

(No. 4516.)

"KATE B. JONES" (S.S.)

FINDING and Order of a Naval Court held at Port Said on the 16th day of April 1892, to investigate the circumstances attending the stranding of the British steamer "KATE B. JONES," of the Port of Cardiff, official number 95,152, 1,285 tons, off Damietta, on or about the 5th instant, when on a voyage from Port Said to Belfast; also the causes of such stranding, and the conduct of the master, certificated mates, other officers, and crew of the said vessel.

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

That the ship was stranded owing primarily to the master making a verbal error in giving the course to the second officer as N.W. by W., when it should have been N.W. by N., and, secondarily, to the fact that when the master came on the bridge at 6 p.m. he did not exercise at once due caution in determining the position of the ship, and only hauled out 2½ points, which, as the event proved, was insufficient to prevent the vessel stranding. In the opinion of the Court, he ought to have hauled out 5 points at least.

As the weather was clear, and the land in sight, the Court do not attach much blame to the master for not using the lead.

Reviewing the above circumstances, the Court is of opinion that the master did not exercise due care in the navigation of his ship on this occasion; but the Court takes into consideration the fatigue sustained by the master by two previous nights' work in navigating his ship through the Gulf of Suez and the Suez Canal, and the high character given him by the owners, by telegram; and also the zeal and energy displayed by him after the ship was stranded; and therefore only adjudges the said master, James Gordon, to be severely reprimanded, and orders him to pay the sum of 6*l.* 4*s.* 0*d.* towards the costs of the Court.

The Court wishes to add to its finding the following observations:—

During the inquiry it came to the knowledge of the Court that the master had kept no regular record of the deviation in any official form; and, though this has no direct bearing on the present casualty, the Court consider it their duty to point out the omission.

The expenses of the Court, fixed at 6*l.* 4*s.* 0*d.*, are approved.

Dated at Port Said this sixteenth day of April 1892.

(Signed) E. B. GOULD,
H.B.M. Consul, President
of the Court.

E. F. INGLEFIELD,
Lieutenant R.N., H.M.S.
"Melita."

C. T. HENDERSON,
Lieutenant R.N., H.M.S.
"Melita."

THOMAS M^cCALMONT,
Master of the British merchant steamer "Ramon Head," of Belfast, official number 99,114.

ANDREW JAS. PHILP,
British Ship Master, late
"Clan Mackinnon," Clan
Line.

A true copy.

(Signed) E. B. GOULD,
H.B.M. Consul.

British Consulate, Port Said.

KIRK CULBERTSON CHIRE

37

MAX WELLS



PERMANENT RECORD

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CLERK

"LADY

The Merchant

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Wilson and Ron
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The Court, havin
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casualty, finds, for
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James Edward Hend
but considering his
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Dated this ninetee

(Signed)

We concur in th

(Signed)

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power, being 488.49

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Thomas Nicholson,
being the person to
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holds a certificate of

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