

British Wreck Commissioner's Inquiry

Day 16

Testimony of Edward J. Buley

Source : <http://www.titanicinquiry.org/BOTInq/BOTIndx01.php#a>

Examined by Mr. BUTLER ASPINALL.

18093. (*Mr. Butler Aspinall.*) This Witness was in boat No. 10, My Lord. (*To the witness.*) Were you serving as an A.B. on the "Titanic" on 14th April?

- Yes.

18094. I do not want you to tell the whole story, but you left the ship in boat No. 10, did you not?

- Yes.

18095. You felt the shock; I think you were awake at the time. You then helped with some of the boats?

- Yes.

18096. And later on you left in boat 10. Were there any crew with you in boat 10?

- Yes.

18097. Who?

- An able seaman forward, Evans, and a fireman and a steward.

18098. Who else was in the boat besides those members of the crew?

- Women and children.

18099. How many?

- I should say about 50, 50 to 55.

18100. All women and children?

- All women and children.

18101. Then, I think, having got that boat down to the water's edge, you pulled away, and then you were later on joined by one of the Officers in another boat, Mr. Lowe?

- Yes.

18102. We have seen him, and he has told us the story, and I think the result of his coming up was that he got his boat full. He put out a great many of his passengers into other boats and then went away with you in his boat, did he not?

- Yes.

18103. To pick up any of the poor people who were in the water?

- Yes.

18104. He has told us the story in a great deal of details. You succeeded in picking up some, I believe?

- Yes.

18105. And then later on you were picked up by the "Carpathia"?

- Yes.

Examined by Mr. SCANLAN.

18106. Had you a sufficient crew for rowing this boat No. 10?

- No.

..Women & Children first

..On other deck first

- 21 The Commissioner:
Oh, do not ask that question again please; they were sufficient to get the boat in safety to the "Carpathia."
- 22 Mr. Scanlan:
There is one point I wish to submit to your Lordship at a later stage; that is, if there had been proper rules with regard to the manning of boats there would have been a greater number of men on board to man each lifeboat, and that they could have done better work in saving passengers than they did.
- 23 The Commissioner:
But what do you mean - better work when they were once in the water?
- 24 Mr. Scanlan:
Yes.
- 25 The Commissioner:
They could not have saved more than the whole, you know, and they did save the whole.
- 26 Mr. Scanlan:
There were not two-thirds of the people saved for whom it is alleged the lifeboats on the "Titanic" had capacity.
- 27 The Commissioner:
I know that. That is a very important point; but at present I am thinking about your reiterated question as to whether there were sufficient men in the boat to manage the boat when she was once in the water. I have heard that question so often that I am beginning to get a bit tired of it.
- 28 18107. (*Mr. Scanlan.*) If I have asked the question sufficiently often to convince your Lordship of the point of view I am instructed to lay before you, I feel I have done sufficient. (*To the witness.*) Had you any difficulty in lowering that boat?
- I did not lower it.
- 29 18108. Was there any difficulty in lowering No. 10?
- No difficulty, to my knowledge.
- 30 Examined by Mr. HARBINSON.
- 31 18109. I believe, after the collision you found some ice on the deck?
- Yes, on the well deck.
- 32 18110. Was there much?
- A couple of tons.
- 33 18111. Of block ice?
- Of block ice.
- 34 (The Witness withdrew.)

35 United States Senate Inquiry

36 Day 7

37 Testimony of Edward J. Buley

38 Source : <http://www.titanicinquiry.org/USInq/AmInq01Indxa.php>

39 (*The witness was sworn by Senator Fletcher.*)

40 Senator FLETCHER.
State your full name and address.

41 Mr. BULEY.
[Edward John Buley](#); 10 Cliff Road, Pear Tree Green, Itchen, near
Southampton.

42 Senator FLETCHER.
What was your position on the [Titanic](#)?

43 Mr. BULEY.
Able seaman.

44 Senator FLETCHER.
How long had you been serving?

45 Mr. BULEY.
This was my first trip, sir. I was just in the merchant service; I had just left the
navy.

46 Senator FLETCHER.
How long have you been in the navy?

47 Mr. BULEY.
Altogether, about 13 years.

48 Senator FLETCHER.
What pay does a seaman in the merchant service receive?

49 Mr. BULEY.
Five pound a month.

50 Senator FLETCHER.
And board?

51 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir.

