

CAPTAIN ALFRED ST. GEORGE GLASSON (1876-78) Died 1920

Obituary from the `Merchantile Magazine Service Reporter` 1920.

Very general regret will be expressed by all seafarers, particularly those belonging to the M.M.S.A., by the announcement that Captain Alfred St. George Glasson passed away at his residence, Grove Cottage, Diss, Norfolk, recently, at the age of 56 years. Captain Glasson was well known on Merseyside, for though a native of Plymouth practically the whole of his life was spent in touch with Liverpool shipping. The son of a Chief Engineer in the Royal Navy, he lost both parents at the early age of ten years, was brought to Liverpool, and entered the Liverpool Seamen`s Orphanage by request of H.R.H. the late Duke of Edinburgh. After spending two years here he was, by the influence of some kind friends, placed on board H.M.S. "Conway," where he received the preliminary training whose usefulness his career later proved.

Apprenticed in 1878 to Messrs. Hargrove, Ferguson and Jackson, he spent the four necessary years with them and three other allied well-remembered owners, Mess Hargrove and Ferguson, J. Hargrove and Co., and Hargrove and Hellen. In their sailing ships Captain Glasson acquired the lessons which stood him in such stead in after life, and laid the foundation for a career which was marked by unbroken success. Obtaining his certificate in 1882, he was appointed Second Mate on the "Brodrick Castle". Later, entering the service of Messr Bafour, Williamson and Co., he occupied a similar post in their "Eaton Hall" and the "Kenilworth." In 1889 he received promotion by returning to his old ship, the "Eaton Hall," as Chief Officer. This held good until 1892, when the firm finally retired from the shipping business, much to Captain Glasson`s regret, and to numerous others who had passed many happy years under a flag which secured conditions of service second to none in the Kingdom. We then find him Chief Officer of the "Drummuir", owned by Messrs. Gillison and Chadwick, also of Liverpool. Here he stayed for one year only, as it was in 1893 that he attained the goal to which all young seamen aim by being appointed Master of the ship "Belvia," belonging to Messrs. Nicholson and M`Gill. Here he remained for six years, meanwhile adding to and consolidating his experience in all trades. in 1899, deciding to strike out for steam, he joined as second Officer the steamer - "Nanette," owned by George Pyman and Co., of Sunderland, but an offer of command coming along he, the same year, returned to sail as Master of the "Durham" (J. Herron and Co.). This engagement lasted until 1903, when the modern trend for steam induced the firm to enter that branch of service. At first Captain Glasson was retained at home to superintend the building of the steamers, but in 1905 he was placed in command of the "Lort Derby." Later, he entered the service of Messrs. Rowatt and Co., and for some years held command of their steamers "Inver5an" and "Inverkip," until he finally retired from the sea in 1914. He was one of the most enthusiastic members of the Mercantile Marine Service Association (a body with which he had been associated since 1892), and his loss will be a great blow to the whole seafaring community.

His entry in Conway Cadety Registers record:

Boy:	Alfred St. George Glasson.
Born:	23rd December, 1862.
Parent or Guardian.	Sarah Lydia Glasson, Sister, & John I Davies.
Occupation & Address:	39, North John Street, Liverpool.
Last School:	Seamens Orphanage

Admitted:	4th Sept. 1876.
Terms of Admission.	Fees: £42, Clothing: £10. 10s. Extras, £4.
Left:	22nd November, 1878