

Scarborough Gazette 23/12/1892:- COLLISION OFF WHITBY. Crews Landed By A Scarborough Trawler. - The Scarborough steam trawler HERO (D. Wright, master), and owned by Mr. F. Goodwill, landed on Saturday afternoon no less than twenty-three men, whose vessels had been sunk in collision off Whitby on the previous night, at that port. From information gathered it appears that the collision took place about five miles off Whitby on Friday evening about seven o'clock, the vessels being the screw steamer ATHELSTANE, of North Shields (Captain J. Foreman), and the three masted schooner PYSCHÉ, of Swansea (Captain Barder). The former ship laden with coals, and at the time of the mishap was on voyage from Shields to Rotterdam, whilst the schooner was bound to Leith from London with a cargo of cement. The weather was squally at the time, and as already stated both the vessels foundered as a result of the collision. The steamer was run into by the sailing vessel on the board side, both sustaining serious damage. After doing their utmost to keep their vessels afloat the crews found it impossible to keep pace with the in-rushing water, and after managing to keep the schooner above water for eighteen hours she went down about two o'clock on Saturday afternoon. A few minutes prior to that hour the skipper of the Scarborough trawler HERO noticed that the two vessels were labouring heavily, and appeared to be in a sinking condition, and he quickly made towards them. He had got a crew into his small boat to go to the schooner to take them off, but just as they were about to leave the trawler the skipper noticed that the crew of the PYSCHÉ, numbering six men, including the captain, had taken to their own boat and were making for the ATHELSTANE, on which they eventually landed. The crew of the schooner had fortunately got clear out of the way of their vessel as she sank. When the hero arrived on the scene it was found that the screw was in tow of the steamer KRONOS, of Hartlepool, the skipper of that vessel using his best endeavours to get the ATHELSTANE into Whitby. They had not proceeded very far, however, before the captain of the screw ordered his crew to take to the boats, and quickly the men of both the PYSCHÉ and the ATHELSTANE were transferred aboard the HERO. It was now found that to attempt to save the screw and get her safely to Whitby would be an impossibility as the ATHELSTANE was sinking fast, and therefore the line between the KRONOS and the ATHELSTANE was severed. The skipper of the HERO decided to clear away from the sinking ship as quickly as possible, and by request of the captain of the steamer took the crews, numbering twenty-three men all told, into Whitby Harbour before darkness set in. The HERO had not managed to get a quarter of a mile away from the ATHELSTANE when she was seen to founder at 2-20 on Saturday afternoon. Both vessels had been kept afloat for upwards of eighteen hours after the mishap, and it is surprising that they were not seen earlier by some of the local steam trawlers, as they were just in the path of the trawlers. There is no doubt but that if the HERO had been on the scene three or four hours earlier the ATHELSTANE would have been safely towed into Whitby. The ATHELSTANE was built in 1872, and is an iron steamer of 1,123 tons. She is 225 ft. in length, 30 ft. in breadth, with a depth of 17 ft. 4 in., and engines of 90 h.p. Mr. H. E. P. Adamson, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, is the managing owner.

Shields Daily News 19/12/1892:- COLLISION OFF WHITBY. - TWO SHIPS SUNK. - Narrow Escape of Twenty-Three Men. - On Saturday afternoon 23 men whose ships had been sunk in a collision off Whitby on the previous night were landed at that port. The collision took place about five miles off Whitby, the vessels being the ATHELSTANE, of North Shields, laden with coals, from Shields to Rotterdam, and the three-masted schooner PSYCHE, of Swansea, laden with cement, from London to Leith. The weather was squally at the time, and, as already stated, both vessels were sunk by the force of the collision. The crews of the two ships, 23 in number, were picked up by a steam trawler and landed at Whitby in safety on Saturday afternoon. Yesterday the captain and crew of the steamer ATHELSTANE, of North Shields, arrived here and reported that when to southward of Whitby on Friday night they were run into by the schooner PSYCHE, of Whitstable. The ATHELSTANE foundered, and the PSYCHE sustained considerable damage and subsequently foundered also. Both crews were picked up by the steamer KRONOS, of Hartlepool, and landed at Whitby. The ATHELSTANE was from the TYNE, coal laden, for Rotterdam; the PSYCHE was from Rochester with cement for Leith. The ATHELSTANE was an iron steamer of 1,104 tons gross, built at Hebburn in 1872, her managing owner being Mr. H. E. P. Adamson, Newcastle