

think it is less. This would give 3200 days work in the year, or the work of 9 men; four times this number would I think give a sufficient number to provide for the unusual demand for Pilots which occurs at times.

CROSS INTERROGATIONS.

To the 11th he says, that commerce has been found by experience to be the most prosperous when most free and its wants best supplied when left to the usual observation of the law of supply and demand.

To the 12th he says that the Pilots are entitled to half pilotage. By the law of 1852 the half pilotage was abolished and the rate of pilotage was left open. By the law of 1853 the rates of full pilotage were largely increased and a license tax imposed upon vessels not using Pilots; these concessions having been made by the mercantile interest as a compromise although opposed to all compulsory pilotage.

Mr. William Mason, sworn.—To the 1st, 2nd, 3d, 4th, he has no knowledge.

To the 5th he says, he believes the present law of 1853 affords the Pilots sufficient protection without any compulsory feature being engrafted thereon.

To the 6th he says, the best interest of commerce would be subserved by open competition regulated by a Board of Trade.

To the 7th he says, in his judgment the effect would be injurious to the best interest of Maryland, as the coal trade and trade in agricultural products, conveyed in all registered vessels would be materially affected by the proposed law.

To the 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, he has no knowledge.

To the 14th he says he does not recollect.

To the 15th he has no knowledge.

To the 16th, he says he has been commander of a vessel a number of years, but has been out of service some time, he thinks the present law better subserves the interest of commerce than the old laws.

To the 17th, he has no knowledge.

To the 18th, he says he is a manufacturer and has a small interest in tonnage.

To the 19th, he has no knowledge.

To the 20th, he says it is a common practice for masters to navigate vessels up and down the bay drawing under 14 or 15 feet of water, without the aid of a Pilot.

To the 21st, he says he was in favor of competition, in preference to the old laws, but was glad when the compromise was substituted, because he supposed it was a settlement of the entire controversy.

To the 22nd, he says he thinks so.

CROSS INTERROGATIONS.

To the 1st, he has no knowledge.

To the 2nd, he says about three days.