# SHORE SUPPORT

here are many different facets to the shore-based aspect of maritime activity, not all of which can be covered here. It is often difficult to define its boundaries, for the effects of it can stretch a long way from the sea – in homes, offices, counting houses, warehouses and so on. Many roads and railway lines only exist in their current form because of the connection with a port, but it would be straying too far from the subject to look at them in any detail.

Architecture of customs houses, dockyard buildings and so on is also slightly beyond the scope of this work but they were often buildings of great prestige in the case of royal dockyards, commercial docks and official premises such as harbour trust offices and harbourmaster's houses. Eighteenth-century customs houses were often the main representative of government authority in the area and they too were distinctive and imposing buildings. Dry docks and building slips, on the other hand, are very definitely maritime and their preservation, after the original function is lost, is often a difficult issue. Dry docks can also hold preserved ships, as in the case of *HMS Victory* at Portsmouth and the ships in Chatham Historic Dockyard. Other ships can be kept afloat in wet docks, as in Merseyside Maritime Museum.

Cranes can be very evocative, especially for those with memories of the great shipbuilding rivers in their heyday when they dominated the horizon. They are found in shipyard and harbour sites, both for building ships and for loading and unloading them. They are of course far too big for indoor display and are usually kept on their original sites, but their height and distinctive shapes make them very attractive objects.

Maritime documents are a very different shore-based field, although many of them, such as log books, are not actually generated ashore. However the main reason why so many of them have survived and are to be found in archives and museum collections is that they were mostly produced for presentation to the authorities on land. These included certificates of registration, muster books, crew agreements and log books. A knowledge of these is useful in several ways. It might help to identify documents already in a museum collection, or brought in by visitors, and to assess their importance. It might help a curator to identify possible areas of research for cataloguing or exhibition of other objects such as ship models or personal items. Documents such as muster books and shipping lists tend to be rather arcane unless they are interpreted properly. Most museums have some kind of archive collection and many of these have a strong maritime element. In addition there are many relevant documents to be found in county records offices, the National Archives and the National Maritime Museum which can all aid research.

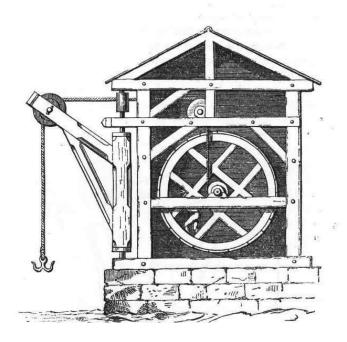
### CRANES AND CARGO HANDLING BY ANDY KING, SENIOR COLLECTIONS OFFICER -INDUSTRIAL AND MARITIME HISTORY, BRISTOL MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

Jib cranes and derricks (the latter named after a 17th-century hangman) are devices for lifting heavy loads and depositing them at some distance from their original position. The two terms are relatively interchangeable, and to further confuse matters, a 'derrick crane' is one whose radius can be altered.

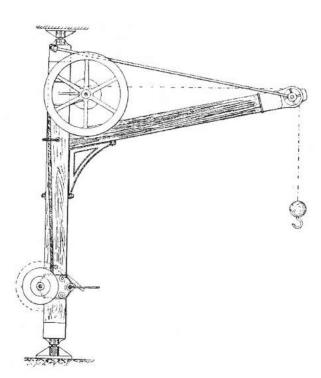
Cranes are poorly represented in maritime preservation because of the difficulties inherent in their size and because they are often modernised by flourishing ports, and quickly demolished by failing ones. Where large cranes survive, it is often their landscape value rather than their historical significance that wins the preservation case. Maritime museums care for relatively few cranes.

#### **CARGO HANDLING CRANES**

Lifting devices to move cargo to and from ships' holds have always been indispensable aboard ship and in ports. Derricks could be fashioned relatively easily with booms and masts aboard ship, sufficing for most loading and unloading except the heaviest cargoes. To tackle these, larger ports provided treadwheel cranes from as early as Roman times. Once common, only two are known to survive today, in Harwich (originally used as a shipyard crane) and on the River Wey near Guildford.

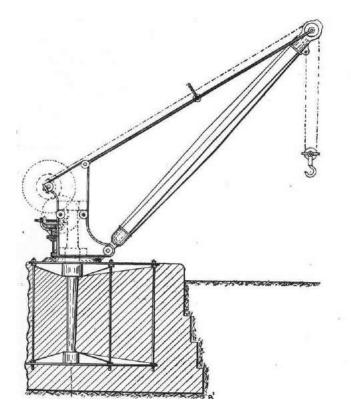


Treadmill Crane from Construction of Cranes and Machinery (1850), by Joseph Glynn p.27 Simple gallows cranes, sometimes with a stepped-down pulley arrangement to give mechanical advantage (known as whip cranes), were the most common type of crane to be found in ports of the time.



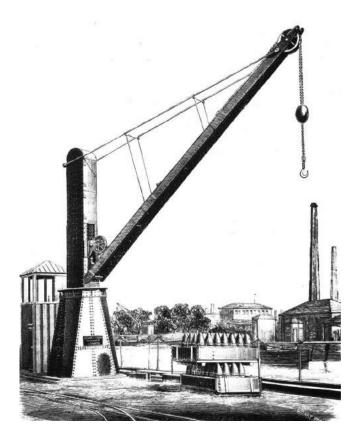
Gallows Crane from Notes on the Construction of Cranes and Lifting Machinery (1899) Edward Marks p.36 & p.56

At the beginning of the 19th century, iron increasingly began to replace timber in some parts of the construction of cranes. The new material facilitated the construction of gearing and allowed parts to be produced in large numbers, making the machines cheaper. Geared hand cranes with iron-stayed wooden jibs, followed by all-iron hand cranes, were common by the mid century.



Geared Hand Crane from Notes on the Construction of Cranes and Lifting Machinery (1899) Edward Marks, p.36 & p.56 Alternatives to manpower were also sought. Although water power was applied to some inland cranes, a source was seldom available at ports. Similarly, although steam was earlier applied to heavy lift cranes in docks and locomotive steam cranes became a common sight at ports with railway sidings, steam did not offer the speed necessary for loading and unloading steam and motor ships. A heavy lift steam crane survives at Bristol.

The hydraulic crane was the principal solution to quick cargo handling in the mid 19th century, and remained the main type until the early 20th century. Armstrong first produced them in 1847 and had made 1200 by 1855. Their installation could be combined with the control of bridges, lock gates and other machinery and contrivances on a port-wide system. Very few survive.



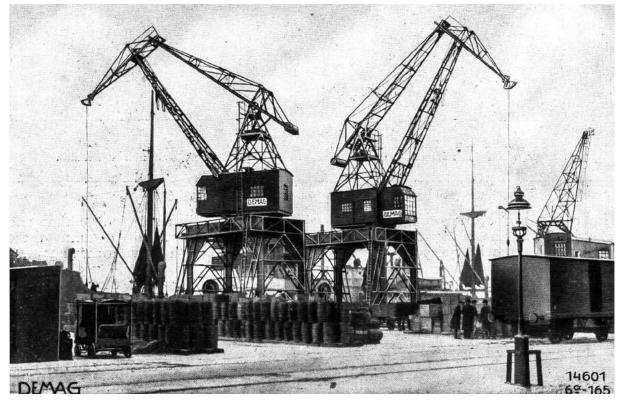
Hydraulic Crane from Notes on the Construction of Cranes and Lifting Machinery (1899), Edward Mark, p.56

The successor to hydraulic power was electricity. Electric cranes were first introduced at Southampton in 1893, but their almost universal adoption after the 1920s followed the development of the levelluffing variety. These cranes allow the load to remain at the same height when the jib is moved in and out, significantly increasing their speed of operation. Two common types evolved; the Toplis version has a mast behind the jib from which the hoist rope extends.



Toplis type level luffing cranes © Bristol Museums Galleries & Archives

The Babcock & Wilcox design has a short articulated section at the end of the jib which mirrors the movement of the main jib (in Bristol, these are known as 'flip-flop' cranes).



Babcock and Wilcox Level Luffing Cranes advert from The Engineer's Handbook, 1931

Where dockside cranes are still employed, both remain the common designs.

Similar designs of crane were used in both shipyard and cargo applications until the 1850s. The types diverged after this as dockside cranes developed for speed of loading, usually with quite low weight capacity. Shipyards needed heavy load ranges and height, resulting in designs such as the hammerhead or giant cranes, of which good examples survive in Glasgow.



Hammerhead Crane, Cammel Laird shipyard, Glasgow from Stothert & Pitt Electric Crane Catalogue No 12 (193) p.68

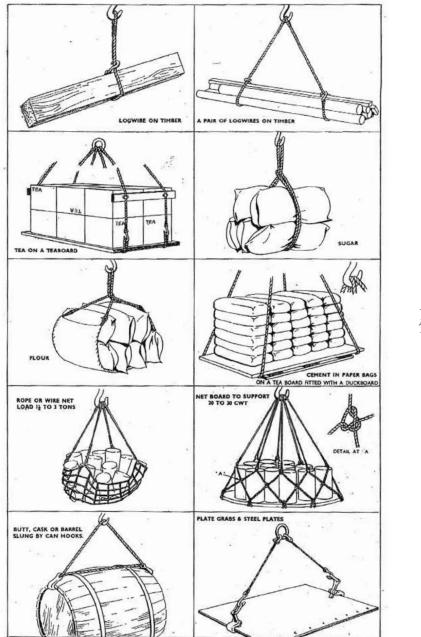
Other similar types survive elsewhere, still in use. Fairbairn cranes, like the Bristol example, were commonly supplied to fitting-out berths and to naval gun installation wharves, powered by steam or later by electricity.

#### **CRANES AND DERRICKS ABOARD SHIP**

For cargo vessels, shipboard cranes allowed freight to be loaded or removed at will rather than being dependent upon port authorities. Freight derricks on steam and motor vessels were a development of masts and booms used for these purposes on sailing ships. Powered winches close by provided the lift. The type and arrangement of the derricks aboard a vessel can give additional clues to its age and intended cargo. See Mike Stammers' article 'Deck Fittings & Deckhouses' in this publication for a fuller explanation.

