

GHOST SANK SHIP WHEN COMMANDER BROKE PROMISE

Dead Uriah Sears Kept Leaky Adelaide Townsend Safe 55 Years, Says Captain.

THEN HE MISSED TRIP. Which He Believes Explains Why Vessel With New Officers Went to Bottom.

"Ghost Just Sat and Looked at Me."

"I'll be back to see that you never let anybody else sail her," Uriah said, and then he turned over and died.

and reports the two-masted schooner Adelaide Townsend lost Delaware coast, with Capt. Thornblom, of Brooklyn, and all hands. The Townsend was in collision with the Clyde liner Mohican, bound from New York to Philadelphia.

All of which is concise and accurate, but like a short coat over a claw-hammer suit, it hardly covers the exigencies of the case, for a ship with a more unenviable reputation than the Townsend probably never went down to the seven seas.

In Jersey City the Townsend is as well known as "Honest John" Kelly along Broadway. From Brown Brothers in Tinian, and Lanau, pretty nearly every dry dock over there has had a crack at her at one time or another, and the caulkers and riggers, who knew the crazy ship like their own first born, called her "The Ghost," and nothing else, apparently because her continued existence didn't jibe with any natural laws.

From stem to stern, from fore-trunk to main boom tip, the old Townsend was a collection of year-gathered patches—a sea lobo of the rankest type. But there was another reason for calling the old Townsend "The Ghost," and for this you have to go away back to the elder generation along the Jersey City water front, and they won't talk about it with strangers.

"Sounds like damn lies," they say, shamefacedly, and refer you to Capt. Hogan for further information.

"Something Funny." "Queer thing his trunk came ashore, and nothing else; looks like there's something funny about the ship when she's lasted half a hundred years with him aboard, that she'd get sunk the first time he stays ashore. Eh-h-h?" say the venerable old non-descript you find along the Jersey water front and refuse further comment, nor will copious beer move them to more definite statements.

For the sake of what is to follow, it should be said here that Capt. Hogan is a real sure enough personality, that he lives with half a dozen other super-annuated skippers in the Montgomery House at No. 59 Montgomery street, Jersey City, that he has long whiskers, bright, burning eyes set either side of a sharp, keen-edged nose, and that, regarding the inventions of the marine persons of Jersey City, he is not a witch-raiser, a spiritualist, or even a mind-reader. He looks and talks like a hundred other down-east skippers of barnacled coasting schooners that navigate by dead reckoning and luck, and squint at the wake over the lee quarter to judge the speed they're making. Show one of these old fellows a sextant or a patent log and they'll ask you what they were. Yet without such modern aid to navigation the ghost ship and Capt. Hogan have traversed as many miles of ocean as most crack liners average up before they go to the junk-heap.

"That's Capt. Hogan over there in the chair," said the clerk, stopping some sort of blabby bookkeeping and laying down a rank, black pen. He pointed to a huddled figure over a radiator that clasped a thick stick in a palsied hand. The old skipper looked up. The reporter explained his errand. Capt. Hogan granted and looked vacantly at the boat.

"That's Loss Cruel Hard." Another old fellow with a stick tipped over.

"He's seventy-five years old, you know," said the newcomer, "and he takes the loss of his skip crew hard. She was a home and all to him and more beside."

Suddenly the huddled old man over the radiator began talking in a voice checked by many a night of singing. His

speech was like that of a lonely man who talks to himself in his solitude. "Sunk. First voyage I wasn't aboard her since Uriah Sears died," chirped the old voice. "And now she's gone—dead and gone, and them poor souls with her. Fifty-three years I sailed that ship, keeping my promise true to Uriah, and she's gone. My wife sailed with me aboard her—long ago. Those were her letters in the chest the papers say came ashore. I'm glad of that. I'd never want to lose those—no."

The other old man—he turned out later to have once been commander of an old-time tea clipper—leaned over. "Don't let him stop. Keep him talking. Make him tell about the ghost port. Ask him why a crew never struck but one voyage aboard the Townsend."

The old figure in the chair heard and went on wearily: "They said there was queer noises aboard at night. One hand was shipped, saw a blue light in my cabin burn all night long. They were scared, all of them, and I told them, says I: "Uriah'll never hurt you. He's kind and good as Uriah, and I'm a man of good morals and nothing can harm yer. But they quit at the end of every voyage, as the Captain here said."

