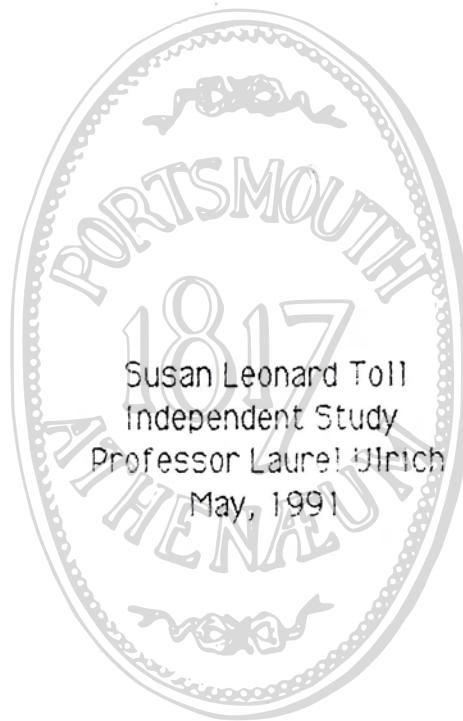
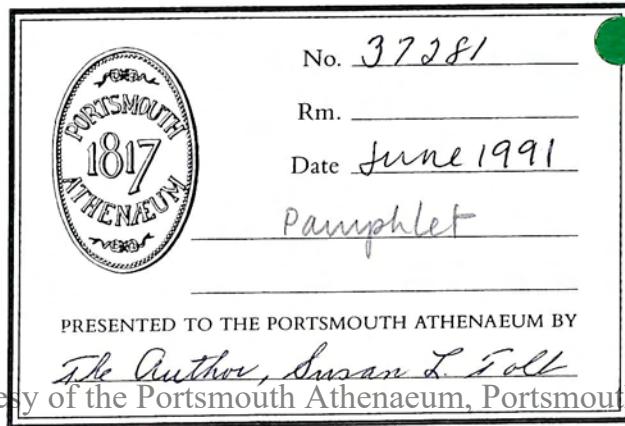


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Eliphalet Grover's Log: Boon Island 1828-1832



Susan Leonard Toll
Independent Study
Professor Laurel Ulrich
May, 1991



Lighthouses and lighthouse keepers have long been a source of mystique and romanticism. Folklore and legend are often so pervasive that historians have difficulty deciphering fact from fiction; yet within the manuscript collection of the Old York Historical Society, an original log of a lighthouse keeper offers a unique research opportunity. The log was kept by Eliphalet Grover, the keeper of the Boon Island light, from 1828 until 1839. Grover's tenure on Boon Island lasted from 1816 until he was relieved in May, 1839.

The circumstances of Grover's dismissal have been the cause of considerable historical speculation, including the theory that he was relieved from his post for destroying a United States government buoy, and the assertion that he sold oil intended for use in the lantern of the lighthouse. Subsequent investigation, however, reveals that the 1830's were a tumultuous period in the administration of America's lighthouses. Posts as lighthouse keepers were frequently rewards for political partisanship, and while the "Buoy theory" and the "Oil theory" of Grover's dismissal cannot be disproved, a more plausible explanation is that he was, unwittingly, a victim of the spoils system.

Regardless of the reason for Grover's removal from Boon Island, his log is useful as a primary document. Boon Island is a small outcrop of rock located seven miles off York's coast, and Eliphalet Grover was the first lighthouse keeper to reside on the island for a period of more than five

I would like to offer sincere thanks to Jane Porter for sharing her enthusiasm and expertise on lighthouses and keepers. Her familiarity with Grover's log was a tremendous help in deciphering difficult passages, and her willingness to share other research often guided me to valuable information. She has assumed the challenge of sorting fact from fiction with regard to lighthouses and lighthouse keepers, and I look forward to her forthcoming book.

years. The log is a testament to one man's struggle to survive what many call the loneliest place on earth, and it is a fascinating account of the trials of maintaining a light for those navigating the treacherous coast of Maine.

Beneath the laconic entries "1 Tube Glass Broaken" and "Came heare the Cutter" lies a captivating, though incomplete, account of Eliphalet Grover's life on Boon Island. Although Grover seldom refers to his wife, Susanna, or their children, the log documents the equipment and the trials of lighthouse keepers in the early 19th century. In addition to recording Eliphalet Grover's toils on Boon Island, the log can be interpreted within the context of lighthouse technology and administration, as a record of material culture, and within the genre of folk diaries. A complete transcription of the log has been completed to make Eliphalet Grover's story more available in reproducible form and to encourage further research while preserving the fragile original log.

Lighthouse Administration: The Spoils System at Work

Americans began building lighthouses in the 18th century and by the mid 19th century lighthouses dotted the Atlantic coast. Boon Island posed a serious threat to the safety of mariners trading along the Maine coast, and in 1797 the Boston Marine Society began negotiations with General Benjamin Lincoln to promote the construction of an unlighted beacon on Boon

Island. As the Boston Customs Collector, Lincoln was responsible for Maine's (then part of Massachusetts) lighthouses. In 1799, the first navigational aid was erected on Boon Island; a beacon forty feet high, costing \$600 was the first of many structures on the island that would be swept away or demolished by the sea.

The construction of a lighthouse on Boon Island was authorized in 1811 by Albert Gallatin, the Secretary of the Treasury. Lighthouses were then under the jurisdiction of the Treasury Department; responsibility alternated between the secretary and the commissioner of revenue until the fifth auditor assumed control in 1820. Stephen Pleasonton, the fifth auditor, supervised America's lighthouses until the creation of the Lighthouse Board in 1852.

Stephen Pleasonton expedited some forms of progress during the 19th century and drastically hindered others. Lighthouses proliferated during Pleasonton's reign: only 49 lighthouses existed within the United States in 1812, but by 1842 there were 256 lighthouses and 30 lightships dotting the nation's coasts.¹ Yet Pleasonton's tenure was not without flaws. In 1810, for example, Winslow Lewis earned a contract with the federal government to use his version of the Argand lamp in all of the country's lighthouses. Ami Argand had devised a hollow wick which was a vast improvement upon the older spider lamp system, and Lewis convinced the

¹Francis Ross Holland, Jr., America's Lighthouses: Their Illustrated History Since 1716. Stephen Greene Press: Brattleboro, VT 1972, p. 32.

government to adopt the Argand lamp with a parabolic reflector.² (See material culture discussion for detail on reflectors.)

Shortly after Lewis' lamps were installed, a French physicist, Augustin Fresnel, developed a lens that was far superior to Lewis' Argand Lamp system. The Fresnel lense revolutionized the quality of the light emitted by lighthouses in France and England. Yet America was slow to adopt Fresnel lenses, in part because Winslow Lewis and Stephen Pleasonton were on very friendly terms; Pleasonton had allowed Lewis to develop a monopoly on the reflecting apparatus used in lighthouses. Thus the innovations of Fresnel were introduced in the United States only after Pleasonton's hesitations were brought to the attention of Congress.

In the same manner that Stephen Pleasonton showed favoritism to Winslow Lewis, posts as lighthouse keepers were often rewards for political favors. Francis Holland writes that during Pleasonton's administration "the nation's coasts were not adequately marked, and lights were poorly maintained by poorly trained keepers, most of [whom] were political appointees."³

Customs collectors supervised lighthouse keepers, but they, too, were subject to the capriciousness of the spoils system. Nathan Cummings was appointed Portland Customs Collector by President William Henry Harrison,

²Francis Ross Holland, Jr., America's Lighthouses, p. 14-15.

³Holland, America's Lighthouses, p. ix and 32.

and though Cummings was "an active member of the Whig party,"⁴ he was removed from office when John Tyler became president. Even correct party affiliation did not guarantee job security.

Boon Island was not exempt from this political turmoil. Captain John Thompson was removed from his post as keeper on Boon Island in September, 1843. Thompson wrote to President John Tyler in protest and his words indicate his perception of the importance of politics in the post:

I voted for your Excellency for Vice president and intended to exert my feeble influence to promote another election for you for President - why I am removed, I am at loss to determine.⁵

Thompson's letter echoes Eliphalet Grover's astonishment over the loss of the Boon Island post as recorded in his log: "Turn[ed] of[f] Boon Island after serving as lighthouse keeper 22 years 10 months and 20 days without cause." (May 10, 1839; log page 37.)

The assertion has been made that Eliphalet Grover was dismissed from Boon Island for destroying a government buoy and for surreptitiously selling lighthouse oil for personal profit.⁶ Yet a closer reading of Grover's log

⁴The Cummings Memorial, A Genealogical History of the Descendants of Isaac Cummings of Topsfield, MA. Compiled by Rev. George Moor. New York: B.F. Cummings, 1903. p. 357.

⁵John Thompson as cited in Snow, Famous New England Lighthouses, p. 139.