#### HANDLING EQUIPMENT

Although cranes will be outside the scope of most museums to collect, there remains a wide range of cargo handling equipment used with them. Simple endless rope slings served to handle sacks and similar loads which could be bundled together. Nets were a development of this and could cope with a wider range of goods, particularly articles that would not compress slightly to make them secure inside a simple sling; frozen meat carcasses are an example. Tea or net boards were used where boxed or paper-sacked goods were common. Special slings and chains were developed to handle barrels, timber



and other commodities. Colourful and occasionally distinctly local names were often given to these bits of tackle; a 'snotter', for instance, is a rope sling with an eye at each end.

Methods of slinging cargo from The Manual of Seamanship, 1951, HMSO

Once landed on the quay, a whole variety of wheeled trucks was used to move cargo onward. Sack trucks in a bewildering variety of styles and sizes, trolleys, special purpose carts and, in some ports, sledges, all played their part. Other tools of note include the universally-used hook, in all its varieties, and special shovels for grain and powdered bulk ores. Each port will have its own range.

The almost ubiquitous adoption of palletisation, containers and the fork-lift truck has seen the demise and disappearance of the older forms of handling gear. These smaller items of gear are a fruitful area for collecting.

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Trade catalogues for suppliers of slings, trucks and tools, such as Slingsby and Davey

# 2

## DOCK STRUCTURES

### BY DR ADRIAN JARVIS, CURATOR OF PORT HISTORY, MERSEYSIDE MARITIME MUSEUM

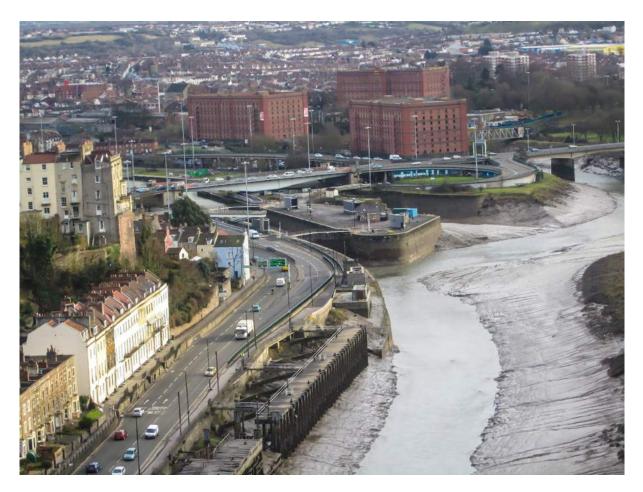


*Liverpool Pier Head from the Mersey Ferry. The building on the right is the Dock Offices.* © *Adrian Jarvis* 

Old port sites may contain a variety of artefacts, but much of their engineering is either too large to remove or buried deep in the ground. This thumbnail guide in the form of a glossary is intended to help identify and to an extent appraise, the fixed structures of such sites. Ports, however, fall into a number of different categories and the nature of their structures will vary accordingly. Fishing ports, for example, do not need great depths of water for deep vessels, but do need maximum freedom for vessels to come and go regardless of the state of the tide, which may in fact only be achievable by building quite deep. Some trades, such as oil or bulk grain importing, can make do with surprisingly modest structures because the weight of their cargo or of machinery to handle it never bears on the quayside. What follows, therefore, is intended to relate to a 'highest common factor' in ports that were designed for general trading in a variety of inward and outward goods. This is not just a matter of size: in relation to its objectives in 1880, the modest canal port of Ellesmere Port, bankrolled by the London & North Western Railway Company, was probably better designed and equipped than the Port of Bristol.



The basin of Ellesmere Port in the foreground with the lower basin below the locks. The river level is indicated by the lighthouse in the distance. © Adrian Jarvis



The port of Bristol has always been constrained by its site up a river which is not navigable at low tide. This shows the 19th-century Cumberland Basin which forms the main entrance to the Floating Harbour.

© Brian Lavery



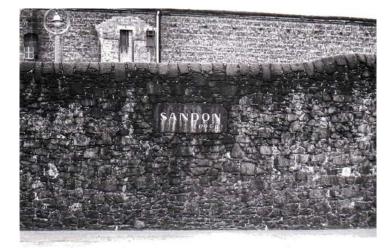
© Brian Lavery



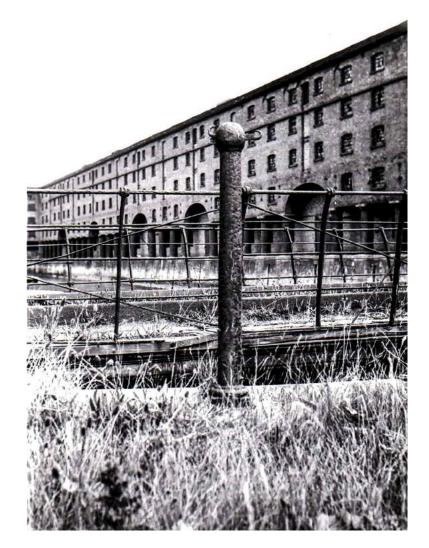
© Brian Lavery



Southampton is a very mixed port, with facilities for general cargo, containers, cruise ships and oil, as well as ferries. © Brian Lavery



Dock estates often had walls about 16ft high to control thieves and smugglers, but some, like this example at Sandon Dock in Liverpool, added a sense of mystery too. © Adrian Jarvis



Albert Dock in Liverpool was derelict from 1972 to 1983. The site had many interesting features including the cast iron double leaf swing bridge in the middle ground, which needed subtlety in its restoration. © Adrian Jarvis

#### **SAFETY NOTE:**

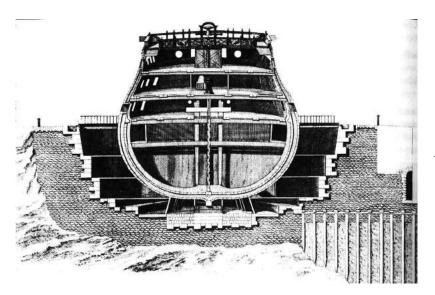
It is important to remember that old port sites often have machinery pits dotted about them. Investigation or recording requires caution: for example, never walk through puddles or over old bits of plywood lying on the ground, which might conceal a 40ft deep penstock shaft or similar. Other obvious hazards include entering buildings with unsound floors or roofs (a hard hat is not sufficient protection, although it helps) and puncture injuries from walking on sharp bits of metal – always wear safety boots.

Just as the best advice for avoiding an accident is to be somewhere else, remember that most dock structures belong or have belonged to some large bureaucratic organisation, be it a single-purpose port authority, a railway company or a local authority. Most of these bodies leave extensive archives and it is worth spending time checking that it really is necessary to get cold and wet to recover/record the object of your attention.

#### THE WATER REGIME

#### DRY DOCK

Strictly, this is a basin with retaining walls but no means of impounding water, and which therefore dries out at low water. In numerical terms, these were much the commonest type, but they were generally small. For the modern use of the term, see *graving dock*.



Section of a warship in a graving dock from 'Encyclopédie, ou dictionnaire raisonné des sciences, des arts et des métiers' by Denis Diderot



A topographical model of Chatham Dockyard c 1774, showing four empty dry docks (known as graving docks in commercial ports) to the left, with two building slips showing ships in different stages of construction. SLR2151 © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

#### **GRAVING DOCK**

A dock with outward facing gates, and which can be drained for ship painting or repair: the oldest surviving commercial example (1765) is in Liverpool. They became very numerous in the late 19th century. Early examples drained by gravity; steam pumps were added at sites with low tidal range and elsewhere as depths increased. Other essential features were: a line of blocks of adjustable height and sufficient strength to support the keel of the vessel or vessels; numerous bollards to hold the vessel(s) in position during docking; stepped sides ('altar courses') to rest the shores on; penstocks.



Herculaneum Dock, Liverpool. There are four graving docks to the left, while in the middle is a lifting dock with heavy lift cranes for fitting engines, propeller shafts, etc. Just visible in the left background is the pump house. © Adrian Jarvis

#### HALF TIDE DOCK

A basin with one pair of inward facing gates, and storm gates facing outwards. Such docks worked by levelling with the tide and opening the gates about half way up the flow tide, closing them when the ebb reaches the same point. (The timing depends on the depth of the dock and the height of the tide.) Half tide docks could also be used as giant entrance locks for fully impounded docks within a second pair of single gates.

#### WET DOCK

Also known as fully impounded, this is a dock which has two pairs of inward facing gates between itself and tidal waters. This may be achieved by an entrance lock or by having a passage gate leading from a half tide dock, which is closed when the half tide gates are open. Earliest examples date from the late 18th century, and they were virtually universal after 1900 for docks in major ports, though many old installations served into the 1960s or even longer. In exceptional cases all three types may be found side by side at the same entrance/passage to optimise the use of the passage by a variety of types of vessel.

#### LOCK

This is a masonry chamber with inward facing gates at each end, allowing vessels to come and go at a wider range of states of the tide than would otherwise be possible. Fully locked entrances first appeared in canal ports, but by the early 19th century were found in major ports.



A typical river or canal lock at Stratford upon Avon. In this case the gates are operated by hand. The ones nearest the observer are open, the others are closed. © Brian Lavery

#### ARTIFICIAL IMPOUNDING

As the tides dropped from spring to neap, the level in wet docks gradually fell, and pumping in tidal water helped maintain the dock's capacity. There are occasional examples of these powered by waterwheels in the early 19th century, and steam from 1860s. During the late 19th century some huge examples were installed, lifting hundreds of tons of water per minute through each pump. Some modern ones (e.g. Birkenhead) are still in use: they are normally only found in large ports.

#### PENSTOCKS

These are control 'valves' for use in gates or culverts to allow water to pass through or not, as desired. Typically they consisted of a flat iron casting with brass facing strips, which bore down on a hard wooden seating around the hole that they controlled, sealed there when in the closed position by the differential water pressure. Various lifting methods were used, but the most common type used large square form screw threads, turned with a giant 'key' by up to four men. Increased size in later years led to the adoption of direct coupled hydraulic rams.