Uriah Kept Her Afloat. "If they'd have known, though, it was Uriah that kept the ship afloat, when she was first drifted and hauled, as you might say, and found us our bearings. That's what Uriah does all these years, and then I breaks my promise to Uriah to die in my bunk like he done, and the Lord and Uriah sunk my ship—and I'm left with nothing but a few dollars—enough for a shore funeral. "Insurance? Nobody would insure the Townsend. I told them about Uriah, but they only laughed. Couldn't see it that way, but I knew. An' then last trip comes this rheumatism, and now I can't never go to sea no more."

"The doctor made me stay ashore or I never would have. I didn't think that after all these years it would have made any difference to Uriah, just for one voyage; but he sunk the ship because I didn't keep my word to sail aboard her till I died. Poor Thornblom! He ought never to have gone, but I couldn't lose the cargo, could I? So I asked him to command her for this one trip. "Well, well, now I'm talking of it, it comes easier. Uriah Sears?—a marine-born boy—captain at eighteen, married at twenty. We didn't bother about age then. I was mate of a big clipper ship at twenty. "Then I hurt my leg and came to work for Uriah. "He owned the Townsend then. Named her after his wife. She was built in Poughkeepsie, where the girl lived, and as good a job as those years ever put over. Flage flew when they launched

her, for Uriah was married to the Townsend girl that same day, and it was an occasion, as you may say. "The Townsend sailed to the West Indies for a while—sugar, rum, and once in a while, rifles going out, rum and sugar coming back. That was before the days of the banana. I never believed they was fit for human food, anyway."

Well, one voyage we got into an awful blow off Castle Island, in the Locked Island passage. Lost a mast, and the ship was crazy, was carried overboard and lost. "I thought he'd go crazy. Then he quieted down, and for months he never say a word except just orders. "Then he began to spit blood, and I knew he couldn't last long. Yes, consumption. He died in Kingston Harbor. I'll never forget the night—not an oven, but he shivered. "No one talking about that, but he told me to always stick to the Townsend. "I've willed her to you, he said, 'because you and me and Adde were good friends, and she died about her. Promise me to never let anybody else sail her while you own her."

"I'll Be Back to See." "I promised, I had my master's ticket that I'll be back to see; he said, and then he turned over and died. We buried him in the parish church near the Bowen tomb, for since his wife died he had no one in America. "Well, he came back. I've often seen him sitting down on the edge of his bunk, particularly when we were in warm latitudes. I could never keep a mate. They wouldn't berth at it. Finally I had a bunk up in the deck house forward, and let the mate sleep there. Then Uriah, he'd come more often when I was ashore. "Never said a word, just looked at me, that's all; but he never soiled me, though I know he was a rotten old collender and only kept afloat by a miracle. Old Hogan was in here yesterday. Gave me quite a start. Heard his chest was found after the collision and naturally assumed him dead. Funny to see him toddle in alive. Fine old fellow, Hogan. "The ghost—yes, they did call her that. Devil of a time getting a crew, too. Queer ideas these old sailors have."

All of which shows that Mr. Havens is very wise or very foolish, from whichever angle you view the case of the Adelaide Townsend. "Except Uriah," put in the old clipper captain. "Says, except Uriah," said the clerk, with the air of a man discussing an old friend. Then the reporter came

away and looked at the street cars for a long time. There is nothing like a Jersey street car to bring one back to earth. "At No. 116 Broad street is the office of Henry Havens, who sometimes acted as agent for the Townsend on her nerve-racking voyages. "Who's that?" asked Mr. Havens. "All I know is she was a rotten old collender and only kept afloat by a miracle. Gave me quite a start. Heard his chest was found after the collision and naturally assumed him dead. Funny to see him toddle in alive. Fine old fellow, Hogan. "The ghost—yes, they did call her that. Devil of a time getting a crew, too. Queer ideas these old sailors have."

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GIRL WHO LOST HER PLACE THEN DISAPPEARED.



MARGARET CARR.

Coroner Acitelli today held an inquest into the death of Mrs. Anna Trotter, the old woman who was found decapitated in her small apartment in the tenement at No. 23 West Eighteenth street, and found that she had been killed by her son, Arthur Trotter. Trotter was ordered committed to the Tombs without bail to await the action of the Grand Jury. He was not questioned at the inquest.

MARGARET CARR, RUNAWAY GIRL, WILL BE FORGIVEN.

Mother Anxious for Return of Pretty Miss Who Disappeared Five Weeks Ago.

If Margaret Carr will return to her mother's home, No. 40 Prospect street, Brooklyn, from which she disappeared five weeks ago, a parental forgiveness awaits her.

The missing girl is seventeen years old, with large blue eyes and light brown hair. She weighs 124 pounds. Mrs. Carr told an Evening World reporter she believed her daughter ran away because she was afraid to confess to losing her job in a Manhattan office. Margaret has been seen in Brooklyn since running away, but not once has she communicated with her grieving parents. The missing girl attended the church of the Assumption and sang in the choir.

