether or not Mr. Sisson had been allowed leave in excess of the accrued rate.

By direction of the Secretary:

(SIGNED) GEO. W. LEADLEY,

Bureau of Lighthouses, Washington

JUN 27 1914

To Lighthouse Inspector Charleston, S. C.
for files of his office. By direction of the Commissioner: See Bureau letter of June 24/1914, relative & reporting leave taken.

TSC
Chief Clerk.

M
C

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 Robert A. Sisson 2. Age 67 (Last birthday.)

3. Bureau Lighthouses (6th Dist.) 4. Position Keeper

5. Compensation $552. p.a. 6. Where employed Bloody Point Range Light-Station, S. C.

7. When appointed (*a*) Nov. 24, 1879 8. How appointed (*b*) Prior to Classification, above date original entrance in Lighthouse Service - By reinstatement June 6, 1910.

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

10. Is the employee an honorably discharged soldier or sailor? Yes, soldier.

11. Does the employee receive a pension? Yes. If so, state the amount $240.00 per annum

12. Other Government service Served in Co. "K" 157th N.Y. Vols. & Co. "I" 54th N.Y.Vols. August 7, 1863 to April 14, 1866, Honorable discharge as Corporal. Resigned from position as Keeper of Bloody Point Range Light-Station, S.C., effective close of April 30, 1908. Reinstated and appointed Keeper Bloody Point Range Light-Station, S.C. from June 6, 1910, in accordance with certificate No. 883.

13. Duties (describe fully) Must be familiar with the workings of the apparatus in his charge. Responsible for the care and management of the light and all government property in his care.

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	85	2	170
Quality of work	85	3	255
Interest manifested in work (see also Question 17)	85	3	255
Attendance		2	
Total		10	680
Average percentage			85

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.) Routine employee

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.) Salary is a fair equivalent for service rendered. If the present salary is above or below a fair equivalent, state what, in your opinion, it should be.

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

20. Remarks: (e) Mr. Sisson is elderly but able to perform his present duties.

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

N. Ahrold

Comdr U. S. N. Light House Inspr. 6th. District.

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

[redacted]

11—4259

Chief of Bureau or Office.