52 Senator FLETCHER.
Anything else?

53 Mr. BULEY.
No, sir.

54 Senator FLETCHER.
Is there any extra money allowed any of the crew for the saving of life or
rescuing people, or anything of that sort, so far as you know, in the merchant
service?

55 Mr. BULEY.
No, sir.

56 Senator FLETCHER.
Did you observe anything out of the ordinary or usual on board ship up to the
time of this accident?

57 Mr. BULEY.
No, sir. I was sitting in the [mess](#), reading, at the time when she struck.

58 Senator FLETCHER.
Were you on duty?

59 Mr. BULEY.
I was in the watch on deck, the starboard watch. At 12 o'clock we relieved the
other watch.

60 Senator FLETCHER.
You were then on your watch?

..Informed through crew

..Arrives before (

..Crew rescue ac

..Filling Rules (gr

..Officers in char

..Officers in charge

61 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir.

62 Senator FLETCHER.
Where were you sitting, reading?

63 Mr. BULEY.
On the mess deck. If it was Sunday night, we never had anything to do.
Ordinary nights we should have been scrubbing the decks.

64 Senator FLETCHER.
What was your first notice of the collision?

65 Mr. BULEY.
The slight jar. It seemed as though something was rubbing alongside of her, at
the time. I had on my overcoat and went up on deck, and they said she had
struck an iceberg.

66 Senator FLETCHER.
Who said that?

67 Mr. BULEY.
I think it was a couple of firemen. They came down. One of our chaps went
and got a handful of ice and took it down below. They turned in again.

68 The next order from the chief officer, [Murdoch](#), was to tell the seamen to get
together and uncover the boats and turn them out as quietly as though nothing
had happened. They turned them out in about 20 minutes.

69 Senator FLETCHER.
How do you mean?

70 Mr. BULEY.
Uncovered and turned them out. They are on deck, and the davits are turned
inboard. You have to unscrew these davits and swing the boat out over the
ship's side.

71 The next order was to lower them down to a line with the gunwale of the boat
deck, and then fill the boats with women and children. We turned them up and
filled them with women and children.

72 Senator FLETCHER.
Where were you stationed?

73 Mr. BULEY.
I was over on the starboard side at first, sir.

74 Senator FLETCHER.
Did you lower the boats?

75 Mr. BULEY.
I helped lower all the starboard boats.

76 Senator FLETCHER.
That is, to lower them as far as the boat deck, to get the gunwales in line?

77 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir.

78 Senator FLETCHER.
That is the deck on which the boats were?

79 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir.

80 Senator FLETCHER.
Not to any lower deck?

81 Mr. BULEY.
No, sir; not to the lower deck. We lowered all the starboard boats, and went

..Officers in charge

..Women & Children fi

..Officers in charge

over and done the same to the port boats. There was [No. 10](#) boat, and there was no one there, and the chief officer asked what I was, and I told him, and he said, "Jump in and see if you can find another seaman to give you a hand." I found [Evans](#), and we both got in the boat, and Chief Officer Murdoch and Baker also was there. I think we were the last lifeboat to be lowered. We got away from the ship.

82 Senator FLETCHER.
How many people were in that boat?

83 Mr. BULEY.
From 60 to 70.

84 Senator FLETCHER.
Mostly women?

85 Mr. BULEY.
Women and children.

86 Senator FLETCHER.
How many men?

87 Mr. BULEY.
There were the steward and one fireman.

88 Senator FLETCHER.
And yourself?

89 Mr. BULEY.
And myself and Evans, the able seaman.

90 Senator FLETCHER.
That is all the men?

91 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir.

