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THE SOCIETY'S PERIODICALS.

The Sailors' Magazine and Seamen's Friend, a monthly publication of thirty-two pages, contains the proceedings of the American Seamen's Friend Society, and its Branches and Auxiliaries, with notices of the labors of local independent Societies in behalf of seamen, its aim being to present a general view of the history, nature, progress and wants of the Seamen's Cause, and commend it to the sympathies, the prayers and the benefactions of the community.

The Magazine is sent to single subscribers for One Dollar a year, payable in advance. It will also be furnished to Life Directors and Life Members of the Society, gratuitously, upon annual request for the same; also, upon annual request, to pastors of churches in which a yearly collection is taken for the Society; and, upon application, to any one contributing at least Twenty Dollars for the general objects of the Society, or to endow a Loan Library.

The Seamen's Friend is issued annually as a four-page tract adapted to seamen, and gratuitously distributed among them. It is furnished to Auxiliary Societies for this use at the rate of One Dollar per hundred.

The Life Boat, an eight-page sheet, published monthly, will contain brief tales, anecdotes, incidents, &c., and facts, mainly relating to the work of the Loan Libraries issued by the Society. Any Sabbath School contributing to the Society $20 for a Loan Library may receive fifty copies per month, gratis, for one year, with postage prepaid.

REMITTANCES.

All Remittances for the American Seamen's Friend Society, in payment of subscriptions to the Sailors' Magazine or for other purposes, should be sent, for security, by check, draft on New York, or P. O. Money Order, payable to the order of William C. Sturges, Treasurer, 76 Wall Street, New York, N. Y. Acknowledgment of their receipt will be forwarded to the sender by return mail, and if not duly received the Treasurer should at once be notified. If impracticable to procure checks, etc., the money may be forwarded, but always in a registered letter. All Postmasters are now obliged to register letters when asked to do so at a fee of ten cents each.

For the Constitution of the Society see third page of this cover.
THE

SIXTY-NINTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

American Seamen's Friend Society,

WITH THE

ANNUAL SERMON

BY THE

Rev. WILLIAM T. SABINE, D.D.

NEW YORK:
Press of Hallet & Breen, 58 and 60 Fulton Street.
1897.
OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY
FROM ITS ORGANIZATION.

PRESIDENTS:

Hon. Smith Thompson .......................................... 1828
Adrian Van Sinderen ................................................. 1831
David W. C. Olyphant ............................................. 1840
Anson G. Phelps ........................................................ 1841
Capt. Edward Richardson ......................................... 1841
Pelatiah Perit .......................................................... 1848
William A. Booth ..................................................... 1856
Richard P. Buck ....................................................... 1873
Reuben W. Ropes ...................................................... 1885
Charles H. Trask ........................................................ 1891
James W. Elwell ....................................................... 1896

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Edward A. Newton, " Abraham Varick, 1832
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Joseph Cumming, " Hon. John Fine, "
Thomas R. Ives, " Hon. Levi Woodbury, 1834
Stephen Van Rensselear, " Pelatiah Perit, "
Timothy Dwight, " John Haslet, "
Hon. W. Reed, " Levi Cutter, "
Arthur McClellan, " Charles W. Rockwell, "
Rev. H. W. Ducachet, " Nicholas Brown, 1835
Gen. C. Dudley, " Hon. Mahlon Dickerson, "
Abraham Wheelwright, " Lieut. Wm. L. Hudson, U. S. N., 1838
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<td>Hon. J. P. Upshur,</td>
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<td>Rev. Edmund S. Janes, D.D.</td>
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<td>Rev. Geo. W. Bethune, D.D.,</td>
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<td>William B. Crosby,</td>
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<td>Admiral Richard F. Stockton, U. S. N.,</td>
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OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY FROM ORGANIZATION.

HON. WM. E. CHANDLER, 1882 COM. RALPH CHANDLER, 1885
COM. T. SCOTT FILLEBROWN, U. S. N., 1884 HON. BENJ. F. TRACY, 1889
U. S. N., 1884 HON. HILARY A. HERBERT, 1893
HON. WM. C. WHITNEY, 1885

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REV. JOSEPH BROWN, 1833 REV. ISRAEL P. WARREN, 1857
REV. JONATHAN GREENLEAF, 1834 REV. S. B. S. BISSEL, 1860
REV. JOHN SPAULDING, 1845 REV. SAMUEL H. HALL, 1865
REV. W. C. STITT, 1888.

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JEREMIAH P. TAPPAN, 1834 THOMAS HALE, 1838

Financial:

REV. JOHN SPAULDING, 1841.

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CHARLES N. TALBOT, 1834 REV. SAMUEL H. HALL, 1867
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JOHN E. LEECH, 94 Remsen Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

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JAMES W. ELWELL.

Vice-Presidents:
CHARLES A. STODDARD, D. D.

Hon. S. L. Kimball, Sup't U. S. L. S. S., Washington, D. C.
Com. Henry Erben, U. S. N.
Hon. John D. Long, Secretary of the Navy.
Rear-Admiral J. N. Miller, U. S. N.
Charles H. Trask.

Secretary:
W. C. STITT, D. D.

Treasurer:
WILLIAM C. STURGES.

Standing Committees:

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Messrs. Wm. C. Sturges, Elwell, Brinckerhoff and Stiger.

Chaplaincy:
Rev. Dirs. Vermil ye and Fox, and Mr. Elwell.

Sailors' Home:
Messrs. Bell, Comes, Rowland and Wallace.

Publication and Library:
Rev. Dr. Stoddard and Messrs. Barnes, Agnew and Ropes.

Auditor:
W. Hall Ropes.
THE SIXTY-NINTH ANNIVERSARY.

The Annual Sermon was preached on May 9, by the Rev. William T. Sabine, D.D., in the First Reformed Episcopal Church, New York, and the Secretary read a summary of the following report.