#### SLUICES

Sluices are culverts designed to release impounded water at low tide, hopefully removing silt from around entrances in the process. They may be fed from working docks or from backwater reservoirs – non navigable docks, which fill at high water. The latter were fairly common in small ports, especially at tidal docks. Sluicing culverts may be huge, with cross-sectional areas of 100 square foot or more.

#### MASONRY

#### **RETAINING WALLS**

A hole in the ground with vertical sides will have its sides fall in until they reach their angle of repose: preventing that is the role of the retaining wall. The first docks had timber 'walls' with ground ties behind them, but Liverpool's first dock (opened 1715) had brick 'gravity' walls with a slight batter (a slope that recedes from bottom to top) and with stone copings. At the beginning of the 19th century both Jessop and Rennie adopted the stone 'banana wall', with a very pronounced curved batter but from the 1830s onwards, straight stone walls with a small batter predominated, though cast iron sheet piling with ground anchors was occasionally used. In the 1860s concrete, both as mass concrete and laid in large pre cast blocks, came back into favour (the ancient Romans had used mass concrete), but these were gravity structures, not to be confused with the first of the modern ferro concrete 'strength structures' which did not appear until the beginning of the 20th century.



Some of the stonework on the Great Britain dry dock in Bristol. © Brian Lavery, with permission of ss Great Britain Trust

#### **GROUND SURFACES**

Long runner stones for wheeled vehicles have been used since ancient times and continued to be laid until the age of the motor vehicle. Setts (small rectangular stone paving blocks) were used to provide grip for the back edge of draughthorses' shoes. Where neither attribute was necessary (for vehicles or horses) it was not uncommon to use beach cobbles, which were cheaper. If, of course, they were someone else's unwanted ballast they were cheaper still. Wood blocks were laid where the sound of cart horse shoes and cart wheels might disturb the deliberations of important people. Hot rolled asphalt and similar surfaces were originally confined to sheds, where they provided low rolling resistance for porters' trucks, only becoming widespread outdoors in the twentieth century.

#### A note on types of stone

The general rule was the pragmatic one of using whatever was cheap at the time and reasonably suitable. Good quality sandstone was often favoured for its ease of working, but it was easily damaged by abrasion, so granite copings might be used even where granite was expensive. Almost anything went in the 'backing' or rubble fill in the retaining walls, sometimes stone from the excavation of the the dock itself. Setts were sometimes of granite, but igneous inclusions from limestone areas were also favoured. Common bricks were used, particularly in canal or railway ports where they might be available as a cheap back cargo but high grade engineering bricks such as 'Dudley Blues' were preferred, and brick paviors may be found for the same reason. Rubble fill was also a useful way of getting rid of stray boulders from the arisings (waste products from the excavations): now they were dignified by the name of 'plums' because they went in the rubble fill 'pudding'.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

#### HYDRAULIC PUMPING STATIONS

Initially, hydraulic power for cranes was provided by static head, whether natural (as at Liverpool) or artificial (as at Grimsby). The invention of the accumulator (automobile storage battery) enabled the building, from the early 1850s onwards, of high pressure (usually about 750 lb/in2) pumping systems. Whatever their architectural style, they are normally recognisable by their squat accumulator towers. By 1900 all medium and large size ports, and even a few small ones, had hydraulic systems working – among other things – cranes, capstans, gate engines, penstocks and movable bridges.



Horizontal hydraulic supply pump. This Armstrong design appears in a huge variety of shapes and sizes from about 1870. © Adrian Jarvis



The distinctive keyhole-shaped fit of a hydraulic capstan of c 1880. Note the excellent granite masonry. © Adrian Jarvis



A dockside capstan in Liverpool © Brian Lavery



Hydraulic centre-point swing bridge across the Manchester Ship Canal. The tower on the left houses the accumulator. © Adrian Jarvis

#### **HYDRAULIC MAINS**

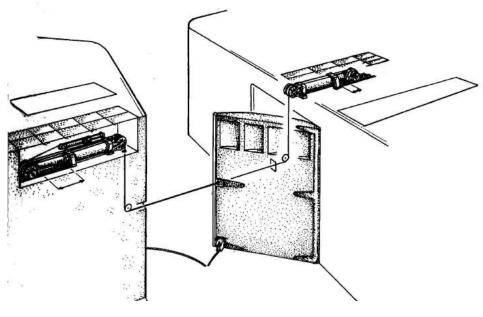
These distributed water to the appliances, and can normally be recognised by their distinctive joints, with oval flanges and two square headed bolts. Some systems used return mains, often with ordinary threaded joints, to recycle the water; others let it run to waste.

#### **DOCK GATES**

Most docks have mitre gates, invented in the late fifteenth century, and used from the earliest English docks to the present day. They are fitted 'mitre inwards' to retain water, but because they drift open if the level outside exceeds that inside, in half tide entrances they normally have a pair of 'storm gates' outside them, facing outwards. Other forms of gate, including rising flap, rolling caisson and radial sector have the advantage of not requiring storm gates but have rarely proved successful in the long term. Iron gates appeared in the 1840s, but never completely superseded wood (especially greenheart) before being themselves superseded by steel.

#### **GATE ENGINES**

Early examples of these tend to be reversible, with one engine per gate, often operating in the vertical plane worked by handspikes. (The word engine was used in its archaic sense meaning the outcome of ingenuity. It does not necessarily mean a prime mover.) Later practice was to use horizontal drums with four engines, one to open and one to close each gate. In the 1850s the size and weight of gates rocketed, making hand operation both slow and expensive and hence hydraulic power desirable. At first these worked with rotative hydraulic motors pulling on chains much like those of handgear, but giant versions of a warehouse 'jigger' (two per gate) laid on their sides in a pit gradually supplanted them. In the 1880s we find the first direct acting hydraulic engines, with a double-acting hydraulic cylinder coupled to the gate. Many modern gates still work in this manner, using dedicated hydraulic 'power packs' instead of mains power.



Hydraulic dock gates from Brysson Cunningham, Dock Engineering, London, 1906

#### **SHIP CAISSONS**

These are buoyant structures constructed to fit precisely in a 'groove' at a dock entrance when placed in position and sunk: the entrance is opened by pumping out the caisson and moving it aside. They were more favoured for graving docks than others.



The caisson in the dock where the Great Britain is preserved in Bristol © Brian Lavery, with permission of ss Great Britain Trust



Modern installations in the Port of Liverpool © Brian Lavery

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F. M. G. Du Plat Taylor, Docks, Wharves and Piers, London, 1928

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For some useful printed papers and extensive further references, see:

A. Jarvis (editor), Port & Harbour Engineering (Volume 6 in Studies in the History of Civil Engineering), Aldershot, 1998

# 3

### MARITIME DOCUMENTS BY BRIAN LAVERY, CURATOR EMERITUS, NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM

Ship operation has always needed a good deal of paperwork in modern times, indeed one essential qualification of an officer or a naval warrant officer was the ability to read and write and keep accounts. Around 1800 a naval captain had to produce 25 different books and forms before he could claim his pay. Some were quite simple such as the 'Certificate of no. backstays shifted or top-masts lost'. Others, such as the log book and muster books which had to be kept up during the voyage, were far more complex and informative.

Merchant ship masters and officers had to keep log books for navigational purposes, and to let the owners know what they were doing. There was increasing safety regulation throughout the 19th century, which led to certificates, surveys and so on. But not all maritime documentation was retained. Some, such as naval logs and muster books, were regarded as highly important and were stored through the centuries. Minor or personal documents were often thrown away when they were no longer needed, and only rare examples survive. These are the kinds of items which might be found in small museum collections, or brought in by members of the public.

This chapter deals with documents which are specific to ship operation and shipboard life. There are many others in maritime collections related to naval strategy and administration, biography, commercial operations, port history and so on.

#### **ROYAL NAVY DOCUMENTS**

The Royal Navy had a central administration – the Admiralty in Whitehall – until 1964, when it was taken over by the Ministry of Defence, so unlike the merchant marine most of its important records were left to a single source, and many have been preserved. The main body is in the National Archives at Kew, with other collections, including lieutenants' logs, in the Caird Library and Archive at the National Maritime Museum.

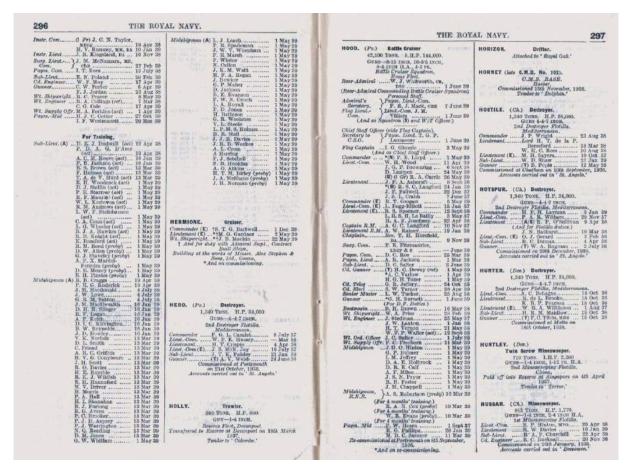
#### NAVY LISTS

Lists of naval officers were published occasionally from 1719 onwards. *Steel's Navy List* began in 1782 and in 1814 it was superseded by the official *Navy List*. This included a list of officers according to seniority, indices, and lists of ships and their officers, including warrant officers such as pursers and boatswains. Unofficial lists included Lean's, which was published from 1881 onwards, and which gave a few details of officers' careers.

