

Gothenburg 28/5 1902
Jos Barclay Esqre

Swansea

S.S. "Otto"

Dear Sir,

Following up my last respects of April 16th I have looked through the correspondens regarding the Ottos tailend shaft & also seen the Captain about the matter. On the 24th of March 1902 when the Otto should have been undocked & taken in her cargo before the holidays I received from the Captain the following telegram: "Lloyds surveyor recommends newtail shaft old flawed wire instructions" to which I instantly replied: "Take full particulars shaft request Lloyds pass and 6 or 12 months". On the 25th received the following telegram law in shaft provided reduce pressure five lbs Lloyds willing pass me further six months this extreme" to which I replied: "Point out Lloyds that power reduced by H.P. cylinder from 33 to 27 inches Gothenburg if still demanding reduction wire price and time new shaft" & in the evening I received the following telegram: "Arranged with Lloyds further six months without reduction" & the steamer docked on the 25th as you correctly state but in the meantime 2 able days were wasted & the steamers cargo shipped into other vessels with the consequence that she was detained over the holidays only sailed on Thursday 3rd of April.

My contention is that you wrongfully condemned this shaft which not flawed causing the vessel to loose one week at Swansea & again days on the Tyne fitting a new shaft in August which together with cost of the new shaft means a loss to the ship of not less than . According to the rules this shaft could be turned down to 10,73 es & the present diameter is 11 1/8" & if the shaft was put in the & 5/16" turned off it would be perfectly clean. The shaft is open for examination at the Middle Docks, South Shields.

Yours truly.

Wm R Curzon



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W1575-0140