

## LOSS OF THE MARIA TERESA

### This Cruiser Goes Down in a Storm.

## THE HEROIC EFFORTS

### Of Her Commander and Crew to Save Her—Caught in a Storm off the Bahamas—Her Plates Open and Let in the Water—Her Engines Become Useless—She Rapidly Fills—Her Crew Stand by to the Last—The Men Transferred to Her Consorts.

Washington, November 5.—The Maria Teresa was lost during a heavy gale Tuesday night, thirty miles north of Watling island in the Bahamas. She sank in 2,600 fathoms of water. All the crew were saved.

A thrilling story of the loss of the cruiser is given in the official report of Lieutenant Commander Harris to the secretary of the navy, received by telegraph at the navy department late this afternoon. It is dated on board the wrecking steamer Merritt, fifty miles off Charleston, November 4th, and says:

"I have the honor to make the following report of the loss of the Infanta Maria Teresa on November 1st. At 1 o'clock a. m. I found that it was blowing hard and went on the lower bridge. We had left Watling island light abeam at 10 o'clock, and up till midnight the weather was pleasant and all went well with the ship, although we had trouble in keeping the pump in the forward fire room from being choked with coal. The wind continued to increase in force until perhaps 3 o'clock a. m. when it reached its height, although there were times all day when it blew as hard as ever. The direction was about northeast. The sea continued to rise until perhaps 5 o'clock a. m. There was a heavy sea, all the following day. The pumps were reported every hour. Soon after I came on deck I relieved the second mate, Mr. Johnson, so that he could go below to fight the water. About 3:30 o'clock the first mate, Captain Lecato, came up and he also went below to work. Captain Chittenden, who was on deck almost as soon as I gave his attention to the pumps and especially to priming the centrifugal pump in the forward fire room. There were many new leaks, when a heavy sea struck the sides the plates leaked at the butts and seams, showing that after the fire they had resumed their former appearance, but were not tight. There was at the mainmast an inch of thwartship vibration and only half an inch of longitudinal vibration.

"While making this examination about 4:30 o'clock a. m. Captain Chittenden was thrown and fell on the chain, hurting his side and back enough to temporarily disable him. He continued to give us valuable advice. At 5 o'clock a. m. we made signal to the Merritt to go to windward, which they did as well as they could. Up to 1 o'clock a. m. we were running the starboard main engines and had steam on the two central boilers and three of the short forward boilers, but the trouble in the forward fire room caused the steam to run low, and we lighted fires under the starboard after boiler and stopped the engine so as to run the steam up for the pumps.

"Keeping the water from the forward compartment was driven by a belt and when the sea broke over the bows the belt became wet and slipped. As soon as the water was up to the floor plate in the forward fire room the room was washed into the coal bunkers and carried the coal out, choking the pump and carrying the floor plates about, which made it difficult and dangerous to work there.

"About 8 o'clock I called for volunteers to hoist coal and water in the ash-hoist. Everybody responded and the work was continued as long as it seemed of any use.

"About 3:30 p. m. it was reported that water was coming into one of the starboard forward coal bunkers and running into the fire rooms. Where the water came from we do not know.

"About 2 o'clock the 11-inch gun in the after turret ran out and in twice. When it recoiled the second time something gave way and it settled to extreme elevation and remained stationary. We asked the Vulcan to signal the Leonidas to stay close to us, and the latter hoisted the flag at the signal yardarm, which was a signal agreed upon to call the Leonidas to come within hail. She was steaming ahead of us and making rather bad weather, it seems as if she feared to turn in the heavy sea, but eventually she did cross ahead of the Merritt and twice passed under the Teresa's stern, although at some distance. I think she picked up the life rafts which the Vulcan threw overboard.

"About 11:30 o'clock we signaled the Vulcan to ask the Merritt if we could be turned safely to run for the lee of Watling's island. To this Captain Wolcott replied 'No.' and as Captain Chittenden thought we would sink if we tried to turn, this idea was given up. Both the Vulcan and the Merritt could with difficulty keep us head to wind and the sea was running so high that the Vulcan's bits started or the low lines parted. The ship would fall into the trough of the sea.

