

(Circular Letter)

NAVY DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, April 7, 1885.

Sir :

With a view to obtain an approximate estimate of the value of all the property belonging to the navy at and connected with the several navy yards and stations on the 5th of March last, you will cause to be made an inventory of such as pertains to the station under your command, embracing the following items :

- 1st, The number and value of acres of real estate,
- 2nd, The number of buildings, size, uses and value of each.
- 3rd, The quantity, character and value of materials and stores on hand (not including machinery, engines or boilers), pertaining to each department of the station, used or suitable for use.
- 4th, A similar statement as to materials and stores on hand, including old hulks not used or fit for further use in the navy.
- 5th, The quantity, character and value of machinery in use, or designed for use, at the station.
- 6th, A similar statement as to machinery on hand not designed for use at the station.

- 7th, The number, character and value of engines and boilers in use, and completed or not completed designed for use at the station.
- 8th, A similar statement as to engines and boilers on hand not designed for use at the station.
- 9th, Docks, their dimensions, character and value.
- 10th, All other personal property not properly classed within the foregoing items, such as horses, cattle, wagons, tools, furniture, etc., not including books of any description.

You will exercise your discretion as to the manner of making these inventories and estimates, calling such officers of the station to your assistance as you may think proper. As much uniformity will be observed as practicable in the preparation of the inventories and estimates in the several departments of the station, and a recapitulation of the whole should accompany them.

You will please have the information called for herein prepared with as little delay as possible and forwarded to the Department with a communication from yourself stating that the information so forwarded is correct and as reliable as can be furnished under the circumstances.

In preparing these inventories as of the 5th of March, it will be necessary, of course, to account for articles then on hand and disposed of by issue between that time and the date of the inventory.

Very respectfully,

W. C. Whistler
Secretary of the Navy.

Commodore

Stephen B. Luce, U. S. N.,

Superintendent Naval War College,

Newport, R. I.