

RETURN OF WRECKS AND CASUALTIES TO SHIPPING REPORTED TO THE MARINE DEPARTMENT—continued.

Date of Casualty.	Name of Vessel, also Age and Class.	Rig.	Register 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.												
Dec. 31	Waitemata, 20 years	Schooner	59	3	..	Timber logs	Stranded; total loss	Matapouri Harbour, near Tutukaka	Calm	..	Casualty caused through wind failing into a dead calm at a critical moment, when beating out of harbour	Robert Wilson.
1904.												
Jan. 3	Kolya, s.s., 16 years	Schooner	1168	26	..	Sawn timber	Damage by heavy seas	Lat. 39° 39' S.; long. 154° 46' E. On voyage from Bunbury, W.A., to Wellington	N.	Heavy gale	Casualty caused by heavy seas breaking on board, smashing port lifeboat, damaging saloon skylight, and bursting open bunker hatches	G. T. Joss.
" 5	Penguin, s.s., 40 years	Schooner	517	..	..	General	Stranded; no damage	French Pass..	W.	..	Casualty caused through strong current and failure of vessel to answer her helm	H. J. Williams.
" 7	Oban, 6 years ..	Schooner	39	3	..	..	Capsized; slight damage	Tasman Bay, 2 miles E. of Forrest Bay, near Astrolabe Roadstead	..	Puffy ..	No evidence showing any remissness of duty on part of master or crew. Capsizing appears to have been purely accidental	Ambrose Edward Ricketts.
" 17	Mapourika, s.s., 6 years	Schooner	718	35	112	General	Stranded; no damage	Off Haulashore Island entrance to Nelson Harbour	Calm	..	Vessel stranded through taking a sheer while leaving harbour with a strong flood-tide running in. She came off on top of high water	Charles McArthur.
" 19	Lutterworth, 36 years	Barque ..	887	20	..	Ballast ..	Stranded; no damage	Entrance to Nelson Harbour	N.	Calm ..	Casualty caused through failure of wind, while leaving harbour	Henry Lamb Hicks.
Feb. 3	Saxon, 28 years	Schooner	58	4	..	Coal ..	Loss of life only	About 1½ miles S.W. by S. of Sail Rock, 14 miles from Whangarei	..	..	Charles Bales, A.B., while employed about the cathead, clearing the sail, the mast of which had carried away, fell overboard and was drowned. Court found that the evidence showed no one was to blame for the accident, and that master and crew did all in their power to save the man's life	Frederick John Cox.
" 3	Queen of the South, s.s., 27 years	Schooner	121	12	..	General	Fire on board; partial loss	Alongside wharf, Foxton	Calm	..	Fire discovered in after-cabin, where quantity of New Zealand dressed flax was stowed. Slight damage done to ship, and damage to flax by water and fire of about £100	Edward Harvey.
Mar. 18	Gertie, s.s., 13 years	Schooner	119	13	..	Ballast ..	Stranded; no damage	D'Urville Island, near Rangitoto	N.N.W.	Squally..	In seeking shelter under D'Urville Island, the weather being thick, and soundings gave no bottom at 25 fathoms, a gust of wind caught the vessel and forced her up against the reef	George Archibald Simpson.
" 24	Duco, s.s., 12 years	Cutter ..	26	6	..	..	Stranded; partial loss	1 mile off shore, Orongorongo Creek, near entrance Wellington Harbour	W.N.W.	Fresh gale	Vessel struck an uncharted rock in Orongorongo Bay	William McGavin Muir.
" 24	Northern Chief	Barque ..	263	..	..	Coal ..	Loss of life only	On voyage from Newcastle to Auckland	..	Half gale	At 2.30 a.m. William Kassens, while engaged with others in taking-in sail, accidentally fell into the sea from the fore upper topsail yard, and was drowned. The master, officers, and crew did everything that was reasonable and possible to rescue him	George Kassens.
" 27	Balmain, s.s., 21 years	Schooner	377	15	..	Coal ..	Stranded; no damage	Outside Wanganui Bar	Calm	..	Vessel stood too close into bar. Casualty caused by sea being very smooth, and outer bank having made since master's last visit	William Troup.
" 29	Aotea, s.s., 1½ years	Schooner	90	11	..	Ballast ..	Stranded; partial loss	Retaining wall, west side of entrance, Patea River	S.E.	Fresh breeze	Casualty caused by set of tide and change of wind to S.E., driving vessel on to top of broken piles of western training-wall	William Tinney.

Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, not given; printing (1,675 copies, exclusive of diagrams, &c.), £33 15s.