HELD FOR MOTHER'S MURDER.

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CORPORATION CAN'T LIBEL, HEARST'S PLEA

Inasmuch as a corporation has no soul, a corporation cannot commit criminal libel, because a corporation cannot think and cannot entertain evil or malicious intent.

Clarence Shearn spent two hours telling the Justice Dowling in the Criminal Branch of the Supreme Court today in arguing a demurrer to an indictment charging the Star Company with criminally libeling John D. Rockefeller Jr.

The Star Company is the corporation which prints the William Randolph Hearst morning paper in this city. An article in the publication charged young Mr. Rockefeller with installing a system of peonage in a manufacturing plant in Illinois. The indictment followed.

Mr. Shearn first sought to have the indictment dismissed. When he was refused in this endeavor he argued his demurrer and the argument was answered by District Attorney Jerome, who remarked at one time in the course of his address: "My friend Mr. Shearn knows what I say is true."

The case stopped. After a moment he continued: "I wish to withdraw the designation 'my friend' in speaking of Mr. Shearn." Justice Dowling reserved decision.

CASTORIA For Infants and Children. Bears The Signature Of Chas. H. Fletcher. Over Thirty Years The Kind You Have Always Bought. In Use For.

JAMES MCGREERY & CO. 23rd Street 34th Street

On Tuesday and Wednesday, January the 19th and 20th.

CHINA DEPARTMENTS. In Both Stores.

- Cut Glass, Dinner Sets, Fine China, Marble Pedestals and Figures. Considerably below usual prices. Dinner Sets. Fine French China, open stock, finished with encrusted gold edge. 100 pieces. 120.00. French China, open stock, white and gold design. 100 pieces. 65.00. French China. 100 pieces, with extra large platter. 15.00. Fine Austrian China, 100 pieces. 12.00. English Porcelain, Old Blue Willow design. 112 pieces. 9.00.

FURNITURE. In Both Stores.

- Semi-Annual Sale Continued. Craftsman and Mission Furniture. Models that are to be discontinued, at about one-half usual prices. Low seated Chairs and Rockers, 3.50 to 5.50 former price 7.00 to 10.50. Armchairs and Rockers, 6.50 to 9.75 former price 12.00 to 18.00. Hall Seats and Settees, Mahogany or Oak. 17.50 former prices 27.50 and 34.50. Music Cabinets and Cellarettes, 12.50 former price 22.50. Morris Chairs and Bookcases, 19.50 former price 25.00. Sideboards. 22.50 and 40.00 former prices 30.00 and 50.00. China Closets. 25.00 and 34.00 former prices 32.00 and 45.00. Bedsteads, Dressers, Chests of Drawers and Wardrobes. Parlor and Living Room Suites. Suites of 3 pieces,—solid Mahogany frames upholstered in Velour, Damask and Velvet. Colonial, Sheraton and Chippendale reproductions. 67.50, 85.00, 95.00, and 115.00 per suite former prices 85.00, 115.00, 122.50 and 150.00.

JAMES MCGREERY & CO. 23rd Street 34th Street

Tea Served in Our Balcony Tea Room Free of Charge Between the Hours of 2.30 and 5 P. M. WE SELL MORE REAL LACES THAN ANY OTHER STORE IN AMERICA. EHRICH BROS. ESTABLISHED 51 YEARS. SIXTH AVE., 22D TO 23D STREET. The Challenge Sale defines the position of Ehrichs' in the matter of January Economy as applied to Merchandise and Prices. The Whole Store Is United in Concerted Action in the matter of exceptional value-giving. Every section from basement to roof is at the present time offering BARGAINS of the most uncommon character; BARGAINS that give more potent meaning and newer and broader interpretation to that much-abused word; BARGAINS that stimulate interest and enthusiasm, and meet every expectation most fully and honestly. Do you wonder why the Ehrich Challenge sales are always such a pronounced success? Here's only a hint of what this wonderful Challenge Sale offers: Women's, Misses' & Girls' Coats, Suits & Skirts, at 1.50, 2.50, 3.50, 4.50, 6.50, 7.50, 8.50, 10.50 & 12.50. Values from \$10.00 to \$75.00. Silks and Dress Goods at 29c, 39c, 49c, 59c, 69c, 89c and 99c per yard. Values from 49c to \$2.50 per yard. Women's Shoes, worth \$2.00 to \$3.50, at 1.00. Fancy Lace All-overs, worth 75c. yard, at 29c. \$2.98 Dining Room Rugs, size 6x9 feet, at 89c. \$14.98 all wool Brussels Rugs, large size, at 6.98. \$19.50 Brass Beds with 2-in. Post, neat design, at 7.49. \$10 to \$25 Sample Hair Mattresses, some with imperial edges, at 4.93. Women's Sample Lisle and Cotton Hose, up to 50c. values, at 15c. Women's \$1.00 real Kid Gloves, 2-clasp style, at 59c. There are thousands of other bargains equally stirring which we guarantee no other house can duplicate. And such offerings must place the house of Ehrichs' more prominently than ever in the limelight of popularity—giving to it that substantial recognition merited only by aggressive action and sincere effort. And so all economically inclined women who are alert for real bargains and who are thrifty enough to husband their expenditures will find in Ehrichs' the store that sparkles with interest in every direction—the store that saves you the greatest amount of money on the most desirable merchandise—the store that is most helpful to that great mass of people with whom economy is a matter of primal importance and earnest consideration. EHRICH BROS., SIXTH AVE., 22D TO 23D ST.