⁶See Ranaid Langille, "A Boon Island Lighthouse Keeper," Unpublished manuscript, Old York Historical Society, York, Maine. Langille misinterprets the presence of receipts within Grover's log as evidence of embezzlement, and errs in his assessment of one of the signatures on the receipt. The receipt is signed by Seward Merrill, not Seward Munci as Langille claims. Seward Merrill was authorized to build a new lighthouse on Boon Island in 1831 after a storm devastated the

indicates that five months after he was "Examend Before John Anderson" for misconduct, he received a new boat from Anderson, the Superintendent of Lighthouses in Maine. (April 9, 1838 and September 29, 1838; log pages 30 & 32.) Had Grover's behavior been reprehensible enough to remove him from the post, it is unlikely he would have been given a new boat. Moreover, Grover was appointed lighthouse keeper on Whaleback in 1841, and it seems improbable that had he been guilty of serious misconduct like embezzlement he would have been reappointed as a lighthouse keeper. Given the political climate of the time, it seems much more likely that Grover was a pawn in a political power struggle.

Grover's Log as a Record of Material Culture

Eliphalet Grover's periodic inventories of lighthouse equipment on Boon Island are rare resources for understanding the materials used by lighthouse keepers in the early nineteenth century. Storm damage and repairs were also noted and in his log Grover has left a record of the equipment used in maintaining a lighthouse. The "lanton" (lantern) Grover mentioned was an iron and glass structure on the top portion of the lighthouse which protected

island. The receipt in Grover's log indicates that Merrill removed the "Old Stand" (probably the stand for the lantern) and any equipment "Belongin ther to." (July 22, 1831) Merrill was a representative of the United States government, and the receipt is proof that Grover remitted obsolete equipment to a legitimate figure. Furthermore, Langille suggests that pages have been cut out of the log to remove evidence of misdeeds; yet Grover's entries are continuous and the pages could easily have been blank.

the light source. Inside the lantern, many small lamps gave off light which was reflected through a system of lenses, focusing the light and increasing its visibility.

Reflecting apparatus of the early nineteenth century were sheets of metal coated with silver, and "buff skins" (usually deer skin) were needed to polish the reflectors and remove residue from lamps. "Tube glasses" were chimneys on the lamps; long tube glasses were used in the winter and short tube glasses in the summer. Similarly, different types of oil were used in summer and winter. Winter oil, pressed at lower temperatures, was thinner and did not freeze as easily as summer oil. Eliphilet's inventory also included "1 Dimon" (diamond), presumably to cut replacement panes of glass for the lantern.

Grover's Log as a Work Diary

Marilyn Ferris Motz has analyzed rural work diaries of midwestern Americans.⁷ While the farms of Michigan and Ohio are far from Boon Island, Motz's insights into these work diaries are germane to Eliphilet Grover's log. Unlike the farmers of the midwest, Grover was expected to keep a record of his activities regarding the lighthouse, but with that difference excepted, the log is similar to the diaries Motz has examined.

⁷See Marilyn Ferris Motz, "Folk Expressions of Time and Place" in Journal of American Folklore, Vol. 100, 1987 p. 131-47.

Motz notes that work diaries often lack a first person pronoun. The writer removed himself or herself from the work that was completed and tried to record events objectively. "The diaries," she says, "in this sense represent records of work accomplished, catalogs of achievement."⁸ There is certainly a paucity of first person singular within Grover's log. Terse daily entries "Tube Glass Broaken" and "Came heare the Cutter" dominate the log, and only when something extraordinary such as a severe storm or a shipwreck interrupted the daily routine of life did Eliphilet write more prolix narrative entries.

Eliphilet Grover's seasons were marked by changing from winter to summer oil and putting up or taking down oil heaters. Winter oil was the result of pressing oil at or below freezing temperatures, while summer oil was pressed at higher temperatures. This process was supposed to provide a thinner winter oil that would not congeal into a useless mire if frozen. Unfortunately much of the oil, both summer and winter, often did congeal, leaving "settlings" which could not be burned in the lantern.

Marilyn Ferris Motz writes of rural work diaries:

We find in these rural folk diaries not the struggle of the self for differentiation from the rest of the universe, but rather the attempt of the individual to record the sequence of events of his or her life, to place himself or herself in the rhythmic pattern of the natural environment, to record the changing seasons

⁸Motz, "Folk Expressions of Time and Place," p. 139

and different types of work that mark this natural cycle.⁹

Grover's seasonal ritual of putting up oil heaters and burning winter oil in November or December came full circle in March or April when he took down the heaters and returned to using summer oil.

Eliphalet Grover's life was also patterned by the sea. Storms and gales caused shipwrecks periodically, but even ordinary tides repeatedly washed away Grover's boat slip. His log records an endless struggle to maintain the structure that was critical to landing a boat on Boon Island. The winter of 1835 was particularly destructive; throughout February and March, "the Sea Carried a way" huge sections of Grover's slip. Fifty, then twenty-five, then twenty-two feet of the slip were washed into the ocean. By April, "44 feet more of the Slip" had been destroyed and "all But 4 pieces" had to be replaced. Grover completed repairing the slip in June. Throughout the log there are patterns of work, destruction and repair, and seasonal changes which marked the life of Eliphalet Grover.

Grover's Log as a Biography

Eliphalet Grover's log is not a personal or emotional diary, it is a record of work and a ledger of occasional business. Yet when the routine of ordinary work was disturbed, Eliphalet's entries change from mundane to fascinating, and in these rare entries we glimpse Eliphalet Grover the man.

⁹Motz, "Folk Expressions of Time and Place," p. 146.

Many facts about Grover's life are known from other extant documents, but his log offers some clues, however scant, to the personality of the man who lived on Boon Island for twenty-one years.

Grover's entry of October 3, 1832 exemplifies one of the few narratives within the otherwise terse log.

Came from york in my Boat with a full Load of provision in her and got with in one mile of the Island When She Srpung a Leak and When I got on the island the Water was over the th[w]arts and She a filld and turnd Over and I lost all my things.....Stove the Boat Veary much Before i Could get her up out of the Sea. I was Veary near Drounding my Self But it Was not So to bee.

Grover's brush with death elicited no recorded self-examination; rather his fatalism seems anchored to a belief in a greater power. While his log bears no evidence of active religious practice, it implicitly suggests that Grover felt his fate was not always within his own control.

The year before Eliphalet Grover was dismissed from Boon Island, a young Celia Laighton [Thaxter], moved with her family to the Isles of Shoals. Her father, Thomas Laighton, assumed the post of lighthouse keeper on White Island in 1838, and the poet-historian grew up learning to tend a lighthouse. Celia Thaxter's writings depict life on the Isles of Shoals, and

interspersed with her descriptions of the people and their habits are references to lighthouse keeping. Thaxter remembers the "oil-schooner" that brought supplies for the lighthouse, and the inspector, who gravely examined everything to see if all was in order.¹⁰ The oil contractors and inspectors stopping at White Island figured as prominently in the lives of Thomas Laighton and Celia Thaxter as they did in the life of Eliphalet Grover.¹¹

Celia Thaxter's writings may also shed light on Eliphalet Grover's family. While on a steamer bound to Bangor, Thaxter met a man who had grown up on Boon Island. According to Thaxter, he lived on Boon Island until he was fourteen or fifteen, when his family moved to York. The man also said that as a boy he discovered the bones of carpenters who were drowned after "finishing some building." The bodies had been buried "in a cleft covered with stones."¹² After a storm washed the rocks away and the remains were found, they were taken to York for proper burial. Eliphalet's log entry of April 11, 1839 reads: "Employd Secuareing my Slip and takeing up the Bones of two people that ware Drownd heare When the first monument was Erected heare to Send on Shoare to put in the grave yard in york." (log page 35.)

¹⁰Celia Thaxter, Among the Isles of Shoals, Heritage Books 1978 reprint of Boston: J.R. Osgood, 1873 edition. p. 134.

¹¹Grover's log notes that Charles W. Morgan of New Bedford was one of the contractors. The ship *Charles W. Morgan* rests in the Mystic Seaport Museum in Mystic, CT.

¹²Thaxter, Among the Isles of Shoals, p. 149.

Thaxter was unable to identify the man on the steamer by name, but she relates,

He spoke with bitterness of his life in that terrible solitude, and of 'lonliness which had pursued him ever since.' All his relatives were dead, except his wife. He ended by anathematizing all islands, and, vanishing into the darkness, was not to be found again.¹³

Eliphalet Grover's will indicates that he had three (surviving) sons: Jeremiah (b. 1802), Eliphalet Jr. (b. 1814) and Samuel, whose birthdate is not recorded.¹⁴ The forlorn man in Thaxter's account may well have been Eliphalet's youngest son, Samuel. At the time the bones were exhumed in 1839, Jeremiah would have been 37 and Eliphalet Jr. would have been 25 years old. Although it is possible that Eliphalet Jr. was still living with his parents at that age, Grover's log suggests that Eliphalet Jr. may have lived on the mainland during his adolescence. "Oct 19 Eliphalet to Bord With Mr. Emerson. Left with EA Emerson \$10 to pay for Eliphalets Bord." (Log page 1.) Grover does not specify the year, but the entry is among the first of the log, and appears to be written in 1829. The first and last pages, as well as pages written upside down, seem to have been used for miscellaneous personal records. Noting money paid for Eliphalet Jr.'s board on the

¹³Thaxter, Among the Isles of Shoals, p. 150.

