

which was carrying horses to the West Indies. None of these were profitable, however, from causes beyond his control.

On one of his voyages he was wrecked in a gale at Wreck Hill, Somerset Parish, Bermuda, the vessel fortunately pounding over the reef before it went to pieces. He and the survivors were brought to Halifax by one of Her Majesty's frigates.

On another of his voyages he was wrecked in the schooner "Mason's Daughter" on Briar Island, at the entrance of St. Mary's Bay, Nova Scotia. The crew were washed ashore in a wintry surf, and barely escaped being frozen to death.

But his courage and industry were not quelled by these misfortunes.

At the age of twenty-eight he became a student of surgery at Guy's Hospital, and of medicine at St. Bartholemew's hospital, the first being under the direction of Sir Astley Cooper, and the other under that of Dr. Abernethy.

He was noted while at Guy's Hospital for his earnest application and also his deep spirit of piety. When any physiological mystery became a subject of speculation his ultimate reason was always, "God made it so," and the phrase came to be known as Gesner's reason, and was habitually used among the students.

He was married in 1824 to Harriet, daughter of Dr. Isaac Webster, of Kentville, Nova Scotia. His children, beside three who died in infancy, were Henry, William, George Weltden, Abraham Herbert, Brower, John Frederick and Conrad. Of these two survive at the present time, George Weltden and John Frederick, both of whom are chemists and metallurgists and patentees of improvements in various branches of applied science.