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The Weekly Messenger.

THE GREAT RACERS.

The attempts at a yacht race between the "Genesta" and the "Puritan" have at last come to a definite result. It will be remembered that the yachts started to sail the course on Monday the 7th inst., but could not get round in the time allowed on account of the lack of wind. On the Tuesday following the "Puritan" ran foul of the "Genesta", breaking the latter's bowsprit and making a large rent in her own mainsail. Wednesday and Thursday were spent in repairing the yachts, and on Friday, the 11th inst., a race was begun. There was every promise of plenty of wind as the yachts made up to the starting point shortly before noon. The "Puritan" under mainsail and jib glided swiftly through the water, her decks being wet with the spray dashed over them. The "Genesta" made her appearance under her jib alone and the crew soon shewed what they were made of, running up her great mainsail in a few minutes. When the second and final signal was given both yachts started over the line, the English cutter being a few seconds behind. The "Genesta" went ahead of her rival and in an hour had gained half a mile. But the wind soon dropped off and the "Puritan" was steadily making up the ground she had lost. At half-past five o'clock the "Puritan" sailed about to round the buoy which was the turning point of the race. The captains of the excursion steamers were quick to notice a lull in the wind and were very prompt to decide that there would be no race, so one after another, they steamed away from the stake-boat. By six o'clock the imposing

fleet had vanished behind the horizon and the racers, the judges' boats, and one or two steam yachts were left alone on the ocean. The yachts had been out for six hours by this time, and there was no chance of the race being accomplished within the seven-hour limit, so the committee again declared it off, and the yachts were towed into port.

This was the second attempt, which ended

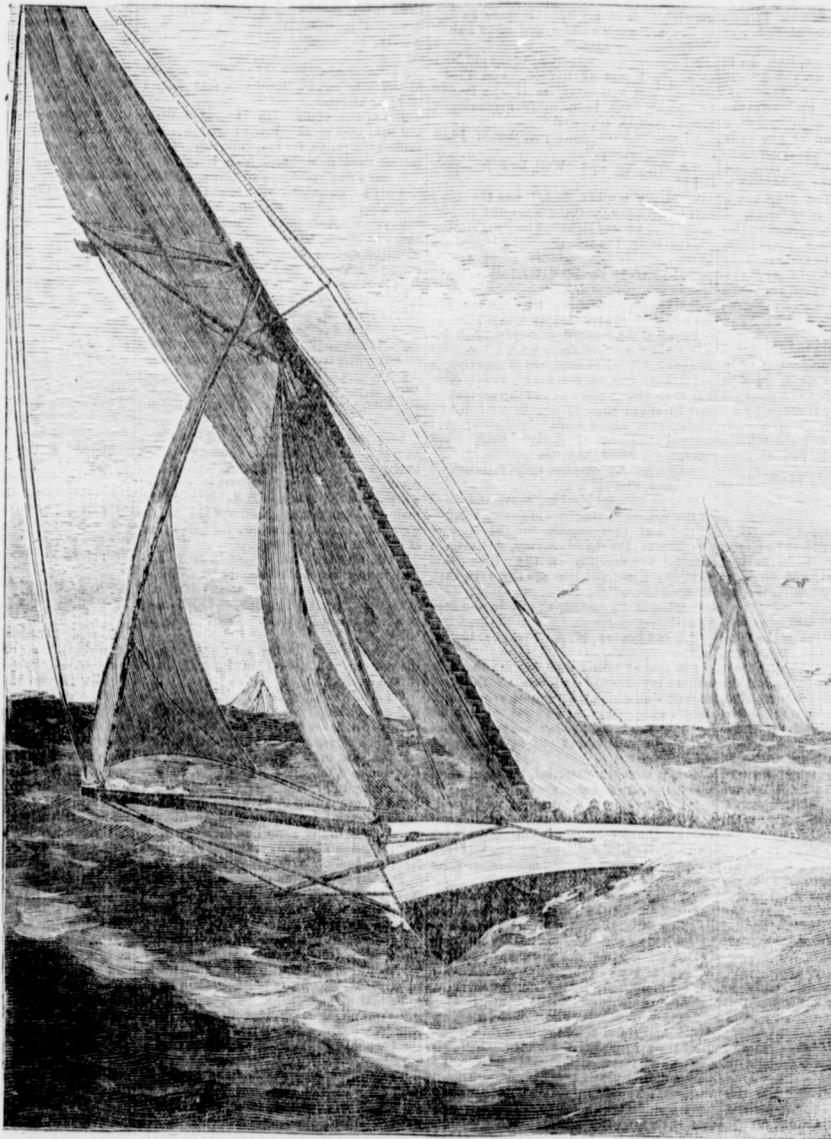
in a failure to accomplish anything. The public were generally disheartened at the results and interest in the race began to die out.

On Saturday last the yachts again prepared to renew the strife, but as they could not start before two o'clock because of the scarcity of wind, the captains of both yachts objected to starting at all. The race could not have been finished before

dark, and this was to be avoided if possible. There had been four attempts at a race but as yet nothing decided had been done. Monday was fixed for the next trial. This time the "Puritan" scored one out of the three races which have to be sailed. The two yachts crossed the line at about half past ten in the morning the "Puritan" kept slightly ahead of the "Genesta" until an hour later both were becalmed. On the

rest of the race the American sloop kept gaining steadily skimming over the smooth sea in the light wind which is so favorably to her. In the entire race, which was 38 miles long, the "Puritan" beat the "Genesta" by twelve and a half minutes. Sir Richard Sutton says: The "Puritan" is a hard customer to distance in any weather, but the "Genesta" is good for rough water and strong wind. Then we are not afraid of any yacht in the world."

A very humorous account of how the yachts tried to sail a race is given in one of the New York papers. The account runs thus: "Mr. Tam, one of the gentlemen on the "Puritan", went a fishing. At 11:53 he caught a fine dogfish. At high noon he landed a flounder. At 12:06 he got a bite. Then somebody else caught another dogfish, and a young man tied boards to both Mr. Tam's dogfish and the other dogfish and lowered both tenderly into the water. One board was called "Genesta" and the other "Puritan," and the point was to see which board would be out-towed. The "Genesta" made a little spurt off to seaward, and dipped her bows and wiggled about with a briskness that was exhilarating, and seemed to have a fair chance of going out of sight the winner. But suddenly both boards got becalmed, and the race was declared off."



THE AMERICAN SLOOP YACHT "PURITAN"
THE "GENESTA'S" ANTAGONIST.