

Tug "H.C.HULL".

This vessel, recently completed at King's Lynn, put into Dartmouth on account of leakage, when the Surveyor reported the renewal of the gunwale bar and the re-riveting of the transom and rudder trunk, some odd rivets renewed at the sternpost and after peak, and some odd riveting renewed in the fore peak. The main deck was caulked and some rubber joints renewed.

As no cause was stated for these repairs, the Plymouth Surveyor was informed that it was concluded the damages were due to heavy weather, and in reply he stated there was no entry in the log book of any circumstances likely to cause leakage.

The matter was thereupon referred to the Ipswich Surveyor, who surveyed the vessel during construction, and he pointed out that she left with a load of coal on the deck and encountered heavy weather in the Channel, the Captain being so unwell that he had to be taken ashore. The Ipswich Surveyor was of opinion that the repairs that were found necessary were consequent on the heavy weather encountered and the extra weight of coal on the deck.

A letter has now been received from the Owners' Representatives stating that as a result of this Society's recommendations large expenses were incurred at Dartmouth, and they are advised on the report of the Society's Surveyor at Plymouth that the whole of the trouble is due to faulty workmanship; the Owners' Consulting Engineers, however, state that only half the amount incurred can be claimed from the Builders, and that the remainder of the work insisted upon by the Surveyor is in the nature of improvements or maintenance; that unnecessary work was done by the Society's Surveyor, as after opening up &c., for which a charge was made, it was found unnecessary.

In these circumstances it is considered the Plymouth Surveyor should be advised of the letter received from the Owners' Representatives, and also of the remarks of the Ipswich Surveyor, from which it would appear that there were abnormal reasons for the cause of the damage.

He should be requested to report on the matter fully for the information of the Committee.

11.3.26

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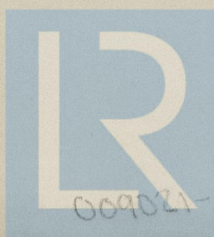
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