

The Wind Too Light

And the Yachts Were Unable to Finish Inside the Time Limit.

First Race Between Shamrock and Columbia Is Therefore Declared Off.

Defender Was Ahead and Seems Superior to Challenger in Light Air.

New York, Sept. 26.—One of the biggest crowds that ever put to sea went down on the Sandy Hook lightship to witness Sir Thomas Lipton's second challenger Shamrock II, and the white flag Columbia, which is expected to defend the America's cup against his first trophy hunter two years ago, struggle for the yachting supremacy of the world. But the excursion fleet returned disappointed. The wind was never more than nine, and sometimes as low as three knots, was too light and shy to carry the contestants over the 80-mile course in the time allotted by the rules. At the end of five and a half hours, the prescribed time, the race was officially declared off. The Columbia was still seven miles from the start, the Shamrock was hauled down astern of her, the experts estimating her distance behind the Columbia at over three-quarters of a mile. The Columbia was congratulated herself upon the result of the first trial. The Columbia headed but once in the 25 miles covered and then the wind howled the way for only five minutes. In the windward work the Columbia beat the Shamrock seven minutes and fifteen seconds to the outer mark and crossed her lead some what in the breeze for hours.

While the test was unsatisfactory, the yachting sharp who has been skeptical up to this time as to the ability of the Columbia to successfully defend the cup is more confident. He says that the Columbia will have a hard time of it, but that he is sure to remain on this side of the Atlantic yet a while longer. Certainly Columbia's superiority in light air appears to have been demonstrated today. Shamrock did not, in fact, make so good a showing as did Lipton's first challenger in the half dozen flukes that preceded the actual races two years ago. What Shamrock may be able to do in heavy weather is of course problematical, but Columbia has been tried and all her admirers insist that she is distinctly a heavy weather boat.

The day had promised well at first. A strong northeast wind had been blowing for two days and the weather prophets had forecasted that it would hold. It had piled up what sailor men call a nasty lump of sea outside, and before the race began was whipping the foam of the crest of the waves.

The procession that sailed on New York harbor anticipated a fine day's sport. So numerous were the various kinds of craft that they seemed to fill the broad expanse of ocean between the Long Island and Jersey shores as with a countless fleet.

The big racers had already been towed out, and when they fleet arrived they were circling and wheeling from the gulls about the lightship. The polished bronze hull of the Shamrock gleaming and glistening in the brilliant sun, made her look like a yellow and gold-plated breastplate with white pilings spread.

The revenue cutters and yachts of the patrol fleet marshalled the excursion fleet behind the blue flag of the regatta committee, pulled up to the fleet, measured off 200 yards starting line from the lightship, let her anchor, and hoisted the signal "D. B. V.," indicating that the course would be east by north 15 degrees, straight into the eye of the wind, and return. The big tug started straight out the Long Island shore to set the outer mark. The log over her taffrail, which measured the distance, was reported to be within a mile, which was running out, so that the distance she recovered before the front was dropped overboard measured by the bottom. She was probably nearer 17 than 15 nautical miles.

Five minutes before 11 o'clock a puff of smoke burst from the committee boat. The blue pennant was flying, and the preparatory signal for the race had been given. Then began the jockeying behind the line, of which Charlie Barr, the American skipper, has proved himself so many times a grandmaster.

He got into the windward berth, and try as the Englishman would, he could not take him. As the red ball, which marked the windward side, was hoisted a minute later, the English skipper, in despair put up his tiller, crossed the line and started to tack. But the Columbia lunged to him as if he were acting for both, and when they again raced for the line it was like two thoroughbred horses, neck and neck, but Barr was still in the lead. The fascinating game the two skippers were fighting was so intense that both miscalculated the time and crossed the line 30 seconds before the starting gun was fired.

Three blasts of the whistle sounded the recall. The two big canvas-clad clouds were around Columbia off shore in the windward, and coming up again in the smoke of the gun, fled away across the line, both on the starboard tack, but Columbia a half length ahead, and a length to windward. Both carried the same sails, main clubtops, jib and baby jib. Then for ten miles down the Long Island shore in plain view of the people there the two big single-masted yachts, with the head seas, sending spray smoking to the cross trees.

Slowly but surely Columbia forged ahead, pointing her bows to the windward. Shamrock tacked and tacked again, but Columbia went about with her each time and appeared to be more nimble. Time and again she expected to win, but she was quicker in stays by 10 seconds.

It was directly off Long Beach hotel, with its crowded piazzas, that the Shamrock showed in front for the first and only time during the race. As the wind had died down somewhat, Charlie Barr lunged to windward for the first and his nose into a dead calm, and for some minutes he lay with sails flapping, while the Shamrock, pointing a slight windward shore drew rapidly astern, but the victory was short lived.

