

Extract from Messrs Dalgety & Co's letter dated Dunedin
17th July 1884

Dunedin 17th July 1884

After examination of the 'Latona' when the repairs to her
Hull had been commenced, it was found absolutely
necessary for a far larger number of timbers to be
replaced than it was at first expected. These additional
repairs were authorized by Captain Jeffrey & your agent
representative Mr Conway & the vessel came out of Dock on
19th July & took on board her original cargo again.
When this was re-shipped it was found that the 'Latona'
was making some considerable quantity of water, but
we understood from Captain Jeffrey & others, is usually
the case when a vessel has been re-timbered & we
she was daily pumped out & we do not believe that any of
the cargo on board has in the slightest degree sustained
damage. But Captain Russell, the Surveyor for Lloyd's
Register & also for our local Insurance Association
has proved obstructive, & has refused to give us any written
report or survey of her condition since she came out of dock,
though he has verbally intimated to us that he does not
consider the 'Latona' fit to carry a cargo of Grain to England.
Captain Jeffrey in accordance with our suggestions, had a
free survey made last week by Captain Thorne, -
late Harbour Master of this port & by Mr. Law, Shipwright
& you will notice from the enclosed copy of same, that they,
at all events, consider the 'Latona' to be in a proper condition
to resume her voyage. Whether the Surveyor to Lloyd's will
compel us to have another survey made in order to
substantiate one or other of the already expressed opinions,
we cannot at present say, but we shall doubtless have
some official intimation from the Underwriters of the
Cargo on this matter very shortly.

J. Dalgety & Co.
Edw. J. & Wm. Fraser