92 Senator FLETCHER.
The other passengers were women?

93 Mr. BULEY.
That is all there was. All the others were ladies and children.

94 Senator FLETCHER.
Were any ladies on the deck when you left?

95 Mr. BULEY.
No, sir. Ours was the last boat up there, and they went around and called to see if there were any, and they threw them in the boat at the finish, because they didn't like the idea of coming in.

96 Senator FLETCHER.
Pushed them in, you mean?

97 Mr. BULEY.
Threw them in. One young lady slipped, and they caught her by the foot on the deck below, and she came up then and jumped in.

98 We got away from the ship, and about an hour afterwards [Officer Lowe](#) came alongside, and he had his boat filled up, and he distributed them among the other boats, and he said to all the seamen in the boat to jump in his boat until he went back among the wreckage to see if there were any people that had lived.

99 Senator FLETCHER.
Did you go in the last boat?

100 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir.

101 Senator FLETCHER.
Who had charge of the boat you were in?

102 Mr. BULEY.
I was in charge of that.

103 Senator FLETCHER.
But when you left that?

104 Mr. BULEY.
I left that, and I believe he put some more stewards in the boat to look after the women. All the boats were tied together.

105 Senator FLETCHER.
You were then with Lowe in his boat and went back to where the *Titanic* sank?

106 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir; and picked up the remaining live bodies.

107 Senator FLETCHER.
How many did you get?

108 Mr. BULEY.
There were not very many there. We got four of them. All the others were dead.

109 Senator FLETCHER.
Were there many dead?

110 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir; there were a good few dead, sir. Of course you could not discern them exactly on account of the wreckage; but we turned over several of them to see if they were alive. It looked as though none of them were drowned. They looked as though they were frozen. The life belts they had on were that much (*indicating*) out of the water, and their heads were laid back, with their faces on the water, several of them. Their hands were coming up like that (*indicating*).

111 Senator FLETCHER.
They were head and shoulders out of the water?

112 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir.

113 Senator FLETCHER.
With the head thrown back?

114 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir.

115 Senator FLETCHER.
And the face out of the water?

116 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir.

117 Senator FLETCHER.
They were not, apparently, drowned?

118 Mr. BULEY.
It looked as though they were frozen altogether, sir.

119 In the morning, after we picked up all that was alive, there was a collapsible boat we saw with a lot of people, and she was swamped, and they were up to their knees in water. We set sail and went over to them, and in a brief time picked up another one.

120 Senator FLETCHER.

Another boat?

121 Mr. BULEY.
Another boat filled with women and children, with no one to pull the oars, and we took her in tow. We went over to this one and saved all of them. There was one woman in that boat. After that we seen the [Carpathia](#) coming up, and we made sail and went over to her. I think we were about the seventh or eighth boat alongside. During the time I think there was two died that we had saved, two men.

122 Senator FLETCHER.
How far were you from the *Titanic* when she went down?

123 Mr. BULEY.
About 250 yards.

124 Senator FLETCHER.
Could you see people on the decks before she went down?

125 Mr. BULEY.
No. All the lights were out.

126 Senator FLETCHER.
Could you hear the people?

127 Mr. BULEY.
Yes; you could hear them.

128 Senator FLETCHER.
Calling?

129 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir.

130 Senator FLETCHER.
Before she went down?

131 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir; and we laid to, not because we could give any assistance, but because the boat I was in was full up, and we had no one to pull the oars. There was three only to pull the oars, and one could not pull at all. He was a fireman. That left but two people to pull the oars, so I directed the steward to take the coxswain's watch.

132 Senator FLETCHER.
Before she went down, you could hear people calling for help?

133 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir.

134 Senator FLETCHER.
Was there very much of that?

135 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir; it was terrible cries, sir.

