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## Steamer Monroe Sinks After Being Rammed By The Nantucket

### Fifty Four Persons Are Unaccounted For

#### Sleepy and Frightened Passengers and Crew Had no Chance to Fight in Dense Fog, the Monroe Going to Bottom in Less than Ten Minutes After Accident

#### Impenetrable Fog the Direct Cause of the Accident—Survivors Carried to Norfolk— Three Die Enroute.

Norfolk, Jan. 30.—The steamer Monroe of the Old Dominion Steamship Company sank near Winter Quarter lightship about 2 o'clock this morning following a collision with the steamer Nantucket of the Merchants and Miners Transportation Company. At 3:15 o'clock this morning the Nantucket was still standing by picking up the boats from the Monroe with passengers and crew. The extent of the damage to the Nantucket could not be learned.

The Monroe left Norfolk with passengers and freight for New York, while the Nantucket was bound to Norfolk from Boston with passengers and freight. E. E. Palen, assistant general manager of the Old Dominion Steamship Company, admitted receiving word of the collision, but did not know the extent of the damage.

The revenue cutter Onondaga and the wrecking tug L. J. Merritt have started to the Nantucket's assistance.

Norfolk, Jan. 30.—The Old Dominion Steamship Monroe was rammed and sunk by the Merchants and Miners Liner Nantucket off Hog Island at 1:40 o'clock this morning and fifty-four persons are believed to have perished. The Monroe sank within twenty minutes after the collision.

Out of a dense impenetrable fog the wireless early this morning sparked out the tale of a tragedy. Booming along at half speed the Nantucket struck the Monroe, cutting her nearly in two. Boats from the Nantucket picked up eighty-five persons, among them being Captain Johnson of the Monroe. The collision took place almost directly east of the lighthouse, twenty-five miles to the south of Hog Island on the coast of the Maryland and Virginia peninsulas.

Only meagre details have been received at the office of the company, and whether the majority

of those saved are passengers or crew is not definitely known. Immediately after the message telling of the accident reached here the revenue cutter Onondaga started for the scene of the disaster.

Mrs. T. J. Woods was the only Norfolk Lady among the list of passengers. Mrs. Wood left last night for New York to be at the bedside of her dying husband. It is known that she was rescued but her husband died during the night.

The tug boat Apollo was dispatched to the scene this morning and on board of her were two physicians. W. H. Ingram of Sumpter, South Carolina, was among those drowned. His widow and an adopted daughter survive him. Edward P. Lyon, another one lost was manager for six years of the Colonial theatre in this city and recently resigned the management of the Lyric theatre to take charge of another at Savannah, Ga.

Every member, it is believed, of the Macaria Theatrical Company was lost. This company was sent out by William Wood. Among the members were Charles N. Jelleff of Baltimore, Miss Hilda Haviland of New York and Joe Lewis of New York. The list of those unaccounted for this afternoon contained the names of F. J. Kuhn, wireless operator; Mrs. W. L. Balton, Newark; E. G. Brown, New York; S. H. Budwig, New York; W. L. Clausen, Milwaukee; Lieutenant L. B. Curtis, U. S. A.; F. C. Davis, Brooklyn, N. Y.; J. Edwards, U. S. N.; R. Flanagan, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Ed. Gorman, Philadelphia; Mrs. D. Gibson New York; J. Hassell, Courtland, N. Y.; E. Hamburger; Miss Haviland, New York; T. R. Harrison and wife of Bridgeport, Conn.; W. H. Ingram, Sumpter, S. C.; E. P. Lyon, New York; A. F. McNair, Buffalo, N. Y.; C. Nolan, New York; E. J. Newby, U. S. N.; James C. Connell, Washington, D. C.; C. W. Poole and wife, Gray, Va.; J. F. Ray and wife, New York; Charles Lawrence and wife, Lawrenceville, Va.; Miss Seville and Miss Combs of the Macaria Theatrical Company; J. Okakamoto, residence unknown; W. Snyder, New York; Rip Van Winkle, Nutley, N. J.; Mrs. E. J. Woods, Norfolk; G. Williamson, New York; Mr. Tillett and Mr. Ver-

non of the Macaria Theatrical Company; steerage passengers—J. Gilbert, Zack Schmidt, M. Bolen, C. Roper, Louise Scott, and I. Wilson, all of New York.