The Annual Meeting of the Society was held on May 10 in the chapel of the Sailors' Home, President James W. Elwell in the chair. It was addressed by Rev. C. A. S. Dwight, Rev. John T. Beckley, D.D., Rev. W. A. A. Gardiner, Rev. T. Ralston Smith, D.D., Mr. W. H. H. Moore, and Miss M. A. Delaney.

The Secretary was directed by the Board to thank Dr. Sabine for his able sermon and to request a copy for publication; also to thank the officers of the church for the use of the edifice, the choir for the appropriate service of song, and the speakers at the annual meeting.

The press of New York and Brooklyn deserves grateful acknowledgment for publishing the details of both meetings.
THE SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL REPORT.

Notwithstanding assiduous efforts made by this Society, aided by the press more than usual, to acquaint the world with its work among millions of seamen, many are still ignorant of it, even of those who keep themselves informed of mission work in general. The ships lie at the wharves of the city, the sailors swarm in the boarding-houses, in the chapels, Bethels and reading rooms, yet only a vague echo of the work reaches multitudes who ought to be its friends and helpers. Attention to it, when rigorous and persistent, never fails to awaken an interest which begins with regret for previous neglect of it, the regret being deepened as the interest increases. In these days of humanitarian effort, when so-called altruism brings the pleasure of self-denial for the bettering of men's earthly conditions, witnesses of the pleasure are tempted to share in it; but when Christians see the joy of Christians in bettering the earthly lot of seamen by giving them a heavenly hope, they too are drawn to make the joy their own. Then they wonder why they never did this blessed work before, and why the whole church does not pray and give if it cannot labor in its behalf. Those who get information of it solely from the Sailors' Magazine often acquire an abiding interest in seamen; but if they also visit Bethels and chapels and witness the power of saving truth on their hearts and lives, they catch an enthusiasm for it which compels prayer, labor and giving. These become the fast friends of this Society; may their number increase!

The amount of work done with small means is due in part to the system adopted by this Society. In general, to secure its annual aid it is required that a society be formed in the port to be aided, composed of its representative Christians; this local society to name and supervise its chaplain, and to raise the larger part of his support. This plan secures the local interest which guarantees permanence, and makes the chaplain respon-
sible to those who witness his labors and are disposed to co-operate in them. The amount of work done is due also in large part to the character of the chaplains, who in general are remarkably adapted to a work which is peculiar in its requirements, and who are thoroughly consecrated to it. As usual, their monthly reports in the Sailors' Magazine are referred to for the facts, incidents and other details. They make a narrative of success in religious work which gladdens every reader, to say nothing of their toils for "poor Jack's" social cheer, his physical comfort and his mental improvement. These toils cannot be tabulated and reported, but they will figure largely in the reward when our chaplains hear the gracious words "Well done, good and faithful servants."

THE FOREIGN FIELD.

Sweden. The Rev. N. P. Wahlstedt, of Helsingborg, has been compelled by continued lameness to use his friends to aid his work, but his friends' aid has been most cordial and sympathetic. As the Rev. A. Wollesen has said: "The noble work done by brother Wahlstedt for many years has secured him many friends and helpers. In his severe affliction the grace of Jesus has been most tenderly vouchsafed him." Mr. Berg has co-operated with him heartily and the mission flourishes. The Lutheran people continue to collect money to build a Sailors' Home.

[Since these words were written tidings of Mr. Wahlstedt's death have been received. He died on June 6. The Sailors' Magazine for August and September contains appropriate notices of this devoted man of God.]

Mr. J. T. Hedstrom, of Stockholm, is always full of facts and incidents in his reports. Visiting islands to preach to fishermen and their families, carrying the word to cabins and forecastles, distributing Testaments and tracts, holding services in the mission hall, he is always looking for souls and finding them, overcoming obstacles and meeting the indifference of men with a warmth of Christian love that often burns the barriers away. As in years past he reports many conversions among
seamen. Mr. Wollesen, who was commissioned by this Society to visit and report on its Scandinavian missions, wrote of Mr. Hedstrom "he is working for the single end of bringing sinners to Christ," and refers to him and his wife as "our highly esteemed and beloved brother and sister Hedstrom."

The Rev. E. Eriksson, of Sundsvall, according to Mr. Wollesen's report, is "sixty-one years of age, hale and strong, faithful and zealous, and a blessing to those with whom he comes in contact." On the islands near Sundsvall, and to fishermen and ships' crews shut in by the winter's ice, he carries the gospel, and through it wins souls, some of them backsliders and infidels.

Mr. Christian Nielson, of Gothenburg, continues to advance in his work and to win friends for it in Gothenburg, who have enabled him to buy his own mission boat. Mr. Wollesen in his official report wrote "Brother Nielson in his conduct and methods shows an excellent spirit, and from his zeal and industry great results may be expected." Letters from seamen and mothers most touchingly refer to Mr. Nielson's ministry, and melting incidents are frequent in it. New quarters at the north end of the harbor have been fitted up, and testimonies are given there that quiver with penitential love. Mr. Nielson's Seamen's Christian Endeavor Society has awakened so much interest that this Society has given its consent to his visiting several seaports in Denmark and Sweden to explain its working and to establish it among their sailors. All the predictions of usefulness in Mr. Nielson's career are being fulfilled, and it is clear that God is with him.

**Denmark.** Rev. A. Wollesen, of Copenhagen, is still sowing and reaping in a large field. Multitudes of seamen are brought under his influence and scores of them are converted every year. He is careful to follow them with prayers and letters, and to know what his children in the faith are doing and where they are. He observes that "nearly all who have professed to be converted in time past give abundant evidence of a life of faith and usefulness." A conference of the Norwegian,
Danish, Swedish and Finlandian Seamen's Societies was held last September in Copenhagen, and it made grateful acknowledgment of the efforts of the American Seamen's Friend Society in Scandinavian ports. For days it discussed these questions: How to supply the steamships with the gospel; how to regulate the shipping of seamen and boarding-house runners; how to conduct missionary work in lodging-houses and hospitals; how to make the reading room effective.

