

RETURN of WRECKS and CASUALTIES to SHIPPING reported to the Marine Department from the 1st April, 1891, to the 31st March, 1892.

Date of Casualty.	Name of Vessel, also Age and Class.	Rig.	Number of		Nature of		Number of Lives lost.	Place where Casualty occurred.	Wind.		Decision of Court of Inquiry, &c.	Name of Master.
			Crew	Passengers.	Cargo.	Casualty.			Direction.	Force.		
1891. April 2	Wanaka, s.s., 15 years	Schooner	278	26	8	Stranded; total loss	..	About 2 miles north of Waivakaiho Stream, Taranaki Bight	S.E.	Light ..	Master was probably justified in running his vessel as he did up to 3 a.m. (the casualty occurred at 3.55 a.m.), but from that hour up to the time he discovered he was close to the rocks he failed to take such precautions as would have insured, beyond any doubt, the safety of his vessel. The Waitara lights had not been picked up; the land could not be seen; and as the master was in doubt as to his actual position, he should have put the ship's head to a known safe point to the westward, or he should have slackened speed and taken soundings along his altered course. The master was ordered to pay the costs of the inquiry.	James Meades.
"	10 Mahinapua, s.s., 9 years	Schooner	205	24	16	Stranded; no damage	..	About 100 yards inside Western Breakwater, Westport	S.W.	Light air	Casualty caused by vessel taking bar at low water in defiance of signals	James M. Richardson.
"	16 Manaia, s.s., 17 years	Schooner	55	5	..	Stranded; no damage	..	Bar of Waitara River	S.W.	Fresh breeze	Vessel attempted to leave Waitara too early on the tide	John Botham.
"	19 Ocean Ranger, Barquentine	234	9	..	..	Stranded; slight damage	..	Manukau Bar	S.	Light ..	Vessel struck on bar when entering Manukau Harbour	William Woobling.
"	20 Hauroto, s.s., 8 years	Schooner	1276	..	..	Loss of life only	1	On voyage from Newcastle, N. S. W., to Dunedin	..	..	An A.B. named Joseph Oakley, while engaged washing the blocks of the port lifeboat, fell overboard and was drowned	Robert Huddleston Neville.
"	28 Lawrence, s.s., 7 years	Schooner	246	15	3	Stranded; total loss	..	South Entrance, Mokihinui River	..	Calm ..	Casualty caused by striking on a ridge just outside Mokihinui Bar	James Leys.
May	2 Flying Scud, 30 years	Schooner	119	7	1	Stranded; partial loss	..	Inner Harbour, Napier	S.W.	Strong ..	Vessel grounded on shingle-bank when entering Inner Harbour, Napier	Thomas James Moore Corlett.
"	5 Tongariro, s.s., 8 years, Al 100 Lloyds	Barque	2657	106	84	Loss of life only	1	On voyage from London to Wellington, lat. 38° 30' N., long. 11° 55' W.	..	..	An A.B. named Thomas George Bartlett, while engaged aloft bending the maintopgallant sail, fell to the deck and died from the injuries received.	John Bone.
"	15 Opotiki, 20 years	Schooner	38	3	..	Stranded; slight damage	..	Entrance to Inner Harbour, Napier	E. to N.E.	Strong gale	Vessel stranded when entering Napier Harbour	Thomas Jarvis Blackwell.
"	16 Presto, 29 years	Barque..	384	10	..	Damaged by hurricane; partial loss	..	On voyage from Newcastle, N. S. W., to Auckland; lat. 32° 29' S., long. 172° 45' E.	E. to W.N.W.	Hurricane	Vessel fell in with a hurricane, which caused considerable damage to sails and hull	John McKenzie.
"	23 Queen of the South, s.s., 14 years	Schooner	121	11	..	Stranded; partial loss	..	Bar of Mokihinui River	E.	Light ..	The propeller touched the stones when crossing the bar, and broke the propeller-shaft	Edward John Harvey.
"	28 Chau, s.s., 7 years	Schooner	411	23	3	Stranded; slight damage	..	Off Jackson's Head, Cook Strait	..	..	When passing through channel between beacon and rock, tide caused vessel to graze slightly on beacon rock	Andrew Anderson.