

RETURN OF WRECKS and CASUALTIES to SHIPPING reported to the Marine Department from the 1st April, 1903, to the 31st March, 1904.

Date of Casualty.	Name of Vessel, also Age and Class.	Rig.	Registered Tonnage.	Number of		Nature of		Place where Casualty occurred.	Wind.		Decision of Court of Inquiry, &c.	Name of Master.
				Crew.	Passengers.	Cargo.	Casualty.		Direction.	Force.		
1903. Feb. 2	Glenelg, s.s., 25 years	Schooner	156	19	..	General	Stranded; no damage	South Spit, Wanganui River	S.E.	Light ..	Stranding caused through master of "Torora" when proceeding down river not having mast-head light and not keeping sufficient lookout for harbourmaster's signals, in consequence of which he failed to see and obey the danger-signal shown by the harbourmaster. He was ordered to pay £10 towards the cost of inquiry. The master of the s.s. "Glenelg," and the harbourmaster were exonerated from all blame. Tail shaft broke outside main stern-post, and propeller was lost.	John Charles Blacklock.
April 17	Admiral, s.s., 20 years	Schooner	82	4	70	..	Breaking of tail-shaft	Near white man-o'-war buoy, Wellington Harbour	N.W.	Light ..	Tail shaft broke outside main stern-post, and propeller was lost.	A. E. Burt.
"	Te Kapu, s.s., 14 years	Schooner	50	6	..	General	Stranded; no damage	Big River, West Coast, South Island	S.W..	Light ..	Vessel was navigating narrow channel and touched a sandbank, causing loss of way.	Alfred Labruyere
May 1	Brothers, 4 years	Schooner	54	5	1	..	Fire; total loss	Alongside wharf, Bluff Harbour	..	..	Fire caused by an explosion through leakage of benzine stowed in hold, causing a generation of vapour gas which came in contact with some light or spark, and there was no evidence to show whether the application of such light or spark was wilful or accidental. Master was not sufficiently careful when approaching the land, and in view of the light. His soundings were unreliable, and he did not take precautions to ascertain whether they were correct or not. He was solely responsible for stranding. His certificate was suspended for six months, and he was ordered to pay £3 3s. towards cost of inquiry.	Thomas Henry Clarkson.
"	Mokau, s.s., 2 years	Schooner	98	8	..	Coal	Stranded; partial loss	½ mile north of Mana watu River	E.	Light ..	Master was not sufficiently careful when approaching the land, and in view of the light. His soundings were unreliable, and he did not take precautions to ascertain whether they were correct or not. He was solely responsible for stranding. His certificate was suspended for six months, and he was ordered to pay £3 3s. towards cost of inquiry.	George Archibald Craike.
"	Kennedy, s.s., 38 years	Schooner	127	15	1	General	Damage to propeller	Off Albion Wharf, Nelson Harbour	Calm	..	When leaving wharf vessel's port-propeller struck anchor of dredge and broke two blades.	Edward Graham.
"	Torora, s.s., 5 years	Schooner	133	6	..	Ballast..	Stranded; no damage	Inside North Spit, Wanganui Bar	S.E.	Light ..	Casualty caused by vessel not answering her helm, and the engines not acting properly.	Frederick Chas. Must.
"	Warrior, 5 years	Schooner	73	5	..	..	Stranded; slight damage	½ mile inside lighthouse, Kaipara Harbour	Calm	..	When entering harbour wind fell light and swell set vessel in towards beach. Anchor was let go in 8 fathoms, but cable parted through defective link shortly after, and vessel drove on and up the beach. No blame attachable to master in any way.	Arthur Ernest Burt.
"	Admiral, s.s., 20 years	Schooner	82	4	20	..	Collision; no damage	Between Kau Point and Point Halswell, Wellington Harbour	S.	Light ..	Casualty caused by default of master of "Admiral" in not attending to navigation of his steamer. He was censured for handling over his vessel to an inexperienced man, and ordered to pay £5 5s. towards costs of inquiry.	Edwin John Booth.
"	Waitara, s.s., 25 years	..	15	2	6	..	Collision; slight damage	..	..	..	..	..