Norfolk, Jan. 30.—A dense fog is accountable for the sinking of the Old Dominion steamship, Monroe, early this morning. The vessel left Norfolk last evening with her passenger list practically full and carrying a cargo valued at half a million dollars.

It was a happy crowd that waved farewells to their friends on the dock and in return received many wishes for a bon voyage. Little did they realize that before the break of day that another disaster, which is one of the worst, in many years, would befall them.

Reports received here tonight state that the captain of the Monroe was "feeling" his way along at a slow rate of speed and that the lookouts did not see the Nantucket until she was within a hundred feet of the boat. Out of the impenetrable fog loomed the eyes of the Nantucket's giant searchlights, their rays casting illumination only a short distance ahead. A second or two before the crash occurred the siren whistles of both vessels rent the air with a piercing blast.

This awakened many of the passengers and there were a number awake when the bow of the Nantucket crashed into the sides of the Monroe. Naturally there was confusion. The officers of the Monroe realized that the vessel was badly damaged and the boats were ordered lowered as quickly as possible. Into these clamored the passengers, the unwritten law of the sea again prevailed and the women came first. The vessel sank so quickly that there was little time for those who were saved to secure any of their belongings from their cabins and many of them were only half clad. The Nantucket stood by and her crew succeeded in picking up all those who had been fortunate enough to get into the life boats.

The Monroe cost five hundred thousand dollars and her cargo was valued at the same. The officers of the company, in a statement given out today, expressed their regret at the accident and stated that they stood ready to do all within their power for the survivors.

Norfolk, Jan. 30.—With heavy canvas awning covering the gaping hole in her bow, the steamer Nantucket bearing the Monroe's rescued passengers and crew docked this afternoon. Several thousand people were on the water front to watch her pass into the slip. Many of the rescued stood on the deck of the Nantucket, wrapped in blankets as their only garments.

Two of the rescued had died. These were Mr. Thomas Harrington, of Norwalk, Conn., and First Lieutenant Legrand B. Curtis, second coast artillery, Water-vliet arsenal New York. Mrs. Harrington's body, placed in a temporary coffin, was borne from

### SAFE BLOWERS MAKE BIG HAUL AT NORFOLK, VA.

Owner Of Store Robbed Well Known Here.

NEPHEW OF O. MARKS

Cash Was The Only Thing Taken Or Disturbed By Thieves.

O. Marks, one of New Bern's leading wholesale merchants, received a message yesterday from a nephew at Norfolk telling of the robbery by safe blowers of his place of business in that city on Wednesday night. The Norfolk Ledger Dispatch carried the following account of the robbery yesterday morning:

"For the first time in many years safe-blowers operated successfully in Norfolk Wednesday and M. Marks & Sons, dry goods merchants on Main street, were the victims. While the entire day's sales were secured by the robbers, the amount has not been made known. Cash was the only thing stolen or disturbed. A machinist's round bit and a flashlight were left in the store.

"As far as the safe-breaking was concerned the job was a complete one. One of the doors was blown off; the inner door was pried open and the strong box was smashed. There was not a penny of the cash left.

"Entrance to the store was gained through a second story window in the rear. The exit was made through the same window. Once inside the robbers

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the Nantucket with her husband refusing to leave it until it had been brought ashore. The body of lieutenant Curtis was identified by a handkerchief found in the pocket of his pajamas. He had died after being rescued.

Thomas Harrington, husband of the dead woman, told a thrilling story of the experience of himself and Mrs. Harrington. He and his wife were long in the water and he saved Mrs. Harrington by swimming with her hair between his teeth. They were hauled aboard the Nantucket's rescue boat, but Mrs. Harrington died from exhaustion after reaching the Nantucket.

Every barrier was thrown in the way of newspapermen when the Nantucket docked and it was difficult to obtain details of the disaster.

Some of the rescued leaning over the rail of the Nantucket told the story to waiting reporters. The Nantucket rammed the Monroe at 2 o'clock this morning and the Monroe careened and turned turtle in ten or twelve minutes, they say. As the Monroe turned on her side the passengers and crew crawled over on the upper side, remaining until washed off when the steamer plunged to the bottom. But for the fact that had there been time to adjust life preservers many more lives would have been lost. As it was those rescued remained in the water from a half to three-quarters of an hour before being got out. E. P. Lyons, first reported drowned, was among the first to come ashore, and was among the first to come ashore, clad only in pajamas and a bathrobe.

