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Your reference

Our reference H72/4853

Date 12 December 1972

Dear Mr Williamson

SKILLETT'S "CITY OF CANTERBURY"

I enclose the entry regarding the artist S.D. Skillett from "A dictionary of British Marine Painters" by Arnold Wilson (Leigh-on-Sea, F. Lewis, 1967).

Frank Burt in his "Steamers of the Thames and Medway" (London, 1949) gives some information about the "City of Canterbury". She belonged to the London and Herne Bay Steam Packet Company, founded about 1835 to run steamers between London, Herne Bay and Margate. He goes on to say that their two best boats were the "City of Canterbury" and the "Red Rover", said to be two of the fastest on the Thames. The "City of Canterbury" was built at Poplar in 1835, 260 tons, 120 NHP.

I hope this information will be useful to you. I return your cutting from "Country Life", September 1972.

Yours sincerely

Ann Shirley

(Mrs) A M Shirley
Assistant Keeper
Department of Manuscripts