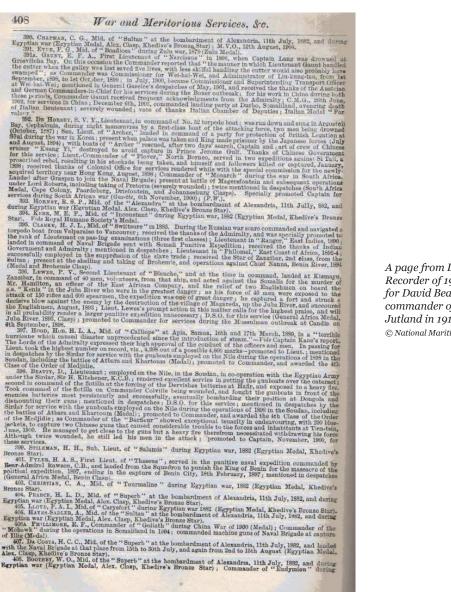
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#### Pages from the Navy List of 1884

© National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London



The June 1939 Navy List, including the officers of the ill-fated battlecruiser Hood © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London



A page from Lean's Navy List and Naval Recorder of 1905. It includes an entry for David Beatty, later to gain fame as commander of the battlecruiser fleet at Jutland in 1916.

© National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

398. BEATTY, D., Lieutenant; employed on the Nile, in the Soudan, in co-operation with the Egyptian Army under the Sirdar, Sir H. Kitchener, K.C.B.; rendered excellent service in getting the gunboats over the cataract; second in command of the flotilla at the forcing of the Dervishes batteries at Hafir, and exposed to a heavy fire. Took command of the flotilla on Commander Colville being wounded, and fought the gunboats in front of the enemies batteries most persistently and successfully, eventually bombarding their position at Dongola and dismounting their guns; mentioned in despatches; D.S.O. for this service; mentioned in despatches by the Sirdar for service with the gunboats employed on the Nile during the operations of 1898 in the Soudan, including the battles of Atbara and Khartoum (Medal); promoted to Commander, and awarded the 4th Class of the Order of the Medjidie; as Commander of the "Barfleur" showed exceptional tenacity in endeavouring, with 200 bluejackets, to capture two Chinese guns that caused considerable trouble to the forces and inhabitants at Tien-tsin, June, 1900. He managed to get close to the guns but a heavy fire therefrom necessitated withdrawing his force Although twice wounded, he still led his men in the attack; promoted to Captain, November, 1900, for these services.

#### LOG BOOKS

The main purpose of a log book is navigational, to record the data used to calculate the position of the ship. It may also contain other information, for example stores and important passengers taken on board, punishments in naval ships, etc. It is divided into columns recording different aspects of the navigation. Until about 1805 the ship's day usually began at noon when the officers took a sight of the sun at noon; this can often cause confusion when reading logbooks, as a land-based day goes from midnight to midnight, but afloat, from noon to noon.

Adjacent pages from the log book of HMS Surprise, 1799 © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

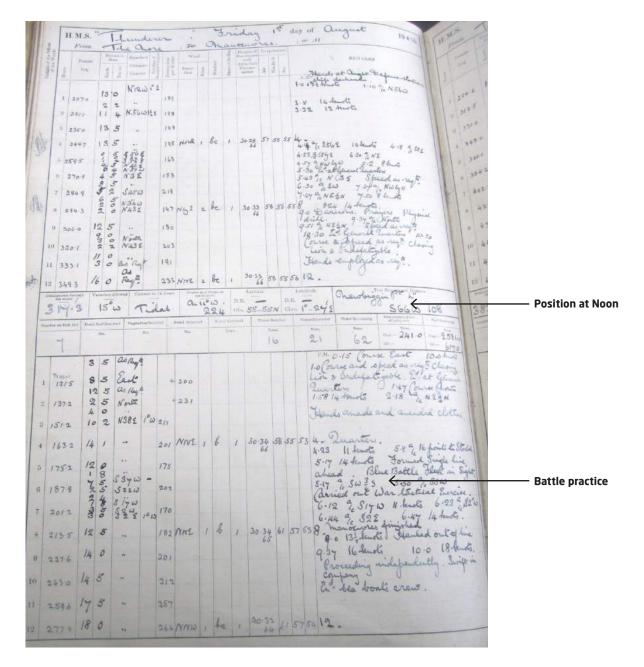
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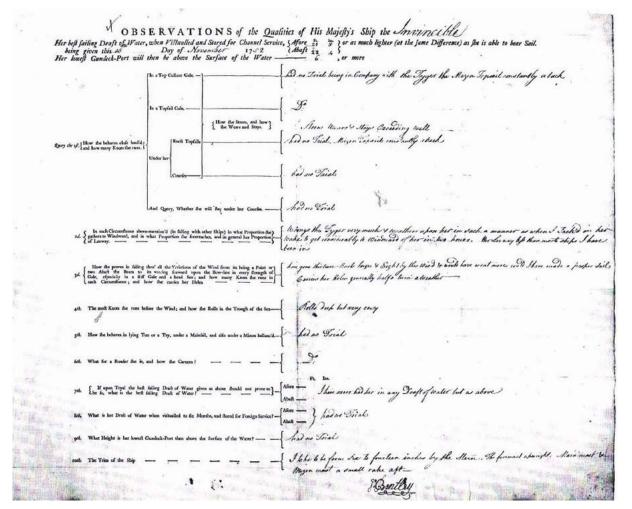
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#### The log of HMS Thunderer during the annual naval manoeuvres of 1913 © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

Details of the column headings



#### **SAILING REPORTS**



Sailing reports were compiled for individual ships during the 18th century and are mostly held in the National Archives. This one is for the Invincible, captured from the French in 1747. © The National Archives

#### **MUSTER BOOKS**

The purser of each Royal Navy ship had to keep a record of the men on board, including their date of entry to the ship, their rating, the amount paid to them, clothing and tobacco issued and even in some periods treatment for venereal diseases. The Navy Board also kept more or less the same information in the ships' pay books. Each muster or pay book contains several lists. The first and by far the largest is the general one of the officers and crew. There are separate lists for boys of different classes, for marines and for supernumeraries of different types, according to whether they are borne for victuals only, for reduced victuals, or for wages and victuals. The general section usually starts with the first officers appointed to the ship, and also the 'widows' men', fictitious seaman who were borne at the rate of one per hundred man with their wages going to relief funds for naval widows. Seamen gradually begin to appear in greater numbers, often drafted in from receiving ships or other vessels. After that every officer and man is recorded from the time of joining the ship.

The book consists of a series of double-page spreads divided into columns. The first one has the man's number from the date of entry – he would keep this for his whole time on board, apart from any time he might have served as a supernumerary or boy. The next column contains the date of entry, and 'appearance' means the date on which he actually appeared on board. This was often left blank as being identical to the previous column. Then came the man's name, usually forename followed by surname. The next column was to indicate whether he was 'prest or not' or similar form of words – the actual information given here varied in nature and quality and was not always reliable. The next column, from 1764 onwards, gave the man's age on joining the ship, followed by the date and place of birth. The column on 'quality' referred to his rating and might record changes, either up or down, during the period of that muster. The column on discharges usually included D if discharged to another ship; Ds if sent to sick quarters; R if he was believed to have deserted; and the callous DD for discharged dead. The date of discharge was in the next column, and the reason was given. It might be promotion, 'unserviceable' on medical survey, or turning over to another, named, ship. The opposite page of the muster book includes details of various deductions from the man's wages including slop clothes, trusses for ruptures, buying of dead men's clothes, hammocks and wages remitted to family ashore.

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A double page from the muster book of HMS Surprise © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

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#### **SERVICE RECORDS**

From 1853 onwards, seamen normally entered the navy as boys and signed on to serve ten or later twelve years after the age of 18. The service records of individuals are held in the National Archives and can mostly be accessed online. Stokers entered as adults, also for twelve years in normal times. During times of expansion, for example in the years before the First World War, men might be entered for five years with the fleet and seven in the reserve.

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The entry for Richard Gates, 1854 © The National Archives

#### **CAPTAINS' ORDER BOOKS**

There was no obligation for a captain to produce a set of standing orders for his officers and crew, but many did around 1800; though only limited numbers have survived, as they were not sent in to any official body. Often they give much detail on how the crew lived, or was supposed to live.

The boy to remain stationary in charge with the salt box given amadili rever to permit any man not belonging to his gun to take his powder, or to deliver his box to any other person than fig. 3. By nearly the same method of exercise the man agement of a grounder gun and 32 pounder care -ronade is to be learned, observing that the duties of the ten men and boy quartered to an 18 pounder are to be executed by only seven men as follows: the eight men fig: 3and 5, 4and 6, 7and 10, Dand boy, are to be reduced to four men, so that fig: 3 will do the duty of 3 and 5, fig: 4 the duty of Land b, fig: 5 the duty of Jand 10, fig: 7 the duty of I and boy, fig: b will do the duchy of 1st captain, and fig: Jand 2 will be as in the decercise of an 18 pounder

A page from Captain Riou's order book for the frigate Amazon. He was killed in the ship at the Battle of Copenhagen under Nelson in 1801. RUSI/NM/235/ER/3/11 © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

#### **MIDSHIPMEN'S JOURNALS**

From the 18th century until the 1950s, midshipmen were expected to keep illustrated journals of their sea time and often they produced works of considerable artistic skill, or with intimate detail of shipboard life. Many of these are still in private hands.

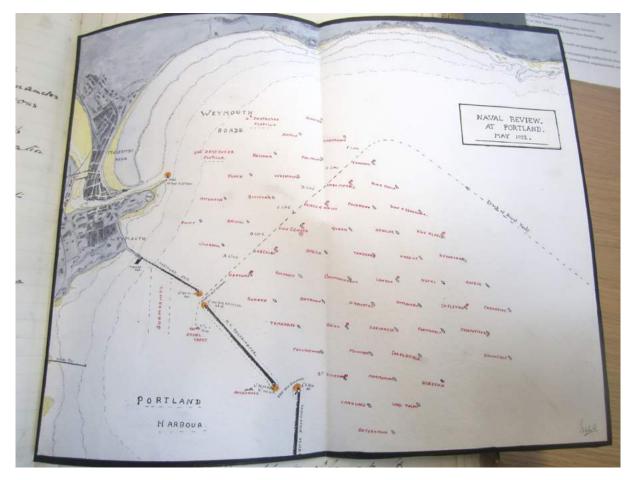
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court, which was flooded, during themoring. Skated a little more in the afternoon, then tried to flood it again. It was preesing hard all the time, so that it was rather cold work.