¹⁴George Ernst, Genealogy of the Grover Family, Genealogy Files, Old York Historical Society, York, Maine.

mainland would seem logical in these entries. Grover also notes that "Eliphalet Comenced tradeing With Mr John Colcot." (August 2, 1833; log page 23.) Eliphalet Jr. was then 19, and Grover's entry suggests that his son was venturing into business with John Colcot.

Thus if Eliphalet Jr. was not living on Boon Island, Samuel was probably the man Celia Thaxter encountered. It is easy to imagine a boy growing up with only the company of his parents on a remote post like Boon Island feeling isolated and disparaging of island life.¹⁵ Without the comraderie of other children, like Celia Thaxter experienced on the Isles of Shoals, Samuel may well have been quite lonely. Samuel eventually moved to Somerville, Massachusetts, but his sentiments suggest that life as a lighthouse keeper's child was not always romantic or adventurous. Loneliness and isolation were often profound.

Both Eliphalet Grover and his son Samuel occupied some idle time with woodworking. Grover crafted a pine box veneered with mahogany, cherry, and maple while on Boon Island. The box is elaborately decorated with human figures in military uniform and it is lined with newspaper. He also constructed a violin and an intricately carved cane, and Samuel is credited with a smaller violin.¹⁶ These objects are in the collection of the Old York

¹⁵ If Samuel was indeed present when Eliphalet removed the bones from their rocky grave, and he lived on Boon Island until he was 14 or 15, his birthdate would have been in 1824 or 1825. This indicates that Susanna Grover bore her first surviving child in her early 20's and her last surviving child in her mid 40's. Given this span, she probably gave birth to other children who died prior to the time Eliphalet wrote his will, or to daughters not mentioned in the will.

Historical Society.

Eliphalet Grover's log does not detail activities like woodworking, but it does offer insight into the trials of life as a lighthouse keeper on Boon Island. The sea constantly washed away man-made structures, and building was undertaken with implicit understanding that destruction was inevitable. Eliphalet Grover's long tenure on Boon Island is a testament to perseverance, and his log provides a rare opportunity to examine the life of a lighthouse keeper through a genuine historical document.

The following complete transcription of Grover's log is designed to make the story of Grover's life on Boon Island more accessible, and to encourage its use in further research. The actual log is 8 X 13 inches and its cover is made of blocked wallpaper with a green and white decorative pattern, bound with string.

Spelling and punctuation (or lack thereof) have been maintained as in the original. Where the log is illegible or indecipherable, brackets [] denote any speculation on the content of the text or explanation of the text's location in the log. The original log contains 46 pages and pagination is noted by a line (.....) between entries. Page numbers in the lower right refer only to the transcription and are provided for reference. Photocopies of two original pages follow the transcription, and a photocopy of an inventory page

¹⁶Laura Sprague, ed., Agreeable Situations: Society, Commerce and Art in Southern Maine 1780-1830. Kennebunk, Maine: Northeastern University Press for the Brick Store Museum, 1987, p. 45.

is included within the transcription. A bibliography is appended to assist with further research.



Logg Book for
1828

September 25 1817 Received my Boat in
portsmouth From Mr Mark Green pd him for
her \$98.64

September 12th 1829 Received of the Superindender
200 Dollars towards the repares Don on Boonisland
275 Due me

October 19 Eliphale to Bord With Mr Emerson
one dollar 25 Cents per weak pd to Mrs Emerson
5 Dollars Due from Mr Emerson 2 Dollars for 1/2
Quintile Cod fish
Left with E A Emerson \$10 to pay for Eliphalets
Bord

Mont Desert Light Litt august 15 1830
Whaies Back Light Litt 16 of September 1830
March 31 1834 William Pickren Superindender
Rezind his office

[back of first page has a chart that is empty except for documenting that
7 lamps were iid

January 1st 1828
7 Lamps in light house & 2 Spare ones
all want repare but 3
3 good inside burners
9 good outside Burners
7 Tin Oile Sisterns all want painting
5 Wood horses for Sisterns to Set on
7 Oile heaters
1 Oile feeder
1 Oile measure
1 hand Lanton & Lamp
1 Lanton Canester
1 Lamp Torch
2 Wick Braces
1 pare of Cissors
1 Dimon

81 Long Tube glass
104 Short Tube glass
7 Grose Wicks
2 Buff Skins
25 # whiteing
1 Lanton Stove without funnel
8 Lencess
7 Reflectors
92 Gs Summer Oile 8 Gs out of the 92 fell Short
50 Gs Winter Oile
45 Gs Bad Oile
6 Spare Wick thimbels
12 wick Sticks
1 Coaderer

January 1 1828

5

12

25

1 Tube glass Broaken

1 Tube glass Broaken

1 Tube glass Broaken

part of the Sash of the Lanton Rusted off
and Came Down

February 16

26

Set 2 panes of glass in the Lanton

Set 1 pane of glass in the Lanton

March 13 1828

14

21

Set 3 panes of glass in the Lanon

painted the Lanton inside

Took down my heaters

April 2

8 & 9

1 Tube glass Broaken

Employed Drilling holes and puting
a Strap on my Slip

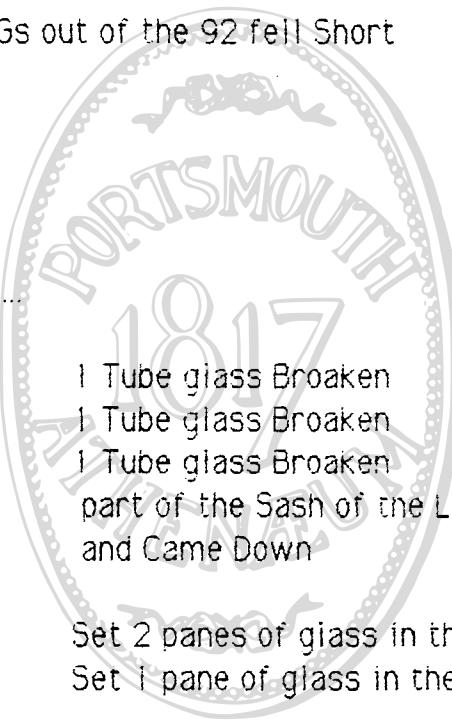
May 6 1828

7 & 8

Received a Copy of the Superindenders

Orders from the Comisioner

Employed painting the Lanton outSide



	and painted the Spouts under the Eves of the house and Set 1 pane of glass in the Lanton
13	1 Tube glass Broaken tryd to measure my Oile But found it So Chiid that I Could not Du it
17	Clenzed out my Lamps and Drew of my Oile and found in the Bottom of 2 Sisterns [<i>illegible</i>] Settleings makeing an [<i>illegible</i>] Settleings in all
24	1 Tube glass Broaken
June 9 1828	Came heare the Cutter from Portland
10	1 Tube glass Broaken
25	1 Tube glass Broaken
July 8 1828	1 Tube glass Broaken
9	Set 2 panes of glass in the Lanton
30	Received of Cornelius Grennell [Sr] 101 gallons of Winter Oile 151 gallons of Sumer Oile 4 grose of Wicks 12 yds Cotton Cloth 2 Buff Skins 17# of Whiteing Receipted for 5 New inside Burners With Cases 2 New out Side Burners with Sockets Soddering on two legs to Lamps 1 pipe to Lamp 1 fountain
August 24	1 Tube glass Broaken
September 14	Came heare the Cutter and fetcht me a Smaiil Keg of paint 10# Whiteing 1 Small paint Brush 15 panes of glass
19	Sea Started my Slip Carried away 2 Braces

Stove in all the underpinning of the monument
[The day marker that preceeded the lighhouse]
on the Southern Side Beet of 10 Corses of the
Shingels and Some of the Boards up Set
my Water Sisterns Stove all my platforms
to peices and hove Down my Wall The
heavyst Sea Since I Lived heare But
one

[in margin]

25 took out 3 Gs for house
use out of the New Contract

October 22 1828

Set 2 panes of Glass in the Lanton

November 18

put up my heaters
1 Tube glass Broaken

24

December 30

1 Tube glass Broaken

January 1 1829

on hand 107 gs of Sumer Oil and
78 Gs of Winter Oil 176 Tube glasses
7 Grose Wicks 2 Buff Skins Burnt
During the year 136 gs Summer and
73 Gs of Winter Oil Broaken 11 Tube
Glasses 2 Buff Skins used 4 grose Wicks
Burnt

209 Gs [Different Per]

[In Margin] 26

took 3 gs of winter Oil for house use
Oil 9 gallons Short [Different Per]

Febyuary 7 1829

Set 1 pane of glass in the Lanton
Lost the lower part of the Slip

27

March 6 1829

the Sea Racked my Slip all to peices
the lower part gone and midle part
the Bolts Broken of and the upper
part Rotten and tumbled Down So
that it all wants to bee made New
2 Tube glass Broken