136 Senator FLETCHER.
Most of the witnesses have said they could hear no cries for help until after the ship went down.

137 Mr. BULEY.
This was after the ship went down when we heard them.

138 Senator FLETCHER.
I have been asking you about hearing cries before the ship went down.

139 Mr. BULEY.
No, sir; there was no signs of anything before that at all.

140 Senator FLETCHER.

Before the ship went down you did not hear any cries for help?

141 Mr. BULEY.
No cries whatever, sir. Her port bow light was under water when we were lowered.

142 Senator FLETCHER.
How long after you were lowered and put in the water was it before she went down?

143 Mr. BULEY.
I should say about 25 minutes to half an hour.

144 Senator FLETCHER.
Was yours the last boat?

145 Mr. BULEY.
Mine was the last lifeboat, No. 10.

146 Senator FLETCHER.
Were the collapsibles lowered after that?

147 Mr. BULEY.
The collapsibles were washed off the deck, I believe, sir. The one we picked up that was swamped, I think they dropped her and broke her back, and that is why they could not open her.

148 Senator FLETCHER.
Were there people in that collapsible?

149 Mr. BULEY.
She was full up, sir; that is the one we rescued the first thing in the morning.

150 Senator FLETCHER.
How soon after the *Titanic* went down was it before you got back there with Lowe to help rescue people?

151 Mr. BULEY.
From an hour to an hour and a half.

152 Senator FLETCHER.
And your idea is that the people were frozen.

153 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, frozen.

154 Senator FLETCHER.
Frozen in the meantime?

155 Mr. BULEY.
If the water had been warm, I imagine none of them would have been drowned, sir.

156 Senator FLETCHER.
Then you got some people out of the water, and some of those died after you rescued them, did they?

157 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir.

158 Senator FLETCHER.
Were they injured in any way?

159 Mr. BULEY.
No, sir. I think it was exposure and shock.

160 Senator FLETCHER.
On account of the cold?

161 Mr. BULEY.

Yes, sir. We had no stimulants in the boat to revive them, at all.

162 Senator FLETCHER.
They seemed to be very cold when you got them out of the water?

163 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir, and helpless.

164 Senator FLETCHER.
Numb?

165 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir. There were several in the broken boat that could not walk. Their legs and feet were all cramped. They had to stand up in the water in that boat.

166 Senator FLETCHER.
Do you know of any banquets or drinking on board the ship that night?

167 Mr. BULEY.
No, sir.

168 Senator FLETCHER.
So far as you know, the crew were sober.

169 Mr. BULEY.
The crew were all asleep, sir.

170 Senator FLETCHER.
Did you see any of the crew arousing people or giving the alarm?

171 Mr. BULEY.
That was the steward's work, sir. We had nothing to do with that.

172 Senator FLETCHER.
The question is whether you observed it, in any way?

173 Mr. BULEY.
No, sir. We were away from the saloons altogether. We were in the [forecastle head](#).

174 Senator FLETCHER.
Do you know when the water began to come into the ship?

175 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir; a little after she struck. You could hear it.

176 Senator FLETCHER.
Immediately?

177 Mr. BULEY.
You could hear it immediately. Down where we were, there was a hatchway, right down below, and there was a tarpaulin across it, with an iron batten. You could hear the water rushing in, and the pressure of air underneath it was such that you could see this bending. In the finish I was told it blew off.

178 Senator FLETCHER.
What part of the ship would you call that?

179 Mr. BULEY.
The forecastle head.

180 Senator FLETCHER.
How far was that from the bow?

181 Mr. BULEY.
About 20 yards, I should think.

182 Senator FLETCHER.
That condition could not have obtained unless the steel plates had been torn off from the side of the ship?

183 Mr. BULEY.
From the bottom of the ship. It was well underneath the water line.

184 Senator FLETCHER.
And the plates must have been ripped off by the iceberg?

185 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir.

186 Senator FLETCHER.
There was no way of closing that up so as to prevent water coming in?

187 Mr. BULEY.
It was already closed up. The carpenter [[John Hutchinson](#) or [John Maxwell](#)]
went down and tested the wells, and found she was making water, and the
order was given to turn the boats out as well as possible, and then to get the
life belts on.