The Columbia rapidly overtook her adversary and Capt. Sycamore concluded to press to more canvas by trying to larger jib topsail. While the sailors were out on the bowsprit taking in the old and bending on the new, the Columbia went by the Shamrock and she was had moored to the dock.

From that time to the outer mark the Columbia gained steadily. She approached the turning point in the 80-mile race, going at full speed, side on and massed beyond the mark to witness the turn. As she came alongside, leaving the mark on the starboard side, Charlie Barr put his helm down and leered around. Then she piled away. Her great balloons broke out like a puff of smoke, her boom was eased off and she was away for home on a broad reach. The fleet courteously waited until the Shamrock rounded seven minutes and fifteen seconds later, and gave her a cordial reception. From that time on it tried for a dozen hours to get into the hoop of improving her position, but she

Big Mining Transaction

Group of Copper-Gold Claims on Mount Richards Bonded to U. S. Capitalists.

Large Amount to be Spent on Development—Mount Sicker.

Rumor was busy yesterday with the affairs of the Lenora mine. It was reported that the mine had been sold to a big sale lately by the Col. Sicker, who is reported to have a considerable interest in the property had been transferred. Various sums were mentioned as consideration, but all million dollars or over. Details were sketchy or entirely wanting in the stories about, but many of the wise ones were positive that big sale had been made. A Col. Sicker reporter who had heard the reports sought information at the townships head, the Lenora office.

Mr. Croft smiled and asked if the mine had been sold. "I wonder who has been selling the Lenora this time," he said.

No, there is not a word of truth in it. The mine is not for sale, nor have I any wish to part with an interest in it," said Mr. Croft. "It is extraordinary how these things keep cropping up regularly without the slightest foundation for them. Wait a bit though, perhaps the people who are talking about the sale of the Lenora have jumped to conclusions. The mine has just made a deal with some United States capitalists for a group of claims on Mount Richards, six miles away from here. They smiled and asked if the mine had been sold. "I wonder who has been selling the Lenora this time," he said.

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MURDERER SENTENCED.

Laplaine Will be Hanged in Montreal Next Month.

Strong Circumstantial Evidence Being Given Against the Prisoner.

London, Sept. 26.—In the Sifton trial today, the jury returned a verdict against Laplaine, who had been charged with the murder of a woman. The evidence was circumstantial, but the jury found Laplaine guilty. He will be hanged in Montreal next month.

Another man, who had been charged with the murder of a woman, was also found guilty. He will be hanged in Montreal next month.

Winter Mails For Dawson

Post Office at Ottawa Issues Notice Regarding Arrangements For Season.

After October 1 the Department Cannot Guarantee Transmission to Yukon.

Ottawa, Ont., Sept. 26.—According to a notice issued by the postoffice department today, the summer arrangements for the despatch of mails to Dawson and other places in the Yukon may be terminated at any moment owing to the close of navigation on the Yukon river. When this takes place it will be necessary, as in previous winters, to restrict the use of the mails to letters and limited quantities of newspapers. In connection with the latter arrangement will be given single papers addressed to private individuals. The department cannot guarantee transmission to Yukon of any mail matter other than letters after October 1.

All the energies of the militia department are now being directed to making good the Royal review at Toronto.

General O'Grady Haly was asked today if he had anything to make public about the trouble in connection with the medals of the militia. The general said the matter was being considered by the higher powers.

A. L. Sifton, commissioner of public works in the North West, has been offered the vacant position of chief justice of the territory of the Territories. He declined the offer.

The Duke of Cornwall told some gentlemen here that the Ottawa illumination was the best he had ever seen in any part of the world.

The smallpox situation in Ottawa is very serious. Compulsory vaccination by the city is being enforced at the schools. City Solicitor McVey has rounded up Al. Lewis who is suing the corporation for illegally spending as he contends, \$7,000 on the recreation of the city. Mr. Lewis is a solicitor and is said either Lewis is disqualified as an alderman or else he must withdraw his suit on the ground that no alderman can sue the corporation and retain his seat at the council board.

The Islander Investigation

Chief Steward Tells Of Rousing the Passengers After the Shock.

Capt Harris Says Officers Were Not Under Influence of Liquor.

When the inquiry into the Islander disaster was resumed yesterday morning, Chief Steward George Simpson was recalled, and examined by Mr. Bodwell. He said he was in charge of the life preservers in the rooms on the steamer. He had no knowledge of their age. He preferred a cork life preserver to the tule ones, being a heavy man.

Mr. Bodwell—But if tule was as good as cork, that would make no difference?

Witness—The life preservers were laid out each time the steamer arrived in port and dusted. Witness did not, however, inspect them closely. When the accident occurred he went to the bridge and asked the pilot for orders. The pilot swung out the boat and told him to swing out the boat. He did not know if it was a member of the crew. Witness did not know if anyone else gave orders.

Continuing, witness said he helped lower the after boat on the port side when the other was in the water, all going along the other and get the people out. They were below. Witness told the second steward to tell the watchman to call them as well as others. He did not tell the watchman to tell them to assemble.

Mr. Bodwell—Was it not part of your duty to have these men assembled when they could be used?

Witness—They were not assembled when I did not see them.

Mr. Bodwell—But men never have time to think in such emergencies as this.

Witness—He told the second steward and saloon watchman to go below and call passengers, and went himself to do so. He gave no orders to others. He did not know if there were people there or not. He did not know if they would be. Did not know why the purser's request to go back was not carried out. Those in the boat considered that the wind rose there were plenty in the boat.

Mr. Bodwell—But there was no wind?

Witness—There was plenty of wind ashore before the boat went ashore. Objections were made, and witness had spoken on the purser's side. He had expressed himself that they had better not go back. Witness—Why didn't you insist?

Witness—What right had I to do so? I had no jurisdiction over the officers or crew or over the boat.

Mr. Bodwell—Come now, you can't put yourself behind that. You had certain duties, which we'll discuss another day, but you didn't insist. Why didn't you insist?

Witness—I had no right.

Continuing, witness said the boat in which he did not start for shore until about twenty minutes after being lowered. Four or five minutes after it started the men a boat and transferred the purser, watchman and fireman to it. They went back to the scene of the wreck and the boat in which witness was was hoisted. Witness stayed on shore.

Mr. Bodwell—Looking after your own safety?

Witness—Looking after those who were landed. Mr. Bishop came and went with a comparatively small number of landed men and I took orders from him to receive the passengers. There were about thirty people on shore when we arrived.

Witness did not think a searchlight was of much use in locating life. A good light will carry about two or three hundred yards, there is a black smoke, and the heart, not far. Witness had made eight voyages through Stephens's passage. He could offer no opinion in regard to the safety of the passage. He had seen life preservers in the water on the next morning when on the way to Juneau. There was no piece bigger than about seven feet, with about a foot of water. At present he was not employed.

Mr. Bodwell—Have you not said that what you did would see you a job in the P. & N. Company?

Witness—Yes.

Mr. Bodwell—Formed no such expectations?

Witness—No, I have not.

Mr. Bodwell—You were on the shore after the accident did you see a boat land men in it?

Witness—No, I heard nothing about the accident until I heard you mention it in court.

Mr. A. J. Dellin, assistant to the local agent of Marine and Fisheries, examined by Commissioner Capt. Gaudin, was called on Thursday morning for a trial before the court. He was twelve years old and tested it. This life preserver was taken from the Inspector's office to the customs house and weighed. It weighed 28 pounds, eight ounces. It was then taken to the wharf and 28 pounds of lead attached. It floated.

Best Consignment

UP-TO-DATE STYLES AT WELLES BROS.

Latest Novelties From PARIS, BERLIN, LONDON.

WELLES BROS.

VICTORIA B. C.

Received At Innipeg

Hearty Welcome to Royal Visitors at Capital of Prairie Province.

The Duke Speaks of His Impressions on Progress of Canada.

Today the First Stop by the Train Will be Made at Regina.

Winnipeg, Sept. 26.—The royal train entered Winnipeg at 11:20 this morning. An immense crowd waited at the depot and cheered the Duke and Duchess when they appeared. The Governor-General's train had arrived half an hour in advance with Sir Wilfrid Laurier on board, and the Premier was on the station platform to receive the royal party. The officials of the staff of the Governor-General of Manitoba and Major Mann were in attendance. The guard of honor was drawn from the 90th Regiment, and the escort furnished by the Royal Dragoons.

There was no ceremony at the depot, the presentation of addresses taking place at the city hall. The official coronation was determined by regulations of the staff of the Governor-General. The decorations of the station, perfected under direction of an expert, of course, are beautiful and befitting. All the provincial and municipal flags were hoisted, and the Imperial and several other banks are nicely draped, as is also Nanaimo. The Imperial Dry Goods Company with various flags of the Empire interwoven and formed in various designs, making in all a most attractive front. The decorations of the city hall, of course, are beautiful and befitting. All the provincial and municipal flags were hoisted, and the Imperial and several other banks are nicely draped, as is also Nanaimo. The Imperial Dry Goods Company with various flags of the Empire interwoven and formed in various designs, making in all a most attractive front. 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