18

30	Went to portland
April 1st 1829	a new Superintender of Lights in Maine
5	Took Down my heaters
24	Set 5 panes of glass in the Lanton
25	painted the Lanton inside
27 & 28	Employed painting Lanton outSide
<hr/>	
May 19 1829	Begun to make the Repares on the Buildings
<i>[In Margin]</i> 6	took 3 gs of Sumer Oil for house use
June 29th	Measured my Oil and it found the Sumer Oil to fall Short 6 Gallons and Winter Oil Short 3 Gallons 14 1/2 Gs of Settlings
July 11th 1829	Receivd from the Contractor 77 Gallons of Winter Oil 177 gallons of Sumer Oil 1 Buff Skin 14 yds Cotton Clothe 1 pr of Sisers 4 grose Wicks 12# Whiteing 3 Setters 7 Short Tube glasses
15	Completed my Repares on the Slip and Buildings
August	Nothing metearei
September 3 & 4	Strong gales from NW took up 2 Boats with 2 men in each Boat most Dead
25	Mr William Tetherly Died on Boonisland at 3 AM AE 78
28	Orders from the Superindenter to use Such Tube glasses as i thought proper
<hr/>	

October 7 1829	Came nere the Cutter from Portland to inspect my Repares and broght me a New Sute of Sails for my Boat
9	measurd my Oil and found the Sumer 5 gallons Short on hand 172 Gs Sumer and 83 Gs of Winter Short 2 gallons
31	at 9 PM all my famely was forst to go to the Lighthouse and Stay until 5 Next morning at our return to the house found all our Water gone and all the platforms gone and all my Turnips & Cabage Washt away and my Walls all Down I have Been hear 13 years 4 months & 28 Days and Never See Such a time before the Sea Washd the Small Rocks from under the Lighthouse and Dwelling house the Island was all under Water for 4 hours.
November 5th 1829	at 7 AM See a Schooner 2 miles SE from the island with her main mast gone Sune after See another Schooner take of the Crew Wind NW Blowing fresh
6	Set 2 panes of Glass in the Lanton
24	put up my heaters
December 23	Set 1 pane of 1 glass in the Lanton
.....	
January 1st 1830	On hand 62 Gs of Winter Oil and 140 gs of Sumer Oil 181 tube glasses 8 Grose Wicks 1 Buff Skin Burnt During the year 121 1/2 Gallons of Sumer Oil and 86 Gs of Winter Oil for house use 4 Gs of Winter & 3 of Sumer Gs
	214 Gs
[In Margin]	Sumer Oil 5 Gs Winter 3 Gs

	Short Burnt for house use 4 Gs of Winter & 3 Gs of Sumer
February 18	Set pane of Glass in the Lanton
March 22 1830 <i>[Info on oil scratched out]</i>	Took Down my heaters
26	uncommon full Tides and Strong gales from the NE Racked the upper part of the Slip and tore up all the platforms
April 10	1 Tube glass Broaken
22	1 Tube glass Broaken
26	Clenched out my Lamps
May 31st	Employed Cleaning and Oiling my Oil Sisterns
June 16	Set 2 panes of Glass in the Lanton
17	Employed Scrapeing and painting my boat
26	Came neare the portsmouth Cutter
July 1st 1830	Came heare the portsmouth Cutter
10	my Boat got veary much injured By Beeing Driven against thee Rocks So that She Cant Bee repaire
19	1 Tube glass Broaken
.....	Continued to Next page
22 1830	Receivd from the Contractors 118 Gs Sumer Oile 79 Gs Winter Oil 3 Grose Wicks 2 Buff Skins 16 yds Cotten Cloth
August 1 1830	Came heare the portsmouth Cutter and

5	Coid Not Land Came heare the portsmouth Cutter and Landed and Came heare the portland Cutter With New Sashes for the Lanton and Ordered me not to Light my Lights
16	Lit my Light again 11 Nights the Lights Suspended I Should Consumed in the time 4 1/2 Gs of Oil
28	Employed painting my Lanton out Side
September 5 1830	Came hear the Cutter and Broght my Lanton top and took a way the Old Sashes and Black Smiths Tules
6	Went to york for the Spindle of my Vane <i>[A vane was a piece of metal used to help ventilate the lantern]</i>
11	Came of again with the Spindle and Could Due nothing with it
19	Receivd a List of Rigan from the portsmouth Cutter for capson fall in portsmouth harber
October 20 1830	Set 4 panes of glass in the house Windows
November 15	the Sea Broak one of the Brases of of the Steps
24	1 Tube glass Broaken
December 1st 1830	put up my Oil heaters and Begun to Burn Winter Oil Anual Report Ending 31 Day of December 1830 on hand 161 1/2 gallons of Sumer Oil and
209 1/2	
4 1/2	

214	58 gallons of Winter Oil and 177 Tubes glasses and 6 grose Wicks and 1 Buff Skin Burnt Dureing yeare 126 1/2 gallons of Summer Oil and 83 gallons of Winter Oil Burnt in all During year 209 1/2 Gs Lights out 11 Nights in that time Should Burnt

January 15 1831	4 1/2 Gs of Oil Burnt in All 209 1/2 Gs at Night and in the 16 Day and Night the island all under water the most part of the time and the Sea and Large Rocks that washt against the Slip has Rackd it to the Westward Some parts of it 2 feet from the 15 until the 17 as Dismel a time as I Ever had Since I have Been on Boonisland
Feubuary 7 1831	I Tube glass Broaken
March 22nd & 23	Employd Reparing my Boat
April 1 1831	Took Down my heaters and Began to Burn Sumer Oil
4	I Tube glass Broaken
6	Came heare the portsmouth Cutter with a letter for me from Esqr Chandler Dated November 15 1830
	Concerning the Bad Oil on hand january 1st 1828
.....	Continued Next Page
28 1831	the Seas Broak one Brace from the Slip and Rackd it veary much
May 6 1831	Came heare the Contractor to Build the New Light house but could not Land for the Want of Boat
<i>[in margin]</i> 7	Comenced Superintending
7	Came here the Cutter form Portland
	Landed the metearels for Building the Light house
22	Came heare the portsmouth Cutter Bound to portland
31	at 6 AM layed the first Stone in the new Lighthouse on Boonisland
June 18	Came heare the portsmouth Cutter
21	Came heare the portland Cutter and Brought me a New Boat and 3 new oars and i Old one

and took a way my Old Boat

July 3 1831 1 Tube glass Broaken
11 Landed the Lanton and all the apperaters for
 the New Light house
13 Came heare the portsmouth Cutter
21 Lit up my new Lighthouse Lamps
22 Compleated the New Lighthouse
25 Receivd of the Contrator
 17# Whiteing 36 Long and 36 Short
 Tube glasses
 2 Oil Sisterns
 5 Grose Wicks
 2 Buff Skins
 30 yds Cotton Cloth
 300 gs Sumer Oil and 136 Winter 1 Bad
 Took a way 24 Gs of Bad Oil and Left none
 in return

[In Margin]

on hand When I Litt up the New Light
house 90 Gs of good Sumer Oil and 24 Gs
of Bad Oil Wich the Contractor took a way

[Loose paper insert]

Boonisland July 22 1831
Receivd of Eliphalet Grover Keeper of Boon
island Light house the Old Stand and all
the apperaters Belongin ther to

[Signed]

Seward Merrill

[Loose paper insert]

Recd from Boon Island Light House twenty
four gallis of poor Sediment Oil

July 23rd 1831

[Signed] Jonathan Howland Jr

July 24th 1831

Went of the Crew that Built the New
Light house

25

1 Tube glass Broaken

August 3

1 Tube glass Broaken

19

1 Tube glass Broaken

28	Receivd from the Cutter 4 Window frames and Sashes 10# putty
[In margin]	20 Squares of glass and 6 pr of hinges portland Cutter name Dector
September 9	1 Tube glass Broaken
[In margin] 15	Red 6 Qts of [under] Lamp Oil Employd Reparing my Slip and putting in new Window frames and Windows in the house
October 1 1831	Boonisland Set of to the Superintender of Portsmouth NH Williams Pickren Esqr Colector
7	1 Tube glass Broaken
10	1 Tube glass Broaken
19	Came heare the Cutter from portsmouth to Examon the State of things Belonging to the United States
20	1 Tube glass Broaken
23	1 Tube glass Broaken
26	Receivd of William Pickren Superintender of Light houses in New Hampshire 4 Squares of glass 6 pr of iron hinges and 2# of Nales 1 Tube glass Broaken
November 6th 1831	1 Tube glass Broaken
16	1 Tube glass Broaken
18	2 Tube glasses Broaken
26	put up my Oil heaters
28	2 Tube glasses Broaken
29	made a fier in the Lanton for the first time
December 1 1831	1 Tube glass Broaken
4	Begun to Burn Winters Oil
6	3 Tube glasses Broaken By the Ga[r] of the Vane [<i>The vane is a portion of the ventilation system in the lantern. Gar is a fish with a</i>]

pointed jaw. Perhaps Grover meant that the pointed end of the vane broke the tube glasses.]

