

(26) viz: has returned out of port six hundred and twenty-six (26) vessels, and taken to sea five hundred and sixty (170) vessels, without any accident, making a total aggregate of two hundred and eighty-two (430) vessels.

The report also shows that during the past year, the Board of Commissioners of Pilotage for New Jersey has been successful in securing the services of a large number of pilots, and in maintaining the character of their establishment.

OF THE  
NEW JERSEY COMMISSIONERS OF PILOTAGE.

**NEW JERSEY COMMISSIONERS OF PILOTAGE.**

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF PILOTAGE }  
FOR THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY. }  
Jersey City, January 4, 1854. }

*To the Governor and Senate of New Jersey:*

The Board of Commissioners of Pilotage for New Jersey respectfully report, to the Governor and Senate, that during the past year their every effort has been used to sustain the character of their establishment.

In the month of February last, the N. J. pilot boat "*Commerce*" was lost on the coast, supposed to have foundered in a gale, having on board at the time four pilots, viz: MCKNIGHT SMITH, NELSON COLE, M. M. BETTS, and THOS. SCOTT, one apprentice, the son of MCKNIGHT SMITH, and a crew of five hands.

In the month of March, CAPT. JOHN F. ELLIS, who had presided over this Board from its organization in 1837, departed this life, full of years and full of honors. His unvarying urbanity, his thorough business tact, and his extensive knowledge, fully justified the confidence everywhere reposed in him—to this Board and to the community the loss is irreparable.

During the past year twenty-six (26) pilots have been on duty, and have brought into port six hundred and twenty-six

(626) vessels, and taken to sea five hundred and sixty (560) vessels, without any accident, making a total aggregate of seventeen thousand five hundred and forty-three (17,543) vessels in charge, during our organization.

Two deputy pilots have been made full branch pilots, and three apprentices, have been appointed deputy pilots, after a close and exact examination.

Five sea-going pilot boats are in commission, and in excellent order. The annual examination of the apprentices has confirmed our opinion, that an active and intelligent set of young men are coming forward, under the auspices of the Board, and the guardian tuition of our pilots, for future usefulness.

By order of the Board,

W. T. RODGERS, *President.*

*Attest:*

J. L. CORNELISON, *Secretary.*