At the request of this Society Mr. Wollesen visited the missions already mentioned, and found them vigorous and successful. No wonder; for he says "the missionaries whom it has been my privilege to visit are humble followers of Jesus, going forth into the highways and hedges and compelling men to come in."

The readers of this report can have mailed to them copies of the Sailor's Magazine containing the fascinating details of missionary life in Scandinavian ports and in all the ports occupied by this Society.

**Germany.** Mr. H. M. Sharpe, of Hamburg, reports the visiting of 1,541 ships, and an attendance at the Institute of 12,939 seamen. Many temperance and social meetings have been held besides the religious services. Letters written by sailors from other ports to the missionary tell of their profiting while in Hamburg. Twice a week the chairman of the Institute Committee has provided a boat and man to enable the missionary to visit the ships, but in a port used by more than four thousand vessels last year a steam launch is much to be desired.

**Belgium.** The Rev. J. Adams, of Antwerp, (as do all our missionaries), acknowledges the substantial co-operation of many friends in Antwerp in furthering his social and religious efforts. With a satisfactory attendance at the services, in no year have the spiritual results been better. A captain said after a service "It was an inspiration, and we thank you for your message." A chief officer said "The subject of your sermon was often discussed on the voyage by the chief engineer and myself and we both came to the decision to serve Christ." Two thousand and
eighty-eight visits were made to 2,780 vessels in port. The tone of the work in Antwerp is high, and the best seamen value it for that reason.

**Italy.** Rev. Donald Miller, of Genoa, with his helpers, Captain P. H. Clark and Herr Farnes, give an encouraging report of their large work. The total attendance at church and rest was 16,856, of which 4,457 were at the religious meetings. A good word is uttered by Mr. Miller in regard to the deportment of seamen: "We are often struck with their quiet and orderly demeanor at our social gatherings, and also their quick perception and intelligent appreciation of what is really good, whether in music or in recitation." Consul General Asche and Mrs. Asche have taken a deep interest in the Scandinavian branch of the work and have been of great service to it. No sentimental exaggeration, or failure to note the difficulties of missions to seamen, appears in the journals of Messrs. Clark and Farnes, but they often have occasion to thank God for His converting grace in sailors. The testimony of an officer that this mission is "the best he had seen anywhere," has been given by others to other missions, and no doubt the compliment is sincerely bestowed on all.

The Rev. T. Johnstone Irving, of Naples, and Mr. Bell, his assistant, as Mr. Bell wrote, "keep pegging away with the hammer of God's love," and "try to make the Bethel meetings as pleasant as possible so as to create a distaste for sinfulness." Mr. R. Cope Morgan, editor of *The Christian*, says of Mr. Bell "he is a capable and gracious man, doing good and unostentatious work." A ship's officer wrote a description of the monuments, museums and churches of Naples, and added "But the times that will live the longest in our memories will be those spent in the Floating Bethel at Naples."

**Madeira.** Mr. W. G. Smart, of Funchal, writes that to have "a port more completely rid of danger to our sailors" is his aim and effort. He has special opportunities for work among the crews and apprentices of our war vessels, and the chaplains of the U. S. Navy often testify to his usefulness and devotion.
India. The Rev. H. A. Crane, of Bombay, declares that “the reports give but a faint idea of the work done in a port like this.” A Hindoostani catechist is employed for work among the Lascars, several of whom have been baptized. Before the great plague broke out in Bombay the mission was in a highly prosperous condition, and when the seamen were kept on the vessels by reason of the pestilence, a steam launch was used to reach them. Mr. F. Wood, of Karachi, has become the superintendent of this mission.

The Rev. W. D. Waller, of Karachi, has taken the place of Mr. S. I. Stone, absent from India on furlough, and Mr. W. H. Dowling has become superintendent of the mission in place of Mr. F. Wood, transferred to Bombay. Mr. Dowling writes “it is just wonderful how God is working among our dear sailor lads, as they come to the Rest.” In Karachi also the plague was a great drawback to the work for months, but nevertheless the Lord prospered it spiritually, and in temporal things “the balance was on the right side of the ledger.”

Japan. The Rev. W. T. Austen, of Yokohama, reports a steady advance during the year in the attendance of seamen at divine service and in the reading room. Sailors in the hospital and consular jails have not been neglected; pleasant excursions for large companies of seamen have been organized; and a fine, steel steam launch, towards the purchase of which this Society gave substantial aid, has brought thousands of men to the mission. The Sailors' Magazine has printed many touching letters written by seamen to Mr. Austen, showing the religious blessing that was received through his influence. Mrs. Austen is a helpmeet to her husband in all parts of his work, and her name is as ointment poured forth on many seas.

Mr. J. M. Harmon, of Kobe, like many other chaplains to seamen, is a converted sailor. Largely through the generosity of the Rev. S. Swann, a Seamen's Institute has been opened, which, says the Kobe Herald, “deserves and will receive the support of this community.” Mr. Swann having left Kobe, the Rev. G. H. Davies supervises Mr. Harmon's work and aids
him in it. He writes that "the sailors' appreciation of the place is manifest by the numbers that make use of it." Masters of vessels continue to praise Mr. Harmon's work. What is needed is a man to run the Institute, so that Mr. Harmon may be set free for purely evangelistic work.

Nagasaki was visited in 1894 by the U. S. S. Charleston. The members of the Christian Endeavor Society in the crew, led by Earle D. Sims, being unable to find a decent place of entertainment gave 1,028 silver dollars to establish the Christian Endeavor Sailors' Home, putting the money in the hands of Miss Elizabeth Russell, with the request that she and other missionaries would become responsible for the general oversight of the Home. An inter-denominational board of directors was formed, property was bought, and the institution was formally opened on February 3, 1896. Mr. John Makins, of Tacoma, Washington, has been called to the charge of the new Home, and the directors are expending $1,750 (U. S. gold) in building an addition to it for the use of his family. The navy sailor, Mr. Sims, who started this good work, subsequently married a missionary in China, and is now engaged with her in mission work. All the officers of the naval and merchant service calling at Nagasaki, unite in endorsing this Society's aid to this promising field, so providentially opened.