8	1 Tube glass Broaken
10	1 Tube glass Broaken
22	1 Tube glass Broaken
27	the Cutter Went past heare
1832	
January 2nd	1 Tube glass Broaken
16	1 Tube glass Broaken
19	Came heare the Cutter from portsmouth
20	the Cutter went past heare
	Last anual Report Ending 31 of
	December 1831 on hand 96 Gs winter
	and 253 Gs of Sumer Oil 224 Tube glasses
	1 Buff Skin 7 grose Wicks
	Burnt Dureing year 308 Gs of Oil
Feubury 10	1 Tube glass Broaken
12	1 Tube glass Broaken
15	1 Tube glass Broaken
21	1 Tube glass Broaken
26	Came heare the Cutter from portsmouth
March 2nd 1832	1 Tube glass Broaken
9	1 Tube glass Broaken
15	1 Tube glass Broaken
April 3 1832	Came heare the Cutter
6	Came heare the Cutter
	3 Tube glasses Broaken
10	Came heare the Cutter and Broght me
	two Bracess for my Lanton
11	Took Down my Oil heaters
29	1 Tube glass Broaken
May 2nd 1832	1 Tube glass Broaken

10 1 Tube glass Broaken
13 1 Tube glass Broaken
19 1 Tube glass Broaken
29 Came heare the Cutter from portsmouth

June 1 1832 the Sea Broak one of the Braces from
 the Slip
7 Came heare the Cutter from portsmouth
12 Came heare the Cutter and took a way
 my Lanton Stove to Bee Repared and one
 Broaken Brace to Bee mended for
 the Slip
15 Broak the iron of of the Boats Keel
 and Lost it By Strikeing against
 the Rocks
16 1 Tube glass Broaken
20 Came heare the Cutter and fetcht me a
 Brace for my Slip

.....[Page ripped]

July 9 1832 1 Tube glass Broaken
11 1 Tube glass Broaken
16 1 Tube glass Broaken
20 Came heare the Cutter and Brought the
 Superintender to See me
28 Came heare the Cutter With Mr. Walker
29 1 Tube glass Broaken

August 2nd 1832 1 Tube glass Broaken
3 Employed White washing the Dwelling house
 in Side
5 1 Tube glass Broaken
11 Receivd from the Contractors
 148 Gs of Winter Oil
 199 Gs of Sumer Oil
 72 Long Tube Glasses
 36 Short Tube Glasses
 6 Grose Wicks
 28 yds Cotton Cloth

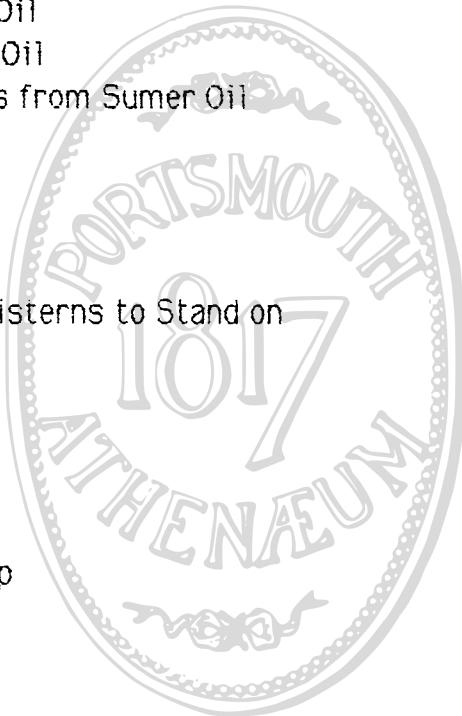
14 & 15	2 Buff Skins 20 # Whiteing Employd painting the Lanton inside and Out
18	Came heare the Cutter
Sept 4th 1832	Employ painting the floers in the house
5 & 20	Came heare the Cutter With my Coal for to use in the Lanton
.....[Page ripped]	
October 3 1832	at 7 PM Came from york in my Boat With a full Load of provison in her and got With in one mile of the island When She Sprung a Leak and When I got on the island the Water was over the tharts and She a filld and turnd Over and I Lost all my things my main mast and Main Sail Both Oars Spreats and thort and my Compas and Stove the Boat Veary much Before I Could get her up out of the Sea I was Veary near Drounding my Self But it Was not So to bee
9	Came heare the Cutter to fetch me paints and 2 Brushes to paint my Boat
12	Receivd from William Pickren Superintender 1 mast for my Boat 1 main Sail 2 Oars and 2 Spreats and 2# of Nails By the hand of Capt TN Shaw
November 3 1832	Came heare the Cutter
9	put up my heaters
22	1 Tube glass Broaken
25	Came heare the Cutter
December 1st 1832	Made a fier in the Lanton for the first time and Begun to Burn Winter Oil

.....
Last Anual Report Ending 31 of
December 1832 on hand 213 Gs of Sumer Oil
and 102 Gs of Winter Oil and 9 Gs of Settleings
305 Tube glasses 9 Grose of Wicks and 1 Buff Skin
Burnt Dureing yeare 365 Gs of Oile in the
Lanton and 4 Gs of Winter & 3 Gs of Sumer for house
use makeing in all 372 Gallons

Memorandom of all the Articals Belonging to the Light
house on Boonisland January 1 1833

213 Gallons of Sumer Oil
102 Gallons of Winter Oil
9 Gallons of Settleings from Sumer Oil
12 Lamps in Lanon
2 Spare Lamps
12 Reflectors
7 Tin Oil Sisterns
5 Wooden horses for Sisterns to Stand on
12 Oil heaters
2 Wick Bo[x]es
1 Oil Caseses
1 Oil feader
1 Lamp Torch
1 hand Lanton and Lamp
1 Lanton Canester
1 pr of Sisers
1 Dimon
305 Tube glasses
9 Grose of Wicks
1 Buff Skin
12 Wick Sticks
1 Codderer
15# of Whiteing
1 Sheat iron Stove
4 Squares of glass for the Lanton

.....



January 7 1833	Came heare the Cutter at 4 AM
Febuary 1 1833	1 Tube glass Broaken
7	1 Tube glass Broaken
March 22 1833	Came heare the Cutter
23	1 Tube glass Broaken
April 2nd 1833	1 Tube glass Broaken
5	Took Down my heaters
14	1 Tube glass Broaken
16	Went on Shoare for iron to Secuar my Slip
22	Came from yorl with iron to Secuare my Slip
23	Employd trying to Secuare the Slip
May 3 1833	Employd on the Slip 4 finist the Slip
6	Came heare the Cutter from portsmouth
June 4th 1833	the Cutter went past to the Eastward
<i>[Entry Crossed Out] 7</i>	the Cutter went past to the Westward
July 5 1833	Came heare the Cutter from portsmouth
16	Came hear the Cutter and Broght Mr Walker to inspect the Buildings
August 1833	from the 4 until the 10 my Self and one hand Employd White washing the Buildings on Boonisland
26	Came heare the Cutter
September 7 1833	Came heare the Cutter

	Receivd from the Contractors 286 Gs Sumer Oil 181 Gs Winter 15 # Whiteing 2 Buff Skins 30 yds Cotton Cloth 4131 Gallons of Oil for 18 years Supply
[In margin]	
12	Came heare the Cutter and Brought me my Coal for Winter and one keg of White Lead 1 paint Brush and 1 paper of Lamp Black and a [jug] of paint Oil
[In margin]	45 Bushels for 50 of Coal
20 & 21	Employd painting the Lanton out Side and in
25	Came heare the Cutter and Broght me a Stove for my Lanton
October 7th 1833	Came heare the Cutter Bound to portland
9	put up my New Lanton Stove and Clenzed out my Lamps
17	1 Tube glass Broaken
19	1 Tube glass Broaken at 1/2 past 7 AM a [mofere]dite Brig [Probably a reference to a Hermaphrodite Brig] Caried a way her foretopmast
25	3 or 4 miles S West from the island Wind West a moderate Breeze 1 Tube glass Broaken
.....	
November 11 1833	Came heare the Cutter from portsmouth Bound to portland

16	1 Tube glass Broaken
20	put up my heaters and made a fier
	1 Tube glass Broaken
24	1 Tube glass Broaken
December 6 1833	Came hear the Cutter from portsmouth
10	1 Tube glass Broaken
28	1 Tube glass Broaken

Last Anual Report Ending December 31 1833
 on hand 138 Gs of Winter Oil and 262 Gs of
 Sumer Oil and 192 Tube glasses and 5 Groce
 of Wicks 1 Buff Skin Burnt Dureing year
 234 Gs of Sumer Oil and 141 Gs of Winter Oil
 4 Grose of Wicks Consumd and 13 Tube glasses Broaken
 2 Buff Skins and

234 S

141 W

Burnt Dureing 375 Gs this year 1833

January 1834 3	at 1/2 past 2 PM the Cutter past by
6	Came heare the Cutter
18	1 Tube glass Broaken
26	1 Tube glass Broaken

February 13 1834	Came heare the Cutter
15	1 Tube glass Broaken
17	1 Tube glass Broaken