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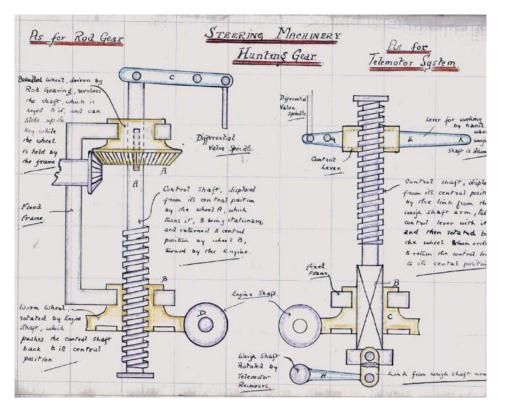
minutes to & when we found that Breakfast was at d; so we were late int me got breakfast all right And nothing much but walk about all the morning I sailed at 1. Walked about all the afternoon . Tout in ammention at Spithead ? suiled for Plymonth'. Fell-queer During supper so I left & felt better after wards. Turned in each. Wednesday 16 Java Sch Turned out early, I after heakfoot Walked about with Benwell. Got- into Ply month at about n 8 mote home of prote up my diary as far as this full stop.

Herbert Richmond's journal on board HMS Winchester in 1886 is more personal than most. RIC/1/1 © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

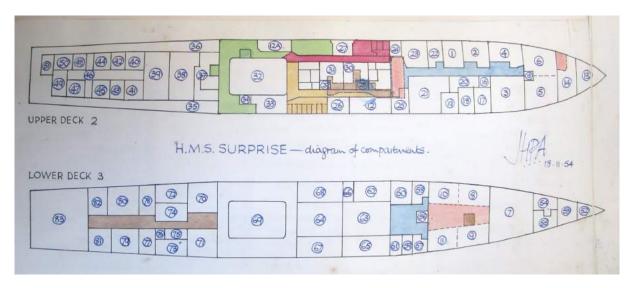


The journal of Midshipman WS Mann on the battlecruiser Invincible from 1911-12 includes a diagram of the fleet review at Portland.

JOD/193/1 © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London



From the engineering notes kept by R A P Mountfield, a special entry cadet, c 1928.  $_{\odot}$  Brian Lavery



HMS Surprise as Royal Yacht before the Britannia was completed. 41 is the Queen's cabin, 45 is the Duke of Edinburgh's. From the journal kept by Midshipman J H P Allen, 1953-55.

JOD/223/1 © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

## WARRANT OFFICERS' ACCOUNTS

All warrant officers – the gunner, carpenter and boatswain in the days of sail – were expected to keep detailed accounts of the stores under their charge and send them to the Navy Board. Sometimes these give valuable information on life on the ship.

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The carpenter's accounts of the 74-gun Revenge in 1805, including lists of stores thrown overboard and damage done during the Battle of Trafalgar.

ADL/D/9 O National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

#### **COMMISSIONS**

Every lieutenant, commander, captain or admiral was issued with a commission signed by some of the Lords of the Admiralty, or by the commander-in-chief if he was promoted to fill a vacancy on a foreign station. A separate commission was issued for each promotion, even including promotion, for example, from third to second lieutenant on the same ship.

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A manuscript commission of 1703 © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

power Sig? Rear Amiral 3756 Curr of His Majesty's Ships a selels. William Manley - - hereby appointed Suchemant - of His Majefty's Sloop - the Falcon Y Virtue of the Power and Authority to me given, I do hereby confi-- tute and appoint you distinguish and of His Majefty's diago -- tute and appoint you distributed of His Majefty's diagonal the calcent willing and requiring you forthwith to go on Board and take upon you the Charge and Command frittenaut - in her accordingly: firietly charging and commanding the Officers mpany of the faid Jargo - to behave themthe vierne of the and Company of the faid *Margo* to behave them-felves jointly and feverally, in their refpective Employments with all due Refpect and Obelience unto you their faid *Contenant* and you likewife to obferve and execute the General and printed Inftructions, and you likewife to obferve and execute the General and printed Inftructions, and fuch Orders and Directions as you (hall from Time to Time receive from mer Deceales And for fo doing this thall be your Warrant: Given under my Hand and Seal this County Service. Hereof nor you nor any of you may fail as you will answer the Contrary at your Peril, And for fo doing this thall be your Warrant: Given under my Hand and Seal this County Soft The Day of Networker 1748 In the Theory Second Year of His Majefty's Reign. By Command of the Amiral.

This one was issued by Admiral Sir Charles Knowles on the Jamaica Station in 1748. PLA/P/9/1© National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

leorge 12. George the Shird by the Gance of God, King of Great Britain, France and Ireland Greating We do by these Presents constitute and appoint Company of Marines, Licutenant to Our you tober ou are therefore carefully and Lieutenant, by excreming and well desciptioning Whigently to discharge the Duty of th the Inferior Officers and Marines of that Company, and We do furthy command them to obey you as their ( .... Lieutonant, and you are to observe and follow such Onlers and Directions, from time to time , as you shall receive from Our High Admiral , or Commissioners for executing the Office of High Admiral for the time Ving , or from your Captain, orany other your Superior Officer, according to the Rules and Discipline of War, in pursuance of the Trust hereby reposed in you. Given at our Court at v the in the selies Year of our Reigns His Magesty's Commando

The standard form of a commission around 1800, with the official seal protected by blue paper. © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

#### **THE PRESS GANG**

Contrary to popular myth, the press gang was only expected to take experienced sailors into the navy, finding them both afloat and ashore. The officer in charge of the gang needed an official press warrant signed by the Lords of the Admiralty.

By the Commissioners for Executing the Office of Lord High Admiral of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Sc. INSTRUCTIONS for Lieutenant William Calwar, First, belonging to this appointed to procure Men for the Service of His (13.) their way, which is a discouragement to Volunteers, who may have entered for particular ships, and a procedure we highly disapprove of : in case, therefore, you shall receive application or direction from any such Com-mander for delivering to him new-raised men, you are to produce this article of your Instructions, that he may see our disapprobation of such proceeding; and, if he afterwards persists in taking the men, you are imme-diately to acquaint our Secretary therewith, that we may take such measures thereupon as the nature of the case may require. ( 13 ) Majesty's Fleet. W HEREAS it is thought fit that you shall be employed to procure Men for the Service of His Majesty's Fleet ; and you will herewith receive a Press Warrant, empowering you to impress Seamen, Seafaring men, and other Persons therein described; You are hereby strictly required and directed, in the execution thereof, to observe the following Given under our hands the 22 of Decr 1873 Instructions, viz. · I. You are to receive all Volunteers of able bodies, in good health, and capable of doing His Majesty's Service at Moundes G. Wowendes Sea, who may offer; the Seamen not to be under Twenty or above Fifty, and the Landmen not under Eighteen or above Thirty-five years of age. II. You are to impress such Seamen, Seafaring men, and By Command of their Lordships. other Persons described in the Press Warrant sent herewith, as will not enter voluntarily, and are not regularly protected, or hereinafter excepted, provided they are able and fit for His Majesty's Service .- But you are to observe that A Landmen

The first and last pages of 13-page instructions to an officer for pressing in 1813. © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

[ADL/J/12] Thefe are to certify all whom it may concern, That the Bearer hereof John Cheur Sabores is employed in His Majefty's Yard at Depth for Oyou are therefore to let him pais quietly to and again between the faid Yard and his own Habitation, during the Space of Your Days from the Date hereof, without being otherways imprest. Dated this Mustrell of Hovember 1805 Ab is about twenty your years of Age, fin get mine inches shalf high un Flair short faw formploper 1. 0

A 'protection' issued to a dockyard worker to prevent his being pressed into the navy. As usual it includes a description of the man to prevent it being transferred to another. © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

# **OTHER DOCUMENTS**

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This 'smart ticket' was issued to seaman James Pool who was suffering from wounds after Trafalgar. ADL/T/16 © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

### **MERCHANT NAVY**

Strictly speaking the term 'merchant navy' should not be used before 1918, when it was conferred as a result of services in the First World War. Before that it was usually known as the merchant marine or the merchant service. It is naturally a much more disjointed service than the Royal Navy, consisting of hundreds of different companies.

Until the middle of the 19th century merchant shipping was regulated by the Navigation Acts, which decreed that British goods should be carried in British ships. After that regulation was increasingly about safety, with major Acts of Parliament in 1854 and 1894.

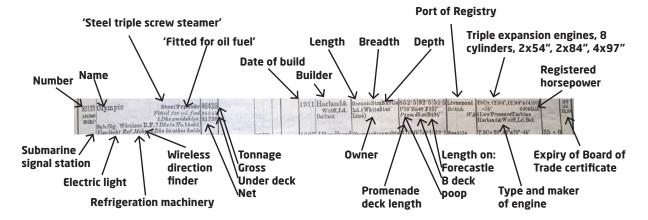
## **MERCHANT NAVY LISTS**

*Lloyd's Register* has been produced since 1760 and gives details of all the ships registered with them as A1 – sound in hull and fittings.

