

LOSS OF THE FAIRY QUEEN.

Brief abstract of the Proceedings of the Public Meeting at the Court House in Charlottetown on Wednesday the 17th inst. in pursuance of a requisition...

The Sheriff read the Requisition and the motion signed by him in compliance therewith. He then laid before the meeting, and read a copy of a letter which he had felt it his duty to address to His Excellency the Lieut. Governor...

It is in the request of several of the inhabitants of this Town and County who have addressed me by requisition, to cause a public meeting on the subject of the late unfortunate loss of the Fairy Queen Steam Packet...

I have the honor to be Your Excellency's most obedient humble servant. JOHN C. BINNS, Sheriff.

Government House, Oct. 17th. Sir.—Your letter of the 17th was only delivered to me half an hour ago, it will be laid before the Executive Council which will meet to-morrow at eleven o'clock...

Your obedient servant, JOHN C. BINNS, Esq., &c. &c.

Extract from Minutes of Executive Council. Council Chamber 19th October, 1853. A letter addressed to His Excellency from the High Sheriff of Queen's County, was laid before the Board, which is to the following effect:

That, at the request of several of the inhabitants of this Town and County, who have addressed him by requisition to cause a public meeting on the subject of the late unfortunate loss of the Fairy Queen Steam Packet...

His Excellency informed the Board, that Mr. Binns's letter, dated the 17th inst., had only been received yesterday afternoon, and immediately apprised that Gentlemen, that a meeting of the Council should be held this morning and an answer sent to the Sheriff...

A true Extract which I certify, CHARLES DESBRIAY, Clerk Ex. Council.

When this had been done a motion was made and agreed to that the Sheriff should read to the chair of the meeting, and John Longworth Esq. had at the general wish of the meeting consented to act as Secretary...

The Hon. T. H. Bayfield, then rose and said, that he held in his hand a resolution to which it was impossible there could be a dissentient voice. A great public calamity had occurred, the circumstances of which and all the causes that had led thereto...

Resolved, That this meeting deeply deplore the serious misfortune which has befallen the crew of the Steamer "Fairy Queen," on the night of Friday, the 7th October instant, during her passage from Charlottetown to Pictou...

Resolved, That this meeting acknowledge, with anxious solicitude, the anxiety and promptitude exhibited by the Community of Pictou in adopting measures with a view to assist the survivors of the wreck of the Fairy Queen...

It was then suggested that the minutes of evidence as taken before the Magistrate at Pictou should be read, which was accordingly done by the Secretary from a copy of the Pictou Eastern Chronicle...

The purpose of having her boilers repaired and cleaned, that he took a look at the Engine, which did not seem to him in the best possible trim, that on Saturday morning he stepped on the deck of the steamer, to perceive the pump lying on the deck, and having examined into its state of efficiency he remarked, to a friend that before that pump could be made available in case of exigency it ought to undergo a thorough repair...

The Hon. E. Palmer then informed the meeting, that there were several persons present who had crossed to the boat lately, who would be likely to give the most correct information...

The evidence given by me before the Magistrate, at Pictou, contains the principal part of what occurred, and in correct, so far as goes that is one part, however, not there. I am perfectly convinced now, in my own mind, that the Capt. was drunk. I would not swear that he was so, but I will state it as my opinion...

There was no order kept up, no subordination on the part of the crew. The Capt. had been drinking, and he was not sober when he went on board. He was not a seaman of the ordinary class...

Some desultory conversation ensued during which Mr. Stewart again rose, when Lt. Col. Gay, with a voice and energy that electrified the whole meeting, called for a hearing and addressed the chairman to the following effect:

Mr. Chairman.—It is charged against this meeting by the learned gentleman who has just spoken, that he has been informed by two or three persons, (whose names he declines giving) that we have assembled here to day from political motives...

Resolved, That the meeting deeply deplore the serious misfortune which has befallen the crew of the Steamer "Fairy Queen," on the night of Friday, the 7th October instant...

Resolved, That this meeting acknowledge, with anxious solicitude, the anxiety and promptitude exhibited by the Community of Pictou in adopting measures with a view to assist the survivors of the wreck of the Fairy Queen...

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this meeting, that the late unfortunate loss of the Fairy Queen Steam Packet, was the result of a combination of causes, the principal of which were the want of skill and judgment in the management of the vessel, and the want of proper subordination on the part of the crew...

Resolved, That this meeting do hereby express their sympathy for the survivors of the wreck of the Fairy Queen, and do hereby pledge themselves to contribute, in proportion to their means, towards the relief of the distressed families of the crew...

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The vessel, it was very extraordinary that no formal complaint had been made to government, and it was only after an accident had occurred that it was known to exist. It was a vessel of the class of the Fairy Queen, and was built at Pictou...

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Hon. Mr. HALL called meeting to this evening, and the Rev. Mr. Bayfield, minister for just severity and cuttings, it has never been our fortune to see; and as we cannot memory without reasoning their effect, we shall attempt to state, however, the stern and energetic given to the place its usual character, and the impetuosity, livid with agony, look of despair that a one supposed to produce, came was a scene which will all of who were present; gather, we conceive, by Mr. Mark Butler had seen the wreck of the steamer, he had examined some of the planks, which he said could be pulled to pieces by his fingers, the planks were two inches thick, sheathed over with oak boards which he believed were sound. He confirmed the account given by Dr. Evans.

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