

Commissioners with respect to pilotage within their district, and under their jurisdiction, in lieu of the existing Bye-laws and Regulations.

Arthur Helps.

SCHEDULE.

BYE-LAWS FOR THE REGULATION OF PILOTS AND PILOTAGE AT THE PORT OF SUNDERLAND.

I.—Apprentice Pilots.

Every candidate for Pilot apprenticeship before he can be considered eligible for the Pilotage service :—

1. Must produce satisfactory testimonials as to character, with a Surgeon's certificate that he is of sound health ; he must prove to the satisfaction of the Commissioners that he is not less than fifteen nor more than eighteen years of age ; that he is able to read and write correctly, and that he has a competent knowledge of arithmetic.

2. After three months of probation, he may then, if approved by the Commissioners, be registered as an apprentice for five years to a First Class Pilot, to serve in registered pilot boats.

3. After the apprentice has served three years in the registered pilot boats, he must, during the remainder of his apprenticeship, or after the completion of the said apprenticeship, serve on board square-rigged sailing vessels for a period of not less than nine months, and on board steamers not less than three months, in the coasting or foreign trades.

4. The indentures of an apprentice shall be in form approved by the Commissioners, and, after being signed, shall not be assigned or cancelled without being submitted to them and their consent obtained, but the Commissioners shall have the power at any time, on reasonable grounds, to cancel any such indenture.

5. The apprentice shall at all times be obedient to the orders of the Pilot Ruler, and at the expiration of each year the Pilot Ruler shall endorse on the indentures a record of the conduct of the said apprentice, stating the nature of his employment, and whether he has been absent from his duty at any time.

II.—Pilots.

The Pilots shall be divided in three classes, viz. :—Second Class Pilots, First Class Pilots, and Master Pilots.

Second Class Pilots.

1. A candidate for a licence as a Second Class Pilot must have served as a Pilot Apprentice for five years in manner hereinbefore provided, and must produce certificates, verified by the Registrar-General of Seamen, of service on board square-rigged sailing vessels for nine months, and on board steam-vessels for three months, in the coasting or foreign trades.

2. He must have attained the age of twenty-one years, and must not exceed thirty years.

3. He will have to pass an examination before the Commissioners, and, if approved, will be eligible to receive a licence as a Second Class Pilot, to conduct vessels not exceeding one hundred and fifty tons register into and out of this port. A Second Class Pilot cannot have an apprentice.

III.—First Class Pilots.

A candidate for a licence as a First Class Pilot must have held a licence as a Second Class Pilot for two years, during which time his conduct

must have been in all respects satisfactory. He will be required to pass a further examination before the Commissioners, and, if approved, will be eligible to receive a licence as a First Class Pilot to conduct vessels of all descriptions into and out of this port. A First Class Pilot may (subject to the approval of the Commissioners) have one apprentice.

IV.—Master Pilots.

A candidate for a licence as a Master Pilot must have held his licence as Second and First Class Pilot for a period of not less than nineteen years, and have attained the age of forty years, and have conducted himself satisfactorily, he may then apply to the Commissioners to be classed a Master Pilot, and exempted from cruising at sea for inward-bound vessels. The number of Master Pilots will be limited at the discretion of the Commissioners. A Master Pilot cannot have an apprentice.

V.—Pilot Boats.

Every pilot boat shall be licensed by the Commissioners, and shall be registered in a Register to be kept by the Pilot Ruler, and shall be the *bonâ-fide* property of a licensed pilot, and the owner must pay an annual fee of five shillings for the said licence, the same to be held subject to the following conditions :—

1. Every pilot boat shall be equipped in accordance with law, shall be painted black outside, with its registered number and the letter S in white letters, not less than ten inches long, on each bow, the name of the registered owner and of this port on the stern, in letters not less than three inches long.

2. Every registered pilot boat shall be employed exclusively in the pilotage service, and be kept at all times in good order, and shall at all times when cruising for vessels, have a pilot boat flag exhibited in a conspicuous position.

3. Every registered pilot boat shall use only its sails and oars when proceeding to cruise for vessels, and shall not be towed by a steam-tug or vessel unless in cases of emergency.

4. Every registered pilot boat shall be inspected by the Pilot Ruler at least twice each year.

5. The Commissioners shall have power to cancel or suspend the licence of any pilot boat.

VI.—Flags.

Every Master Pilot, First-class Pilot, Second-class Pilot, and registered pilot boat, shall have a proper flag—three feet long by two feet broad, colours white and red.

1. Pilot boat flag shall be of two colours, the upper horizontal half white, and the lower horizontal half red. Master Pilots' flag shall be white and red horizontally, the upper half white and the lower half red, with the Pilots' Register number in dark blue figures ten inches long. First-class Pilots' flag shall be white and red horizontally, the upper half red and the lower half white, with the Pilots' Register number in dark blue figures ten inches long. Second-class Pilots' flag shall be white and red vertically, the fore part white and the after part red, with the Pilot's Register number in dark blue figures ten inches long.

2. Every registered pilot boat, whilst cruising at sea, shall exhibit its flag so long as a pilot remains on board unengaged, under a penalty of not exceeding ten shillings for each offence, to be recovered from the owner of such boat.