188 Senator FLETCHER.
Could not that ship take a great deal of water and still float?

189 Mr. BULEY.
She ought to be able to do it, sir.

190 Senator FLETCHER.
There was no way of filling one compartment completely, and still not
affecting the other part of it?

191 Mr. BULEY.
No. I should think if that had been a small hole, say about 12 by 12 feet
square, in a collision, or anything like that, it would have been all right; but I
do not think they carried collision mats.

192 Senator FLETCHER.
What is a collision mat?

193 Mr. BULEY.
It is a mat to shove over the hole to keep the water from rushing in.

194 Senator FLETCHER.
You think she did not carry collision mats?

195 Mr. BULEY.
I do not believe she did. I never saw one.

196 Senator FLETCHER.
Did you ever see collision mats used on merchant ships?

197 Mr. BULEY.
I had never been on a merchant ship before. I have seen them frequently used
in the navy.

198 Senator FLETCHER.
You think if she had had collision mats, she might have been saved?

199 Mr. BULEY.
That would not have done much good with her, because I believe she was
ripped up right along.

200 Senator FLETCHER.
For what distance?

201 Mr. BULEY.
I should say half way along, according to where the water was. I should say
the bottom was really ripped open altogether.

202 Senator FLETCHER.
The steel bottom?

203 Mr. BULEY.

Yes, sir.

204 Senator FLETCHER.
So no amount of mats would have done any good?

205 Mr. BULEY.
It would not have done any good in that case. Should the ship have had a collision or anything like that, it would have done some good.

206 Senator FLETCHER.
You did not see the iceberg?

207 Mr. BULEY.
No, sir. I never saw any ice until morning. We thought it was a full-rigged ship. We were right in amongst the wreckage, and we thought it was a sailing ship, until the light came on and we saw it was an iceberg.

208 Senator FLETCHER.
Did you get very far away from where the [Titanic](#) went down before the [Carpathia](#) was in sight?

209 Mr. BULEY.
No, sir. When the Carpathia came and hove to, we were still amongst the wreckage looking for bodies.

210 Senator FLETCHER.
By that time there were none of those afloat who were alive, so far as you could see?

211 Mr. BULEY.
No, sir; there were no more alive, then.

212 Senator FLETCHER.
The lifebelts were all in good condition, were they?

213 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, all new lifebelts. When you once put them on, there is no fear of them pulling off again in the water.

214 Senator FLETCHER.
Do you think there was a sufficient number of lifebelts for all the passengers?

215 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir; more than sufficient. Of course the seamen did not have a chance to get them - did not have time to get them.

216 Senator FLETCHER.
The seamen?

217 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir.

218 Senator FLETCHER.
Did the passengers have time, after the alarm was given, to get the belts?

219 Mr. BULEY.
They had the belts on a good hour before she went down.

220 Senator FLETCHER.
You think all the passengers were notified and were able to get out of their cabins?

221 Mr. BULEY.
I should say so. They were all on the boat deck.

222 Senator FLETCHER.

What became of them? You got all that were in sight when you loaded the last boat?

223 Mr. BULEY.
We loaded all the women we could see, and the chief officer [Buley refers to First Officer Murdoch - whom he mistakenly refers to as Chief - Henry Wilde replaced Murdoch as Chief in Southampton] rushed around trying to find more, and there was none, and our boat was lowered away.

224 Senator FLETCHER.
What became of the passengers on the boat?

225 Mr. BULEY.
They were taken aboard the Carpathia.

226 Senator FLETCHER.
I mean all the passengers on the Titanic?

227 Mr. BULEY.
I could not say, sir.

228 Senator FLETCHER.
You did not see them around the deck when you were leaving?

229 Mr. BULEY.
When we left they were still working, getting rafts ready, and throwing chairs over the side.

230 Senator FLETCHER.
Getting rafts ready?

231 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir.

