

RETURN of WRECKS and CASUALTIES to SHIPPING reported to the Marine Department—*continued*.

Date of Casualty.	Name of Vessel, also Age and Class.	Rig.	Registered Tonnage.	Number of		Nature of	Number of Lives lost.	Place where Casualty occurred.	Wind.		Decision of Court of Inquiry, &c.	Name of Master.
				Crew.	Passengers.	Cargo.			Direction.	Force.		
1896.												
Jan. 28	Waitapu, s.s., 9 years	Schooner	40	8	1	Wool ..	Stranded; partial loss	Bar of Patea River ..	N.W.	Light ..	Vessel caught while on bar in a heavy breaker, causing her stern to strike heavily, carrying away rudder, rudder post, and shoe	John Edward Westrup.
Feb. 8	Waitapu, s.s., 9 years	Schooner	40	..	..	Nil ..	Fire on board; total loss	On Patent Slip, Evans Bay, Wellington	Cal'm	..	Vessel was on slip undergoing repairs, which were nearly completed. Fire was discovered about 2 a.m.; but evidence failed to disclose its origin	John Edward Westrup.
" 14	Mabinapua, s.s., 14 years	Schooner	239	25	28	General	Thrust-shaft broken	Off Stephen's Island, Cook Strait	Cal'm	..	While steaming full speed, thrust-shaft of starboard engine was found to have broken right off	William J. Newton.
" 17	Neptune, s.s., 13 years	Schooner	44	8	..	General	Broken shaft; lost propeller	Dillon's Point, Wairau River	Cal'm	..	Accident caused by propeller striking sunken snag	Samuel Clark.
" 28	Reliance, 21 years	Ketch ..	65	4	..	Railway iron	Stranded; total loss	Hind's Point, Wellington Harbour; about one mile N.N.E. from Pencarrow Light	N.W.	Strong gale	Vessel missed stays when trying to go about, and afterwards dragged her anchors and went ashore. The immediate cause of the casualty was the breaking of the jib-sheet at a critical moment	Frithjof Wilhelm Hultgren.
March 10	Buteshire, s.s., 3 years	Schooner	3636	65	10	Frozen meat and N.Z. produce	Loss of propeller-blades	Lat. 50° 5' S.; long. 153° 26' W.	..	..	Vessel lost two propeller-blades; put back to Auckland (1,671 miles), went into dock, and put on four new blades	John Cuthbert.
" 19	John Bell, 11 years	Schooner	91	6	1	Railway iron	Stranded; total loss	Rock near Cape Terawhiti	N.	Strong ..	Loss of vessel mainly due to gross negligence on part of mate, and master wrong in going below without giving more definite instructions. Master ordered to pay £8 8s. costs, and mate to pay balance, £2 11s., and his certificate suspended for six months	Henry Williams.
" 25	Poherna, s.s., 6 years	Schooner	749	..	..	General	Loss of life only	Off Moeraki ..	..	..	An A.B. named Karl Kaverer, while engaged aloft making fast the maintrysail, fell on to the deck about 8 a.m., and died from the effect of the injuries received about 5 p.m. same day, in Oamaru Hospital	James V. Bentley.