

Tug Loses Convoy of Barges During Gale

Craft Stranded on Beaches at Van Buren Point and Ripley by Rescue Tug From Dunkirk and Flcated Without Damage to Cargo. Crews Saved.

DUNKIRK, Aug. 22.—The tug Winthrop, of Buffalo, en route from that city to Cleveland, in charge of Herbert Wilkerson of New York and having in tow four canal barges, had a thrilling battle with the waves during the terrific windstorm of yesterday and last night.

The tug and convoy was about six miles off the American shore near Van Buren Point, when the waves, lashed to fury by the high winds, rose and threatened to swamp the entire fleet.

The waves, reaching immense proportions washed over the tug and sides of the barges, snapping asunder the tow rope between the tug and the barges, leaving the barges without power.

The tug Winthrop, after an unsuccessful attempt to recover the barges, was forced to abandon them

to the mercy of the winds and waves, and put into port. Late last night rescue tugs put out from this port and scoured the waters for the barges and crews.

Three of the barges were finally located on the Beach at Van Buren Point by the fishing tug John Desmond, where they had been washed by the waves. The crew of three men was removed from the stranded craft and brought to Dunkirk.

Shortly after the three barges were found safe and the crews rescued, a telephone message was received from Ripley stating that the fourth barge, with a man and his wife and child, was stranded on the beach near Ripley. The message also stated that the passengers of the barge had been removed to the shore safely. The ships will continue the trip to Cleveland today.

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