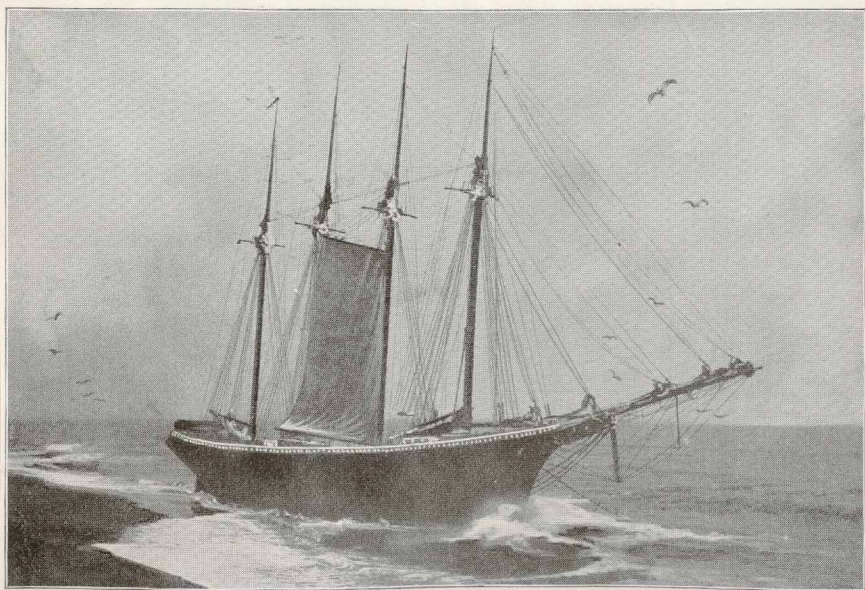


to being obliged to pass a rigid physical examination before they can enter the service, must also pass a similar examination yearly before the opening of the active season. No matter how long they may have been in the service, the hardships they have suffered, the perils they have faced, or the great deeds of heroism they have performed, if they are found not to be physically sound they are dropped from the service, ruined in health, without the slightest compensation for the years of faithful service.

The profession of a surfman is entirely different from that of a sailor, being only acquired by coast fishermen and wreckers after years of experience in passing in and out through the surf. The method of selecting the life-saving crews has resulted in securing the most skilful and fearless surfmen, whose gallant deeds of heroism have made them famous throughout the land. Upon original entry into the service a surfman must be a citizen of the United States, not over forty-five years of age.

He is examined as to his expertness in the management of boats and the use of other life-saving apparatus, and matters of that character. He signs articles by which he agrees to reside at the station continuously during the active season, to perform such duties as may be required of him by the regulations and by his superior officers, and also to hold himself in readiness for service during the inactive season if called upon. For this he receives sixty-five dollars per month. For each occasion he is called upon, during the two months' inactive season, he receives three dollars.

The district superintendents, inspectors, keepers, and crews, the law says, are to be selected "solely with reference to their fitness and without reference to their political or party affiliations."



STRANDED CLOSE TO SHORE.

FORM 1809.

WEEKLY TRANSCRIPT OF JOURNAL.

Station.

District No.

CONDITION OF THE SURF.			
MIDNIGHT.	SUNRISE.	NOON.	SUNSET.
Smooth.....	Smooth.....	Smooth.....	Smooth.....
Light.....	Light.....	Light.....	Light.....
Moderate....	Moderate....	Moderate....	Moderate....
Strong	Strong.....	Strong.....	Strong.....
Rough.....	Rough.....	Rough.....	Rough.....
H gh	H gh	H gh	H gh
Very high...	Very high...	Very high...	Very high...

Sunday,, 190

Direction and force of wind, and state of weather at midnight,

Direction and force of wind, and state of weather at sunrise,

Direction and force of wind, and state of weather at noon,

Direction and force of wind, and state of weather at sunset,

The keeper will make a cross immediately after the word indicating the condition of the surf at midnight, sunrise, noon, and sunset.

ENTER THE READING OF BAROMETER AND THERMOMETER AT MIDNIGHT, SUNRISE, NOON, AND SUNSET.

Barometer — Midnight, ; Sunrise, ; Noon, ; Sunset,

Thermometer — Midnight, ; Sunrise, ; Noon, ; Sunset,

(Fill in, in the blank spaces below, the names of the patrolmen or watch, the names of the patrolmen met, and the name of the station the latter were from.)

PATROL.

		Station.
, midnight to 4 A. M., met	, from	
, midnight to 4 A. M., met	, "	"
, 4 A. M. to sunrise, met	, "	"
, 4 A. M. to sunrise, met	, "	"
, sunset to 8 P. M., met	, "	"
, sunset to 8 P. M., met	, "	"
, 8 P. M. to midnight, met	, "	"
, 8 P. M. to midnight, met	, "	"

Is the house thoroughly clean?

Is the house in good repair?

Is the apparatus in good condition?

Was any member of the crew (including keeper) absent on liberty, if so, who, and from what hour to what hour?

Was any one absent on twenty-four hours' leave, if so, who?

Was any one absent for other cause, if so, who, and why?

Name of substitute: in place of, surfman.

(Fill in the number of vessels of each class that have passed the station this day.)

Ships, barks, brigs, schooners, steamers, sloops,

GENERAL REMARKS.

(Under this head are to be stated all transactions relating to house or service.)

COPY OF DAILY JOURNAL KEPT BY THE KEEPERS OF THE LIFE-SAVING STATIONS.

Every time a wreck occurs the keepers are required to make out and forward to the department a wreck report, containing answers to a great number of pertinent questions.

If a life is lost the law requires that a thorough investigation be instituted with a view of ascertaining the circumstances, and whether the fatality was due to any neglect or misconduct on the part of the service. Any misconduct or incompetency at other times is likewise subject to rigid investigation. The results of the investigations into the circumstances of loss of life are fully set out in the annual reports of the service, which the general superintendent is required to make.

Life savers, disabled in the line of duty, are retained upon the pay-rolls during the continuance of their disability, not to exceed one