**Chili.** The Rev. Frank Thompson, of Valparaiso, continues his work on the floating Bethel, the Hopeful, to the purchase of which sailors largely contributed. Mr. Thompson writes that the mission on its present basis "has such a firm place in the interest and affection of the Christian public in Valparaiso that one man, no matter who he may be, is not essential to its existence." On Sunday mornings "it is refreshing to see the captains coming in their boats full of men, from all quarters of the bay, for morning service. Stranger captains need not inquire the whereabouts of the mission; the boats tell the story and point the way." This mission well illustrates the policy of this Society in every port, which is to require the development of local co-operation, so that, when the chaplain dies or moves away, the work may suffer little interruption.
Uruguay. Mr. Thomas McCarthy, of Montevideo, continued his work in that port for a portion of the year and was then called to similar work in Buenos Ayres. For one quarter in Montevideo he reported as follows: English naval visits, 566; American, 189; meals, 428; beds, 410; boarders, 33; visits on merchantmen, 279; meals, 690; beds, 224; visits to hospital, 51; to ships, 34; meetings held, 14; free meals, 382; free beds, 108. The British and Foreign Sailors' Society, with which this Society co-operates in South American ports, has a young man ready to begin work in Montevideo.

Argentine Republic. Mr. Thomas McCarthy, of Buenos Ayres, followed the Rev. G. P. Howard, whose work was approved by the local committee. Mr. Wm. Fosterjohn at one of the religious meetings noticed representatives of the following nationalities, namely, British, American, Scandinavian, French, Russian, Italian, Swiss, Argentine, German, Japanese and African. The government has made a grant of land on which to build a new Sailors' Home, and the local committee is looking for the means to erect it, believing that two-thirds of the men paid off in the port would use it. Captain and Mrs. Clarke, of the S. S. Tropea, had held a series of meetings on their vessel and also in the Home which were largely attended and greatly blessed. Mr. McCarthy writes "I find much to discourage me, but on the other hand there is more to encourage me. My dear wife is a good help. Mr. Fosterjohn's help is invaluable."

Capt. F. Ericsson, of Rosario, also testifies to the good done by Captain and Mrs. Clarke, above referred to, and to the useful testimonies of some officers and men from the British warship Barrageuta, proving that converted seamen are apt to become missionaries of the cross. Landsharks here as elsewhere hinder the work as much as they can, one of them throwing a bucket of water over his head and hurling the bucket at him too, even his life being threatened because their wicked gains are lessened by attempts to rescue and elevate the men of the sea. The Rosario press comments on the moral and spiritual improvement of seamen during the past fifty years, and adds
"We believe much of this is due to the earnest and self-sacrificing work done by missionaries of the seamen's societies, backed by the comfortable Homes provided for them away from the power of the landshark and the crimp." Capt. Ericsson has returned to London "for a change," but before sailing he wrote with joy of some remarkable conversions at his meetings. His successor is Mr. George Nye, who had been working in the Home for eighteen months.

**THE HOME FIELD.**

**Massachusetts.** The Rev. E. C. Charlton, of Gloucester, still has abundant reason to thank God and take courage, both as to the financial and religious condition of his work. He publishes a monthly called *The Fisherman*, which, besides excellent literary matter, contains reports of the services at the mission and much that is of interest to fishermen. Under the title of "Tongues and Sounds" are given the testimonies of converted seamen, and many of these are remarkable for their grasp of gospel truth. About one hundred fishermen lose their lives on the Banks every year. Not only the cost of fish, but the cost of everything brought to us by the hands of sailors, is far beyond the money paid for it. Mr. Charlton's family are colaborers with him, and many seamen are converted at McClure Chapel.

**Connecticut.** The Rev. J. O. Berg, of New Haven, is referred to by the Secretary of the Women's Seamen's Friend Society, of New Haven, as a man under whose "skillful management all the branches of the work are carried on for which his qualities of heart and head fit him wonderfully." The Home is well located and well appointed, the board good, the bedrooms clean, the bathrooms free, the house quiet, the reading room well supplied with books and papers. There is a shipping office where no charge is made for shipping men; as Mr. Berg indignantly exclaims, "The idea of having to pay for the privilege of risking life and health in the mad struggle of the deep, and for suffering untold hardships and privations!" Seven hundred and eighty-five men were shipped and "no
man was ever permitted to pay one cent for shipping.” “Our hearts,” he says, “are gladdened every week by the sight of returning prodigals.” This Society has the best timber in its board of managers, has a loan library work of its own, and, for the size of the port, is doing much to convert the abundance of the sea to God.

**New York.** Capt. William Dollar at the Sailors’ Home holds family worship twice a day, a temperance meeting every Monday evening, and a preaching and testimony service every Saturday evening at which sailors are converted and strengthened. He visits various hospitals to minister to sick seamen, distributes books, papers and tracts on vessels, and “beares a hand” in many services for seamen held by this Society and the New York Port Society. Frequent entertainments for sailors are given by the ladies and gentlemen of New York, which give great enjoyment to the men of the sea.

The New York Sailors’ Home, at 190 Cherry Street, has had during the fifty-five years of its existence 123,036 boarders, and during the past year 1,249. The Home is the property of the Society, and its lessee is Mr. F. Alexander. It is the desire of the Board not only to make this Home a safe refuge from the tempters and temptations which besiege sailors ashore, but also to make it a means of grace to all its inmates. The lessee receives the money of seamen for temporary safekeeping and returns it to them on demand.

