

PETITION SENT TO THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF
PUBLIC WORKS, OTTAWA, BY STEAMSHIP
CAPTAINS IN 1881.

The following is to certify that we, the undersigned Commanders of Ocean Steamers trading to the St. Lawrence, have heard with pleasure that your Department have had soundings made at Father Point with a view of building a pier at that important point.

We assure you that the construction of a pier at the place named would be of great service to vessels of heavy draught.

Father Point is a most important station for us, and from practical experience of the locality we would take the liberty of strongly suggesting that the pier be built on the point on which the lighthouse stands, as no other place could ever be made as safe and handy for mariners to come to.

We have heard that Rimouski Harbour and Pouliot's Point have been mentioned as probably competing points for the construction of the pier, but we assure you that neither of those places are suitable nor safe of approach for any but very small craft, nor could they be made any better by work of any kind.

(Signed,) CAPT. RITCHIE, R. M. S. Parisian,
LIEUT. BARRET, R.N.R., R. M. S. Mongolian,
CAPT. WILLIAMS, R. M. S. Vancouver,
CAPT. MCAULAY, R. M. S. Labrador,
CAPT. RICHARDSON, SS. Sardinian,
CAPT. JOHNSON, " Sarnatian,
CAPT. STEWART, " Lake Superior,
CAPT. CAMPBELL, " Lake Ontario,
CAPT. COUCH, " Sarnia,
CAPT. HERRIMAN, " Lake Winnipeg,
CAPT. CUMMINGS, " Iona,