

## Ship Rangitiki.

Extract from letter dated 27<sup>th</sup> Nov/90.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> Nov/90 at Napier this vessel parted from her anchors at 60 fathoms, the Sea is reported heavy, with a heavy swell, the second anchor was let go and 120 fathoms of chain, after riding at this for about three hours the chain parted at 60 fathoms, she was afterwards brought up with the 3<sup>rd</sup> anchor about 200 yards from breakers, and afterwards towed into safety by two small steamers, the Owners of which claim £1000 Salvage.

The Surveyor mentions that three other Sailing Ships were riding close to, with about 60 fathoms, one, the "Balclutha" N<sup>o</sup> 35 in Ry Boat. was riding in ballast safely and 60 fathoms of chain out. The Surveyor measured the chain still left on board the Rangitiki & found it to measure from  $1\frac{5}{16}$  to  $1\frac{12}{16}$  and he considers that with a long scope of 120 fathoms of chain out the vessel should have ridden in perfect safety, and he recommends that if the lost chains are recovered they should be thoroughly overhauled when the ship reaches London.

In a letter from Napier dated 26<sup>th</sup> Decr./90 the Surveyor reports that the Ship Rangitiki on the 5<sup>th</sup> Decr/90 with a strong breeze off the land and smooth water parted from 75 fathoms at the Government Buoy and came in contact with the Ship "Balclutha" doing considerable damage to the latter bulwarks and her own rudder. She then anchored with 125 fathoms of chain and after about four hours she parted her chain about 60 fathoms drifting out to sea. Afterwards the S<sup>s</sup> "Matatua" towed her to the Buoy when she was made fast with Coir hawsers & afterwards towed to Wellington.



The vessel appears to have lost 3 Bower anchors and all her Chain Cable with the exception of 90 fathoms, and to complete the Equipment at Wellington the best anchors & chains available in the Colony were supplied of the following weights

1 Bower 42.0.0 from "Ruapehu"	}	1 Bower 30.0.0	Rule requiring
1 " 30.0.0 " "Ottoquina"		1 " 30.0.0	
1 " 30.0.0 " "Nelson"		1 " 25.2.0	

Chain Cable reported to be on board.

Required by Rule.

135 fathoms 2" from Ship "Ottoquina"  
 45 " 1 1/2" from Hulk "Blackwall".  
 90 " of her own chain.  
 270 fathoms.

} 270 fathoms 1 1/2".  
 }  
 }

The Surveyor in his letter dated 26<sup>th</sup> Dec/90 says "I will not trust to her chains but see that she is made fast with Coir Hawseers" and mentions that during the trouble with this ship the other vessels in the Bay had been riding in safety with <sup>from</sup> 60 to 75 fathoms of chain out; thus showing that the Rangitiki's chains were decidedly defective as she parted from them 5 times.

As no report appears to have come to hand as yet from the Surveyors at Napier or Wellington and as no mention is made in the letters about refusing to pass the chains for the voyage home thereby subjecting the vessel to considerable delay of which the Owners complain ~~and~~ it is submitted—



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