Mr. J. M. Wood, of the Navy Yard, has won his way to the esteem of the officials of the Yard and of many of the officers of the navy, some of whom co-operate with him in the services. He is by tongue and pen helping on a project started by Capt. Higginson, U. S. N., to build outside the Sands Street Gate a Sailors’ Rest for the men “on leave;” he has stirred up churches all over the country to furnish comfort bags for seamen, thus establishing relations between landsmen and seamen that are helpful; he corresponds with converted men on warships, and their letters to him are those of affectionate parishioners to a loved pastor; he preaches salvation to lost men with
unction and power, and is often permitted to see the rescue of the lost and their establishment in the faith; and he often presents the cause of this Society in a way that wins friends for it. It ought not to fail of record that Mrs. Wood seconds his endeavors, sings the gospel sweetly into many broken hearts, and that the letters written to Mr. Wood rarely fail to show that his wife's songs are an influential element in her husband's work. Mr. Wood's reports in the *Sailors' Magazine* are everywhere read with interest.

**Virginia.** The Rev. J. B. Merritt, of Norfolk, reports that he has had the aid of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, and that there has been more interest among the people of Norfolk for seamen than he had seen for years. On shipboard, at Lambert's Point, in the hospital, in the chapel and in a room nearer the shipping than the chapel, Mr. Merritt has carried on this work in which he has been engaged for many years.

**North Carolina.** The Rev. A. D. McClure, of Wilmington, reports that the Bethel services have been well attended, that improvements had been made in the Sailors' Home, and that a new reading room is nearly ready for use. The President of the Wilmington Seamen's Friend Society at its forty-fourth anniversary said that every one connected with it had labored faithfully, that the efforts of the chaplain had been untiring and that the choir deserved special thanks.

**South Carolina.** The Rev. C. E. Chichester, of Charleston, whose health a year ago seemed seriously undermined, has been able to do all his work. In his judgment "there is a manifest improvement observable in the general character, conduct and bearing of seafaring men of this age compared with what it was in the days of sailing vessels. Now they desire and appreciate sermons that give them something to think of, and can scarcely tolerate 'talks,' which are often vapid and sensational." For seventy-five years the Charleston Port Society has labored, and in spite of difficulties and discouragements has made the following record the past year: Number of religious and other services held, 133; sailors in attendance at the services, 2,448;
landsmen in attendance at the services, 2,996; visits to vessels, (American, 308, foreign, 76,) 384; visits to hospitals, 66, and jail, 22; printed invitations to services distributed, 4,500; papers, magazines, tracts, books, etc., distributed, 17,265; Bibles and Testaments distributed, 132—English 85, German 6, Welsh 1, Italian 10, Spanish 6, Swedish 4, Norwegian 20; visitors to reading room, 2,752; letters written, 118; letters received, 230; lodgers accommodated in the Home, 347; temper­ance pledges signed, 65.

**Georgia.** Mr. H. Iverson, of Savannah, has “plenty to do among the many seamen who come to this port.” “Some have been converted and others have been built up in their faith.” The Savannah pastors conduct in turn the Saturday night meeting, and are kept in touch with the mission. In our last Report the promise was made of a Sailors’ Home, and the words of Mr. S. B. Adams, “We intend to have this building,” were quoted. It is a pleasure to report that the building is under way, the cost of which with the site and furnishing can scarcely be less than $30,000. As there is a sanitary law forbidding seamen to sleep on the river for several months in the year, a large patronage is expected for the Home, bringing the seamen nearer to the chaplain’s influence, and giving them a guarantee of greater freedom from the port’s temptations. A picture of the handsome building proposed appears in the *Sailors’ Magazine* for July.

**Alabama.** The Rev. R. A. Mickle, of Mobile, has long pleaded with its citizens for a Sailors’ Home worthy of the increasing shipping of the port, and no doubt his prayer will one day prevail, for in Mobile, “everybody, Jew and Gentile, Catholic and Protestant, has a good word to say for the cause, and many are the acts, which speak louder than words, heartily performed for its advancement.” Graphic details in Mr. Mickle’s reports make them very readable, and he delights to name and to bless all his helpers in the work. With the intent to make the monthly entertainments sources of real enjoyment to the sailors, he seems to levy at will on everybody who can be put
on a programme, yet makes it manifest that his deeper interest is to save the sailor, and therefore often tells the story of the broken and contrite heart, and of the song of salvation.

**Florida.** Mr. H. C. Cushman, of Pensacola, regards the past year as an improvement on the past. He says that "crimping and ill-treatment of seamen is a thing of the past." The Pensacola Seamen's Friend Society is free from debt, and continued activity in all the lines of sailor work is the constant report. The Russian Finns and the Scandinavians are looked after by other agencies.

**Louisiana.** The Rev. R. E. Steele, of New Orleans, has made full proof of his ministry in saving and blessing seamen, in resisting crimps and their extortions, in providing a good reading room and attractive entertainments, in abundant work on visiting war-vessels as well as on ships of commerce, and is planning to put a branch of his work on Ship Island. In spite, however, of energetic devotion to seamen's interests, the mission is falling into debt. This means that the local interest is not as large as it ought to be, and suggests the special appeal which Mr. Steele has made to the great commercial city of New Orleans. May the response put all fears to rest!

**Oregon.** The Rev. J. McCormac, of Astoria, takes into his care the coasters from San Francisco to Alaska, the fishermen of the salmon fisheries and deep-sea vessels; an extensive parish indeed. His year has been one of varied labor and abundant success. He says "I find as a general rule that when the captains are religious men, the sailors come cheerfully to the cabin service." From the completion of the Astoria and Columbia River R. R. Astoria anticipates enlargement as a seaport and consequent increase of work among seamen. Mr. McCormac shows a bold front against crimps, and proves himself in every way a friend of "poor Jack."

The Rev. W. O. Forbes, of Portland, has been called into a larger field, as a synodical missionary of the Presbyterian Church, and has been succeeded by the Rev. Albert Robin-
son, who writes that his "aim is for the highest spiritual good of the seamen." He has done much to interest the Portland churches in his work, and the remark was made in one of them, "There is nothing that our church has undertaken to do that has ever stirred it up like this work in the Bethel." Father Fletcher continues his labors with his old time zest and "has been so long in the work that scarcely a ship comes in but some of the crew are known to him." Recently a large concert room has been fitted up for entertainments, and has often been filled to its utmost capacity. As elsewhere, the desideratum here is an additional man, whose sole care would be the Institute, leaving the chaplain free for religious work among the seamen. This mission has a fine record for usefulness, and with returning prosperity to the north-west, which has been signally crippled by the hard times, its work will doubtless be enlarged.

