

# Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 19/10/24

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## ONTARIO

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### Location

Between Corsair Rock and Point Nepean, Port Phillip Heads

### Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S504

### Date lost

14/11/1853

### Construction material

Wood

### Propulsion

Sail

### Number of masts

3

### Length/Breadth/Depth

0.00 Feet / 0.00 Feet / 0.00 Feet

### Year of construction

1845

### Built port

Dumbarton

### Built country

Scotland

### Date lost

14/11/1853

## Departure

London/Glasgow (depending on source)

## Destination

Melbourne via Rio de Janeiro

## Cargo

Full list in Argus, 17 November 1853 - spirits, wine, perfume, earthenware, drainpipes, soda, sugar, silk umbrellas, confectionary, pickles, jam, rice, beer, dried fruit, nuts, chocolate, spices, candles, resin, turpentine, and sundries (UID 9)

## Owner

Henderson

## Master

Captain D. Watson

## Weather conditions

Clear weather, ebb tide  
Wind SW force 3

## Cause of loss

Entered heads behind the Marie, both without a pilot. Pilots Ashby and Flood discharged for negligence in not attending to their duty. Later appealed to Board of Investigation - result not known. Struck Corsair Rock. Location: Quarantine Station, Portsea. Vessel went to pieces twenty minutes after it struck, remains drifted up to South Channel and there sank.

## Statement of significance

Significant as a mid nineteenth century international trader

## VHR history

30 passengers and crew landed safely. Felt and yellow metalled 1852; part new keelson 1852; some repairs 1848, 1852; Lloyds classification A1 1852. Wreckers reportedly indulged in 'bacchanalian orgies' on plundered alcohol hidden in sand near wreck site. Entered Heads behind the Marie, both without a pilot. Pilots Ashby and Flood discharged for negligence in not attending to their duty. Later appealed to Board of Investigation - result not known. Vessel went to pieces twenty minutes after it struck, remains drifted up to South Channel and sank. Clear weather, ebb tide. Estimated loss 5,000 pounds. Corsair Rock first gazetted Nov. 1853. Ontario lost only 7 days after notice appeared.