

and the weather being more hazy mistook the Cuttershunk Light for a light on board a vessel bound into the Vineyard Sound still keeping this light on the starboard bow, at 20 minutes past three o'clock A. M. the barge struck on the rocks. After striking several times she went over ^{the reef} ~~the~~ ^{the} braces up, the yards, heading to the westward and discharging the pumps found five feet of water in the hold. Rigged the pumps, turned all hands to pumping. In about fifteen minutes the pumps became choked with rice. Drove the boxes to clear them, commenced again and found the water had gained three feet upon them. On taking off the fore scuttle found the hold full of water. They then tried to run her off before the wind, but being water logged she became unmanageable. They got an anchor ready to let go and then commenced clearing up the sails. The vessel kept settling and inclining to go over on her beam ends. After she was almost under water they began to clear away the boats and in getting one of them over she filled and became useless. After sunrise the wind freshening and the sea rising, the vessel having fallen over with her spars and sails in the water, and the forward part ~~of~~ ^{up} under water, with the sea breaking entirely over her, they were forced to abandon her and take to the remaining boat, in which they proceeded before the wind, and landed at Horse Neck Beach where the captain endeavored to obtain assistance but met with no success. Leaving a portion of the crew on shore, the Captain

Mate, Howard and one other man then attempted to return to the ~~Boat~~ where they discovered a Pilot Boat coming from Becher's Hook toward the ~~Boat~~. The wind blew fresh against the boat containing the Captain. The Pilot Boat got first to the wreck and took her in tow, and in getting on board the said Pilot Boat we found her to be the Harriet of Chilmark. The wind being fair to proceed to New Bedford the pilots shared their course for that harbor ^{and} where they arrived with the wreck, at or near the Egg Island where the gale occurred about three o'clock ~~on the~~ ^{Monday} of the eighth instant. From that time until the present date the pilots have been engaged in getting her up to the city, having brought her now to the channel on the East of Palmer Island where she now remains full of water. Therefore the said appraisers have declared a protest, as by them presented they do solemnly protest against the winds, waves, currents, tides, sunken rocks, reefs and all the perils of navigation for all loss, detriment or damage suffered or sustained by said vessel, her hull, tackle, apparel or cargo, the same having occurred as is before stated and not through the inefficiency of said vessel or her tackle or through the ~~neglect~~ ^{negligence} of any of the officers or crew, who all on the contrary did their duty faithfully and to the best of their ability.

Edward Humphrey Masters

Lynne Holmes Mate

Michael ^{his} ~~X~~ Ewing Steward
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