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22nd September 1876.

Messrs S. Clarke & Co.
Gentlemen,

Rec 27/11/76
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I send a line to inform you that a special survey is now due on the S. S. "Shoreham". I have seen the vessel on Messrs Palmer's Slip to-day, and find that the bottom is in a very serious condition from straining. Great numbers of the rivets in keel and bottom are very slack and leaking, many of them moveable by the hand. It will be necessary to lift the whole of the ceiling; and I would respectfully recommend that some competent person be sent to see to the case, and to confer with me as to the steps most desirable to be taken for obviating a recurrence of this matter.

This vessel is subjected to the dead weight of the engines and boilers & coal &c at one end, and to the deep water tank at the other, and this arrangement, to my mind, is one calculated to bring about the same state of things unless considerable longitudinal strength be added in the length of 75 feet that intervenes between the engine room and water tank.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
(Signed) R. I. Reed.



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