

WRECK OF THE NEWCASTLE CITY.

HYANNIS, Mass., Jan. 7.—The United States steamer Verbena, Capt. Gibbs, landed at Hyannis last night. Capt. Thornton and 26 men, comprising the crew of the steamer Newcastle City, from Newcastle, England, for New-York, that sunk Dec. 23 near the Nantucket South Shoal Lightship. The crew says the ship took bottom at 1 A. M. Dec. 23, about three miles southwest from the lightship, striking bottom very heavily seven times. After passing over the shoal it was found that the after compartment was rapidly filling with water. At 8 A. M. the water was up to the fireroom floor, putting out the fires. At 9 A. M. the vessel became unmanageable. The fires were out and she was settling in the water fast, and had drifted three miles north of the lightship. The boats were lowered, but as the sea was very rough two of them were stove. With the remaining two boats the crew, with some of their effects, left the steamer, and she went down, stern first, at 10 A. M. The boats were headed for the lightship, reaching there at 3 P. M., after a long, hard pull.

There the men say they were kindly treated by Capt. Sanbury and his crew of the lightship, who did all they could for the shipwrecked men's comfort until Jan. 6, when the Verbena hove in sight. She was hailed with joy by all hands. Some of the crew were becoming anxious at the long delay, and desired to take a rowboat and try to get to shore. This the Captain and crew of the lightship considered very dangerous, and the idea was abandoned. The crew will leave here for New-York this evening by the Old Colony Railroad and Fall River line. The steamer sunk in 16 fathoms of water, and will be a total loss with her cargo. She was valued at \$100,000 and the cargo at \$75,000.

The New York Times

Published: January 8, 1888

Copyright © The New York Times