

W1022-0046



Lloyd's Register of Shipping,

Ocean Chambers, Lowgate,

Hull, 22nd December, 1949.

RECEIVED

28 DEC 1949

"CYDONIA"

Reference

Dear Mr. Sladden,

We have your letter of the 20th enclosing an extract from the Owners' letter to London.

I don't think there is anything really material we can contribute, for I notice they have no fault to find with the recommendations made in Hull, and of course we haven't the information to give him the ports at which the existing indented plating was noted.

We have however perused this effort with a certain amount of interest, for the 'infallible' Mr. Dale seems to be slipping.

The burden of his original letter I gathered was that he knew nothing about this indented plating which "existed only in the imagination of the Surveyors", but having been supplied with it, he finds that "it conveys very little which he didn't know already". May we suggest a little inconsistency here?

This ship has short wells with long poop, bridge and forecastle. It is the practice amongst quite knowledgeable people to continue the numbering of the strakes to include these, as was done in our report. Perhaps this has slipped Mr. Dale's memory or (should we whisper it?) he didn't even know of it. In any case a little of the "imagination" he credits Surveyors as having, could have helped him to solve it.

The last paragraph is surely too ingenuous. His concern for the feelings of the "prospective buyer of the ship being faced with such a list of damaged plates" would surely be a hayseed compared with his own when the said prospective purchaser knocked a chunk off the price!

May we suggest a little of the "crocodile" here?

With kindest regards,
Yours sincerely,

R.J. Sladden, Esq.,
LONDON.

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