

PETITION to His Excellency the Governor General, for augmentation of the Board of Harbor Commissioners, and the abolishing of the Trinity House at Montreal.

To His Excellency the Right Honourable CHARLES STANLEY, VISCOUNT MONCK, Governor General, in Council.

The petition of the Montreal Board of Trade respectfully sheweth:—

That considering the magnitude of the interests administered by the present Board of Commissioners charged with the management of the Montreal Harbor Trust, and the close connection existing between those interests, and the commercial growth of the City of Montreal, it is desirable that the Merchants of the city should be enabled to exert a more direct and efficient control over the affairs of the said Harbor Trust.

That your Petitioners believe this might best be accomplished by augmenting the number of the said Harbor Commissioners.

That your Petitioners further believe the public interest would be promoted, and a large annual saving of public money effected by abolishing the Trinity House at Montreal, and distributing the functions now performed by that body between the Department of Public Works and the Commissioners of the Harbor of Montreal, assigning to the former charge of the Light Houses on the river between Montreal and Quebec, and to the latter the execution of the laws relating to Pilots and Pilotage, with all other powers and duties now appertaining to the Trinity House, by which means the improvement constantly going on in the channel, between Montreal and Quebec, would, in the opinion of your petitioners, be made more thoroughly available to the shipping interests of the Province.

Your petitioners pray that your Excellency will be pleased to consider the important object of their petition, and cause such action to be taken as may best contribute to secure the desired result.

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

(Signed,) THOMAS CRAMP,
President.

(Signed,) JOHN G. DINNING,
Secretary.

Office of the Board of Trade,
Montreal 4th February, 1863.

(Copy.)

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF TRADE,
Montreal, November 8, 1867.

SIR,—I am to acknowledge receipt of your communication, dated 1st instant, addressed to the President of the Board of Trade, and to say that the various inquiries submitted will receive the careful consideration of the Council of the Board.

Referring to that question in the series which relates to placing the duties of the Trinity House and the Board of Harbor Commissioners under a single Board, I am to communicate to you the accompanying copy memorial, which especially refers to that subject, and also to inform you, that the opinion of the Board of Trade has continued to be, and is now in full accord with the sentiments expressed in that memorial, namely, that the management of the important interests connected with the Harbor of Montreal and the River St. Lawrence, including oversight and directing of Pilots, &c., will not be efficiently and economically managed, until a single Board is made responsible for their administration.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed,) WM. J. PATTERSON,
Secretary.

Hon. P. MITCHELL,
Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa.