ENDYMION WINS OCEAN RACE.

VARUNA AND THISTLE CRIPPLED BUT FINISH THE CONTEST.

Five Yachts Start From Brenton's Reef and Finish Off Coney Island—Head Winds All the Way—Atlisa Disabled Off Montauk and Towed to City Island.

The schooner Endymion sailed across the finish line of the ocean race of the Atlantic Yacht club yesterday afternoon during a hard squall. It was so black that few could distinguish the handsome schooner as she went by Coney Island light and continued her journey up the bay. She was timed at 1:30 o'clock and had sailed from Brenton's Reef lightship in 28 hours 15 minutes 45 seconds. The distance from Brenton's Reef lightship to Coney Island light is 145 miles, but the wind was on end for the entire trip and the time is very creditable. The second yacht to finish was Vice-Commodore F. R. Ames's schooner Varuna. Her time was 28 hours 19 minutes 35 seconds. She had a hard time. Topsails were blown to ribbons and her figurehead was carried away by the rough seas. Commodore Robert E. Tod's topsail schooner Thistle was third. Her actual time was 28 hours 50 minutes. She, too, was a cripple. Early in the morning when near Fire Island light her topgallant mast went by the board. The Atlisa, owned by Henry S. Redmond, which started in the race, was disabled off Montauk Point and towed to City Island for repairs. The Mira, owned by Charles Lane Poor, quit the race early in the contest.

This ocean race was for a cup offered by Commodore Tod and is the first of a series of such contests which are to be sailed for prizes offered by him.

A light southwesterly breeze was blowing when the fleet left the harbor for the starting line and there was a good outlook for a race. It had been agreed by the owners of the yachts that light sails should not be carried, and this put each vessel strictly in cruising trim. The Endymion, holder of the record across the Atlantic Ocean, was the first to get ready. She looked to be in fine shape for the contest and was picked as a sure winner. Capt. Loesch had charge of this vessel. The Atlisa was expected by some to be the boat that would give the Endymion the hardest race. She has shown in her races here that a breeze of wind and a rough sea bring out her qualities better than light weather and smooth water. Capt. Rhodes, who last year sailed the Constitution, had charge of this yacht. The Thistle was entered by Commodore Tod to help make a race. Commodore Tod had no idea of being able to beat the Endymion or the Atlisa. His boat is heavily loaded with stores and her rig is not one that would help her against the schooner or the yawl. On board the Thistle were Major J. Fred Ackerman and Fred Vilmar. She was sailed throughout the race by Commodore Tod. The Varuna is an old boat. She took part in ocean races several years ago. Vice-Commodore F. R. Ames had with him as guests C. E. Schuyler, Charles Burnham and Louis Jackson. The Mira was started by her owner, Charles Lane Poor in the hope that there would be light weather, but the wind and seas were too much for this craft.

The start was a very informal one. No preparatory signal was made. The tug C. P. Raymond in charge of Capt. Wray made a line to the westward of Brenton's Reef Lightship and at 11 o'clock a long blast on her whistle gave the starting signal. The wind blew a fine breeze in strength and was blowing about ten miles an hour. Commodore Tod, who always sails his own boat, had judged the Thistle's time beautifully and she went across the line right up in the windward end thirty seconds after the signal. She carried mainsail, main topsail, foresail and fore staysail and inner and outer jib. She can carry in addition to these sails a square foresail, topsail and topgallant sail but these are no good when beating to windward. She was on the port tack. Astern of her and on the starboard tack was the Atlisa. She was only half a minute behind the Thistle. Then came the Endymion on the port tack a minute and a half late and the Mira without a topsail three minutes late. The sailing master of the Endymion had misunderstood the signal and for some minutes he kept well to windward of the line. When finding out that the others were off on the race the Endymion ran back to the line and crossed 14 minutes and 15 seconds late. All the yachts were timed as though they had crossed the line when the signal was made at 11 o'clock, so the Endymion was handicapped nearly fifteen minutes. The Endymion carried a baby jib topsail and on the starboard tack stood off shore. The Atlisa took the port tack and stood well in toward Sandy Hook shore, and the Thistle, Varuna and Mira held off shore on the starboard tack. They were heading about south. After half an hour's sailing the Varuna took the port tack. She crossed the bows of the Endymion and Mira, but went astern of the Thistle. Then the Mira had enough of the rougher water off shore and she stood in toward the shore.

