



THE MARINERS MUSEUM Newport News, Va.

Director — Rear Admiral George J. Dufek, USN, (Ret.) • Area Code 703 - 595-0368

March 31, 1965

Maritime Museum Ass'n of San Diego
1306 N. Harbor Drive
San Diego, California 92101

Dear Sirs:

In your recent issue of Mains'l Haul you inquired about the ultimate end of the whaling schooner CLARA LIGHT.

This vessel sailed from San Francisco for the North Pacific on March 18, 1886 under Capt. C. B. Kustel and was lost in the Arctic on this voyage.

I quote from the New York Maritime Register Oct. 27, 1886 "CLARA LIGHT (sc. whaler) - advices at San Francisco Oct. 22 from the Arctic fleet report the loss of the schooner CLARA LIGHT of San Francisco."

Between 1883 and 1886 the CLARA LIGHT made four whaling voyages all from San Francisco and I can find no record of her sailing from San Diego, although she could have put in there for shelter or provisions on her 1884 - 1885 voyage to the Okhotsk Sea, Japan. However, on this voyage she sailed from San Francisco under Capt. Coughell on Dec. 24, 1884 and returned Nov. 27, 1885 with 70 barrels of oil. James Campbell was her agent for this voyage.

Yours sincerely,

Albert M. Barnes

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Asst. Curator of Exhibits

AMB:as



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