



National Research  
Council  
Canada

Conseil National de  
Recherches  
Canada

Institute for Ocean  
Technology

Institut des Technologies  
Océaniques

## Ship-Iceberg Collision Incident Report



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### Vessel Characteristics

<b>Name:</b> City of Boston	<b>Prime Mover:</b> Steam
<b>Flag:</b> UK	<b>Transmission:</b> Unknown
<b>ASPPR Ice Class:</b> Unknown	<b>Power (kW):</b> 447
<b>Lloyd's Class:</b> Unknown	<b># Propellers:</b> 1
<b>Baltic Class:</b> Unknown	<b>Prop. Type:</b> Unknown
<b>Vessel Type:</b> Passenger	<b>Service Speed:</b> 12
<b>Owner:</b> Inman Line	<b>Stern Form:</b>
<b>Registered Country:</b> UK	<b>Steel Grade:</b> Unknown
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b> 1864	<b><u>Miscellaneous Vessel Notes:</u></b>
<b>Bow Shape:</b> Unknown	
<b>Stem Angle:</b>	
<b><u>Dimensions (m):</u></b>	<b><u>Mass (tonnes):</u></b>
<b>Length:</b> 93	<b>Gross:</b> 2278
<b>Beam:</b> 11.9	<b>Net:</b>
<b>Depth:</b> 8.4	<b>Dead:</b>

### Collision Details

<b>Date:</b> 29-Jan-1870	<b>Air Temperature:</b>
<b>Visibility (nautical miles):</b>	<b>Water Temperature:</b>
<b>Visibility:</b> Unknown	<b>Wind Speed:</b>
<b>Visibility - Fog:</b> Unknown	<b>Wave Height:</b>
<b>Visibility - Snow:</b> Unknown	<b>Sea State:</b> Unknown
<b>Visibility - Light:</b> Unknown	
<b>Collision Speed:</b>	
Kerwin Place	Place Kerwin
P.O. Box 12093	C.P. 12093
St. John's, Newfoundland	St. John's, Terre-Neuve
A1B 3T5	A1B 3T5
Fax:(709) 772-2462	Télécopieur:(709) 772-2462



## Damage Details

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<b>Damage Sustained:</b> Yes	<b>Damage Report No. :</b>
<b>Scenario:</b> Unknown	<b>Steel Failure Type:</b> Unknown
<b>Severity:</b> Sinking	<b>Size - Length (m):</b>
<b>Location:</b> Unknown	<b>Size - Height (m):</b>
<b>Code:</b> Unknown	<b>Damage Below WL (m):</b>
<b>Length of Downtime:</b>	<b>Damage Above WL - Height (m):</b>
<b>Cost of Downtime:</b>	<b>Damage Above WL - Length (m):</b>
<b>Cost to Repair:</b>	
<b>No. Lives Lost:</b> 177	
<b>No. Injuries:</b>	<b>Cause of Deaths/Injuries:</b> Unknown
<b>Cargo Loss:</b> Unknown	
<b>Pollution:</b> Unknown	<b>Pollution Potential:</b> Unknown

### Cause of Damage:

Assumed at the time to have collided with an iceberg. Lat - lon estimated.

### Damage Description:

Disappeared. Thought to have hit an iceberg but first iceberg reports did not come in till middle of February. There was a ferocious storm the day after the vessel left Halifax (departed January 28). An unknown vessel was seen in distress but could not be approached on account of the storm. While in Halifax the vessel was observed lower in the water than insurance regulations allowed but the observer was successfully sued by the owners for libel. There had also been a problem with the propeller and shaft now running on a two blade prop

## Ice Details

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**Ice Briefing Received:** Unknown

**Iceberg Population:**

**IIP Iceberg Number:**

**Sea Ice Concentration:**

**Position of Nearest Known Iceberg:**

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**Iceberg Shape:** Unknown

**Latitude:** 0 ° ' " N

**Iceberg Size:** Unknown

**Longitude:** 0 ° ' " W

**Length:**

**Date of Observation:**

**Width:**

**Iceberg Tonnage:**

## Route Details

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**Geographic Area:** Grand Banks

**Origin:** New York and Halifax

**Collision Latitude:** 46 ° 40 ' " N

**Destination:** Liverpool

**Collision Longitude:** 052 ° 40 ' " W

**Distance:**

**Locale Accuracy:** Unknown

**Cargo at Event:** 390 tons of beef, 200 barrels of flour, 486 bales of cotton, 12 cases of sewing machines, 18 tons of oil-cake, 88,500 pounds of flour,

**Voyage:**

**Displacement:**

**Draft FWD (m):** 6.705

**Captain's Experience:** Unknown

**Radar Equipped?:** Unknown

**Radar Details:**

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