

Messrs. Swan, Hunter & Wigham-Richardson's S.S. No. 735.

It is submitted the Builders be informed that the sketches showing stiffening of watertight bulkheads, and section with amended thickness of upper deck plating, have been received.

With regard to the section showing amended thickness of upper deck plating, the Builders should be informed that it is not considered advisable to make any reduction in the scantlings previously approved for the topsides and decks, or for the outside plating, as stated in the Secretary's letter of the 16th instant.

With reference to the proposed stiffening of the watertight bulkheads, it should be pointed out that the 15" x 9/20" plate stiffeners with double face angles were approved where the height was to the orlop deck only, viz; 21 feet. Where the orlop deck is dispensed with, and the stiffeners extend to the lower deck (29 feet), they should either be increased in breadth and thickness, or be fitted in conjunction with horizontal stiffeners.

Before dealing with the plan, a further sketch should be submitted showing the stiffening the Builders propose for the increased depth, which might be forwarded with the detailed deck plans requested by the Secretary's letter of the 16th instant.

The use of high tensile steel proposed for the watertight bulkheads and other parts of the structure will of course depend upon the results of the experiments ^{that will be} ~~made~~ upon that material, *as arranged.*

*Dr. 16.7.04
Amd. 19th
Sp. C. H. W. C.*

C. J.

*J. P. H.
19/7/04*



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