

(No. 6533.)

“PHEASANT” (S.S.)

AND

“ALEXANDRA” (S.S.).

The Court of Marine Inquiry at Sydney.

IN the matter of a formal inquiry held at Sydney before His Honor Judge BACKHOUSE, assisted by JOHN VINE HALL and JOSHUA LEWIS FAWKES, Assessors, into the circumstances attending the collision between the British steamships “PHEASANT” and “ALEXANDRA.”

The Court, having carefully inquired into the circumstances attending the above-mentioned shipping casualty, comes to the decision following :—

(1) The British steamships “Pheasant” (official No. 93622), and “Alexandra” (official No. 112588), were in collision in Darling Harbour on the forenoon of the 20th day of February, 1903.

(2) By such collision neither vessel suffered serious damage.

(3) The collision took place when the “Pheasant” was backing out from her wharf and commencing a trip to Paramatta, and the “Alexandra” was proceeding to Pymont after having passed through Pymont Bridge.

(4) Such collision was caused principally by the wrongful act of David Wilson, the master of the “Pheasant,” in unnecessarily backing out to the Pymont side of the channel, and to some extent by the wrongful act of James Higgen, the master of the “Alexandra,” in coming through the bridge and proceeding on his course at too high a rate of speed considering the risks of navigation which have to be encountered at the part of the harbour where the collision took place.

Dated this 27th day of March, 1903.

ALF. P. BACKHOUSE,
Judge.

I, Thomas Johnstone Charlton, Deputy Registrar of the Court of Marine Inquiry at Sydney, hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the decision of the Court in the matter of the inquiry into the circumstances attending the collision between the “Pheasant” and the “Alexandra.”

Dated at Sydney this 30th day of March, 1903.

T. J. CHARLTON,
Deputy Registrar of the Court.

(Issued in London by the Board of Trade on the 29th day of May, 1903.)