

OPUNAKE TIMES
30 JULY 1901

THE FUNERAL.

After viewing the wreckage of the ill-fated vessel a large number of people wended their way to the Oco Hotel, the starting point of the funeral. The scene showing how the mighty masts and spars that had stood many a stormy tempest had been shattered and shivered filled all with sympathy and told too well the great fight for life the survivors must have had. At about 2 o'clock mourners arrived in vehicles and on horseback and by 20mins later close on 500 people had taken up a position to pay their last respects to the deceased. The sight was heightened in mournfulness as the coffins were brought out to the vehicles improvised as hearses, the number being beyond the sight of many a gray haired follower. The coffins were each shrouded with flags and wreathed with snow-white flowers, showing that with the exception of J. Lang, brother of deceased, who was the only relative present, friends had taken the place of relatives and added that touch of genuine sympathy that will be a consolation to relatives in the homeland. The cortege moved off at 20mins past 2 p.m., the pallbearers taking up their position at the side of the three vehicles. The Rev. A. W. H. Compton met the procession at the gate, the order of procession to the grave being—

No. 1 coffin, second officer, L. H. Olley. Bearers: Messrs Glen and

Hardinge, A. B's, W. G. E. Barrow, first officer, and J. M. Tickall, apprentice.

No. 2 coffin. Bearers: H. Good, R. Gamlin, J. Pettigrew, J. Burke.

No. 3 coffin. Bearers: A. Pettigrew, W. Lambie, S. Forsyth, E. Burke.

No. 4 coffin. Bearers: O. W. Linkhorn, W. Hensor, J. James, H. Joyce.

No. 5 coffin. Bearers: A. Amos, G. Slater, S. Slater, W. Pettigrew.

No. 6 coffin. Bearers: F. W. Mason, J. Forsyth, A. Good, H. Wagstaff.

The chief mourners were Captain Rees, young Arbuckle and J. Lang.

The Church of England burial service was then read, followed by the Lord's Prayer, the assemblage repeating it, then the burial service was read over the remains of each body before committing it to the grave.

The survivors and mourners took a last look at the open grave, the former recognising that they were only saved from the grave by a very narrow shave. The grave is in a very picturesque spot sheltered near by English hawthorne and within the constant murmur of the sea. It is to be hoped that some of the Old Country woods that have been cast-off from the Lizzie Bell will be secured to erect near the grave in memory of the occasion.