

To His Excellency the Governor-General.

THE PETITION of the **UNDERSIGNED** Masters, Mates, and Seamen, who were heretofore engaged on British sealing vessels engaged in sealing voyages in the North Pacific Ocean and Behring Sea

HUMBLY SHEWETH:

1. Your Petitioners have all for several years past been engaged in the occupation of sealing, either as Masters, Mates, Hunters or Seamen. The particulars of the employment of each of Your Petitioners will appear in the accounts of their sealing transactions, which are contained in the appendix hereto.

2. Appended hereto is a statement showing the years in which Your Petitioners were employed in the sealing business, the capacity in which they were so employed, and the amount of money earned by each of them in such employment.

3. Your Petitioners beg leave to refer Your Excellency to a Petition presented to Your Excellency by a large number of the owners of sealing schooners engaged in sealing in the said seas, and to ask that the facts therein stated may be considered as if contained in this Memorial.

4. By that Memorial it was contended on behalf of the owners of the sealing schooners that if further restrictions were imposed upon sealing operations, or if sealing operations were absolutely prohibited, compensation should be paid to them, sufficient to provide for payment of the capital actually invested as well as to cover losses sustained by the Sealers in consequence of restrictions already imposed, as well as those which may hereafter be imposed.

5. Your Petitioners desire to point out that they each and all have for years made sealing their chief employment, that they have devoted their whole attention to becoming expert in the prosecution of that business, and that if further restrictions are placed on the industry, or if it should be entirely stopped, their chief means of livelihood would be taken from them and they would find themselves compelled to engage in other occupations for which many of them have no special training.

6. Your Petitioners contend, and most respectfully submit, that it would be unfair toward them, and against the best interest of this part of Canada, that any further restrictions should be placed upon sealing, and they desire most respectfully to ask Your Excellency on their behalf to protest against any further restrictions being so imposed.