

**ACTIVITY:** Washed overboard

**CASE:** [GSAF 1877.12.12](#)

**DATE:** Wednesday December 12, 1877

**LOCATION:** Near Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.

**NAMES:** Unknown

**DESCRIPTION:** Two seamen from the barque *Mary Eady*.

#### **BACKGROUND**

**MOON PHASE:** First Quarter, December 13, 1877

**NARRATIVE:** The men were washed overboard and were taken by sharks before they could be rescued.

**INJURIES:** Fatal

**SPECIES:** Not identified

**SOURCES:** The Brisbane Courier, Saturday December 15, 1877, page 5, referring to Reuter's Telegrams from Sydney dated December 14, 1877; The Argus (Melbourne, Victoria), Saturday December 15, 1877, page 7

The barque *Mary Eady*, from Mauritius, which place she left forty-five days since, brings 470 tons sugar. The vessel experienced heavy westerly weather during the voyage, and two men were washed overboard on Wednesday, both being devoured by sharks before assistance was available.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

—  
SYDNEY, FRIDAY.

The *Mary Eady* arrived to-day from Mauritius with 470 tons of sugar. On Wednesday last, two men were on a stage over the side painting the ship, when a sea washed them overboard. Life buoys were thrown to them, and a boat lowered within five minutes. They were making for the ship, when both suddenly disappeared. It is supposed that they were seized by sharks