"At 1 o'clock p. m. Captain Chittenden asked to signal the Vulcan to cast off the Merritt's low lines and have the Merritt come alongside. I then assumed the command, told the men what was to be done and assigned them stations. I told the chief engineer to start the engine to aid the Vulcan in keeping our head up. He did so, but could run but a short time with the

steam we had. We signaled the Vulcan to cast off about to abandon ship. Try to keep us head to wind. I ordered Captain Lecato to take charge of the lee surf boat and when it was lowered to the rail ordered Captain Chittenden into it. Against his repeated protests he was placed in the boat with his son. This boat was unable to reach the lines we had astern, but the Merritt picked it up, and after taking Captain Chittenden aboard lowered the boat to our lee quarter, and repeated this maneuver each trip forming a lee for the boats to come here and then towing them back. She was splendidly handled. From 2 until 5 o'clock the work of transferring the crew continued. Captain Lecato made more trips when his arm being disabled, his place was taken by Mr. Johnson, who also took two boatloads.

"The life raft was gotten over and capsize, but was righted. It was put in charge of James Bashford, ordinary seaman, of the Illinois naval militia. He and his crew took six Cubans to the Merritt. The smaller surf boat stowed in board on the lee side, was then gotten out, and I put it in charge of Charles A. Dunne, quartermaster, first class. I gave him nearly all the good seamen left for a crew. It was launched very handsomely and made two trips. In all these trips we poured oil from the sponsons on both sides, and the Vulcan used oil to make it smooth where the embarking was done. I doubt if we could have worked without it.

"The ship labored more and more heavily. Before I left the bridge she rolled her sponsons under, which I should estimate to be 30 degrees, and her pitching was enough to show her steady motion, and perhaps twelve feet of her keel. She was about four feet by the head. She fell into the sea very heavily and shuddered as she rose. There was no water aft. The Vulcan did her best to keep our head up, steering to starboard and going to full speed while the sea beat the Teresa's head to port.

"Throughout the day the Vulcan did everything possible. We were constantly signaling. At the exception of three men who got drunk and gave much trouble, all the crew behaved well. Every man did his duty and my orders were instantly obeyed by wreckers and men of the navy.

"When the fires were low I called for volunteers and the donkey boilers were at once fired up. Twice I asked C. F. Smith and James F. Brien, chief machinists, to oil the steering engine and they did so and the engine ran till we left. When I took Dunne from the helm to lower the smaller surf boat his place was taken by William C. Morhoff, machinist, second class, who steered the wreck until we left the Merritt together, when he lashed the wheel amidships. Willard Crosscut bugler, was signalman and was as cool as possible. He made no mistakes and was very useful to me as a messenger. About 4:30 o'clock he made signal to hang on to the wreck until you are sure she is sinking, to which the Vulcan replied: 'We will hold on until she sinks or parts the tow line.' The last signal he made was: 'These two boats will take all.' After that I had to go aft to force the drunken men overboard and about 5 o'clock we were all off. The boats were hauled under the stem as near as it was safe, where the oil and lee of the ship made it where they were held by one line, while another line, with a ladder attached, floated the stern on this line. Two double bights were stopped on the right side to go over a man's shoulder. The end was slacked from the ship and two men jumped, they were hauled into the boat. A very fine fellow named Olson attended to this. When all had gone but he and I, he cut the line and we jumped together.

"It was perhaps 5:30 o'clock when we reached the Merritt. While she was getting in at the surf boats the Vulcan slipped the hawser of the Infanta Maria Teresa. I expect that the wreck dragging off to port brought all the strain on the port bridle and started the bits. When the boats were in, the Merritt's crew may request, started to speak the Vulcan, but was unable to reach her, and she apparently did not hear our whistle. The Merritt then returned to find the wreck, but could not do so. The search continued until 1 o'clock p. m. The following day she headed for Charleston.

Very respectfully,  
"IRA HARRIS,  
Lieutenant Commander, U. S. N."

