

Dec 16/12/76

Observations on Mr. George's letter

My Skipper tells me that he asked Mr. Warlow to put new heads on the Windlass, and was refused. That he complained to Mr. George, and that he told him to put iron sockets in the handspike holes.

Mr. George admits deficiency in the chains, but I do not think the committee would sanction 37 fathoms only for a vessel of 60 tons burden seeing that the combined weight is short of the authorised rule.

Mr. George's opinion as to the length and size of the mast, differing from other gentlemen of equal experience, renders it necessary to have this point adjusted by an impartial judge.

Mr. George misunderstands that I was shown the topmast. I never saw it until the vessel came home here, and I now find that it is an old spar which was long in use and from its original construction it can't be lowered at sea.

I was shown the mainmast at Pembroke Dock, and I objected to it there

There and then, first, I said, because  
it is too short and too slim,  
In the second place it is out of proportion,  
being too short in the head, And in  
the third place because it appears to me  
to have been made from an old spar,  
on the latter point the builder however  
assured me that it was made from a  
log and I merely refer to the third objection  
to show the conversation that passed between  
us at the time, — I came away in the  
belief that it would be objected to  
by the surveyor.

The cask itself bears evidence  
of being old and of having been used  
before.

Are breast hooks not required  
in a vessel of 60 tons burden?

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