

of your Honourable House to reflect what would be the consequence of throwing out of employment almost the whole of theseamen now employed in the North-American Timber trade ; for your Petitioners declare, that they know not where to look for a substitute if this branch of the carrying trade be taken from them, labouring, as they are, under serious difficulties in meeting the rivalship of surrounding States.

Your Petitioners, therefore, entreat your Honourable House, that before any step be taken in a matter so deeply interesting to them, and (as they conceive) so important to the community at large, they may be permitted to prove at the Bar of your Honourable House, the allegations contained in this their humble Petition, which they entertain a perfect confidence they can do to the entire conviction of your Honourable House.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

*London, May 16, 1820.*