March 16 1834	Went past the Cutter
19	measurd my Winter Oil and found it to fall Short 7 gallons
20	1 Tube glass Broaken
<i>[In margin]</i>	Clenzed out my Lamps in the Lanton Burnt Dureing Winter 3 Gs of Winter Oil for house use Short 7 Gs

April 4th 1834	Came heare the Cutter
7	took Down my Stove and heaters
8	1 Tube glass Broaken
12	Went past the Cutter
May 7 1834	1 Tube glass Broaken
12	1 Tube glass Broaken
22	Came heare the Cutter and Brought me Some green paint to paint my Boat and Rigen for Capson fail
30	1 Tube glass Broaken
June 4 1834	Employd White wasning painting One Rume in the house
14 & 16	Employd Cleaning and painting my Boat
25	Came heare the Cutter
July 14 1834	on hand 155 Gs of Sumer Oil and 10 1/2 Gallons of Settling from my Sumer Oil
15	Receivd of the Contractor 145 Gs of Winter Oil 203 Gs of Sumer Oil 34 Tube glasses 4 Grose of Wicks 26 yds of Cotton Cloth 2 Buff Skins
16	Came heare the Cutter
29	Came heare the Superintendent and stopt 6 or 8 minutes
<i>[In margin]</i>	Capt howlen gave me the 10 Gallons of Settleings to put on my Slip
August 10 1834	1 Tube glass Broaken
12	1 Tube glass Broaken
Sept 4	Came heare the Cutter Bound to portland

10	Broak one of my Boats Cars a Landing
15	Came heare the Cutter and Broght my C[o]al for Winter and the Superintender Came to See me
24	Came heare the Cutter and Broght me paint to paint my Water Sisterns
October 6 1834	1 Tube glass Broaken
15	Came hear the Cutter and Broght me hoops to hoop my Water Sisterns
16	1 Tube glass Broaken
28 29 & 30	Employd hooping and painting my Water Sisterns
November 2 1834	1 Tube glass Broaken
5	Came heare the Cutter Bound to portland
8	1 Tube glass Broaken
15	put up my heaters ianton full of frost all Day
20	1 Tube glass Broaken
December 5 1834	Went past the Cutter
<i>[in margin]</i> 14	made the first fier in the Lanton
17	1 Tube glass Broaken
27	1 Tube glass Broaken
My Last Anual Report January 1 1835	
on hand 118 Gs of Winter Oil and 220 Gs of Sumer Oil and 89 Tube Glasses 6 Grose of Wicks 1 1/2 Buff Skins Burnt Dureing year 390 Gs of Oil 18 Tube glasses Broaken 4 Grose of Wicks Burnt and 2 Buff Skins used	
January 7 1835	at Night the Sea Broak a way
	50 feet of my Slip on the West Side
8	1 Tube glass Broaken
14	1 Tube glass Broaken

23	Came neare the Cutter
February 3 1835	1 Tube glass Broaken
3	at Night the Sea Caried a way 25 feet
5	of my Slip on the East Side
	Came heare the Cutter the Capt
	Lost his hat and like to lost him
	Self a landing
[In margin] 5	Capt Shaw Broght me a hhd of Beef and
	a hhd of pork No askt for
8	the Sea Caried a way 25 feet of my Slip on
	the East Side
	1 Tube glass Broaken
17	1 Tube glass Broaken
22	1 Tube glass Broaken
25	the Sea Caried a way 22 feet more of my
	Slip on the West Side
March 9	Went past the Cutter
11	1 Tube glass Broaken
20	1 Tube glass Broaken
23	1 Tube glass Broaken and the Sea started
	44 feet more of the Slip on the West Side
30 & 31	the Started all the Slip So that it must all
	Come up But 4 pieces
April 8 1835	Came hear the Cutter But Did not Land
9	Receivd from the Cutter 1 Keg of White lead
	and grean paint to paint my Boat
10	Took Down my heaters
11	Cleanzed out my Lamps
19	Receivd from the Cutter jug of paint
	Oil and fore Saile for my Boat
21	1 Tube glass Broaken
[In margin] April 22	Agread with Daniel P Drown Superintender
	to Repare the Slip and platform
	5 1/2 oz green paint to paint
	my Boat and not anof for one Coat

May 4 1835	1 Tube glass Broaken Came of with iron to Repare my Slip
9	Came of with Timber and all the materalis to Repair my Slip and Could not Land it
11	Landed with the Mateareis to Repare my Slip
20	Came heare the Cutter with new Order to Keep me at home
June 7 1835	Went past heare a Top Sail Schooner With a Rack in to for portsmouth
12	Came heare the Cutter Bound to portland
13	Compleated my Slip platform and Boat house
15 & 16	Employd painting My Lanton & Boat
20	1 Tube glass Broaken
18	Came heare the Superintender to Inspect my Work
<i>[In margin]</i>	Consumnd 3 Qts 1 pint pr Night
July 1 1835	Measurd my fountains and found them to hold 1 Quart and 1 [gill] & a half Each
7	Came heare the Cutter Bound to portland
7 8 9 & 10	Employd Whitewashing the Buildings
14	Compleated my Whitewashing
.....	13 Days Employd Whitewashing ail the Buildings on Boon Island
.....	Continued to Next Leaf
July 31 1835	Receivd of the Contractors
	145 Gs of Winter Oil
	278 Gs of Sumer Oil
	27 Tube glasses
	4 Grose Wicks
	31 yds Cotton Cloth
	2 Buff SKins
	15# Whiteing
	on hand 103 Gs of Sumer Oil
	13 Gs of Winter Oil

[In margin]

on hand 15 Gs of Settleings
that Capt Howlen
gave to me for my Slip

August 10 Came heare the Cutter
14 Schooner Growler of Newbury got on
the NW Leag and Beet over and filld
nearly full of Water and i got part
of her mackrel on the island and
the rest on Board a mackrel vessel
and then i got 2 Vessels to take
her in to and Went with her to Cape
Neddeck
21 Came heare the Cutter and Capt
Shaw offer to keep the Light for
Four Hundred Dollars

September 10 1 Tube glass Broaken
15 1 Tube glass Broaken
18 Came heare the Cutter Bound to
Portland
23 Receivd 47 1/2 Busnels Char Coal for
the use of Boonisland Light house By
Capt Tuckerman
28 1 Tube glass Broaken

[On reverse side of last page/upsidedown]

April 1830 Shingled the front Ruff of my house
September 1831 made new picket fence Between me and
Preole
October 1st 1831 Set of to New Hampshire
May 18 1832 Wife and Child went on Shoare and My uncle
Andrew Grover Came to See me

May 22 1832 Bought a Lot of Land of Joseph young
August 2nd 1833 Eliphalet Comenced tradeing
With Mr John Colcot With four hundred Dollars
April 18th 1834 Built a New Seeder post
fence Round my Lot of Land in York

Widow Susanna goodwin to Board with
Mr Morgan Trafton May 3 1834 [at]
2/6 pr week
October 1838 painted the Ruff of my house

[Next page is rightside up]

October 5 1835	1 Tube glass Broaken
25	1 Tube glass Broaken
November 5 1835	Came heare the Cutter Bound to Portland
10	1 Tube glass Broaken
13	put up my heater and Long Tube Glasses
December 10 1835	1 Tube glass Broaken
22	Came heare the Cutter
24	1 Tube glass Broaken
Anual Report Ending 31 of December 1835	
on hand 266 Gs of Sumer Oil 113 Gs of Winter Oil	
292 Tube glasses 6 Grose Wicks 1 1/2 Buff Skin	
Consumd Dureing yeare 217 Gs of Sumer Oil and	
153 Gs of Winter Oil Broak 20 Tube glasses and	
used 4 Grose of Wicks and 2 Buff Skins	
217 S Oil	
<u>153 W Oil</u>	
Consumd 370 Gs the Last year Ending 1835	
January 1836 2nd	1 Tube glass Broaken
16	Came heare the Cutter for my papers
Febuary 10	1 Tube glass Broaken

March 4 1836	Came heare the Cutter Bound to Portland
26	I Tube glass Broaken
April 8 1836	Clenzed out my Lamps
	my Sumer Oil is So Bad that I Cannot
	Burn it
20	took Down my heaters
21	Employd Cai[k]ing and gra[v]eing my Boat
May 12 1836	Came heare the Cutter Bound to portland
25	I Tube glass Broaken
June 2nd 1836	Came heare the Superindender and
	Brought me paints and meteareis to
	Repare and paint my Boat
6 & 7	Employd Cleaning and painting my Boat
13	Employd painting my Lanton
14	Came neare the Cutter
16	I Tube glass Broaken
Juiy 18 1836	Came neare the Cutter
19	I Tube glass Broaken
August 2nd 1836	Came heare the Cutter after pirats
6	Came nome in the Cutter from portsmouth
	Bound to portland and Sent 2 Braceses By
	her to Bee mended
22	Came heare the Cutter with my Braceses
August 15 1836	
Received from the Contractors	
152 Gs of Winter Oil	
219 Gs of Sumer Oil	
15 Long Tube glasses	
3 Grose of Wicks	505 Gs on hand
29 3/4 Cotton Cloth	August 15 1836
2 Buff Skins	
on hand 134 Gs of Sumer Oil	

