

Excerpt from *The Times* Friday January 14th 1887

The Pacific Steam Navigation Company's steam ship Britannia, Captain George Massey, which arrives at Plymouth yesterday, brought home Captain Evans and part of the crew of the barque Yucca, of Liverpool, 483 tons register, and Captain Doughty and part of the crew of the ship Mountaineer, of Liverpool, 1,496 tons register, both of which were burnt out at sea. The Mountaineer was bound from Hull with a cargo of coal for San Francisco. When off the Falkland Islands, about the middle of November, the cargo caught fire in the forehold. Every effort was made to extinguish the flames and large quantities of water were poured below. The fire, however, smouldered for days and gradually assumed alarming proportions. When off Cape Horn the decks burst up, and within a short space of time the ship was burning fiercely. The crew took to the boats and made for Staten Island, where they arrived in safety. The Mountaineer, which was an iron ship, was burnt clean out. The crew, 25 all told, subsequently proceeded to Sandy Point where they embarked upon the Britannia. Captain Doughty lost all his charts, instruments, and effects, valued at £400.