**Washington.** The Rev. Thomas Rees, of Seattle, sends monthly reports of his work in Seattle and Port Blakely, nearly always recording conversions and religious interest. A converted infidel "gave a testimony surpassing anything ever heard from a new-born soul, and he thrilled everybody." "I love to preach to sailors," says chaplain Rees, "they are good listeners, always well behaved, and many of them are being saved." Seattle has also suffered from financial depression, but a new Japanese line of steamers is quickening trade.

The Rev. R. S. Stubbs, of Tacoma, reports a quickened devotion in himself and abundant vitality in his work. He says "Never was I so fully in love with the work of the American Seamen's Friend Society as at the present hour." He reports also that Mrs. Stubbs "is doing more real missionary, temperance and Bethel work than ever during the twenty years of service" in this Society. "The attendance upon our meetings has increased, and the meetings have been seasons of helpful power." Scores of men have been brought to Christ by these faithful workers during the past year.

Mr. C. L. Terry, of Port Townsend, sends encouraging accounts of his meetings, especially of those held in the winter
season. Some converted sailors told him of a prayer service held in the third mate’s room, “and their faces glowed with joy as they expressed the belief that God would give them others of their shipmates.” The clean, warm, bright reading room drew forth these comments, “Well, this is snug;” “this is better than reefing topsails.” This mission caused the arrest and punishment of the first officer of a vessel for extreme cruelty.

**Loan Library Work.** During the year ending March 31, 1897, the Society has sent out two hundred and ninety-five loan libraries, of which eighty-nine were new, and two hundred and six were refitted and reshipped. The total number of volumes in these libraries is 12,685, and of new volumes, 3,827, available during the year to 4,035 seamen. The whole number of new libraries sent out is 10,379, and the reshipments of the same, 12,141, making in the aggregate, 22,520. The number of volumes in all these libraries, 553,685, has been accessible by first shipment and reshipment, to 395,037 men. The number of libraries placed on United States naval vessels and in United States Hospitals up to date is 1,023, containing 36,985 volumes, and these have been accessible to 118,240 men. In the stations of the United States Life Saving Service are 154 libraries containing 5,992 volumes, accessible to 1,265 Keepers and Surfmen.

**A FEW TESTIMONIES FROM THE YEAR 1896.**

“‘The books have been freely used and read by all on board.’ “‘As all the books have been perused, I would be pleased to exchange them for others.’ “‘We find them a great comfort in our lonesome hours at sea.’ “‘We hope you will continue to circulate them.’ “‘The books have prevented many a sin and improper conversation.’ “‘The men have already carefully covered every volume in the library.’ “‘I think the seamen’s library a good thing for our ships.’ “‘For many years past I have enjoyed reading the books.’ “‘It is a great and good work and I am sure does lots of good.’ “‘I believe the libraries are a great benefit to the morals of a crew. I am always pleased to receive a library.’ “‘The donors would be well satisfied to know how much and how well the books are read.’ “‘The assortment of books is an excellent one and well calculated to suit the minds of our seamen.’ “‘The books are also in strong contrast with what seamen generally provide for themselves.’ “‘I think any man who reads them must be better and lead a better life for it.’ “‘It helped to pass away many a weary hour at sea during a long voyage.’
“It is a blessing to get such good reading.” “The books have been read with much interest forward and aft.” “No ship should be without one.” “May God bless the donors.” “The books of your libraries are always read with much satisfaction by us all.” “It keeps sailors from going on shore on Sundays.” “When the library is opened we just jump for the books.” “I think much good must result from these libraries.” “I believe all the books were read over and over again.” “The work of the library is silent but effective.” “I have never been without one.” “It has been read thoroughly.” “It furnishes occupation for unoccupied time during the week as well as on Sundays.” “I think a library on shipboard is always a useful agency for good.” “The library brightens many hours that otherwise would be dull.” “The books were read by all on board.” “Every Sunday you would see them coming and getting books and reading them.” “We have derived a great deal of pleasure and information from the library.” “The books are a good selection.” “On behalf of all on board I express my sincere thanks.” “My humble opinion is that no ship should go to sea without one.” “Too much cannot be said in favor of the library.” “May God bless you in the work.” “It has been a great benefit to myself and crew.” “I am glad to say a few words in praise of the library.” “We always welcome them on board with pleasure.” “I am sure that the donors of this library will be pleased to hear that I have not had a police-court case or trouble of any kind with my crew during the voyage.” “All the books have been given to the seamen to read.” “Will you please thank the donors and inform them that the books have been read and highly appreciated by both officers and crew.” “It is already immensely popular.” “Four different crews have all read it industriously.” “I can only speak of them in the highest terms.” “I have no doubt they furnish food for solemn and religious thoughts and feelings.” “I think the loan library a great blessing to sailors.” “We kindly thank the donors for this library.” “The last library was over two years in the ship and during that time has been read by five different crews.”

**Shipwrecked and Destitute.** At the Society’s Rooms and at the Sailors’ Home there has been expended during the past year for the relief of shipwrecked and destitute seamen, $936.40.

**Publications.** During the past year the Society has published 55,000 copies of the **Sailors’ Magazine**, 120,000 copies of the **Life Boat** for Sunday Schools, and 20,000 copies of the **Seamen’s Friend**. It has printed 1,000 copies of its Sixty-eighth Annual Report, and many tracts and leaflets bearing on its work. It has sent out 356 copies of the **Seamen’s Manual of Worship**, which is now in its seventh edition.

**U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis.** The twenty-third annual presentation of books to the graduates of the Naval
Academy took place on Sunday, May 17, 1896. In a class of thirty-eight men, thirty-four chose the Bible out of the volumes submitted to them.