21 Gs of Settleings to Bee taken out of the 505 Gs

21
484 Gs

September 2 1836	Came heare the Superintender
9	Receivd 70 Busheis of Charcole
10	1 Tube glass Broaken }20 fild my Lamps ever three Nights
20	Receivd from the Superintender a Copper Stove funnel for my Lanton Stove
October 1836 20	1 Tube glass Broaken
28	Came heare the Cutter and Steam Boat With a Water Sisteren for me
29	at 1/2 past 2 AM the Steam Boat Came on Shoare and Biiged
30	Received 1 Cask of water from the Cutter and 4 Bbis from the Superintender Sent By Capt Fails
<hr/>	
November 3 1836	1 Tube glass Broaken
7	Came heare a Schoonar With Cole and meteareis for a house over the Water tank
8	Came heare the Cutter with a mason
14	Came heare the Cutter and took of the joiners and Mason
17	put up my heaters and Long Tube Glasses
26	Came heare the Cutter from Portland
December 8 1836	1 Tube glass Broaken
15	1 Tube glass Broaken
19	See a vessels mast a Bove water out Side york Ledge

Last anual Report Ending 31 of December
1836 on hand 247 Gs of Sumer Oil and 107 Gs
of Winter Oil 296 Tube glasses 5 Groce of
Wicks and 1 Buff Skin Broaken and Con
Sumd Dureing year 11 Tube glasses 4 Grose
of Wicks and 2 Buff Skins Burnt Dureing
yeare 217 Gs of Sumer Oil and 153 Gs of Winter
Oil makeing in all 370 Gs of Oil

January 21 1837 the Wind took of part of Rufe of the
Monement and Carried it in to the Sea
24 Tank frozen Over
29 the Cutter went past heare

Febuary 2 1837 the Cutter went past But never Calld
20 1 Tube glass Broaken

March 10 1837 1 Tube glass Broaken
31 Went in to York

April 5 1837 Came heare the Cutter
7 at 1/2 past 3 PM the Schoonar Boston of
Boston Struck on the NW Ledge and
got of again at 10 PM
11 the Cutter past Close By
15 Took Down my heaters and put up Short
16 Tube glasses
23 1 Tube glass Broaken
24 Clezed out my Lamps and put up
my heaters and long Tube glasses again

May 20 1837 Took Down my heater and put up
25 Short Tube glasses
27 1 Tube glass Broaken
Came neare the Cutter Bound to
28 Portland
1 Tube glass Broaken

June 1 1837

1 Tube glass Broaken

.....*Page ripped*

July 11 1837

Came heare the Cutter With four men
to Repare the Buildings

Receivd 3 Gs of paint Oil

[In margin] July 11

Comenced Reparing the Building
and Went of August 2 1837

15

Came heare the Cutter with the
Superintender But he would not
Come on Shoare

21

Came heare the Cutter and took
of the joiners

25

1 Tube glass Broaken

27

Came heare the Cutter and left 3 men
to finish the Repares on the Buildens

July 15 1837

Receivd from the Contractors

184 Gs of Winter Oil and

239 Gs of Sumer Oil

30 Tube Glasses

3 Grosses of Wicks

30 yds of Cloth

2 Buff Skins

10# of Whiteing

August 2nd 1837

Came heare the Cutter and took
of the joiners and painters

8

Came heare the Cutter with the
Inspector to inspect my Conduct
Careings on

17

Received my Cole for Winter

19

1 Tube glass Broaken

September 6

Came heare the Cutter and Brought me
a cask of Water

20

Cienzed out my Lamps

21	I Tube glass Broaken
October 10 1837	Came heare the Portland Cutter
22	Came heare the painter to paint the Rufe of the house
25	I Tube glass Broaken
November 6 1837	Came heare a Boat and took a way the painter
8	put up my heaters and Long Tube glasses
12	I Tube glass Broaken
December 6 1837	Receivd your letter of 22 of November and pd one Dollar and fifty cents for fetch ing it of
16	Came heare the Portland Cutter Withe New Orders to me
20	I Tube glass Broaken
<hr/>	
Anual Report Ending 31 of December 1837	
on hand 277 Gs of Sumer Oil and 109 Gs of	
Winter Oil and 316 Tube glasses and 4 Gr	
of Wicks and 1 Buff Skin	
Burnt Dureing year 217 Gs of Sumer	
Oil and 152 Gs of Winter Oil	
153W	
Broken and Consumd 4 Grose of Wicks	
370	
2 Buff Skins and Broak 13 Tube glasses	
on hand 9 Gs of Settleings from Sumer Oil	
and 6 Gs from Winter Oil used for nouse	
use and going into Lanton 7 Gs of Oil	
January 1 1838	Set of to the State of maine
	on hand 277 Gs of good Sumer Oil
	109 Gs of good Winter Oil and 91 Tube
	Glasses good
	9 Gs of Settleings from Sumer Oil

6 Do from Winter Oil 4 Grose wicks
1 Buff Skin 15# of Whiteing
10 yds of Cotton Cloth
225 Tube glasses Not good

[Inventory page is photocopied on the following page]

[On back of inventory page] April 5 1838 Went in to york with
Mr Preble
15 Came from york with Mr. Trafton

January 7 1838	1 Tube glass Broaken
20	Came heare the Cutter from Portland
25	But Could not Land
[In margin] 29	1 Tube glass Broaken first fier in the Lanton
Febuary 10	1 Tube glass Broaken
18	1 Tube glass Broaken
21	Came neare the Cutter from Portland
March 4 1838	1 Tube glass Broaken
14 15 & 16	Employd Reparing my Boat
21	1 Tube glass Broaken
April 5 1838	Came heare the Cutter
[In margin] 9 & 10	to Kennebunk for destroying a Buye Belonging to the United States
10	Examend Before John Anderson Esqr for mis Conduct and Destroying a Buye
20	Belonging to the United States
22	painted my Lanton in Side
25	in to York for iron and Timber for
26 27 & 28	the house and Slip on Boonisland
29	of a gain
28	Employd Secuaring my Slip Took Down my heaters and put up Short Tube glasses at 9 PM Came heare the Cutter and Brought me paint & Oil to paint my Boat

STATEMENT of Oil, Lamps, Reflectors, Apparatus, &c., at the Light House, under my care, at
Boon Island, on the first day of January, 1836?

Description of Articles.	Number or Quantity.	Savener Oil, Gallons.	Winter Oil, Gallons.	Quality.	
				Good.	Bad.
Oil,	Gallons.	277	109	Good	
Lamps lit up,		9 gals of	Settling from		
X Spare Lamps,	2				
X Reflectors,	12	6 gals of	Settling (from 150)		
Apparatus,	12				
X Oil Butts,	50	3 of them	54 gals		
X Wooden Horses,	5				
X Oil Heaters,	12				
Clock Work,					
Iron Trevets,					
X Oil Feeders,	1				
X Oil Carriers,	1				
X Tube Boxes,	1				
X Tube Cleaners,					
X Hand Lanterns and Lamps,	1				
X Lantern Canisters,	1				
X Torches,	1				
X Frames,					
X Wick Boxes,	1				
X Scissors,	2				
X Files,					
X Diamonds,	1				
X Tube Glasses,		91 gals	225 lbs of good		
X Wicks,		4			
X Buff Skins,					
X Whiting,		1			
Copper Drip Pans,					
Tin ditto,					
Iron Ladies,					
Copper Tunnels,					
Iron ditto,					
Stoves,					
Cotton Cloth,	Yards.	10			

Number of Lamps suspended during the last 5 years, — Number.

Period.

