

ANNO DUODECIMO & DECIMO TERTIO

VICTORIÆ REGINÆ.

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CAP. LXXXVIII.

An Act to amend the Laws relating to Pilotage.

[1st *August* 1849.]

WHEREAS under the existing Laws for the Regulation of Pilots and Pilotage in various Ports of the United Kingdom Masters of Vessels are liable to the compulsory Employment of Pilots, notwithstanding that the said Masters are either themselves or have on board their respective Vessels some One or more Persons competent to perform that Duty: And whereas it is expedient that the Authorities in Matters of Pilotage should be permitted in certain Cases to relieve the Masters of Vessels from such Compulsion, under certain prescribed Regulations: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That, notwithstanding any such Law, or any Usage, Custom, or Prescription whatever to the contrary hereof, any Master or Mate may, upon satisfactory Testimonials as to Sobriety and good Conduct being lodged with the Corporation of the *Trinity House* of *Deptford Strond*, or the Sub-Commissioners of Pilotage, or other legally constituted Authority in Matters of Pilotage for any Port or District, as the Case may be, be examined by some of the Elder Brethren of the said Corporation, or by the said Sub-Commissioners or other constituted Authority,

Masters and Mates of Merchant Vessels, after passing an Examination before legally constituted Authorities, to be competent to pilot Vessels

within the Limits in regard to which they shall have passed their Examination.

Authority, if they respectively shall see fit so to do, but not otherwise, with or without the Assistance of other Persons to be appointed by the said Corporation, Sub-Commissioners, or other constituted Authority respectively, as they shall see fit, as to his Seamanship and his Fitness to pilot any Vessel of which he may be the Master or the Mate, within the Limits for which he shall be so examined, and for which, if found fit to pilot the same, he shall receive a Certificate under the Common Seal of the said Corporation, or the Seal (if any) or Hands of the said Sub-Commissioners or other constituted Authority, setting forth the said Limits and the Vessel for which he shall be so certified, which Certificate shall be in force for One Year and no longer, and may be renewed from Year to Year, at the Discretion of the said Corporation, Sub-Commissioners, or other constituted Authority, as the Case may be, such Renewal to be endorsed on such Certificate and signed by the Secretary of the said Corporation for the Time being, or by any Two of the said Sub-Commissioners or other Persons composing such other constituted Authorities as aforesaid; and such Certificate, so long as the same shall be in force as above provided, shall be a full and sufficient Authority for the Person to whom the same shall have been granted to pilot and conduct, within the Limits specified in the said Certificate, the Vessel whereof he may be the Master or the Mate, without the Aid or Assistance of any duly licensed Pilot, and without being subject to any of the Penalties in that Behalf imposed by any Act or Acts or by or under any Charter or Charters relating to Pilotage: Provided always, that any Person to whom such Certificate shall have been granted, and who shall not employ a duly licensed Pilot, shall pilot and conduct such Vessel without the Aid or Assistance of any unlicensed Pilot: Provided also, that it shall not be lawful for the said Corporation, Sub-Commissioners, or other Authorities in Pilotage to grant any such Certificate as herein-before is mentioned in respect of any Port or District within which they have no Jurisdiction in Matters of Pilotage; and in any Case where a concurrent Jurisdiction exists such Certificate shall not be valid unless granted by each and every of the Corporations, Sub-Commissioners, or other Authorities having Jurisdiction in the Port or District for which the same is granted.

Act may be amended, &c.

II. And be it enacted, That this Act may be amended or repealed by any Act to be passed in the present Session of Parliament.

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