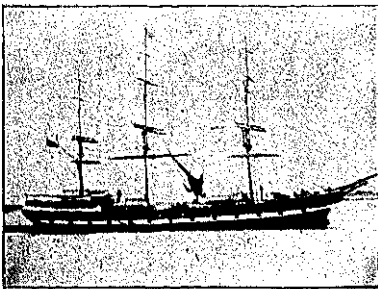


washed overboard or smashed on the skids. A photograph is shown of this old salt, who, though a fine seaman, would scarcely be happy as the commander of one of the present-day passenger steamers. The *Loch Awe* covered the distance from London to New Zealand in six weeks' less time than the *James Wishart* and *Queen of Nations*. These two ships left London and Belfast, respectively, on the same day, just three days before the *Loch Awe* left London, and they arrived here on July 5, 1874, in time to see the record-breaker discharged and almost ready for sea again.

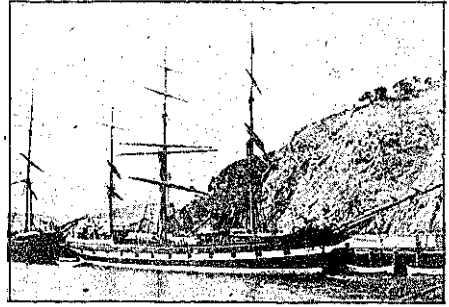
The later ships acquired by the Company also included some fast sailers, notably the *Turakina*, *Otaki*, *Opawa*, and *Waitangi*. The *Turakina*, a powerful iron ship, which traded to Auckland and Southern ports up to recent years, averaged runs of under 80 days on ten consecutive voyages. When on her last voyage from Liverpool to Auckland in 1894, running before a strong W.N.W. gale, she logged, for 48 hours, 666 knots. Passing Cape Leeuwin she ran 300 miles in 24 hours. In 1894-95 the *Turakina*, under the command of Captain J. J. Hamon, covered the distance from Wellington to the Lizard, with a cargo of frozen meat (she was one of the Company's refrigerators), in 69 days, and reached London two days later. In 1895 she sailed from London to Wellington in 85 days. The great stretch



SHIP "WAIKATO."

of the Southern Ocean, from the Cape of Good Hope to the Leeuwin, nearly 5,000 miles, was sailed over in sixteen days. On the voyage 328, 316, and 308 miles per day

were logged. It is recorded of the *Turakina* that on one voyage the Company's steamer *Ruapehu*, with sail set, and steaming full



SHIP "OTAKI."

speed, was unable to keep pace with the sailing-ship.

In 1877 the ship *Otaki* made a phenomenally fast passage from Port Chalmers to London. This ship (a photo of which is given) was a vessel of 1,014 tons register, and was commanded by Captain J. F. Milman. She broke all records by performing the homeward run in the remarkably smart time of 63 days from land to land, or 69 days from Port Chalmers into London Docks. The *Otaki* sailed from Port Chalmers on March 11th, 1877, left the New Zealand coast four days later, reported in the English Channel on May 17th, and docked in London on May 19th.

While on the subject of fast sailing passages, reference must also be made to the Shaw, Savill and Albion Company's line, some of whose ships were remarkably good sailers. The *Crusader*, an iron ship of beauty and speed, well known in all the chief ports of New Zealand, made a record passage of 65 days from London to Port Chalmers—one of the fastest long-distance voyages made by sailing-ships—and since that year she put up some remarkably good performances under canvas. The fine old ship *Lady Jocelyn*, as well known in the passenger trade as in the refrigerating business, was also a fast vessel. One of the last voyages (1889) was completed in her good time of 78 days from Lyttelton to London.