

DEPARTMENT OF MARINE AND FISHERIES.

OTTAWA, 25th April, 1896.

SIR,

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 15th instant, intimating that the Quebec Harbour Commissioners considered it very necessary to have a gas buoy placed on the shoulder of the bank at St. Thomas, Montmagny. In reply I have to state that there is no evidence of damage done for want of such a buoy, and it is considered that pilots should have no difficulty in keeping off the bank with the lights already provided, Crane Island Lighthouse and the Quarantine gas buoy.

I have also to state to remedy promptly any accident which may occur to buoys already established, the Department considers it indispensable that there should be a gas buoy on hand in Quebec as a spare buoy.

For these reasons, and because Parliament failed to make any provisions for new aids to navigation, I regret that your request cannot be complied with.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient,

JOHN HARDIE,

Acting Deputy-Minister  
of Marine and Fisheries.

JAMES WOODS, Esq.,

Secretary,

Harbour Commissioners,

Quebec.