232 Senator FLETCHER.
How many rafts were there?

233 Mr. BULEY.
That is, what they call rafts. They did not have time to make any rafts.

234 Senator FLETCHER.
Who was doing that?

235 Mr. BULEY.
The stewards and the firemen.

236 Senator FLETCHER.
Were there any passengers jumping overboard?

237 Mr. BULEY.
I never seen anyone jump overboard, sir.

238 Senator FLETCHER.
Did you see any passengers on the deck when you left?

239 Mr. BULEY.
Only men, sir.

240 Senator FLETCHER.
Were there many of those?

241 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir; there were plenty of them, sir. If she had had sufficient boats I think everyone would have been saved.

242 Senator FLETCHER.
Were these men that you saw on deck desiring or wanting to get into the boats?

243 Mr. BULEY.
No, sir.

244 Senator FLETCHER.
Or did they seem to think the ship was going to float?

245 Mr. BULEY.
I think that is what the majority thought, that the ship would float. They thought she would go down a certain distance and stop there.

246 Senator FLETCHER.
Did you hear any of them say that?

247 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, several of them. They said they were only getting the boats out for exercise and in case of accident.

248 Senator FLETCHER.
After you left her, her bow continued to go under?

249 Mr. BULEY.
Settled down; yes, sir. She went down as far as the afterfunnel, and then there was a little roar, as though the engines had rushed forward, and she snapped in two, and the bow part went down and the afterpart came up and staid up five minutes before it went down.

250 Senator FLETCHER.
Was that perpendicular?

251 Mr. BULEY.
It was horizontal at first, and then went down.

252 Senator FLETCHER.
What do you mean by saying she snapped in two?

253 Mr. BULEY.
She parted in two.

254 Senator FLETCHER.
How do you know that?

255 Mr. BULEY.
Because we could see the afterpart afloat, and there was no forepart to it. I think she must have parted where the bunkers were. She parted at the last, because the afterpart of her settled out of the water horizontally after the other part went down. First of all you could see her propellers and everything. Her rudder was clear out of the water. You could hear the rush of the machinery, and she parted in two, and the afterpart settled down again, and we thought the afterpart would float altogether.

256 Senator FLETCHER.
The afterpart kind of righted up horizontally?

257 Mr. BULEY.
She uprighted herself for about five minutes, and then tipped over and disappeared.

258 Senator FLETCHER.
Did it go on the side?

259 Mr. BULEY.
No, sir; went down headforemost.

260 Senator FLETCHER.

That makes you believe the boat went in two?

261 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir. You could see she went in two, because we were quite near to her and could see her quite plainly.

262 Senator FLETCHER.
You were near and could see her quite plainly?

263 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir.

264 Senator FLETCHER.
Did you see any people on her?

265 Mr. BULEY.
I never saw a soul.

266 Senator FLETCHER.
You must have been too far away to see that?

267 Mr. BULEY.
It was dark.

268 Senator FLETCHER.
Were there lights on that half part?

269 Mr. BULEY.
The lights were all out. The lights went out gradually before she disappeared.

270 Senator FLETCHER.
Notwithstanding the darkness you could see the outline of the ship?

271 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir; we could see the outline of the ship.

272 Senator FLETCHER.
You could see the funnel?

273 Mr. BULEY.
Quite plainly.

274 Senator FLETCHER.
Were there any cinders or sparks or anything of that sort from the funnel?

275 Mr. BULEY.
No, sir. We were lying to there. The people in the boat were very frightened that there would be some suction. If there had been any suction we should have been lost. We were close to her. We couldn't get away fast enough. There was nobody to pull away.

276 Senator FLETCHER.
How far were you when she went down?

277 Mr. BULEY.
We were about 200 yards.

278 Senator FLETCHER.
Do you know the names of the men in the boat with you?

279 Mr. BULEY.
I only know one, sir. That is Evans, able seaman.

280 Senator FLETCHER.
Is he here?

281 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir; he is coming up tonight at 8 o'clock.

