

CAPT. CHARLES BARR, NOTED SKIPPER, DEAD

Master of Successful Defenders
of America's Cup Expires of
Heart Disease in Wife's Arms.

DEFEATED KAISER'S YACHT

His Last Victories Were with the
Westward of New York Yacht
Club at Kiel and Cowes.

SOUTHAMPTON, England, Jan. 24.—
Capt. Charles Barr, the noted yachtsman,
died suddenly of heart disease here this
morning. Capt. Barr had appeared to be
in perfect health. He was having break-
fast with his family when suddenly he
placed a hand upon his heart and with a
cry of pain fell forward into the arms of
his wife dead.

Capt. Barr had been in this country
since last Spring, when he brought over
his last command, the schooner West-
ward, built by the Herreshoffs for A. S.
Cochran of the New York Yacht Club.
With the Westward Capt. Barr won many
trophies in competition with Emperor
William's and other German yachts at
Kiel and Cowes last Summer.

His success as skipper of the defend-
ers of the America's Cup gave him a
high place in European yachting circles,
from which news of his unexpected death
called forth many expressions of regret.

Charles Barr, the most famous of
yachting skippers, commander of the Co-
lumbia and the Reliance, commander
last Summer of the Westward, which con-
quered everything still unbeaten at Kiel,
Cuxhaven, and Cowes, was born fifty-six
years ago in Gourrock, Scotland, spending
his boyhood on the rocky coast of the
sea. He could not help learning the rud-
iments of seamanship; all the boys in his
neighborhood did that. He was then ap-
prenticed to the grocery trade, but the
success of John Barr, a brother, in yacht-
ing, made him decide to see what he
could attain in that way.

He spent a cold, hard Winter on a
flounder trawler in the Clyde, and soon
after that experience brought over to
this country the twenty-ton Clara, the
trip lasting nearly forty days, and sailed
her in a number of races on this side.
America attracted him, and he became a
citizen of the country. He sailed the
Boston-owned Shona, went back to Scot-
land a while, and returned to assume com-
mand again of the Shona.

His rise as a commander of prize-win-
ning craft after that was continuous. He
sailed, among a large number of winners,
the Oweene, the Wasp, the Gloriana, the
Navahoe, the Vigilant, and Colonia.
When a skipper was wanted to command
the Columbia against the first Shamrock
in 1899 "Charlie" Barr was decided
upon, and his release was obtained from
Commodore Postley by C. Oliver Iselin,
the owner of the Columbia. Everybody
knows what happened to the first Sham-
rock; he administered the same treatment
to the second Shamrock in 1901, again in
the Columbia.

Sailing the old schooner Shamrock,
Capt. Barr won the \$1,000 Lipton Cup for
Frederick Thompson in the ocean race off
Cape May. He took Morton F. Plant's
Ingomar across the ocean in 1904 and won
nineteen out of twenty-two races.

The Westward, which was built by the
Herreshoffs for Alexander Cochran, under
the international rules to sail in European
waters, made last Summer the most won-
derful record ever achieved by a yacht.
With "Wee Charlie," as he was affec-
tionately called on account of his size, in
command, the Westward made eleven
starts and won eleven victories, defeat-
ing such famous sailers as Cicely, Ger-
mania, Hamburg, Meteor, and Susanne.

Capt. Barr was about 5 feet 3 inches
tall, dark almost to swarthinness, with a
pair of keen black eyes; alert, quick,
fearless, full of judgment, taciturn, stu-
dious of the wind, the sea, the psychology
of his opponents and the smallest detail
that meant an inch of advantage in a
race. He studied all his life. He took the
longest chances; often he frightened his
crews almost out of their heads by the
spread of canvas he ordered on, and then
restored them to confidence by his own
fearless manner.

Secretary G. A. Cormack of the New
York Yacht Club voiced the sentiments
of the club members as to the masterly
work Capt. Barr had done in handling
American contestants in the long series
of cup contests sailed in American waters.

"Capt. Barr was the greatest skipper
who ever lived," said Secretary Cormack.
"His career as skipper of the cup de-
fenders was such a uniformly successful
one that it would be hard to single out
his greatest feat. All his races were won-
derfully well sailed."

C. Ledyard Blair, Commodore of the
New York Yacht Club, expressed great
grief upon hearing of Capt. Barr's death.

"It will be a great shock to all the
members of the club," he said. "No man
stood higher in his profession than Capt.
Barr. I am sincerely sorry. It will be a
great regret to everybody."