

(No. 5851.)

“VIRAWA” (S.S.) AND “BESSIE MAUD.”

REPORT and Decision of the Local Marine Board of Newcastle, New South Wales, in the matter of collision between the s.s. “Virawa” and the schooner “Bessie Maud.”

An inquiry was held by the Local Marine Board into the circumstances connected with the collision which took place between the above-named vessels, and they ascertained that the “Virawa” is a steel screw steamer of 2,158 tons register, official No. 98,587, registered in Glasgow, and owned by the British India Steam Navigation Company, and was partly loaded and inward bound, in charge of a licensed pilot, from Melbourne bound to Calcutta, came into collision with the schooner “Bessie Maud,” outward bound to Sydney on a voyage from Cape Hawk, laden with timber, in charge of Edward Anderson, the master.

The “Bessie Maud” was a wooden schooner of 63 tons register, owned by Mr. John Hunter, and registered in Sydney, and was sunk by the collision.

No one was lost or hurt by the occurrence.

The Board reported that the collision was due to Edward Anderson, the master of the “Bessie Maud,” committing a breach of Article 14 of the Newcastle Harbour Regulations, in neglecting to navigate his vessel on that side of mid-channel which lay on his starboard hand, and recommended the suspension of his pilotage certificate for a period of three (3) calendar months, so far as Newcastle was concerned.

J. H. VEITCH,
Secretary, Local Marine Board.

Newcastle,
17th October, 1898.

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