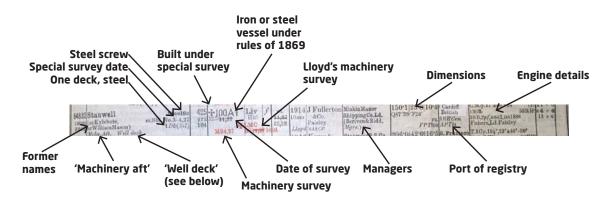
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A page from the 1928–29 Register

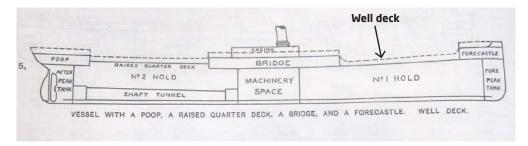
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The details of the passenger liner Olympic from Lloyd's Register



The registry of a more commonplace vessel, the collier Stanwell



The layout of a welldecker, one of many types described in the Register

6jFortuna		Lyderson	160	Norwy	79	L.Ncilson	12	1801-180 Lh Nrwy [I, 1]	351	Fortu	ne Bg	S. Nettles	76	Scotl'd 8	HM'Gu	ire	9 Co Lsbon	E 1 98
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1-		I. Remer	5 D h 100			Marsh&C	10	LoChpst. E 1	6		Bg	J. Smith	203	Dysart	84 Flemi	ng l	14 GrVirgin	E 1
2 - Vide N	o. 354 S	J. Resse	s p h 199	E.B. Swedn		P.H.Witt	13	Lo Altna I. 1	7	<u></u>	s	Snowden	296	D.P.	Huml	le	16 Li Baltic	E 1
3-	Bg	G. Rigg	234	Sudind	97	J. Wilson	13	NcLond, A 1	8	-	s&d S	Stephnson	360	D.P.98	Eddin 4-4	gtn	14 Lo Riga	
	Bg	J.Roloffe	140	For'gn		4-4 P. Foreign	12	Lo Calais E 1	9		$\mathbf{B}\mathbf{g}$	C. Thistle	86	Wells			9 NcCoast.	A 1
5 -	G	Schieldte	5 D 125	Stralsd	99	Foreign	11	Li Wismr A 1	360		Bg	Wiseman	150	Scotl'd	97 Capt.		11 LoDubln	A 11
6 -	Dr	J.Schulter	5 D 58	Einden	88	Foreign	8	LoDantz E 1	1		Increase	W.Walton	113	Arndel	50 G. Re	y	11 SdCoastr	1, 1
-	Dr	Ġ.J.Smit	5 D 80	Hollnd	97	Foreign	8		1 2	Bg Foste	er Sp	T. Beatley	70	Selby	85 P. De	nton	9 Lh Lond.	E 1
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3 -	Sr	J. Warner				T. Bridges	9	Ya Hmbr E 1	8		Brothr	W. Borde	80	Prussia	96 Capt.		6 Lo Emdn	A 1 00
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8 - s.C. J		J. Lowe	52	Sharp River	80	22-2 P. M. Mearn	8	Lh Stktn E 1		-	Sw	TPostgate	170	NBrns.	91 F. Cl	arke	12 NeLond.	E 1 00
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A double page from the 1802 New Register Book of Shipping © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

# LLOYD'S LIST

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<u>No. 9021.]</u>	LO	NDON, TUESD	DAY,	FEBRUARY. 7, 184	
Subscription £2. per A A postage of 1d. each	h upon Lista scat into d	d in advance. he Country.		High Water at London	Bridge to man (Manual NNR
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MADRAS Ann MAURITUS Lady Rio JANEIRO UTAN BERRICE Cam MINIDAD Legu JAMAICA OCCA Entered 27th . CAPE COAST CASTLE OIL ALEXANDRIA Rich CONSTANTINOPLE City of GIBBALTAR & BUTCHORA	an Strati crons Youn; an Brown n Forem January, for Port A sorne Stanfe cl Hamoo of the Sultan Baker Mary Lancas versure Arnold	B 665 EID L mson Entd. 2 Dec.Buckland, N ord B 173 LD 5 B 255 WID an delaide, M'Minn, Master 1'd B 197 — H a B 186 KD Gri B 216 LD W ter B 68 — Edv	Leach Alves Alves Rutton iffiths Vilkin Vards P Carey	Mary, Roper Calcutz and supplied with an anchor Mary Taylor, Virtu Demerar Waban, Bartlett New York for Hambro Maidof Mona, Punchard Amsterdam for Constantinople CYE	BRISTOL Messina BRISTOL Methods of the second seco
MACAO, Wharpon, Kerlon, Ker MACAO, Whampon, Ker, Zet ALEXANDRIA Uniqu MOBILE Hercul Sr. Jonx, N.B. Hirzhe SUERRA LEONE Vibilia I GRAVENEND 6 Venezuela (*) 7 Mary Stuart, Bloom Nautilus, Thomas Ida, Passmore Mriennus, Isemonger Torch, Clark St. Comet, Bell	rried from Mauritus Jamaic Gambia Jamaic Gambia Michael's Michael's	on B 427 LD Man n S 3291 WID Lim B 156 KD Jacl B 857 R B 418 I B 369 Lact 2 ESEND. sailed ny, Andrew Syd s. Rickinson, Newby Maurit CNESS	kson lyan blan for ney tiuz for ssa YA	Toronto, Griswold d' and sailed for New York Garoline, Beek Rio Janeiro Michael, Christopher Trinidad Maria & Louisa, Raupack LaGuavra H.M. Str. Gorgon d' Julie Marie, Bartels Constantinople Pestonjee Bomanjee (tpt.) Corfu Rosanna, Watson Marreilles Mert, Duff d' Louise, Geelts St. Ubes Boykett, Reed Bordeaux Matrwood, Stott Liverpool WES statle Jor Maryland, Smith New Orleans Chenango, Snow St. Ubes RMOUTH (I. of W.) gritted from	6 Denison, Ryrie Anligua Medf rrd, Wilber New Orleans Nonantum, King d' Oswego, Wood d' Sharoa, Purenton d' Chara, Penhallow Mololle Albion, Moran Savannah Merchant, Jordan d' Columbo, Eldridge d' Grace Brown, Myers Baltimore Eli Whitney, Harding Boston Sanders, Bulley Constantinople Jane, Carwithen Malta Annie, Potter Gibraltar Wind-6, NNE, moderate
Hope, Guthrie Monarch, Manning Hi	Kertch Odessa odessa Venu arlingen	rocceded to Standgate Cree NORTH FORELAND arr. inon (e) Dub is, Dub r Weymouth—with loss of p-sail, and other damage	fr. lin 5 1 lds POP	Patty, Loudon Newcastle for Charente seiled for John Souchay, Williama Liverpool RTLAND ROADS seiled for Elizabeth, M'Laren Barcelona	S Lady Shaw Stewart, Wise Antigua CLYDE

Lloyd's List was published weekly from 1734. Later published daily, it has now passed 60,000 editions and is one of the oldest newspapers in the world. It gives details of shipping movements, as well as general shipping news. © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

The Lively, Brine, arrived in the Creek from Legborn, fpoke the 6 ... ng Polly, Gill, from London fo "hiladelphia, in Lat. 40. 32. Los. 15, all well.

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4 Netbitt, MeAllifter Granada	1
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Two Brothers, Fendon Harling	C
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r Neptune, Johnson Offend	27
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Gottenburg	
6 Union, Sharley Amflerdam	-
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Veffels on Shore.
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 I Belliferies, Mayor Mulquito Shore Solid for Friendthip, Lawfon Wind Eaft Downs -None 6 Atfitiance, Weith Jamaica 7 John and Jane, Atkinfon Memel WINDS at DEAL SESE 6 NE by E 7 ENE - arrived from LYDE -Matty, Hanter Loi 0B Bonny, Freebairn Belfaft Jenny, Gray Londonderry Lady Charlotte, Marcer Memel Satisfaction, Burr Jamaica Jenny, Muir Jainaica Sailed for Sailed for Nicholas & Ann, Falkenberg Norway Peggy, M'Robb Londonderry Nancy, Young ditto Swallow, Robertion Halifax Deepbay Planter, Houzel Archangel Peteriburg With Damage Spring, Gronvil rifh & Foreign Ports Arnouth, Swinburn Onega arrived from Arnouth, Swinburn Onega arrived from North Star, Finlay London 25 reasons arrived from Nottingham, Holland Hull SERASTLANS - arrived from Good-Intent, Goodfire London

Queen, Jee Jenny, Thompson Elizabeth, Fify , Damitz Betsey, Walker Prudent, Oxley Prodent, Oxley Nicolas and Jane, Calloway Hull CHARLESTON Charletton, Hail Otterburn, Stamp Mercey, Bird Leverpool

Robert and Margaret, Ber John, Jamefon Aurora, Dixon Conmerce, Strong Peggy, Swan Elizabeth, Walton Adventure, Thom Anna Concoolia, ( Adventure, Land Friendhip, Smell Friendhip, Smell Friendhip, Smell William and Jam ally, Major Hops, Steele Chridiana, Byres Dartick Betty, Otway ditto Maria, Crowden ditto Encleaswar, Richardfon ditto Europa, Joap ditto Jano, Gardner Portfmouth Nely, Webler Mostrofe Eelemouth Cattle, Stobby Perth Eelemouth Cattle, Stobby Perth Margaret, Stonehoole Marga 

 Venut, Ramfay
 Analy Angle Relativy
 Gardarr
 Gardar
 10.0.0 Patience, Finity Gma Welcome, Cosham Gma Friends, Gibbon Dusnick Elizabeth, Henderion Leith Changcable, Warker Mend Brillinnt, Warkins Gm Dover Sally, Smith Londonderry Hunter, Hine Briftol ST. LUCIA Shields Cavendifh, Thoraboroa Leghon arrived from orough Lancader ed from Leverp

## **CERTIFICATES OF REGISTRY**

British ships had to be registered by a customs officer at a particular port, intially to conform with the Navigation Acts. They usually bore the name of the port on the stern.

Hick Form No. 9. CUSTOM CERTIFICATE OF BRITISH REGISTRY PARTICULARS OF SHD 1 er of Dieles. or of Masta. at quarter of depth from of weather dock at side o ontaile of phase Baild mago dock m Galleries eiling at amidahips ceiling at amidahi n upper deck to a lecks and upwards Head Framework and description of wessel p of keel Number of Balkhoads an top of deck at side amidhins to bottom of keel Number of water ballast tanks and their Round of beam Length of magina m (if any) Tenal to quertar the depth from an atching to bettern of knot 2 No. of Beatine No. of and Discuster of Cylinder 一曲 Longth of Maginte PARTICULARS OF TONNAGE GROSS TONNAGE. DEDUCTION ALLOWED. Under Tonuage Deck in spaces above the Tonnage Dock (if ar-Apprentices, and appre-Space or spaces between, Decks Poop - 2. - 15 Foreo -Round House Maralle Other closed in spaces, if any, i Other Spaces for Machinery and Light and Air, under of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, if req sec. 78 (2) Gross Tonnage , as per contra .... Bos the Total Registered Tonnage preby cartify that the Ship, the Description of which is prefixed to this my I, the undersigned Registrar of Shipping at the Part of Certificate, has been duly surveyed, and that the above Descrip LER whose Certificate of Com nce, and Description of the Owner , and Nu is the Master of the said Ship; and or Service is No. are as follows :-Sixty-fourth Shares held by Number of Sixty-fourth S Name Recidence, and Oc de. nd eight hundred and Day of Dated as Registrar of Shippin ip's registered tounage are :onts forming the NOTE-The only spaces above the Upper Deck not included in the cubical com-A ROACHE /17

This is the certificate of the Hibernia of 1899, showing details of the ship.  $AML/L/1 \otimes National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London$ 

# LOG BOOKS

Merchant ship masters usually kept navigational log books, but their survival is a matter of chance as they were not collected centrally.

