

The approaching vessel, it appears, came on all right until about four hundred feet from the "Manitoba," when she blew a low and indistinct blast of her whistle, and opened her red light. The mate of the "Manitoba" instantly rang his bell to stop, and had hardly done so when the collision took place, striking the unknown steamer between her stem and pilot-house, sinking her in about ten minutes from the time of striking. The boats of the "Manitoba" were immediately lowered by command of the captain, who came on deck just as the collision occurred, and perceived that the other steamer was sinking rapidly. Seven of the crew, including the captain of the sinking vessel, climbed on board of the "Manitoba," and three other persons were rescued by the boats, making in all ten persons rescued from this ill-fated vessel.

The captain of the "Manitoba" remained on the scene of the disaster until convinced that the survivors were picked up, when he made for White Fish Point Dock to look into the damage which his own vessel had sustained.

It was found that the vessel which came into collision with the "Manitoba" was the propeller "Comet," of Cleveland, Ohio, and that eleven persons went down with her. It is stated in some of the newspapers that she was an old, worn-out vessel, and it is thought, from the rapidity with which she sank, that all the persons lost, with the exception of the engineer and fireman on duty, were drowned in their berths without being aroused from sleep by the shock, which, it is stated, was not so severely felt on board of her as on board the "Manitoba." It is also stated that she was condemned as a passenger boat by the Steamboat Inspector of the American Government some years ago.

None of the persons rescued from the "Comet" were examined by the officer who held this investigation, as they could not be compelled to attend when the investigation was held; and it is, therefore, very difficult to explain why this vessel, when about four hundred feet from the "Manitoba," with plenty of sea-room to pass, should suddenly bring her red light into view by changing her course and running across the "Manitoba's" bow.

The report of the Collector at Sarnia on the subject will show all the particulars of this distressing accident.

The steamship "Strathtay," of Dundee, four years old, and 798 tons register, stranded off Bic, in the Lower St. Lawrence, on the 21st of June last, during a dense fog, while on a voyage from Montreal to London, and became a total loss. The master of the vessel attributed her stranding to having been misled by the pilot in charge, who, he states, informed him, when giving the position of the vessel on leaving her, that she was below or abreast of Bic, in mid-channel, and in a fair way; and assuming that position to be correct, the captain proceeded on his way for about twenty minutes, running in that time about five miles before the vessel struck on the N. W. reef, off Bic.