Commenting on that feature of the report stating that some of the men and crew of the cruiser Maria Teresa, which foundered in a severe storm thirty miles north of San Salvador Tuesday evening, on board, the tug was detained at quarantine last night and did not come up to the city until midday. When she tied up at her dock here all of the survivors of the Teresa were given shore liberty. There were 114 of them, officers and men, and while many of them were half-mad they were as happy and jolly a party as one could wish to see. There was an enormous crowd gathered at Central wharf when they landed and the people of the city did everything in their power for the shipwrecked marines.

Lieutenant Commander I. E. Harris, U. S. N., at once made a full report to the department of the disaster. The officers and men remained in the city throughout the day. At 5 o'clock this afternoon the entire party started north. The men all go to Norfolk, their original destination, where they will be reported by the Merritt, which will leave here tomorrow morning. Before leaving the wharf for the train this afternoon, Commander Harris lined his men up and after having called the roll and found that all hands were accounted for, he said: 'Boys, if it had not been for the I. J. Merritt and her gallant men, we would not be here today. I call for three cheers for the Merritt.' The cheers were given with a will. Then some one called for cheers for Commander Harris and Captain Chittenden, and they were given heartily. Commander Harris was the last man to leave the Maria Teresa.

A cough is not like a fever. It does not have to run a certain course. Cure it quickly and effectually with One Minute Cough Cure, the best remedy for all ages and for the most severe cases. We recommend it because it's good. R. R. Bellamy.

## A POLITICAL FRAUD

### Attempted by a Republican Registrar in Richmond County.

## REGISTRATION BOOKS STOLEN.

### Republican Effort to Prevent Trial of Challenges by Democrats at Maxton—A Red Letter Day for the Democrats at Rockingham—Laurinburg Democrats to Close Business Houses and Devote the Day to the Cause of Democracy—A Big Time at Whiteville—Wilmington Naval Reserves on Hand with One of their Howitzers.

Rockingham, N. C., November 5.—This was a red letter day for the white people of Richmond county. Four thousand people came together to express their determination that they shall be free from negro domination—over 1,000 mounted red-shirts.

Senator Tillman was brought on a special all the way from Monroe, and accomplished much good.

James A. Lockhart, of Anson, and James T. Legrand, of Richmond, were among the prominent speakers.

Everything is quiet and orderly, but determination was expressed in the countenance of all.

Richmond is safe by a large majority.

Laurinburg, N. C., November 5.—All places of business in Laurinburg will be closed at 4 o'clock on Monday and every man will put on his red shirt to wear it until old North Carolina has been redeemed.

Richmond county will give a good round majority. There is no way to prevent the whites of Richmond from having their own after Tuesday next. Republicans and the one or two remaining populists concede this.

Whiteville, N. C., November 5.—Hon. C. B. Aycock spoke to 2,000 people here today. One hundred red shirts paraded and filled the town with shouts of joy at the prospect of Columbus being redeemed from the rule and ruin of fusion.

Many men who formerly were populists were in the parade and are now working zealously for the democratic ticket.

The fusion forces are disorganized and scattered. Among all the vast assembly here today it was difficult to find any white man who would admit that he would support fusion.

Many ladies listened with rapt attention to the masterly eloquence of Mr. Aycock.

The six gunners of the Wilmington division of naval reserves were on hand with their cannon and livened up the people with its booming.

The democrats are jubilant over their certainty of carrying Columbus and placing it once more in the democratic column, by a handsome majority next Tuesday.

Maxton, N. C., November 5.—When the precinct board met here today to consider challenges it was found that B. F. McLean, republican chairman of the board of registrars, was absent and the book could not be found. Upon statements made by W. A. Lowe, populist registrar, a warrant was issued for McLean who was arrested upon arrival of the Wilmington train. He waived examination and was held in \$200 bail. J. M. Burke, D. A. Patterson and Angus Shaw and others becoming security.

The precinct board organized today by electing W. S. McNair chairman, who demanded the custody of the registration book of McLean tonight, but was refused.

The people are highly wrought up over the apparent conspiracy of the fusionists to commit fraud.

