

(No. 4288.)

“ALICE PLATT.”

FINDING and Order of a Naval Court held at Iquique on the 19th day of January 1891, to investigate the circumstances attending the loss of the British Barque “ALICE PLATT,” of Liverpool, official number 78,798, through stranding on Island Serrano, Iquique Bay, on the 16th January 1891.

The “Alice Platt” was a sailing vessel, barque-rigged, of 1,089 tons registered tonnage, official number 78,798, of the port of Liverpool.

It appears from the evidence given before this Court that she sailed from Cardiff on or about the 21st October 1890, bound for Iquique with a cargo of patent fuel, and a crew of 23 hands all told.

The voyage was most successful up to the night of the disaster.

The Court, having regard to the circumstances above stated, finds as follows:—

That the master, Mr. William Jones, was in error in not hauling off the land and awaiting daylight, and that, after continuing on a risky course, he was to blame in not taking precautions against accidents.

The captain's and chief mate's conduct after the accident was most meritorious; and, in view of the foregoing, the Court decides that the master's certificate is suspended for the term of six months from date, and the Court entirely exonerates the chief and second mates.

The expenses of this Court, fixed at 6*l.* 19*s.*, are approved.

Dated at Iquique this 19th day of January 1891.

(Signed) THOS. HADLEY,
Lieutenant and Commander
H.M.S. “Pheasant,” Pre-
sident.

H. BUCKLAND,
Acting Consul.

FRANCIS W. MELVILL,
Lieutenant Royal Navy.

ROBT. KEY JEFFERY,
Master Mariner.

CHARLES C. BROUGH,
Master Mariner.

J. E. V. MORTON,
Clerk of the Court.