

Calcutta

Ship Magnolia 18th Sept 1875

Messrs Gladstone Wyllie & Co

Gentlemen

Enclosed you have survey report and bills returned
I must decidedly refuse to pay the amounts charged
viz Rs 96/- and Rs 33/- Total Rs 129/- One hundred twenty nine

Considering your surveyor reported on the ship not for
my benefit but for the insurance I do not see that I am
morally or legally called on to pay the sum of Rs 129/- to you
or your surveyor as I have already paid the survey fee
to two surveyors who attended the ship during the time she
was in dock and who gave me valuable suggestions as to what
repairs were necessary to make the ship a good insurance
risk. allow me to inform you that your surveyor was never
below in this ship never before the main mast and in fact
has never looked at the ship at all all the information he
has about her has got from me sitting in my cabin and
why should I rob my owners out of Rs 129/- to pay for this. I
have had two surveyors as I have remarked before in this
letter one of them. Captain Brown attended the ship at least
twelve times and gave me much assistance. his charge
is not so much as you make for doing nothing. I am writing
home to my owners to lay before Lloyd's committee a full account
of this transaction as to how your surveyors tried first to make
me go into a dock of his choosing owing to some private feeling
against Mr Dean then (but it is no use my entering into
the whole matter with you) I do not think this matter will speak
very highly to any unprejudiced mind as to the way owners
and masters are treated and Lloyd's are represented in Calcutta.

Remain gentlemen

yours obediently

Rt Slater

Martin Ship Magnolia



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Foundation