**Special Grants.** According to established custom, the Society has responded favorably to applications for help from auxiliary societies needing our assistance.

**Life Directors and Life Members.** One person has been made Life Director and six have been made Life Members during the past year.

**Finances.** During the year ending March 31, 1897, the cash receipts from legacies amounted to $20,673.94, from contributions for loan libraries, $1,862.67, and from donations, Magazine subscriptions and other sources of income, $14,745.98. The disbursements for missionary work, publications, loan libraries, general expenses, &c., amounted to $31,001.55.

**Acknowledgments.** Thanks are offered to the American Bible Society for generous grants of the Holy Scriptures; to the American Tract Society and other publishing houses in this and other cities, which have furnished books for our libraries at reduced rates, and to Prof. Taylor Reed, of Princeton University, for a monthly statement of the position of the planets for the Sailors' Magazine. The leading hospitals of this city have gratuitously treated the sick seamen we have sent them. Various Railroad, Steamboat and Ocean Steamship Companies have kindly responded when asked to assist in transporting disabled seamen to their homes. The White Star Steamship Company and the International Navigation Company have appropriated to the Society a portion of the collections at the concerts given in the saloons of their ships, and a few collections have been sent by other steamship lines.

**Obituary.** James Phillips Wallace, born in 1816, died in Brooklyn on January 18, 1897. Mr. Wallace was the second president of the Produce Exchange, a member of the Chamber of Commerce, a corporate member of the American...
Board, an office-bearer in the Church of the Pilgrims, and a member and helper of many benevolent societies. For sixty years he was a worker in the Sunday School and took great interest in the young. He was a devout Christian, a liberal giver and a patriotic citizen. He became a trustee of the American Seamen’s Friend Society in 1885 and was faithful to his trust.

CONCLUSION.

No one can deny that the work done by our chaplains is hampered by trying conditions, owing to the fact that seamen are free from many of the influences which in some degree curb and control men in a stable society on land; owing to the difficulty of enforcing the laws for their protection; owing to the indifference of a large part of “the shipping interest” in every land to the moral exposure of seamen; owing to the recklessness of sailors themselves, acquired in their wandering life; owing to the neglect of them by the churches and their failure to pray and labor for their conversion. In spite of these conditions this Report repeats the note of good cheer which may be heard in the reports of the chaplains who are facing these hard conditions every day, and who, in spite of them, find reason to thank God and take courage.

More and more, however, good men are longing to better the conditions of the sailor’s life. This Society has been co-operating with other societies in a “Joint-Conference in the Interest of Seamen,” studying the actual evils of their lot, and trying to learn how to abolish, or at least to modify or minimize them. The question, which of these evils are separable and which are inseparable from a seafaring life, is one that cries for solution, and it is a question for the state, for the church, for seamen’s societies, and for seamen themselves to solve. Surely these evils have been too long regarded as irremediable, and indifference in regard to them has become criminal. The solid mass of this indifference is the greatest evil of all, for as when “there is a will there’s a way,” so when there is no will there is no way.
Our usual closing counsel must not be omitted; subscribe for the Sailors' Magazine (one dollar per annum); give a loan library ($20 each), or get your Sunday School to give it and to receive in return fifty copies of the Life Boat per month for one year; give an annual personal contribution to our treasury, and get your church to take an annual or occasional collection for it; make yourself a Life Member ($30) or a Life Director ($100); and leave a legacy in your will to represent your tender solicitude for "poor Jack" after you are gone; ask your pastor to present our cause to his congregation, whether a collection can be taken for it or not, and above all things keep seamen in the core of your sympathies and in the heart of your prayers.
There are about three million seamen afloat. The American Seamen’s Friend Society aims to do them good.

It gives annual aid to chaplains laboring in their behalf, in 16 foreign and 19 domestic ports.

It places loan libraries for seamen’s use on American vessels leaving the port of New York. Up to April 1, 1897, 10,379 libraries have been sent to sea; counting reshipments, about two libraries for every working day for thirty-nine years.

It provides a Sailors’ Home at 190 Cherry Street, New York, where seamen can board and be comparatively protected from vicious surroundings, and where shipwrecked and destitute sailors are cared for.

It publishes the Sailors’ Magazine for the friends of seamen, the Life Boat for Sunday Schools, and the Seamen’s Friend for seamen.

It distributes on vessels the publications of the American Bible Society and the American Tract Society.

Through its agents and efforts sailors are befriended, helped and blessed. The record of its work in all the years of its existence has cheered both the philanthropist and Christian.

Sample copies of the Sailors’ Magazine (one dollar per annum) and copies of the Annual Report sent free to any address.

Churches are requested to take an annual collection for this work, and to send it to the Treasurer, at No. 76 Wall Street, New York. Publications containing facts for sermons will be sent to pastors on application. Annual contributions from individuals are solicited.
The payment of Five Dollars makes an Annual Member.
The payment of Thirty Dollars at one time makes a Life Member.
The payment of One Hundred Dollars at one time makes a Life Director.

The Sailors' Magazine costs to subscribers one dollar per annum.

Upon application, the Sailors' Magazine will be sent free for one year to Life Directors, Life Members, and pastors of churches taking a yearly collection for the Society.

Also, upon application, it will be sent free for one year to any one giving Twenty Dollars for a loan library, or at least Twenty Dollars to the missionary work of the Society.

The Life Boat will be sent free (fifty copies monthly for one year) to Sunday Schools contributing Twenty Dollars for a loan library.

The Secretary is ready to preach in any church in behalf of this Society, to explain its work to the King's Daughters, to the Society of Christian Endeavor, to Monthly Concerts of Prayer, to Sunday Schools, to parlor meetings. Write to him at No. 76 Wall Street, New York.

FORM OF A BEQUEST.

"I give and bequeath to The American Seamen's Friend Society, incorporated by the Legislature of New York, in the year 1833, the sum of $——, to be applied to the charitable uses and purposes of the said Society."

