

“Les intimés sont: 1o. Louis Arthur Demers “*acting wreck Commissioner*,” chargé de tenir une enquête formelle sur le sinistre maritime arrivé au steamer “Georgetown”; 2o. James Bain et Raymond Bacquet, assesseurs à cette enquête; et 3o. la cour de Commissaire chargée de tenir enquête sur le dit sinistre maritime.

“Ce steamer “Georgetown” descendait le fleuve St-Laurent sous la direction du réquerant Pouliot, comme pilote, lorsque vers la nuit du 27 septembre dernier il s'échoua sur l'île au Lièvre.

“Le ministre de la Marine et des Pêcheries, sous l'autorité du ch. 113, S. R. C. 1906, chargea de suite l'intimé Louis Arthur Demers, alors “*acting wreck Commissioner*”, de faire une *enquête préliminaire* sur ce sinistre maritime; Demers a tenu cette enquête, et dans son rapport au ministre, le 8 octobre 1909, il disait:

“The witnesses of the vessel “Georgetown”, without absolutely pronouncing themselves to the effect that the pilot “was drunk, yet, by their statement, they imply that he “acted in a very queer manner. That, moreover, the man “was drunk when he reached the bridge of the vessel and “that there were several instances when he had to hold on “to the man at the wheel to keep himself from falling. “The pilot, on the other hand, denies that he was intoxicated, but he admits that he had in his satchel a flask of “whiskey. Mr. Larochelle, whom I consulted on the matter, “stated that this man had been in the habit of taking “liquors in such quantity as would render him incapable “of fulfilling his duties as pilot in a proper manner, in “view of which, I consider a formal investigation is necessary in order for the Department to be in a position “to punish the pilot who has come in contravention to “one of the by-laws of the corporation of the pilots.”