**Schooner Vesper**

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| **Vessel Name** | **Official Number** | | **Signal letters** | **Rig /Type** | **Where built** | | **Builder** | | **Year built** | | | **Year end** | | **reg tons** | |
| **VESPER** | 58289 | | HLSP | schooner | | Appledore | | Clibbitt | | 1867 | | | 1874 | | 114 |
| **OWNERS/ MANAGERS/REGISTRATION DETAILS** | | **Notes** | | | | | | | | | **MASTERS** | | | | | |
| 1867 A.Skentlebury ,Looe | | LOA ft 89.4 x 19.1 x 10.9ft registered in Fowey 9th November 1867 .Abandonment, in the Bay of Biscay, She left Hull with a cargo of coals for Corfu in the November 1874. On December 1 she put Into Fowey wind bound, and recommenced her voyage on December 14, and on the following day very heavy weather was experienced, the wind varying from north-west to south-west, with a cross sea, On the morning of the 16th she was struck by a heavy sea, and thrown on her beam ends, the boats being stove, and the spars and deck gear being carried away. With great exertions, the crew succeeded in righting the vessel and putting her on the other tack. In about two hours, however, she was again thrown upon her beam ends, and although every effort was made, she could not be righted. The vessel had by this time become very leaky, and the men had difficulty in holding on. After a time, however, the vessel's position was altered sufficiently to enable the men to stand on deck and to keep the pumps going. In their endeavour to right the vessel it does not seem that the usual course of cutting away the masts was adopted. Signals of distress were exhibited, and next day a large four masted steamer outward bound and apparently English stood by the vessel for some hours. At this time the sea was running so high that it was impossible to launch a boat from the steamer, the Vesper's boats having been already stove In during the night. This steamer left the schooner, and next day the sea having somewhat abated in the meantime, the screw steamer Foochoo, from Cardiff to Port Said, hove in sight. The Foochoo sent off a life-boat, which was the only craft that could live in the sea, notwithstanding the abatement of the gale; and after some difficulty the captain and crew, numbering six, were taken off, the captain being convinced that it was useless to remain by the Vesper, which was evidently fast settling down. The Foocho landed the men at Gibraltar on December 22, arrived at Plymouth on Wednesday. The Vesper was abandoned In lat. 40 deg. N., long. 9 deg. W. 8ha fully loaded, a 1ginV of overloading; and the Board of Trade Surveyor had passed her before she sailed. She was uninsured. | | | | | | | | | John Pond 1869-74 | | | | | |

ABANDONMENT OF A FOWEY SCHOONER. News was received at Plymouth on Wednesday of the abandonment, in the Bay of Biscay, of the schooner Vesper, which was registered 114 tons, was owned by Mr. A. Skentlebury, of West Looe, aid commanded by Captain John Pond. She left Hull with a cargo of coals for Corfu on the November last. On December 1 1875 she put Into Fowey windbound, and recommenced her voyage on December 14, and on the following day very heavy weather was experienced, the wind varying from north-west to south-west, with a cross sea, On the morning of the 16th she was struck by a heavy tea, and thrown on her beam ends, the boats being stove, and the spars and deck gear being carried away. With great exertions, the crew succeeded in righting the vessel and putting her on the other tack. In about four hours, however, she was again thrown upon her beam ends, and although every effort was made she could not be righted. The vessel had by this time become very leaky, and the men had difficulty in holding on. After a time, however, the vessel's position was altered sufficiently to enable the men to stand on deck and to keep the pumps going. In their endeavour to right the vessel does not seem that the usual course of cutting away the masts was adopted. Signals of distress were exhibited, and next day a large four masted steamer out- ward bound and apparently English stood by the vessel for some hours. At this time the sea was running so high that it was impossible to launch a boat from the steamer, the Vesper's boats having been already stove In during the night. This steamer left the schooner, and next day the sea having somewhat abated in the meantime, the screw steamer Foochoo, from Cardiff to Port Said, hove in sight. The Foochoo sent off a life-boat, which was the only craft that could live in the sea, notwithstanding the abatement of the gale; and after some difficulty the captain and crew, numbering six, were taken off, the captain being convinced that it was useless te re- main by the Vesper, which was evidently fast settling down. The Foochoo landed the men at Gibraltar on December 22, from whence they have been despatched home. The mate William Wiloe, who has come by mail packet, arrived at Plymouth on Wednesday. The Vesper was abandoned In lat. 40 deg. N., long. 9 deg. W. 8ha fully loaded, and the Board of Trade Surveyor had passed her before she sailed. She was uninsured.

 

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