May 1
1872

From Naval Secretary Admiral C. S. Boggs. U.S.N.

To Genl. J. C. Duane, U.S.A. Portland, Me.

Sir:- I enclose herewith copies of petitions from Shipmasters, Insurance Officers and other parties interested in the navigation of the Kennebec and Sheepscot rivers, praying that a steam whistle be established at Sequin Point or vicinity, and that a first class buoy be placed on Pond Island Bar, and a similar one on Jack-Knife Ledge, said petitions having been referred to the Department by the Honorable J. G. Blaine, Speaker of the House of Representatives with the earnest request that these aids to navigation may be established at an early day.

You will please to examine into and report upon this subject at your earliest convenience, accompanying your report with an estimate of the cost of establishing the proposed signal referred to.

Sequin
Petition
steam wh

Copy.

Petition for steam-whistles and buoys at the mouth of the Kennebec River.

To the Honorable Secretary of the Treasury.

Respectfully represent the undersigned ship-masters, Insurance Officers and other parties in interest, that the navigation of the Kennebec and Sheepscott rivers are now imperiled by the want of due safeguards for their protection in the fact that in foggy weather it is impossible to discover lights or points remote from danger. That to secure due protection to the lives and property of those whose business it is to navigate the waters on that portion of the coast of Maine herein referred to; it is absolutely necessary that a Steam Whistle should be established at Seguin or at its vicinity, experience having shown that instrument to be the most effective mode of signaling points of danger on our Coasts; that the intervention of the Honorable Secretary is most respectfully requested in this behalf for the protection of the lives of passengers of Steamers which are the chief means of

referred to; [illegible]
established at Seguin or at its vicinity, experience having shown that instrument to be the most effective mode of engraving points of danger on our Coast; that the intervention of the Honorable Secretary is most respectfully requested in this behalf for the protection of the lives of passengers of Steamers which are the chief means of communication between Boston and the Eastern Seaports, and in view of the facts, they respectfully pray that the Honorable Secretary will give to this petition immediate consideration, and that the proper orders may be forthwith issued as a means of further protecting the navigation to which this petition refers. They would respectfully represent that their maritime interest require a first class can buoy to be placed on Pond Island Bar, and a similar one on Jack Knife Ledge.

And in duty bound they pray

(Sgd.) J. E. Scott.

on Jack Knife Ledge.

And in duty bound they pray

(Sgd.) J. E. Scott."

Similar petitions signed by

Citizens of Wiscasset — Maine.

" " Augusta "

" " Boothbay "

" " Gardiner "

" " Bath "

" " Richmond "

Insurance Companies, Boston, Mass.

Sea Captains and Ship Owners.

Members of Maine Legislature
Captains of Portland Steamers

These petitions are respectfully refd to the Treasury Dept. with the very earnest request that the steam-whistle & can buoys be erected as requested.

I personally know that the needs of commerce & the safety of travellers require them.

(Sgd.) J. G. Blaine.

April 3d/12.