### Florida All Right Politically

Jacksonville, Fla., November 5.—On Tuesday Florida will elect two justices of the supreme court, three members of the railroad commission, a state treasurer, legislature, which will meet in April and name a successor to Senator Pasco, and two congressmen to succeed McSparkman in the First district and R. W. Davis in the Second. Both are democrats and each has been nominated to succeed himself. Their only opponents are white republicans. They have made a more active canvass of the districts than has been made since the days of Horatio E. Sbebe. The solid democrats have returned to the democratic fold and populism has gradually returned to the party from which it became estranged, so that the state chairman of the democratic executive committee predicts that each democratic congressman will be returned by even a larger majority than in 1896.

In Florida the causes influencing the return of the populists and gold democrats to the old party are in a less degree than those obtaining in North Carolina.

Joseph E. Lee, the negro leader of the Florida republicans, has recently been elevated to the highest federal office in the state—collector of internal revenue—and this fact has not only alienated and made lukewarm the "illy whites," but has as well had its influence in cementing the whites of the state in closer unity. All of Florida's democratic state ticket will be elected and almost every member of the state legislature and senate, Florida's educational qualifications—the Australian ballot—is an insurmountable barrier to misrule.

Overcome evil with good. Overcome your coughs and colds with One Minute Cough Cure. It is so good children cry for it. It cures croup, bronchitis, pneumonia, gripe and all throat and lung diseases. R. R. Bellamy.

As Others See It

The understakers are said to be unusually interested in the coming election in North Carolina. Richmond Times.

Game is plentiful in North Carolina, but the shooting season is booked for next Tuesday.—Washington Post.

## PETITION TO THE PRESIDENT

### By a Negro Congregation in Washington City to Interfere in the North Carolina Election

Washington, D. C., November 5.—The following address was presented to the president today by a committee:

To the President of the United States: Sir:—At a meeting of citizens from many portions of the United States held under the auspices of the Lyceum of the Second Baptist church, Washington, D. C., on Tuesday evening, the 1st instant, a committee was appointed to present to you the situation in the state of North Carolina and to ask you to exercise your good offices to preserve the peace and to maintain constitutional government in all portions of our common country.

We do not come to you as petitioners, seeking some partisan end, nor simply as colored men roused by the passions of the hour, but, sir, we come as economists, as students of history, and the science of government as patriots zealous of our country's weal, as American citizens, to ask you, the chief executive of this great nation and commander-in-chief of the land and naval forces, to exercise all constitutional power in your vested to protect every American citizen in the enjoyment of his constitutional rights.

The present situation in the state of North Carolina is but an act in the series of reign of terror inaugurated in the year of 1873, to wrest from the legitimate electors the state government, in certain sections of the country and to nullify the recent amendment to the constitution of the United States, by resorting, first, to mob violence, and then to subterfuge in order to deprive citizens of their right to vote and hold office.

The lawless reign was first inaugurated in the state of Louisiana and step by step it has worked its way eastward and northward, until now borders on the state of Virginia, and will soon overshadow the national capital, and ere long the late slaveholder will call his slaves at the base of Bunker Hill.

The thing has gone far enough. This nation is now dealing with new problems in establishing governments in the island of the sea, and we do not want our usefulness impaired before the eyes of the nations of the world by the charge, even though it be but tolerably well founded, that we have only a quasi-constitutional government in the United States. The present situation is a grave one, and the attitude of lawless men in the state of North Carolina will be far reaching in its effects unless it is counteracted by the strong arm of the government.

JESSE LAWSON,  
R. W. THOMPSON,  
H. A. CLARK,  
THOMAS WARE,  
C. L. MARSHALL,  
Committee.

Constipation prevents the body from ridding itself of waste matter. De Witt's Little Early Risers will remove the trouble and cure Sick Headache, Biliousness, Inactive Liver and clear the complexion. Small, sugar coat, don't gripe or cause nausea. R. R. Bellamy.

### Solid Democratic Congressional Delegation

New Orleans, November 5.—The political campaign in the congressional districts of Louisiana has closed without startling incidents and the indications are that a solid democratic delegation will be elected to congress.

Birmingham, Ala., November 5.—Democratic campaign managers claim that Alabama will be represented by a solid democratic delegation in the next congress. Only two districts—the fourth and the seventh—were ever in doubt, and the democrats claim their nominees will be elected from these by such majorities that it would be folly for the republicans to contest.

