

Calcutta 22nd September 1875.

Meson Glasstone Wyllie & Co.
Lloyd's Agents

Recd 26/10/75
G. H.

Dear Sir.

Magnolia

As you are aware Captain Cator
refuses to pass for payment your fees for the survey
made by Captain Stewart on the ship on the grounds

1. that contrary to what is stated at the beginning
of the report he never asked Captain Stewart
to hold a survey, and
2. that as a matter of fact he did not survey
the ship-

We have seen Captain Stewart several
times, lately regarding this matter, & it would appear
that a conversation we had with him was
the cause of his going on board & furnishing
the report. That conversation was to the
following effect.

That in consequence of the position
which he had taken up with reference to this
vessel when she was in dock we thought it
likely that Captain Cator would forward to
his owners in London with the view of their
placing the same before the Committee of Lloyd's,
copies of all the correspondence that has passed

between Captain Cater and himself and that (having seen the letter) we thought it was quite likely that the Committee might consider he had exceeded his province in declining even to look at the vessel - We therefore said that our opinion was it might still be well for him to go over the ship and report on her - whether favourably or unfavourably as the case might require. We further said that as Captain Cater might also ask us to forward copies of the Correspondence to Lloyds and as we did not wish to write home on the subject at all we should esteem it a favour if he made a survey. This was not intended by us to be regarded by Captain Stewart as our Agents application but simply as a friendly intervention looking to the terms upon which he and the Captain were. He may however view the matter otherwise and accordingly tender you herewith the survey fees £ 96/- which you ask for, merely remarking that we pay them out of our own pocket.

We understand from Capt. Cater (who has all along taken a strong view of the merits of his case) that by yesterday's mail he has a full statement of the case before his owner, having then copies of Correspondence & reports on the ship, & that he also forwarded to the President of the Chamber of Commerce here copies of same.

Yours faithfully
S^r Finlay & Co