282 Senator FLETCHER.
Who was in charge of your boat?

283 Mr. BULEY.
I was, sir.

284 Senator FLETCHER.
Do you know anything else about this matter, or is there anything
that you could think of that would throw any light on it?

285 Mr. BULEY.
No, sir; I think that is all I know.

286 Senator FLETCHER.
In what capacity were you employed in the navy?

287 Mr. BULEY.
Able seaman and seaman gunner.

288 Senator FLETCHER.
You do not have lifeboats in the navy?

289 Mr. BULEY.
Yes; they do, sir.

290 Senator FLETCHER.
Do they have enough for the men?

291 Mr. BULEY.
Oh, no; not enough for the men. They have enough for the men
just on ordinary occasions, like calm water; that is, if they could
get them out in time.

292 Senator FLETCHER.
You opinion is, if they had had enough lifeboats here, these
people could all have been saved?

293 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir; they could all have been saved.

294 There was a ship of some description there when she struck, and
she passed right by us. We thought she was coming to us; and if
she had come to us, everyone could have boarded her. You could
see she was a steamer. She had her steamer lights burning.

295 She was off our port bow when we struck, and we all started for
the same light, and that is what kept the boats together.

296 Senator FLETCHER.
But you never heard of that ship any more?

297 Mr. BULEY.
No; we could not see anything of her in the morning when it was
daylight. She was stationary all night; I am very positive for
about three hours she was stationary, and then she made tracks.

298 Senator FLETCHER.
How far away was she?

299 Mr. BULEY.
I should judge she was about 3 miles.

300 Senator FLETCHER.
Why could not she see your skyrocket?

301 Mr. BULEY.
She could not help seeing them. She was close enough to see our
lights and to see the ship itself, and also the rockets. She was
bound to see them.

302 Senator FLETCHER.
You are quite certain that it was a ship?

303 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir; it was a ship.

304 Senator FLETCHER.
How many lights did you see?

305 Mr. BULEY.
I saw two masthead lights.

306 Senator FLETCHER.
No stern lights?

307 Mr. BULEY.
You could not see the stern lights. You could not see her bow lights. We were in the boat at the time.

308 Senator FLETCHER.
Did you see that ship before you were in the water?

309 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir; I saw it from the ship. That is what we told the passengers. We said, "There is a steamer coming to our assistance." That is what kept them quiet, I think.

310 Senator FLETCHER.
Did she come toward you bow on?

311 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir; bow on toward us; and then she stopped, and the lights seemed to go right by us.

312 Senator FLETCHER.
If she had gone by you, she would have been to your stern?

313 Mr. BULEY.
She was stationary there for about three hours, I think, off our port, there, and when we were in the boat we all made for her, and she went by us. The northern lights are just like a searchlight, but she disappeared. That was astern of where the ship went down.

314 Senator FLETCHER.
She gave no signal?

315 Mr. BULEY.
No signal whatever. I could not say whether she gave a signal from the bridge or not. You could not see from where we were, though.

316 Senator FLETCHER.
Do you suppose she was fastened in the ice?

317 Mr. BULEY.
I could not say she was.

318 Senator FLETCHER.
She must have known the Titanic was in distress?

319 Mr. BULEY.
She must have known it. They could have seen the rockets and must have known there was some distress on.

320 Senator FLETCHER.
The Titanic had sirens?

321 Mr. BULEY.

Yes; she had sirens, but she never blew them. They fired rockets.

322 Senator FLETCHER.
They did not blow the siren or whistle?

323 Mr. BULEY.
No, sir.

324 Senator FLETCHER.
But the steam was escaping and making quite a noise?

325 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir; you could not hear yourself speak then. That had quieted down. The firemen went down and drew nearly all the fires.