The wind was freshening all the time and the yachtsmen figured that it would probably hold until sundown and then might come in from the south. The Endymion held the offshore tack for two hours and then stood over toward Block Island and crossed the bow of the Thistle. The Atlisa worked along the Rhode Island shore as far as Point Judith and then made a long tack to the west, passing to the north of Block Island. The Mira followed the same course, but the others went out to sea, passing to the eastward of Block Island and getting more wind and more sea.

Then they lost sight of each other. The Thistle was doing well during the afternoon. She logged about 8 knots and at 4 o'clock the third jib was set. This sail helped her very much. At 4:45 the Endymion was sighted from the Thistle. She was four miles to windward of the flagship and on the starboard tack. At 7:45 Montauk Light bore west by west from the Thistle. The Varuna was then four points off the flagship's lee bow, and a little later, when the Varuna tacked, she passed ahead of the Thistle and headed out to sea.

The moon shone brightly after the sun had gone down, the sky was clear and the gentle ocean swell rose and fell as the yachts faced on toward the finishing line. The southwesterly wind was still blowing and blew fresh. The Varuna was holding the starboard tack and at 10:30 she was between Amagansett and East Hampton. Astern, the light on Montauk Point flashed over the water. She was so steep for the racers between of the two towns on the vessels turned in, but soon came on deck again to see how the race was progressing. By midnight the log of the Thistle showed that she had sailed 70 miles in ten hours and an hour later the Thistle was off Montauk Point. The moon, a little past its first quarter, gleamed across the sea. Two short tacks were made and the Thistle under the pressure of an increasing wind improved her position so that when daylight began to dim the lustre of the stars it looked as though she was close to leeward of the Endymion, which as the light increased turned out to be the Varuna. She had been in hard luck.

The wind had increased to about an eighteen knot strength and her topsails had been blown to ribbons. The rags were cleared away and she was sailing under lower sails only. At 4:30 o'clock in the morning she passed astern of the Thistle and then went off shore to get on the starboard tack, and when next seen, at 6:30 o'clock she had weathered the flagship. Then the Endymion was seen about four miles dead ahead of the Thistle. She was sailing fast and unless an accident happened a sure winner. The wind then increased in force and the sea was getting up. Big combers were tumbling in from the southwest and the Thistle with her lee rail down to the waters' edge was travelling better than she had at any time during the race. She was laying a course for Fire Island light and was rapidly overhauling the Varuna, when at 8:45 o'clock the fore topgallant mast snapped and tumbled down to leeward. The sailors were sent aloft to clear away the wreckage, but it was nearly two hours before all was snug. This break was a serious one to the Thistle. She could not set her flying jib, which had been doing such good work, and at once began to drop astern. Fire Island was sighted at 10 o'clock. The Endymion was then well in the lead with the Varuna next about a mile ahead of the Thistle. The Endymion was then about abeam of the light which was passed half an hour later by the Varuna and at 10:45 by the Thistle.

After passing the Sandy Hook lightship the Endymion started sheets and fairly blew up the harbor. She left the Romer Beacon on the port hand and then had to shorten sail as an ugly squall was making up in the northwest. The sky was very black and those who were waiting for the yachts to finish could hardly see the winning schooner as she shot by Coney Island Light and continued on to a safe anchorage in the upper bay. She was timed at the finish at 1:30 o'clock and crossed the line under lower sails only.

The Varuna was nearing the Hook when the squall broke. She had shortened sail preparing for the worst, but there was not much wind in the squall, and when it passed over the yacht had to beat up to the finish. She crossed the line at 3:21:05 and shortly afterward anchored off the clubhouse.

The Thistle shortened sail for the squall and when it had passed over she beat up the bay in a light wind and she went over the line at 3:50:30.

The Thistle and Varuna sailed a match race when was won by the Varuna. Some time during the night the Varuna had her figurehead carried away and she looked rather dilapidated as she lay at her moorings. The next race for the ocean-going yachts will be sailed some time next month and will be around Fire Island Light and back.

Yacht and Owner.	Actual Start. June 15.	Actual Finish. June 15.	Elapsed Time.
	H. M. S.	H. M. S.	H. M. S.
Endymion, E. A. Thomas	11 14 15	1 30 00	26 15 45
Varuna, F. R. Ames	11 04 30	3 21 05	28 19 35
Thistle, Robert E. Tod	11 00 30	3 50 30	28 50 00
Atlisa, H. S. Redmond	11 01 00	Disabled	
Mira, C. L. Poor	11 03 00	Did not finish	

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