

John Dawkins Esq.
Lloyds Register of Shipping
Leith

41 Constitution Street
Leith 26th July 1876

Dear Sir,

ss "Elba"

I am in receipt of your letter of the 25th inst, and while desirous of meeting as far as possible the views of the Committee of your Society, I do not see my way to curtail so much the carrying power and consequent value of the steamer as the adoption of the 11 ft, 6" load line they suggest, would involve. I am willing in the meantime to adopt a load line of 11 ft 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " this being 6" below main deck or only 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " less than the Committee suggest, it being understood that I have power to close permanently the side scuppers on main deck which as you are aware are not only useless but a source of possible danger being so liable to damage from without by coming in contact ^{with} piers or other vessels. Considering the strength and excellent condition of the 'Elba', I hope your Committee will be satisfied with the above proposal & waiting your reply.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours truly

James Carmack



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