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THE CAPTAIN OF THE *WAIARARAPA*

Captain John McIntosh was born in August 1840 and joined the company's service at the end of April 1879 as Chief Officer of the *Ladybird*. He served successfully as Master of the *Southern Cross*, *Ahambra*, *Omapere*, *Hero*, *Waihora*, *Tekapo*, and *TeAnau* and in November 1890 was appointed to the *Wairarapa*. Before joining Union Steamship Co's service the late Captain McIntosh was for 7½ years master of the ship *Ulva* trading between London and the East Indies.

Captain McIntosh was a native of the Island of Tiree, one of the Inner Hebrides. He was a single man and came out here about 15 years ago to his mother, brother and sister. His mother has since died. Mr Duncan McIntosh, in the employ of Ross and Glendinning, is the brother referred to.

Captain McIntosh when in port pretty well made the ship his home, but used to regularly visit his brother's place in Serpentine Avenue,

The deceased sailor was brought up exclusively to a seafaring life and prior to coming to the colonies was in command of a Glasgow ship sailing out of London. Only once prior to the *Wairarapa* affair had Captain McIntosh suffered shipwreck or serious incident at sea and that was when a sailing craft of which he was mate foundered off Rangoon. No lives were lost on that occasion.

[transcription by John McLean]