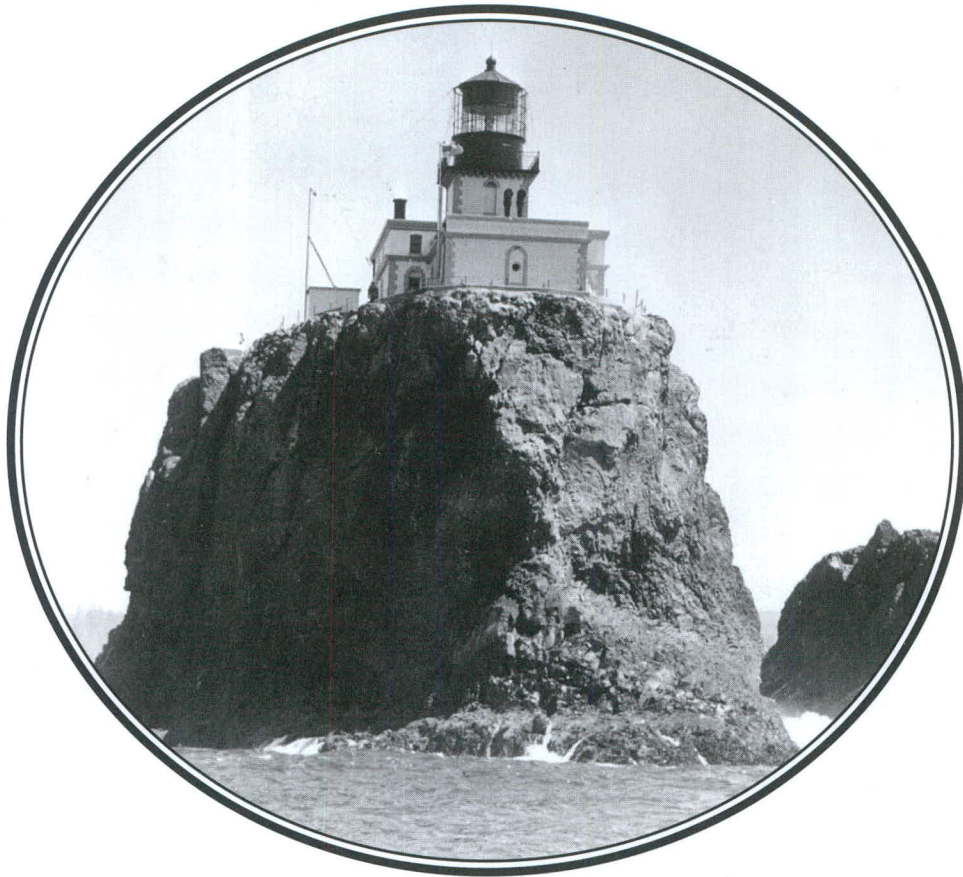




Tillamook Lighthouse, located off the Oregon Coast. It was constructed in 1881 and is now a Columbarium. Ashes are stored in niches in the tower. The higher up, the more costly the niche . . . nearer my God to Thee! (Courtesy of the Oregon Historical Society)

Tillamook Light 1881-1957

Shorn of her light and her glory.
Abandoned, forsaken . . . bereft;
Deserted by tender and keeper!
The last lone man has left.

Forsaken — but never forgotten.
As we walk the wet sands of the night;
The darkness at presence beside us.
Awaiting the beacon's old light.

Tillamook earned her retirement —
Over three score and ten were her years!
Spare her your grief and your pity —
The valiant have no time for tears.

It is I, the lamenting, the lonely —
The light may be glad for her rest!
I might become reconciled . . . only.
The night is so black in the west!

by Blanche DeGood Lofton