



*Carnarvon Castle*, built in 1867 (1,200 tons), was one of Donald Currie's East India Traders. Captain J. C. Robinson, her commander for many years, described how a private party was arranged to sail in her from the United States to England, and landed twenty-seven days after embarking in the Hudson River.

The *Union-Castle Chronicle* tells us: "J. C. Robinson was one of many Currie men who, having trained in the East India *Castles*, formed a nucleus of efficient officers for

the coming venture into steam. The change to steam caused much regret to Captain Robinson, as it did to many others. "The stately *Carnarvon Castle*," he wrote, "was the smartest and the best equipped sailing ship that ever flew the colours of the British Mercantile Marine. It was with anything but a light heart that I furled my canvas to boil the kettles of the *Castle Mail* . . . I was sent by Mr. Currie as a passenger for a coastwise trip in a primitive kind of steamer, called the *Iceland*, to learn steam . . .".