JAMES MCGREERY & CO. 23rd Street 34th Street. On Tuesday, January the 19th. RIBBON. In Both Stores. Pink dot Washable Ribbon. Colors,—Pink, Blue and White. No. 1. 20c piece 10 yds. 1 1/2. 30c " " " 2. 45c " " " 3. 60c " " " 5. 75c " " " 5 1/2 inch Satin Taffeta Ribbon. A variety of colors, black and white. 23c per yd. EMBROIDERY DEP'TS. In Both Stores. New Embroideries, comprising a complete assortment of staple and novelty designs in edging, insertion, bands, flouncings and all-overs. Sale of White Muslin Embroideries, various widths and patterns. Strips of about 4 1/2 yards. 45c, 70c, 85c, 1.15 to 4.50 per strip. about 1/2 usual price. CORSETS. In Both Stores. Sale of Augustine Corsets, at about one-half usual prices. All Corsets Carefully Fitted. Augustine Corsets, with extreme long back, greatly reducing the figure into graceful, slender proportions. Strong front and side supporters. 95c and 1.45 usual prices 2.50 and 3.00. Augustine Corsets, models for every type of figure. Made of Silk Broche Batiste, pink, white and blue, also Imported Coutil and Mercerized Batiste. Filled with Walohn and Whalebone. 2.45 and 2.85 usual price 4.00 to 6.75. JAMES MCGREERY & CO. 23rd Street 34th Street

GOOD NEWS! FOR PLAYERS OF THE NEW GAME "GUESS" So great an interest has been taken in "GUESS," the latest, most fascinating and instructive game of the season, that in order to facilitate the playing of the game The World has decided to print from day to day different series of questions and answers in such form that they may be clipped from the paper and used as playing "cards." Every question will be one of general interest and every answer will be taken from among the 15,000 facts and figures published in The World Almanac and Encyclopedia for 1909. The first of these "GUESS" cards will be printed to-morrow. Don't fail to cut it out and add to it the other cards to be printed in the future. Until you have saved at least ten of these cards the game of "GUESS" may be played as follows: RULES FOR PLAYING "GUESS" Provide each contestant with a copy of The World Almanac and Encyclopedia for 1909, of which 200,000 copies have been distributed since Jan. 1. In this "Wonderful Book About Wonderful Things" you will find more than 15,000 facts and figures bearing on names, dates, persons, places, weights, measures, records, areas, populations, exports, imports, duties, immigration, politics, and in fact nearly everything under the sun that one ought to know. Turn to the index of this greatest of all Ready Reference Books and decide upon some one of the hundreds of topics referred to there as the special field of knowledge to be investigated. Let each person study the information presented under this particular caption for one or five minutes. Now let everybody place their copy of The World Almanac for 1909 before them, closed, of course, and draw a short essay upon the subject in question, limited in length to about 200 words. Or SECOND—Appoint one of the party as QUESTIONER, who will ask 50 or 100 questions. The answers to which will, of course, be found in The World Almanac. Answers should be kept and prices awarded according to the best records made. The famous "JARR FAMILY" gave a "GUESS" party the other evening. For humorous details see Roy McCardell's story in to-day's Evening World. YOU should give a "GUESS" party too. They are all the rage, and when all is over you will not only admit that it's great fun, but that The World Almanac and Encyclopedia for 1909 is positively the greatest Ready Reference Book ever set in type and printed. Copies cost but— At Newsstands - - 25c (West of Buffalo and Pittsburg - - 30c) By Mail - - - - 35c IN ORDERING BY MAIL ADDRESS THE WORLD PULITZER BUILDING, NEW YORK CITY