### NEW MEMBERS FOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Campaign To Get Them Starts Soon.

MATTER OF INTEREST

Organization Hopes To Almost Double Present Membership.

It is now time for New Bern to take its place in the front rank in the march of progress. A live Chamber of Commerce can do much toward the development of any community, but the burden of the organization must not be borne by a few men. Today there are two hundred and sixty-five active members in the organization.

The year 1914 can be a year of remarkable development in New Bern, and the Chamber of Commerce can aid largely in this development if the organization is large and strong enough to carry out the plans of its leaders.

Realizing the need of a stronger Chamber of Commerce the committee on membership, headed by W. W. Griffin, has decided to launch a membership campaign at the Court House Monday night.

Every citizen of New Bern is invited to be present.

Speeches by some of New Bern's live wires will make the meeting live in the memory of all who attend.

Cigars and refreshments will be dispensed free to everyone, and the occasion will be enlivened with music by the People's Band.

The time will be Monday night at 8:30. The place will be the Court House, and the occasion will be the launching of the whirlwind membership campaign.

### Keith's Vaudeville at The Athens Today

The immense crowds attending the Athens means that we are giving the people something out of the ordinary, and that they are satisfied with our efforts to give them good clean refined vaudeville, and a picture program unexcelled. Tonight Smith and Farmer, in humor and song and Raphael Gualano, the great accordion soloist close their engagement with us. Hear these talented artists for the last time. Three reels of good association pictures today as follows:

"An Indian Maid's Strategy."

A thrilling Indian drama by Kalem.

"The Schemers."

A big Vitagraph comedy, featuring John Bunny and Flora Finch.

"The Detectives' Stratagem."

A great detective story by Biograph.

More Keith vaudeville next week—two big acts.

Matinee daily at 3:45, two shows at night, first starts at 7:30 second at nine o'clock.

A big surprise at the Athens awaits our patrons next week.

### WILL SELL CANDY TODAY AT NOON.

The Junior Auxiliary class of Christ Episcopal church will sell home-made candy at the Parish House today at noon. The public is invited to attend and purchase.

### YOUNG COUPLE WERE NOT ON STEAMER MONROE

Mr. and Mrs. Kearns Took Rail Route.

MUCH CONCERN HERE

Friends Feared That They Were Among Those Lost.

News of the marine disaster in which the steamship Monroe sank yesterday morning and in which a large number of persons lost their lives, was of especial interest locally on account of the fact that it was thought that at least three New Bernians were on board of the ill-fated craft.

Mr. and Mrs. Thurlow Kearns, who were married here Wednesday night and who left on the midnight train for Norfolk and who were to go to New York, were known to have stated that they would make the trip on the Monroe. There was deep concern felt here by relatives and friends until it was learned that they had decided to make the trip by rail.

The fact that Mr. Kearns feared the trip by the water route, probably saved their lives. Mrs. Kearns, who was formerly Miss Lizette Hanff, a niece of Miss Anna Pearce who resides on Pollock street, had told friends that she preferred to make the trip by boat, and but for the fact that her husband changed his mind after arrival at Norfolk, they might have been numbered among those missing.

It was also known that Miss Wilma Hervey, of Far Rockaway, N. Y., who has been spending several weeks in New Bern and who left this city Thursday morning enroute home, was to have sailed Thursday evening. Until it became known that she had gone by the Bay Line there was much concern for her safety.

Among the crew of the Monroe were Oscar Perkins and Braxton Haskins, of Oriental. Telegram received by the Journal were to the effect that it was believed the majority of the crew had lost their lives and this news was transmitted to Oriental. Naturally the citizens of that little town felt deeply concerned. Telegram after telegram was sent from that place to Norfolk in regard to the safety of these young men, but not a word had been heard last night and relatives and friends feel sure that they were among those who perished.

Both Perkins and Haskins were machinists and were of course, down in the hold of the vessel which was probably one of the most dangerous points.

### STREET CAR IN AN ACCIDENT.

Car No. 8 of the New Bern Ghent street railway company, was slightly damaged in a collision with a freight train at the corner of Pollock and Hancock streets yesterday morning. Failure of the brakes to properly manipulate is said to be the cause of the accident.

### UNDERGOES AN OPERATION

Miss Annie Lane was placed in Fairview sanatorium yesterday to undergo an operation for appendicitis. Her condition is as satisfactory as could be expected.