

COPY.

E.

6th., November, 1899.

Gentlemen,

With reference to Mr Smith's report No. 11039 on the machinery of the S.S. "CLAM", I have to request that he will be good enough to state definitely, in view of the fact that the vessel will steam with coal on the outward passage, what the Owners' proposals are in regard to the burning of oil fuel, and at what Port the burners and gear will be fitted in the furnace mouths. A statement in writing should be obtained from the Owners or their Superintendent in regard to this matter.

At the same time I have also to request that Mr Smith will state why the donkey boilers could not have been examined under steam and their safety valves adjusted at this time, seeing that this is all that remains to complete the machinery survey.

I have further to point out that his recommendation that the vessel is eligible to "remain as classed &c" is incorrect, seeing that at present the vessel has no class, and also that the notation "Burning Astatki Oil Fuel - Experimental" cannot be made until the vessel is actually burning such fuel.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

The Surveyors,

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Secretary.

HPL387-0166