

Simplified transcript

Cover page of Court of Enquiry into RMS Titanic

Report on the Loss of 'Titanic' (SS) The Merchant Shipping Acts 1854–1906

In the matter of the formal investigation held into the loss of Titanic and the deaths of 1,490 people in the North Atlantic Ocean on the 15th April 1912.

Report of the Court

The court, having carefully looked at the matter, find that the loss of Titanic was due to the collision with an iceberg, brought about by the excessive [too fast] speed that the ship was travelling.

Dated 30th July 1912
Signed by Wreck Commissioner
Signed by Assessors

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Document suing Oceanic Steam Navigation Co. Ltd

Suing the owners; the statement of Claim and Verdict in the case of Ryan v. the Oceanic Steam Navigation Co. Ltd, 3 June 1912.

In the High Court of Justice. 1912. R.

No. 1111.

King's Bench Division.

Writ issued the 3rd day of July 1912.

BETWEEN THOMAS Ryan Plaintiff [person who is bringing the case to court]

and

THE OCEANIC STEAM NAVIGATION
COMPANY LIMITED Defendants

STATEMENT OF CLAIM.

The Plaintiff brings this case as the father of Patrick Ryan who died on-board Titanic on 15th April 1912.

The Defendants sailed Titanic speeds that were too fast for the dark conditions of night, and the calmness of the sea (which made the icebergs harder to spot). The Defendants knew that there were icebergs on the route that they'd taken, and they did not slow their speed, change their course or provide the look-out men with binoculars. There were also not enough lifeboats to give each passenger and crew member a place. The Defendants did not make sure that the crew had practised enough to fill the lifeboats properly in the event of an emergency.