

English sufficiently to give orders in that language respecting the working of any ship or vessel that he may be employed to pilot.—2°. That, at present, there are fourteen Pilots Apprentices of this description, several of whom will undergo an examination in the Spring, and most of the others have made their voyages to *Europe*, and served three or four years apprenticeship; and that, in order to become skilled in the profession, they risk their lives and liberty, and in proof of which, there are two of them prisoners in *France*.—3°. That the whole of the Pilots Apprentices have piloted vessels to the Port of *Quebec*, during all last Summer, several of them to the number of sixteen and seventeen vessels, and not a single instance can be shown where any accident has happened by their ignorance or ill conduct.—4°. That if Masters of Vessels, Coasting Pilots, or Seafaring Men, are licenced, many of the Pilots Apprentices, although very skilful, and who have served two years apprenticeship, already talk of quitting the profession of Pilot, and their masters or patrons will consent to it, for, in that case, the number of Pilots will be too numerous.—The Petitioners further take the liberty to state the inconveniencies which will result from the passing of a Bill to qualify or licence Masters of Vessels, Coasting Pilots, or Seafaring Men, to act as Branch Pilots.—1°. That in case the *Baltic* should be open to commerce, it is very doubtful whether more than thirty or forty vessels, out of a hundred which now come to *Canada*, would then frequent this Port; in which case, the number of forty-eight Pilots would even then be great.—2°. That it would be very prejudicial to the navigation of the River *Saint Lawrence*, by giving Pilot Branches to Masters of Vessels, Coasting Pilots, and Seafaring Men; and further, these persons, not having contributed to the Pilots Fund, might, in a short time, claim the advantages granted to Pilots, their Widows and Children, and thereby exhaust the Fund which is destined for their use.—3°. That these Masters of Vessels, Coasting Pilots, or Seafaring Men, not having any limits fixed, might go where they please, and meet ships and vessels at Sea, and thereby injure the Pilots of this Harbour, who are limited, under a penalty of ten pounds currency, to remain and wait at *Father Point*.—4°. That the greater part, and almost all, the Masters of Coasting Vessels, are not able and are ignorant even how to give the orders in square rigged vessels, from the great difference which exists between the working and the command; and that the Pilots Apprentices are not acquainted