

into the river unless the captain is very familiar with the channel, and in such cases they are very liable to get aground before they reach Fort Erie, as they pass from the lake to the river.

If a bridge was constructed at any point between the Horse Shoe Reef Light and the foot of Squaw Island, with a draw of one hundred and seventy-five or two hundred feet wide over the main channel, with suitable lights at each end, it is my opinion it would make the navigation of the river in the night time less dangerous than it is now, and in the day time it would afford a sufficient channel for all vessels to pass and would not impede the free navigation of the river. No vessel can now run up the river without a very strong northeast wind.

ABIRAM H. SQUIRES.

Subscribed and sworn before me }  
this 4th day of April, 1857, }

F. P. STEVENS, *Mayor of Buffalo.*

STATE OF NEW-YORK, } ss:  
*City of Buffalo.* }

Statement of Capt. James Anderson, fifteen years engaged in lake navigation.

James Anderson being duly sworn deposes and says: I have navigated the lakes from Chicago to Buffalo and the intermediate ports, on sailing vessels as mate and master, for the last fifteen years; I have sailed up and down the Niagara river; I am well acquainted with the channel described by captain Dobbins in his deposition; I have never known any vessel run down the river in stress of weather for refuge; I have heard the statement made by D. P. Dobbins and sworn to in his affidavit hereto annexed, and fully concur with him and with the opinions that he has there expressed of the effect which the erection of a bridge over the river at that point would have upon the navigation of the river.

JAMES ANDERSON.

Subscribed and sworn before me }  
this 4th day of April, 1857, }

F. P. STEVENS, *Mayor of Buffalo.*

I, William Dickson, of the city of Buffalo, county of Erie, and State of New-York, having been for the last thirty years, familiar with, and sailing upon the Western lakes and the Niagara river, and having recently read a paper called the "Niagara Falls,