

(No. 4655.)

“WELLINGTON” (S.S.)

REPORT and Decision of the Marine Board of New South Wales in the matter of the wreck of the S.S. “WELLINGTON,” official No. 79,269.

An inquiry was held before the Marine Board into the circumstances attending the loss of this vessel, and it was ascertained that she was an iron screw steamer of 110 tons, registered in Sydney, owned by the North Coast Steam Navigation Company, and insured.

The “Wellington” was on a voyage from the Nambucca, bound to Sydney with passengers and a general cargo, and in attempting to cross the Bar on the 11th ultimo became stranded on the rocks near the entrance to the river. The weather at the time was squally from the S.W. with heavy sea. The passengers and crew were safely landed, and the vessel, after every effort had been made to get her off, was abandoned on the 3rd instant. She eventually became a total wreck. No one was lost or hurt by the occurrence.

The Board reported that the wreck of the “Wellington” was caused by the exceptionally heavy sea which the vessel encountered when she reached the Nambucca Bar in her attempt to get to sea, and was thereby cast on to the rocks and stranded. No evidence was adduced upon which to found a charge of default against Samuel Boulden, the master.

In connection with this report, the Board wish to record their appreciation of the bravery displayed by John McKenzie, the second mate, who swam ashore with a line, and was thereby instrumental in saving the lives of the passengers and crew of the vessel.

(Signed) FRANCIS RULE,
pro Secretary.

Sydney, 30th December 1892.