

RETURN of Wrecks on which Inquiries have been held, &c.—continued.

17

H.—22.

Date of Casualty.	Name of Vessel, also Age and Class, when known.	Rig.	Register Tonnage.	Number of •		Nature of Cargo.	Nature of Casualty.	Number of Lives Lost.	Place where Casualty took place.	Wind.		Finding of the Court of Inquiry.	Name of Master.
				Crew.	Passengers.					Direction.	Force.		
1878. Mar. 6	"Mary Van Every," 11 years	Schooner	41	4	...	Coal	Total loss	...	Bar, Clutha River	N.E.	Calm	Caught on bar when in tow of steamer, line broke, and vessel drifted on to the rocks	T. Dawson.
Mar. 7	"Randolph," 22 years	Schooner	20 (not registered)	3	...	Firewood	Capsized & foundered; total loss	...	Off Pilot Station, South Head, Port Lyttelton	S.W.	Storm	Accident unavoidable; no blame to master and crew	George Gray.
Mar. 7	"Wellington," 20 years	Ship	696	14	...	Ballast, 240 tons	Stranded; total loss	2	Two and a half miles to the eastward of Sinclair Head, Cook Strait	S.E.	Strong Breeze	Master deficient in due care in navigation of his ship. Certificate suspended for six months. Mate censured for not keeping proper look-out. As master did his duty to the best of his ability, and was almost constantly at his post, and his fault was more an error of judgment than of culpable negligence, Court recommended that a chief mate's certificate be granted to him during period of suspension of his certificate as master	H. E. Hill.
Mar. 7	"Cyrus," 6 years	Barque	317	10	3	Ballast, 90 tons	Stranded; total loss	5	Two and a half miles to the eastward of Sinclair Head, Cook Strait	S.E.	Strong Breeze	Master careless in navigation of his vessel. His certificate suspended for twelve months. But as he endeavoured to do his duty, was always at his post, sober and steady, Court recommended that first mate's certificate be granted to him during period of suspension of his certificate as master	Powell Andrews.
Mar. 9	"Silver Lining," 14 years	Brig	219	10	...	Coal	Stranded; total loss	...	North Head Reef, Kakanui Bay	...	...	Wreck caused by master shortening sail instead of going about, and again, by lifting a second anchor; if he had held on, the steamer could have gone to his assistance. If vessel had been provided with kedg and proper boats, she need not have been lost. Master's certificate suspended for six months	Jas. Taylor.
Mar. 15	"Maid of Otago," 3½ years	Schooner	50	4	...	Timber	Stranded; partial loss	...	Bar of Waitara River, Taranaki.	W.S. W.	Moderate breeze	Master free from blame	Duncan Bain.
Mar. 23	"Hercules," 30 years	Brigantine	139	7	...	Timber	Stranded; partial loss	...	Pouito Point, Kaipara Harbour	S.S.W.	Light breeze	Loss caused by wind falling	George Smith.
April 3	"Thames," 13 years	Ketch	23	2	...	General cargo and ballast	Foundered; partial loss	...	Kenepuru Sound, an arm of the Pelorus Sound	N.W.	Squally	Vessel capsized in a sudden squall, no blame to master	C. H. Smith.
April 18	"Albion," 7 years	Brig	263	10	...	Timber	Stranded; total loss	...	Kaitapaka Creek, Kaipara River, Auckland	...	Calm	An eddy tide set vessel on to a rock	James Robinson.
April 19	"Kate Brain," 3 months	Brigantine	118	7	...	Railway sleepers	Stranded; partial loss	...	A reef about 400 yards from Moko-moko Jetty, New River	N.N. E.	Moderate	Pilot committed an error of judgment in not keeping the vessel further off from the reef. Everything possible was done to get her off. Vessels of her tonnage should be provided with a heavier kedg or a stream anchor, and should have at least two pumps	Joseph Brain.