

(No. 3834.)

“WILDROSE.”

FINDING and Order of a Naval Court, held at the British Consulate, Para, on the 29th June 1889, to investigate the total loss of the British brig “WILDROSE,” and cargo.

The “Wildrose” was a British vessel, brig-rigged, of 263 tons registered tonnage, official number 45,626, built at Sunderland in 1863, and belonging to the port of Carnarvon.

It appears from the evidence given before this Court, that she sailed from Liverpool on or about the 28th April last, bound for Para with a cargo of salt, and a crew of nine hands all told.

That the vessel appears to have been recaulked and recoppered just before the said voyage.

That the master, John Jones, was guilty of neglecting to take the necessary soundings of the lead after he had once sighted land. He did not save the logbook and official logbook. It appeared that the chart was only a track chart, and not one for a coast like that of Brazil; and that his chronometer was not as good as it might have been.

The Court, under the foregoing evidences, find the master's negligence to be the whole cause of the casualty, no fault attaching to the mate, boatswain, or any of the crew.

That a copy of the report or a statement of the case upon which the investigation was ordered having been furnished to the captain before the commencement of the investigation, his certificate of competency as master, No. 08,797, issued by the Board of Trade, and dated Dublin, the 16th day of July 1887, be for the neglect and default aforesaid suspended for the period of six calendar months from the 15th day of June 1889, and that the Court recommend that he for the said time of suspension be allowed and granted a first mate's certificate.

(Signed) E. KANTHACK, President.

E. POULET,  
W. G. MURRAY, } Members.  
J. JONES,  
E. J. COLLING, }

At the close of the inquiry, after the decision of the Court had been given, Captain W. Grey Murray asked the Court if it was not advisable to draw the attention of the British Government to the length of time that had elapsed since a thorough survey of the coast near the entrance of the Para River had taken place.

Considering the number of British ships trading to the port of Para, the members of the Court were unanimous in their approval of the same, and thought that one of her Majesty's ships stationed on the Brazilian coast would be well employed making a new survey of the coast from Maranham westwards to Demarara, seeing that the last official survey was taken by the French Government, 1867 to 1868.

(Signed) E. KANTHACK, President of Court.