

RETURN RELATIVE TO PANAMA STEAM SERVICE.

RETURN showing since the commencement of the PANAMA STEAM SERVICE how often and how long the vessels have been behind time in arriving at Wellington, and the amount of penalty imposed.

Name of Vessel.	Date of sailing from Panama.	Time for arrival at Wellington.	Actual date of arrival.	No. of days behind time.	Loss of time on voyage from Panama.	Amount of penalty inflicted.	Remarks.
Rakaia ...	1866. ...	1866. July 23	1866. July 23	...	...	...	
Kaikoura ...	July 27	Aug. 22	Aug. 25	3 (W. I. mail 1 day late)	2 days	...	Penalty remitted on account of the 'Kaikoura' having only, in consequence of alteration of Time Table, five days at Panama to coal and refit for her return voyage.
Ruahine ...	Sep. 2	Sep. 22	Oct. 2	10 (W. I. mail 2 days late)	8 days	£100	Remainder of penalty remitted for the same reason as in the case of the 'Kaikoura.' Subsequently to this the Steamers arrived at Panama on the 5th of the month instead of the 21st, which gave them 19 days to refit.
Rakaia ...	Oct. 26	Nov. 22	Nov. 23	1 (W. I. mail 1 day late)	...	...	
Kaikoura ...	Nov. 25	Dec. 23	Dec. 23	...	...	...	
Ruahine ...	Dec. 28	1867. Jan. 22	1867. Jan. 27	5 (W. I. mail 4 days late)	1 day	£50	
Rakaia ...	1867. Jan. 27	Feb. 22	Feb. 24	2 (W. I. mail 1 day late)	...	...	The 'Rakaia' had to return to Panama from Wellington in December without being docked, to supply the place of the 'Mataura,' whose engines had broken down on the voyage from England.
Mataura ...	Feb. 28	March 25	April 11	16 (W. I. mail 4 days late)	12 days	...	In consequence of the loss of three coal ships sent out by the Company only inferior coal could be obtained at Panama, which was the principal cause of the delay. The vessel also experienced continuous adverse winds.
Kaikoura ...	March 26	April 22	April 25	2	2 days	£50	One day was allowed for a visit to Opara with a view to establishing a coaling station.
Ruahine ...	April 25	May 23	May 25	2 (W. I. mail 1 day late)	1 day	£90	£40 penalty inflicted for delay of eight hours in leaving Panama after mail was on board, and one day £50 for late arrival.
Rakaia ...	May 25	June 22	June 25	3	3 days	£150	
Mataura ...	June 25	July 23	July 25	2	2 days	£105	
Total penalties imposed						£545	