Atlanta, Ga., November 5.—Notwithstanding a surprise which was sprung at the eleventh hour, looking for a fusion of populists and republicans in the Ninth district, it is believed Georgia will return to congress a delegation solidly democratic. The democrats have taken cognizance of the move in the Ninth and tonight sent word to the party members in that district to turn out and re-elect Tate, democrat, and Wilkinson, republican, in the Eleventh, has been pretty aptly, but Brantley's election is believed to be a certainty. A light vote is expected.

When you ask for DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve don't accept a counterfeit or imitation. There are more cases of Piles being cured by this than all others combined. R. R. Bellamy.

## Troops to go to Southern Camps

Washington, November 5.—The order which designates the troops to occupy different portions of Cuba has raised a question as to whether or not it is the intention of the war department to have the troops go direct from their present camps to Cuba instead of occupying the southern winter camps selected some time ago. It can be stated that such is not the intention, that the troops will be moved from Knoxville and Lexington and Middleton to be in camps very soon. It is believed that the transfer will be beneficial to the troops and that not only will they find a more salubrious climate, but that the duty of breaking camp and establishing another will be better for them than remaining in one place.

Late to bed and early to rise, prepares a man for his home in the skies. But early to bed and a Little Early Riser, the pill that makes life longer and better and wiser. R. R. Bellamy.

## PREDICTING RESULTS.

### Opinions of the Three Party Leaders.

## THE CLAIM OF VICTORY

### Made by Each One of Them—Chairman Holton Pretends to Think that His Party will Sweep Everything in Sight

### Holton's Circular to His Pollholders, We're County to be Redeemed by the Democrats—Names Stricken from Registration Book by Justice Clark.

Messenger Bureau  
Raleigh, N. C., November 5.

Today the representatives of the three political parties were specially interviewed.

Democratic State Chairman Simmons said: "I have the poll from most of the counties in the state. There is no longer any doubt that the democrats will carry the state by a large majority, even larger than I expected. Both branches of the legislature will be democratic, the house by an overwhelming majority and the senate by a safe one. There will be the greatest political revolution which has ever taken place in North Carolina. The white people have come together and made up their minds that negro office-holding must cease in North Carolina. Their verdict will be unmistakable and will be tant no party can ever again with impunity place negroes over white people. The great majority of the white people will vote down negroism in North Carolina. It simply means that North Carolina white men propose and intend to make and administer the laws. We are going to elect four congressmen—Kitchin in the Fifth, Bellamy in the Sixth, Klutz in the Seventh and Crawford in the Ninth district. The chances are decidedly in favor of Small in the First. There is a good fighting chance for Thomas in the Third, Atwater in the Fourth and Lovell in the Eighth."

Chairman Simmons further said: "I have information that the republicans have named frauds and will make an attempt to practice their election day. They say as well understand, and we intend they shall understand that the white people of North Carolina will not permit themselves to be swindled out of this election. I have warned our people everywhere to be on their guard and all proper precautions have been taken and the man who attempts frauds on election day will find himself thwarted."

There was a great democratic rally at Burlington today, at which 8,000 people from all parts of Alamance county are said to have been present. The nineteen cotton mills in that county shut down for the day.

Chairman Simmons was asked if the democrats would support Atwater in the Fourth and replied: "Atwater bolted the populist convention in Chatham county when it adopted resolutions for fusion with republicans. As a member of the last legislature he voted against every bill to negroize cities and towns in eastern North Carolina. He is making a splendid campaign, denouncing republican-populist fusion and asking the populists to refuse to vote the fusion ticket. He is advocating good, honest and economical government and white supremacy. The democratic congressional committee has advised that his candidacy be supported by democrats. I sincerely hope and believe that throughout the district he will receive the united support of the democrats. He is honest and sincere and represents a class of populists who have been flocking to the democratic party, and helping us to carry the state on the great issues which have been brought to the front."

Manager Ayer of the populist state committee said: "The situation is not changed. We have the Sixth district now, and don't care what happens there. Congress will decide that Dockery is elected there. I don't know much about the Second. The democrats have put up Fountain there and that I think means White's election without doubt. I think Caldwell in the

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

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