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6th December, 1897.

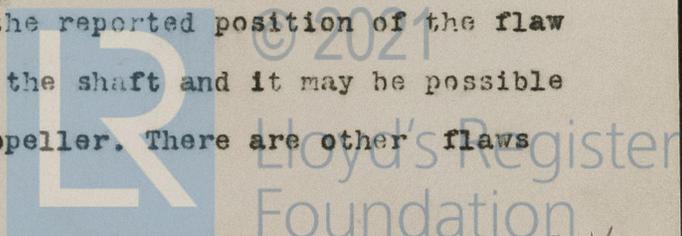
Dear Sirs,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 7th instant in further reference to the case of your steamer "GORSEBOD", and with regard thereto, I beg to explain that the Society's Engineer Surveyor at Bombay reported that a ~~flaw~~ extending for a length of six inches circumferentially exists at the end of the forward end of the keyway. This flaw being of a serious nature it is considered to be imprudent to run the vessel for a longer time than was arranged at the time of survey.

I have to suggest, however, with the object of meeting your views as far as possible that the vessel should be tipped at Calcutta and the flaw in question examined by the Society's Surveyor there, Mr. T. W. Fish, who is a very experienced Engineer, and if in his opinion the shaft is ~~not~~ sufficiently good condition for the homeward voyage, the proposal to renew it at Cardiff might be approved, but if on the other hand the shaft in the Surveyor's opinion is unfit for the voyage there will be no alternative but to recommend that it be renewed at Calcutta.

I may mention that from the reported position of the flaw it can be examined without drawing the shaft and it may be possible to do so without taking off the propeller. There are other flaws

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reported in the shaft, but these do not appear to be of the same moment as the one referred to.

I shall be glad to learn that you will give instructions to your Agents to facilitate this.

I am, Dear Sirs,

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.

Messrs. Hurley, Matthews & Co.,

CARDIFF.



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