

DRS:  
MOUNT FURNESS.

501 }  
TELEPHONES 502 } MIDDLESBROUGH.  
503 }  
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "FURZE"

GRIFFITHS, R.C.B. D.S.O.

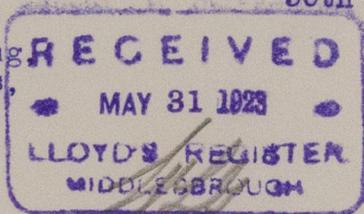
FURNESS SHIPBUILDING CO., LIMITED,  
HAVERTON HILL-ON-TEES.

*102*

/IMP. SDO.

30th May 1923.

Yard's Register of Shipping  
Lloyd's Bank Chambers,  
Middlesbrough.



r Sirs,

S.S. "LONDON MERCHANT" - NO. 19.

Further to the discussion with your Surveyor to-day, we desire  
place on record the fact that the above vessel was launched  
5th November 1921, but was only handed over after a successful  
trial on 25th May 1923.

The unusually lengthy period between launch and completion,  
been entirely due to the decision of the Owners to revert  
double reduction to single reduction geared turbines, on  
ant of the unsatisfactory performance of the former type  
achinery on service, which involved complete rearrangement of the  
nery, the construction of which has been seriously delayed  
to labour troubles whilst in process of manufacture.

During the fitting out period the Owners' and ourselves have  
special care to maintain the efficiency of the Hull construction.  
The vessel has received special protective coatings and was  
ocked in Messrs. Smith's Dry Dock at Middlesbrough, first on

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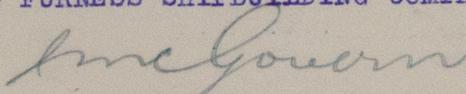
the 29th July 1922, and also on the 10th May 1923.

In view of the foregoing, the Owners are desirous of obtaining special concession in regard to the Date of Build in accordance with Paragraph 7 of your Regulations relating to the Classification of Steel Ships. The Date of Build under these Regulations would be automatically taken as August 1922, or nine months before he was actually in service.

In making your First Entry Report we shall be much obliged if you will kindly bring this matter to the notice of your Committee, and arrange to notify us of the concession granted, in order that we may advise the Owners.

Yours faithfully,

For FURNESS SHIPBUILDING COMPANY LTD



Managing Director.



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