14 U North Revin who be son Ba Pret 6 Om hall dawn to all Por 1149 64 get to w to milas about 11 Ta d at concegend the Migon est An Jack the hoissed first a french ; they hardt Envign 3 and 2 ret an NTO hvell lang \* \* 3 4 13 28 3 2 di freectingelit ept Win 01 dari 0 11 ton and Ver 10 ak n noon

This log book was kept by John Newton, then a slave ship captain and later a leading campaginer for the abolition of slavery, off the coast of Africa in 1750. © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

The 'Official' log book was decreed by law and had to be produced for the Board of Trade. It was more concerned with the welfare of the crew than with navigation.

OFFIC No. 4. LOG BOOK. (0) 2700170 C.R.A.B.O EITHER FOREIGN-GOING OR HOME TRADE SHIP. Cutty Dark 63.057 Cherry Moodie. 160 February 14" Date of Commencement of the Voyage Nature of the Voyage or Employment Oudou Master of the Port of Delivered to the Shippi Shipping Master ter within forty-eight hours after the Ship's veced to the Shipping Ma LONDON: PRINTED BY GEORGE EDWARD EXCE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE, PRINTERS TO THE QUEENS NORT EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

towards London . 27 Shanghai Amoret of any Fine or Furbilized Date of the Occurrence suiseed, with Day and Hour. Place of the Occurrence, or Sintanion by Latitude and Longitude at Ken. simility Act of Parliament August to Late 25.428 Honry King Stor Long, 37. 526 on making his appear. Deck after the Ship Joid that he was willing to the fis conduct, that week an & hiss This morning about 5. Geleck, consequently the yasels had to be to wind. the - Las G to the The m of and dat, or log. he 2 office may, and upon The Secon to his work, he answered, the him Joing to mark any more, that he nd have Ropes about Decks, Pulla accordingly but this Knacked of time that he has abaented himself he has an teneral accasions hear for nd Bel thatch an Deck when mark were being Man has been treated in every. ting, or fault, must also he signed by the Nergron or Molical Practitioner on hard (if any); and every entry of wages due to, or of the sale of the investment for Majany's therein must be signed by the Master and by the Session or by the Offine authorized to receive the Session before each Service.

In this example, the captain of the Cutty Sark records the finding of a stowaway on board and his failure to fulfil his promise to work his passage.

#### **CREW AGREEMENTS**

March 29 the under The line Sound it necessary to make some farther Attorations in the Watch lists to equalize them and they now stand as follows -Harboard Watch After quand continued John For Midshipmen John Field Mr Elantic Mr Mantgomorie William Mhite Mr Canthefill William Thomas William Henly .... Boalswain's mate James Rind ----Main Jop Menny Deater Eaptain . Quarter Masters Giorge Hood ~ Thomas Hend George Brown John Martin James Wand Lard Stromethin John Smith .\_~. Andrew Bachman Alerguard Roger West ~ Captain Miam Joh & Poop Boys Eganles Memmings ~ William Lowder Imonas Brochel William Cantie William Lovit ~ John Battisto Wellen Ino: Pennou Patrick Fitzguald John Flemming 2 Michael Seal Forecastle men John Jones George Lebeck James Thields ~ Captain William Calchan Edward Onice Thomas Daily The young berry The Caise ? David Lones (1: John Carlow land Lownson Charles Eosper Francisco Buge

 $Crew\ lists\ are\ occasionally\ found\ attached\ to\ the\ logs\ of\ ships,\ like\ this\ example\ from\ the\ East\ Indiaman\ Bombay\ in\ 1815.$ 

These documents were introduced in 1835, and were basically a standardized employment contract

between a ship's master and his crew. By the middle of the 19th century these documents became more detailed and included details on the vessel, the planned voyage, amount and standards of victuals for the crew, as well as a list of all the crew members who had 'signed on' for that particular voayge. Details listed for each person included names, age, place of birth, that person's job on board the ship, the previous vessel served in, date and place of joining and leaving the ship, and details of wages.

AML/S/61 1 (1SI CREW L Executed in Sixteen Pages. Executed in Sixto nill le roid unless attested by some Superintendent of a Mercantile Marine Office, Officer of JNO LOG Eng. 1. Justame, Can ion, or Alteration in n, 0. ul, to be ent of the ; GREEMENT AND ACCOUNT OF CREW. CHIERD. 18 JUN. 92 FOREIGN-GOING SHIP. e place or places situate bey in the United Kingdom and a of the PASPER PROPERTY it the Continent of Europe, between the River Elbe and Breat inclusion. Kingdom, the Islands of the Nominal Horse Power of Engines (if any). Rogist Port No. and Inte of Register Official No. Port of Registry 10 1849 1902 0 leg. 1891 REGISTERED MANAGING OWNER. No. of Seamon fo FOR PARTICULARS accommodation is con (30 & 31 Vic. c. 134.) (State No. of Hous AS TO LOAD LINE, SEE PAGE 15. Street, and Town.) alden Chor APP The Scheral Persons whose names are hereto subscribed //nd/who iptions are contained on the other sides, and of whom maged as Salors, hereby agree to serve on board the said Ship in the serve thise apprecised against their respective Names, on a voyage from? to be allowed and served out to the Crew during the V issue of Lime and Lemon Juice and Sugar or other ant case required by Joth and Itat Vict., c. 124, s. 4. id Ship in the several ydney nsw 00 oris within the limits 1/2 60 degrees South Latitude 1/4 Sandar 2 3 1/3 60 Monday 2 Wed Giobable period of engagement Friday 0 0 Saturda Note.-In an SUBSTITUTES THE MASTER'S OPTION, NO SPIRITS ALLOWED. And the Crew agree to conduct themselves in an orderly, faithful, honest and sober manner, and to be at all times diligent in their respective Daties, and to be obedient to the lawful commands of the said Master or of any Person who shall lawfully succeed him, and of their Superior Officers, in everything relating to the said Ship and the Stores and Cargo thereof, whether on board, in boars, or on shore; in consideration of which Synchroses to duly performed, the said Master performs and the stores and Cargo thereof, whether on board any part of the Ship's Cargo or Stores shall be made good to the Owner out of the Wages of the Person guily of the same : And if any Person enters himself as qualified for a duty which he proves incompetent to perform, his Wages shall be reduced in proportion to his incompetency : And it is also agreed, That the Regulations authorized by the Board of Trade, which are printed Perior and sub-Person guily of the reame of the of the Agreement or otherwise, he shall represent the same to the Master or Diffeorer in and sumbures? How may provide the the same require; And it is also stipulated that the Seamen shall receive the Master or Diffeorer in charge of the Ship and order manner, who shall a store or Diffeorer in charge of the Ship in a quict and ordery manner, who shall the result of the same there are may require; And it is also stipulated that the Seamen shall receive the advances of wages entered herein against their names : An it is also agreed, That? the side agreed, That? In side Master shall be contilled to deduct from the wayse of the sid Crew consistedy the following emounts, vix. -for not joining at the time specified Column 10, two days' pay, or any expanses which have been properly incurred hiring a substitute- and for absence from the Ship at may time without tro, a sum not exceeding two weeks' pays and the berely mutually agreed, at any disput caring on the subject of these deductions shall be notified by Shiperintendent of a Rirecustle Marine Office, Consular Officer, or Shipping wer abread, and that his decision shall be final. samed way of the orew full to be on brand sober a is time mated in this agreement, substitutes may be engaged VE OBCE, In Witness whereof the said Parties have subscribed their Names on the other Side \* The authority of the Owner or Agent for the allotments entioned within is in my possession. or Sides hereof on the days against their respective Signatures mentioned. TEN 2 ablar Master. Buperintende or Co Signed by\_ 74th day of\_ 189 une \*This is to be signed if such an authority has been produc to be scored across in ink if it has not. on the ns to be filled up at the end of the Voyage These Colum Date of Delivery of Lists to Superintendent. Port at which Voyage terminated. Fort at which I hereby declare to the truth of the Entries in this Agre-ment and Account of Crew, &c. Test 6 dess 6.9 allator outon Care should be taken at the time of her for whom signatures are provided not be unstitched. No leaves may be taken out of it, and none may be addened a sufficiently large Form is used. If more men are engaged during the voy an additional Form Eng. I should be obtained and used. added or substituted. 7500-12-90

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 $This \ crew \ agreement \ is \ from \ the \ Cromdale \ in \ 1902, \ and \ gives \ some \ information \ on \ the \ intended \ voyage \ as \ well \ as \ the \ crew. \\ AML/S/6/1 @ National Maritime Museum, \ Greenwich, \ London$ 

# ACCOUNTS

Account books were usually kept by the pursers of ships, or by the captain if no purser was appointed. Often they used printed books supplied by chandlers, as in this example. Again, their survival is largely a matter of chance.

