

WRECK Of The Schooner LITTLE RIVER

Mendocino Beacon, Feb. 5, 1885

The schooner Little River, Capt. Nelson, was making her way into port (Whitesboro) last Sunday at 4 P.M. under a strong breeze from the southeast; when opposite the outside moorings she was becalmed, and the current drifted the schooner over towards the north reef. The Captain dropped both anchors and ran two lines to the buoy with the intention of hauling up close and making sail on her to sail out again, but the wind sprang up and blew almost a gale about the time he had made his lines fast, and they were unable to heave her up against the wind and current.

At 8 o'clock the sea was running very high and the Captain and crew finding that they could do no more towards saving the vessel, took to their boats and with great difficulty succeeded in reaching shore. They saved nothing beyond the clothes they had on, and report that their boat was nearly swamped; after having abandoned the vessel it was nearly half-filled with water when they reached the wharf.

The wind and sea increased in force after 8 o'clock and the breakers almost submerged the schooner. She was lying within 20 fathoms of a sunken rock over which the sea broke continually. At about 10 o'clock the weather set in thick and nothing more was seen of the schooner until about 10 o'clock in the morning, when her hull was driven ashore bottom up near the Albion school house. It is supposed that she capsized before her lines parted, as there were no marks on her bottom to indicate that she struck before capsizing.

The Little River was built by Capt. Thomas H. Petersen in 1869 and was the second vessel built at Little River. She was valued at \$10,000. Jacob Jensen of San Francisco was managing owner, and Little River Mill Co. owning an interest in her. She was a good paying vessel, always making good returns to her owners.

