

Extract from Messrs Dalgety & Co's letter dated  
Dunedin 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1884.

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This afternoon however we were informed by Messrs. Royal, Clark & Co as Agents for the Grain Agency Co. that as Captain Russell, the Surveyor for Local Underwriters Association had reported the Latona as unfit to carry home a cargo of wheat. They should advise the Grain Agency not to make any payment to the Captain, but whether they will adopt this course remains to be seen. We pointed out, that although Captain Russell refused to give the Latona a good certificate, the dates on which he based his report, were obtained a few days after the vessel came out of Dock & before she had time for her seams to take up. That since Captain Russell had seen her we had had the Latona surveyed first by Captain Thomas & Law on 11<sup>th</sup> July & secondly by Captain Macfarland & Mr. Fletcher on 21<sup>st</sup> inst & that both parties stated she was quite fit to carry her cargo home.

The opinions of Captain Russell apparently has more weight with the Grain Agency Co or their Dunedin Agents, than the surveys made by independent men quite as competent. Probably the Insurance Co who took the risk is pulling the strings. But one thing is certain that the credit now established in favor of Captain Jeffrey is up to this time of no use.

Yours faithfully  
(signed) Dalgety & Co. Ltd.

Edwin J. Spence

Agent



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