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Letter received from the Surveyors, Greenock,  
dated 23rd January, 1918 :-

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Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 21st instant regarding the First Entry Reports on the new steamers "ARDGAY" and "MAHSUD", and with reference to the requirements of the Specification for carrying Oil Fuel in Double Bottom Tanks, I beg to state that air pipes and sounding pipes are fitted as shown on the approved Pumping Plans, viz:-

"ARDGAY" :- Air Pipes are 2" diameter, three being fitted in Nos. 1 and 5, and four in Nos. 2, 3 and 4 tanks

"MAHSUD" :- Air Pipes are 2" diameter ; two in No. 1, four in Nos. 2, 3, 5, 7 and 8.

The sounding pipes to the two after end tanks are fitted in the tunnel with screwed caps, and no independent sounding pipes have been fitted to deck.

The tanks were tested as required by the Rules, viz., double bottom tanks with a head of water to the height of the load water line, and the deep tank by a head of water 8 feet above the top of the tank.

As stated in the Reports, the suction tail pipes to tanks are fitted with a bell mouth of about 9" diameter; the Builders usual practice.

I may add that in vessels now under construction the Builders are fitting 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " air pipes to tanks, and sounding pipes to deck in way of the after tanks.

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The Builders state their instructions were not to  
alter their arrangements or scrap any material already  
arranged for or fitted.

I am, &c.,

(Sgd) R.Bennett.



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