

Sunderland No. 913

Docks Register Office

Sunderland 14 April 1858

Charles Graham Esq.
Sir

Your favour of the 6th Inst^l has been duly received and in reply to the Letter regarding the *Sir Neptune* being elapsed only 8 years with which the Master is dissatisfied. The explanation Mr. Munton has to offer, he having drawn the report is as follows -

1st The vessel is a fully timbered and in part plank'd before he was called upon by the Agent of the Master to superintend the Building Specially: and was told "that the agreement was for an eight year ship". But finding the frame so generally good in quality and fairly squared throughout he determined to be guided by the quality of the workmanship.



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also the Fastenings that might be applied: whether or not
to give the turn the chance and benefit of sealing the
9 Year Trade.

The Plank in Question of Iron, a few inches above
the first foothook head was upon the rope when he
undertook the inspection as Special Surveyor, and bearing
in mind the Quality of Material used and general
workmanship and Fastenings: ~~he did not consider the~~
being in fact far Superior to what the Rules require for
the 8 Year Class. He did not consider it was worth a Fair
to call upon the Builder to remove this Strake of Iron.
Particularly so, as his Contract was for 8 Years and the
following explanation we hope will further satisfy the
Committee upon the point. Viz That the Bilge Strake
are worked in regular breadth from the floor head
upward and the upper Strake happens to be as much
in breadth below as it is above the foothook head

and this particular plank is one of the thick Bridg^{ing}
planks: so that in fact the vessel is really stronger
than if it had been a 3rd Foreign Oak Plank

We believe the Ship is in London at present
and it will afford us some satisfaction if you will
direct all or any of the London Surveyors to go on
board and closely examine every part: not doubting
but they will fully concur in the General Report
given from this office, and confirm the opinion
expressed in the recommendation for the Ship to be
Classed 9 A 1.

Hoping this explanation will be satisfactory

We remain Sir

Yours obed^t Serv^t

Bourton Wenton



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Sunderland

Printer & Dentist

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Neptune

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London

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2 White Sea Lamb

Charles Graham Esq

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Subscribed
by Robert
Graham Esq

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