

(No. 5845.)

“FIDO.”

REPORT and Decision of the Local Marine Board of Newcastle, New South Wales, in the matter of the missing barque “Fido,” of Sydney.

An inquiry was held by the Local Marine Board into the condition of the “Fido” when she left this port, and they ascertained that she was a wooden vessel of 499 tons register, built in Norway, and owned by Robert Walker, of Sydney, and commanded by Samuel Morrison, a capable and experienced ship master. She had a crew of 11 all told. The vessel sailed from this port on the 5th May last, with a cargo of 710 tons coal and coke, and was not overladen, bound to Auckland, N.Z., and has not since been heard of.

The Board reports that when the “Fido” left Newcastle she was well found in every respect, a first class vessel, fully manned, perfectly seaworthy, and properly trimmed.

There is no evidence to account for her loss, otherwise than the exceptionally heavy south-east gale prevailing after she left this port; and from the wreckage which has been picked up and identified as belonging to the “Fido,” the Board can only conclude that she foundered during the disastrous gale raging on the 5th, 6th, and 7th of May.

J. H. VEITCH,
Secretary.

Newcastle, 13th July, 1898.

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