Alteration in the number of Lamps, during said 5 years: What and when? —

4 of my Oil Butts good
100 not good the apparatus all in good REPAIRS

Elliphallet Grover
Light house on Boon Island

and [Coii] of Rigeng for Capson fall
from the Superintendent John Anderson Esq

May 11 & 12 1838	Employd painting my Lanton out Side
13	I Tube glass Broaken
14 & 15	Employd Cleaning and painting my Boat
16 17 & 18	Employd makeing Doar frames for the Dwelling house and Old Light house
<hr/>	
June 12 1838	Came heare the Cutter and took me to [carer] her in to York
14	Receivd from the Superintendent a Number of Blanks
15	Came from york in the Cutter and She Went home to portland
18	painted the [Dar] posts
19	Employd Whitewashing the Rumes in the house
20	painted the floer in the house
21	Lost one Sistern of Sumer Oil all leaked out 69 Gs
<i>[In margin] 21</i>	Lost 69 Gs of Sumer Oil By the Sistern Leaking Leaving me But 150 Gs
22	Employd Clenzeing my Oil Sisterns and Oiling them in Stead of paint
<hr/>	
July 6 1838	Employd painting my Oil Buts By the Order of the Superintendent
11	At 4 PM See a Brigs Topmast go over the Larboard Side in a Squai 3 or 4 miles SSE from the island 7 painted ports on a Side
25	hove all the water a way out of the Tank it Stunk So that we Coud Du nothing with it for the Want of Beeing paid over in Side with Bees Wax
27	Employd Calking and graveing my Boat
30	Came heare the Oil Vessei But Could not Land my Oil

31st	Received of the Contractors 155 Galls of Winter Oil 250 Do of Summer Oil 24 Tube Glasses 4 Gross Wicks 32 Yds Cloth 2 Buff Skins
August 1st 1838	In to York after materels to Point & White wash the Light-House
8th	3 hands Employd Pointing the Light-House
9	Came heare the Superintender from portland
13	3 hand Employd pointing the Lighhouse Received 2 Gallons of yallow paint and 7 panes of Glass and 30# of Beeswax and 1 paint Brush from the Custom house Boat from Portland Sent me By the Superintender
14	3 hands Emloyda pointing the Lighhouse my Seif Employda waxing my Tank 3 hands Employd pointing and white washing the Buildings
15	3 hands Employd pointing and white washing
16	Caried the mason on Shoare and got 1 Cask of Lime to finish Whitewashing
17	1 Tube glass Broaken
September 6 1838	Sent my Boat to york for my Winter Cole With 2 men in her and the Wind and Sea was So Ruf that they Could not Return until the 15 and Landing Stove my Boat all to peiceses and Lost 46 Bushels of Cole and Came near Lusein Both my men in the Boat
17	1 Tube glass Broaken
[In margin] 29	Receivd a New Boat from John Anderson Esqr Superintender of Lights in the State

September 29 1838	Receivd a New Boat from John Anderson Esqr Superintendent of Light houses in the State of Maine Without Cable or anchor or mast holes or Steps
29	1 Tube glass Broaken
October 6 1838	1 Tube glass Broaken
27	Got of my Cole for Winter and Landed it Safe
31	put up my heaters and made a fier in the Lanton
November 10	1 Tube glass Broaken
24	1 Tube glass Broaken
December 1 1838	Begun to Burn Winter Oil
16	1 Tube glass Broaken
23	1 Tube glass Broaken
Anual Report Ending December 31 1838	
on hand 243 Gs of Sumer Oil and 109 Gs of Winter Oil and 326 Tube glasses 4 Grose of Wicks and 1 Buff Skin	
Burnt Dureing the yeare 215 Gs of Sumer Oil and 150 Gs of Winter Oil Broaken and Consumd 14 Tube glasses and 4 Grose of Wicks 2 Buff Skins	
January 3 1839	1 Tube glass Broaken
9	Came heare the Cutter Boat
10	1 Tube glass Broaken
16	2 Tube glasses Broaken

[The entry for January 26 appears to be in a different handwriting. Eliphalet Grover did not use days of the week, nor did he normally capitalize the word "house." It is possible that Grover dictated the entry for someone else to record; the style is consistent with Grover's other entries.]

January 26th

Saturday Strong Gales from the South
East Sea making very fast. Sunday
morning left the House and went into the
Light-House See carried away all my
Flat Forms and Riped the Shingles of of
the Monument & Porche of the House
unhung the Porch Doors and came in to the
Dwelling House the Sea washed away the
Rocks before the Door So as to make a
fair Breach on the House Sea went into
the Light House Door broke the latch and
like to have destroyed my Oil I have been
here 23 Winters and never See Such a
time before Damage Done Cannot be
repaired Short of one hundred Dollars, - at
3 PM Tide Down so we could venture out

[Log returns to Grover's hand]

January 28

But the Rocks has almost Shut us up
in the house they are heid up Round the
Doar So the Sea has wasnt the Luce
Rock away So as to make a fair Breach
a gainst the front of the house and if
there aint a wall made in front of the
house it will not Bee Safe to Stay heare
Employd Clearing a pasage from the Doar
to the Lighthouse and monument

29 & 30

The Sea Stove my Water Sistern at the
Corner of the house

Febuary 1 1839

in tryeing to get the Boat of to go on

	Broar Broak the iron on her keel in three peiceses
2	found one Brace that was Beet of of the Slip
9	1 Tube glass Broaken
19	Received my Boats anchor and Rode [<i>Chain and rope for an anchor</i>] that was left at the Customs house at Portsmouth
20	Came heare the Cutter from portland Employd Secureing the Slip at 5 PM a Ship about 6 miles SE from the island her fore mast gone and N Maintop mast under her mizentop Sail and Square main Sail and gibb
<i>[In margin]</i>	
	41# of Rigeing for Rode for my Boat and anchor 16 3/4 # \$11.79
March 8	
23	1 Tube glass Broaken 1 Tube glass Broaken Employd for Several Days Repareing the platforms
April 9 1839	Employd Repareing the Shingles that the Sea Beet of of the Wood house
10	Employd Repareing the Shingles on the porch 1 Tube glass Broaken
11	Took Down my heaters and Employd Secuareing my Slip and takeing up the Bones of two people that ware Drownd heare When the first monument was Erected heare to Send on Shoare to put in the grave yard in york Boght 1 Keg of White Lead and 2 Bundles of Shingles and 8# of Nailes for the Repares of the Buildings
19	1 Tube glass Broaken
26	painted and Whitewasht the New Shingles that I put on Where the Sea wasnt them of

[in margin]

1/2 M. of Shingles To Repare the
Buildings 1.75

[Four pages have been cut out of the log, on the next page there is a short entry upside down for Sept. 21 1837]

September 21 1837 Receivd from Capt Thomas Clark a gun
price \$21.50

[The next page is also written upside down]

Do Capt John Thompson to E Grover	
for the Crop of Hay 1831	\$2.00
To one thousand Shingles	<u>\$3.25</u>
	\$5.25
may 1833 to 1 Bushel of meal	<u>75</u>
Contra [Pd]	6.00

To Load of Slabs	\$1.00
To 1 hammer	<u>.33</u>
	.33

October 1831
Do Joseph P Junkin for Copper \$0.75

Boon Island January 19 1832
Do to Capt T Shaw of the Revenu Cutter
for 206# of [Ships] Bread [rd]

October 1st 1832 Eliphaiet Went to Mr Pillows in
Portsmouth

November 25th 1832
Do Capt Thomas M Shaw
To 1 Quintile of pollack at \$2.50

January 7 1833 [illegible] Quintile Cod
at \$4.50..... \$2.25
\$4.75

Last page is right side up
Dwelling house on Boonisland
54 feet Long and 17 feet wide
Lighthouse 27 feet hige
Diameter at the Base 18 feet at the top 10 feet
Lanton 7 feet hige Diameter 6 feet

Contractors
Charles W Morgan
Samuel Rodman junior
Edward Merrill all of New Bedford
31 Dollars & 98 Cents for Each Lamp
Last Contract \$25..96
Contract for five years from the 8th Day of
January 1833

1834

August 22 Came heare my uncle andrew
August 10 1835 agread with Daniel Brooks to take a paper
With him and pd my part in advance one Dollar
June 19 Uncle Andrew Went from me
May 10 1839 Turnd of of Boonisland after
Serving as Lighthouse Keeper 22 years and
10 months and 20 Days Without Cause

[written on the side of page, between entries]

November 22 1841
Took Charge of
Whales Back Light
house as Keeper after
Beeing Turnd from Boon
Island 2 years 6 months
and 12 Days

[on back cover page]

October 28 1828

Richard Adams into my house

April 14 out of my house

58 1/2 months \$8..25 Cts



January 1834 3 at the part of P.D. the Cutters
part B.Y.

6 Came he on the Cutters
18 1 Tube glass Breakers
26 10 Tube glass Breakers

February 13 1834 Came he near the Cutters

15 1 Tube glass Breakers
17 10 Tube glass Breakers

March 16 1834 Went past the Cutters

~~Painted my
Boat & Cutters
Winters Oil
have one
boat of~~
19 measured my Winters Oil and found it
to hold short of gallons
20 10 Tube glass Breakers
Cleaned out my clamps in the Cutters

April 4 1834 Came he on the Cutters
7 took down my stove and heater
8 10 Tube glass Breakers
12 Went past the Cutters

May 7 1834 10 Tube glass Breakers

12 10 Tube glass Breakers
22 Came he near the Cutters and brought
me some green, faint to paint
my Boat and Riggs for Captain
Hall.
30 10 Tube glass Breakers

April 8 1836 Cleared out my chamber
my Summer Bed is so bad that I cannot
Bare it
20 took down my heaters
21 Employed cleaning and greasing my Boat.

May 12 1836 Came home the Cutter Bound to portland
25 1 Duke of York Broaken

June 2nd 1836 Came home the Superintendent and
Brought me paints and materials to

6 17

Repair and paint my Boat

13

Employed cleaning and painting my Boat

14

Employed painting my lantern

16

Came home the Cutter
1 Duke of York Broaken

July 18 1836 Came home the Cutter

19

1 Duke of York Broaken

August 4th 1836 Came home the Cutter after firing at

6

Came home in the Cutter from portland
Bound to portland, and sent 12 Braces by
land to be measured

22

Came home the Cutter with my Braces

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