[AM5/22]	65	avid Cagle in A	lecon	-	4
SEAMAN'S WAGES	DATE.	DEBTOR.	£	t with	the
ACCOUNT BOOK,		To Advance , Payments under Allotment Note @ £ each	2	10	-
of the Ship Teshern Gris C. Brayley Commander,		" Shipping Officer's Fees on Engagement " Ditto ditto on Discharge " <del>Eines and</del> Forfeitures	2	1. 2. 10	2
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•	-	Joap a 1/1		1	/
Should the Opening intended for each Man's Account be insufficient for enumerating all that may be required to be brought into charge in any particular case, the next Opening following each Account is reserved for such use if found necessary.		bash in yourtues # 12 dy	4 2 *	12	4
ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.	and the second se	" Total deductions Care for	12	"	4
LONDON:		Cash on Discharge, (equal to one-fourth Balance per Contra.)			-
PUBLISHED BY J. ROBINS, Licensed printer of Marine Forms, 57, Tooley Streng, Southwark.		" Total Cash (being residue, paid before Shipping Master.)	-	-	-
	Cherry P	£	-	-	2

AMS/22 © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

#### **INDENTURES**

Apprentices were theoretically exempt from the press gang, so apprenticeships were quite common in those days. By the late 19th century, an apprentice was usually learning to be a ship's officer rather than an ordinary seaman.

ORDINARY APPRENTICE'S INDENTURE. (1) ecember of 2 18/8 unth this Endenture, nade the ged 15 year ster office. a native of Second file it voluntarily binds himsel date hereof; And the said a lministrators, and Assigns, and d Master, in The said Appendice the sum of  $\frac{2}{2}, \frac{2}{2}, \frac{2}{2}$ said parties have hereunto set their hands and seals, the day and year above writte and dolivered, in the presence of Lignatures & Mrs (Master). William Hal Totness to the liquature of 1. 9.00 M.a.C. (Apprentice). (Surety). Ellen 13 eral of Scamen; or if in the Outports to some Shipping Moster; one copy Master with the accessory indocument. to the Re 1 by certify the u The indenture says a good deal about the boy's conditions of employment, and more details are often noted on the back. DRE/1 © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, Londo to the Thee

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#### **CERTIFICATES OF COMPETENCE**

From 1854, officers had to have a certain amount of experience at sea and pass stiff oral examinations to qualify in various grades for certificates of competence – an experience which is described by Joseph Conrad (who underwent such exams to become an officer).

By The Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade. Centificate of Competency SECOND MATE. To John Jefferson Scandrett Whereas it has been reported to us that you have been found duly qualified to fulfit the duties of Second Mate in the Merchant Service, we do hereby, in pursuance of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, grant you this Certificate of Competency By Order of the Board of Trade, this 9th day of May 1890 Countersigned, MarkHall Progistian General. Registered at the Office of the Registrar General of Shipping and Seamen. Mr.

This certificate for a second mate dates from 1895 AML/H/21 © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

# **DISCHARGE CERTIFICATES**

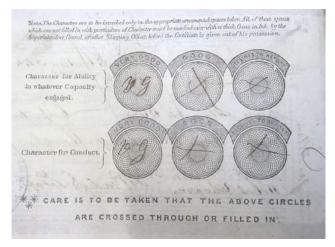
Certificates of Discharge were issued to merchant seamen on the completion of each voyage.



Certificate of Discharge for John Jones on the SS Great Britain  $\odot$  ss Great Britain Trust



The certificates earned by seaman John Scandrett, kept in a special folder © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London



The captain marked his comments on the back of the certificate. The term 'Decline to Report' was likely to end any prospect of employment on a reputable ship.

© National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

#### **CHARTER AGREEMENTS**

London, 9.5. May 1803 Causton, Printers, No. 21, nch-Lane, Cornhill. MEMORANDUM FOR CHARTER. IT is this Day mutually agreed between . Mel & Minh & Hentey Your Owners of the good Ship or Vessel, called the Narty Subiana of the Burthen of 320 Tons, or thereabouts, now at Shields whereast Comment in Marter and Melos Therman Com He of Sondon Merchants; of Vender That the said Ship being tight, staunch, and strong, and every way fitted for the Voyage, shall with all convenient Speed, sail and proceed to the thanget or so near thereunto as she may safely get, and there load from the Factors of the said . Mayar Therman Com HC a compleat Cargoe of Sawful Good with from for ballast. not exceeding what she can reasonably stow and carry over and above her Tackle, Apparel, Provisions and Furniture; and being so loaded, shall therewith proceed to . Vondon or so near thereunto as she may safely get, and deliver the same, on being aid Freight for Clean Think & Mars 16. 10 for the same, on being donts in proportion for Matt, 1.5. 10 for the prove of 1000 Matty, for Mattow I dones the form groß Meight, for Bristley In Mattow of the head, for Destocal 12/ formater Mincheste measure; for Sar Mitch 12/ f Barrel, other good, paid Freight in proportion, for Deals 29 & Standard Stundred for from 20/ Dolon with Two-thirds Port Charges and Pilotage, -as customary (Restraint of Princes and Parlers during the said Voyage always excepted). One Half of the Freight to be paid on unloading, and right Delivery of the Cargo, and the Remainder in Herce Months following. Twenly running Days are to be allowed the said Merchant (if the Ship is not sooner dispatched) for loading the said Ship, at Archangels & Thirty running days for delivering at London And Jon Days on Demurrage, over and above the said laying Days, at f. 5 per Day. Penalty for Non-Performance of this Agreement 1500 honone

A merchant might charter a whole ship for a specific cargo, in which case an agreement like this one of 1803 was signed. HNL/77/41 © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich

# **CARGO DOCUMENTS**

A bill of loading was a legal document giving an account of the cargo and as such. under British law, it had to bear an official stamp.

Shipped in good Order, and well conditioned, by e in and upon the good Ship, called Lady whereof is Mafter, for this prefent Voyage, 10.000 Sulla Pearzon now riding at Anchor in the River During and bound for London Thousand Two Mundred Barrels Ja which One Thousand One Hundred Barrels in Two Lody Loding of Jucen over Bundles of Hemp weigh hur being marked and numbered as in the Margin, which are to be dellvered in the like good Order, and well conditioned, at the aforefaid Port of Order, and well conditioned, at the Accidents of the Seas and of Navigation, of whatever (all and every the Dangers and Accidents of the Seas and of Navigation, of whatever Nature and Kind soever excepted) unto Marine Marine Com & Com or to sheet Freight for the faid Goods lareme with Primage and edverage accuftomed. In Wittnefs whereof the Mafter or Purfer of the faid Shin ath signed feurBills of Lading, all of this Tenor and date, the one of which four Bills being accomplished; the other hoto fland void a tichungeline Vour entt unt un.

This one was agreed in Archangel and has a Russian stamp.  ${\rm HNL}/77/41$  © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

a. The Manifest of the bargo Loaded in the Port of Riga in the Ship Lady Puliana British built lie measure three Hundred and Swenty nine Sons per Register Balph Chattle bornind 42 Forty two Square Mast One Hundred and forty one hand cleast M 141 262 Two Hundred and Sixty two Deves of Square Sir Simber M 3. 0. 15 Three Hundred and fifteen Deals from ten 3 Poul and under twenty feet in Length to Four fourteen feet Deals One Cighteen fus Eleven Hundred one Quarter and twenty vise Deal ands 1.262 Ten Factor four foot Lachwood One Do Hundred & Cighty Richers Swelve Double Boats clasts under 6. Twelve Single Do\_ Do Swenty Timber End. Ships Use ghty Factor 1/2 Inch bable Bott of Sail bloth lone: Fathom of Fire 100 Gallons of Spirits Ven 3 Cart Cranten

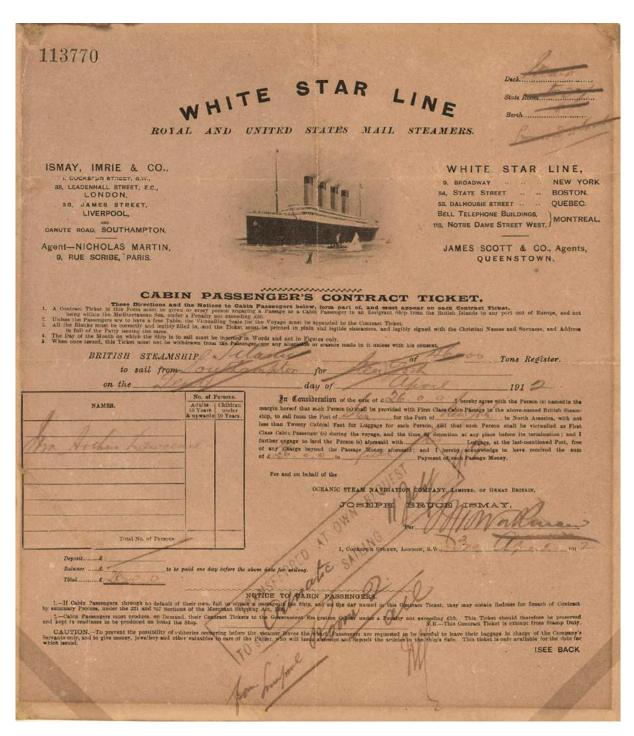
The cargo manifest is a list of the goods carried. HNL/77/41 © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London

#### **PASSENGER TICKETS**

In the 19th century passenger tickets were usually large printed sheets. They might be issued by the shipping company itself, or a travel agent.

mine Co A. Baauly ANIOF BRITISH AUSTRALIAN AND P 10.5 Famengors' Coutract Ticket. 3219 Tons Register, to toks in Pussengers at LIVERFOOL. Side rel ĸ for MELBOURNE. 110 iny of\_ 242.20 I angage that the Persons named in the margin bereaf shall be provided with a. hallon Cauda ... Passage to and shall be lettled at the Part of MELDOURNE, in AUSTRALIA, in the Ship with not less than Ten Oakis Feet for Lagyage for each Statute Peretan Adail, and shall be vistavilled during the Voyoge and the time of distrition at any place before its termination, according to the salisted scale, for the sum of £ 1.1.2. 6. 0\_including Government Date, before andarhabie, and Hand Manry, if any, at the places of Landing, and every other charge except Preight for extrem of Loggage legend the quantity above specified, and I hardy or would ge to have received the new of L. lelas \_Phyment 01 Back ALC: N Cu behilf of NES £: CO. ERFOOI 13572

A ticket to Australia for a family of nine on the Great Britain in 1862. © ss Great Britain Trust



A ticket for the Titanic, 1912 MSS/076/064 © National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London