326 Senator FLETCHER.
When she went down, she had no fire in her of any consequence?

327 Mr. BULEY.
She might have had fire, but very little.

328 Senator FLETCHER.
When did you first see that boat on the bow? How long was it before you launched?

329 Mr. BULEY.
When we started turning the boats out. That was about 10 minutes after she struck.

330 Senator FLETCHER.
Did that boat seem to be getting farther away from you?

331 Mr. BULEY.
No; it seemed to be coming nearer.

332 Senator FLETCHER.
You are possessed of pretty good eyes?

333 Mr. BULEY.
I can see a distance of 21 miles, sir.

334 Senator FLETCHER.
This was a clear night and no fog?

335 Mr. BULEY.
A clear night and no fog.

336 Senator FLETCHER.
A smooth sea?

337 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir.

338 Senator FLETCHER.
You are quite positive there was no illusion about that boat ahead?

339 Mr. BULEY.
It must have been a boat, sir. It was too low down in the sea for a star. Then we were quite convinced afterwards, because we saw it go right by us when we were in the lifeboats. We thought she was coming toward us to pick us up.

340 Senator FLETCHER.
How far away was she?

341 Mr. BULEY.
Three miles, sir, I should judge.

342 Senator FLETCHER.
When did you last see the captain that night?

..Women & Children first

..Men sneak in boats

343 Mr. BULEY.
I never saw him at all, sir.

344 Senator FLETCHER.
What officers were in sight when you left the ship?

345 Mr. BULEY.
Chief Officer Murdoch was the last one I saw.

346 Senator FLETCHER.
Did you see Mr. Ismay that night?

347 Mr. BULEY.
I do not know him.

348 Senator FLETCHER.
Boat No. 10 was on the port side?

349 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir.

350 Senator FLETCHER.
Who helped lower it? I believe you said you helped to lower all the boats?

351 Mr. BULEY.
I helped to lower all of them. Chief Officer Murdoch ordered me into the boat, finally, and he said, "Is there any more seamen?" I said, "No, sir."

352 Senator FLETCHER.
Mr. Ismay got in one of the boats?

353 Mr. BULEY.
I do not know which one it was. No. 12 was the last boat before me to be lowered, and Evans was one of the men that lowered that boat, and after he lowered that away I called him and told him Chief Officer Murdoch gave me orders to find a seaman and tell him to come in the boat with me, and he jumped in my boat.

354 Senator FLETCHER.
Was boat No. 12 loaded to its full capacity?

355 Mr. BULEY.
Yes, sir.

356 Senator FLETCHER.
Mostly women?

357 Mr. BULEY.
All women and children; except, of course, a couple pulling.

358 Senator FLETCHER.
Only two men?

359 Mr. BULEY.
They generally ran two seamen and one fireman and a steward to each boat.

360 Senator FLETCHER.
Do you know how many there were in No. 12?

361 Mr. BULEY.
No, sir; I do not.

362 Senator FLETCHER.
Do you think there were no male passengers in No. 12?

363 Mr. BULEY.
I was told afterwards that there were a couple of Japanese in our

..Men sneak in boats

..Women & Children fi

364

boat. They never got in our boat unless they came in there dressed as women.

Senator FLETCHER.

Do you know if they actually were there?

365

Mr. BULEY.

I can say I never saw them there.

366

Senator FLETCHER.

When you unloaded them?

367

Mr. BULEY.

I did not unload them. I was on the other boat at the time when they unloaded. We were alongside with the rescued people out of one collapsible boat, and towing the other boat behind us, the one Mr. Lowe was in.

368

Senator FLETCHER.

That is one of the collapsible boats?

369

Mr. BULEY.

Yes, sir; one we were towing, sir. There was one we were told not to use, which was a surf boat.

370

Senator FLETCHER.

You did not have any life rafts at all on the ship?

371

Mr. BULEY.

No, sir.

372

Senator FLETCHER.

I believe that is all I care to ask you. You will be good enough to appear at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning before the committee.

373

Mr. BULEY.

Yes, sir.

374

(Witness Excused.)