Three witnesses should certify at the end of the will, over their signatures, to the following formalities, which, in the execution of the will, should be strictly observed:

1st. That the testator subscribed (or acknowledged the subscription of) the will in their presence. 2nd. That he at the same time declared to them that it was his last will and testament. 3rd. That they, the witnesses, then and there, in his presence, and at his request, and in presence of each other, signed their names thereto as witnesses.
Voiceless, yet voiceful, amid the roar and din of an endless traffic, the inspired and golden legend inscribed across the façade of the Royal Exchange in the very heart of busy London proclaims "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof." Our text claims the sea also for God. Our gathering together here to-day, under the auspices of the American Seamen's Friend Society, is in recognition, assertion and furtherance of this claim.

"The ocean old,
Centuries old,
Strong as youth and as uncontrolled,"

is an object of interest to us all. Some of us love it, some of us dread it, many of us wonder at it; who of us can claim to be quite indifferent to its dangers and its charms? Its shores, its waves, its storms, its calms, its skies, its depths, its tales, have they not a marvellous fascination for multitudes of men? With what joy have we trodden its beaches! With what delight watched its crested and inrolling surf as it breaks in foam and thunder on the sands, or sweeps over them in curves of graceful beauty! What consciousness of littleness, awe and loneliness has not stolen over our spirits as we have looked out over its wild wastes of waters, nor shore nor sail in sight, only around us the old gray sea, only above us the cold gray sky! What sense of health and invigoration have we not drawn from its salt-laden breezes on some bright day, every breath an elixir of life! And what strange bewitchment have we found in its quaint and thrilling stories of danger and adventure, like Longfellow's trembling maiden holding her breath

"At the tales of that awful pitiless sea
With all its terror and mystery,
The dim dark sea so like unto Death
That divides and yet unites mankind!"

To all sorts and conditions of men the sea appeals: the Statesman, who has learned the meaning of the phrase "Sea-Power," who covets for his country a great place among the nations, who knows that Eng-
Land's boast, "Brittania rules the waves," has many a time proved no idle word, and that the dominion of the sea carries with it, how often, the dominion of the land; will never be indifferent to the sea, or the power and influence his country wields upon it through its navy and merchant marine.

To the Merchant and Importer, the success of whose ventures and enterprise so largely depends upon the moods of the ocean, and the movements and safety of the ships speeding over its bosom, the world of waters cannot be other than an object of constant interest and solicitude.

The man of Science finds in the sea, with its bottoms, shores and depths, with its aquatic birds and fish, algae, shells and currents, with its ever varying conditions, with its living creatures, many of them strange and beautiful, some of them hideous, repulsive and terrible, all of them marvellous in adaptation and construction, and every one of them, whether he take note of it or not, witnessing to the power and the wisdom of God, an endless field for the exercise of his acutest faculties in study and research.

And our Artists—do they not love the ocean? many of them giving a lifetime to the study and depicting of the beauties of its shores and surf and ever fitful moods.

And the Sailor! with all the hardships, dangers and privations of his roving life—he libels him who says he does not love the sea!

And the Fisherman, gaining his livelihood with line and seine along the shores, or drawing it from deeper waters, absent for days or weeks together from the humble cottage on the beach—will you assert that he has no concern about the sea?

And the wives and the mothers and the sisters and the little children who stand looking seaward, watching earnestly with straining eyes for the first signs in the offing of the returning fleet, and whose hearts sink within them as the autumn blast howls over the deep and rattles on the window pane; sink within them at the thought of husband, father, brother, son not yet returned and struggling with the fierceness of the storm—can we think that such as these have no interest in the old gray sea, so beautiful and yet many a time so treacherous?

Yes, and the thousands upon thousands to whom the thought will come, as they look out upon the wide expanse of waters, that somewhere they hold in their dark bosom unconfined forms; forms and faces dear to them; forms and faces on which they will never look
again until the sea, obedient to the word of its Creator, shall give up its dead,—is it thinkable of such as these that they have no concern whatever in nor ever have a thought about the great, wide sea whose depths enshrine their precious dead?

True, there are millions, many of them living in the heart of great continents, who never saw, will never see, who never read nor perhaps ever heard of the existence, to say nothing of the ministry and wonders, of the sea; and others, who, having seen and heard, have scarcely spared for it a thought, who are yet indebted beyond telling to the sea; into whose homes and life and to whose tables the ships, speeding over its bosom, have brought many a thing of use and beauty, comfort, healing, luxury, refreshment and adorning, which, being absent, might be sorely missed.

There are savage interior tribes who owe the beauties of their forests and the fertility of wide-stretching plains to rain-laden clouds which come sailing up over the inland landscape charged with blessings of moisture by distant oceans which they never saw and of whose existence they never even dreamed.

And there are great internal areas, sometimes famine-stricken, whose perishing millions may little realize that their burnt-out and sun-scorched soil, in which no green thing grows, is to be traced to the failure of the gracious ministry of some far-off sea! So true it is that “all sorts and conditions of men” are somehow concerned with the sea; for where are they who have not in it somewhere investment of interest, anxiety, wealth, affection, support, comfort, adventure, sorrowful or joyous memories? This being so, a Society like that at whose call we are assembled, should have a great and interested constituency.

And if the sea may say to all these myriads of men, “Ye are concerned with me and my ministry of wind and wave, vapor and tide, and cloud and storm, your health, your life, your business prosperity, comforts, joys and griefs, not least may it claim the thought and interest of “all those who profess and call themselves Christians,” servants and followers and heirs of Him of whom the Psalmist wrote, “The sea is His and He made it,” of Him who walked the shores and sailed the waters of Galilee.

For such—and such those of us who assemble here to day at the call of this Society may be assumed to be—the Psalmist’s word must ever have its own appropriate significance, implying, as it does, both a disclosure of God and a call to special service in His name.

In the sea God makes a revelation of Himself which His servants
will be quick to discern—and how should it be otherwise, seeing that "He made it!" The thing made proclaims its maker; the work done declares not merely a doer, but the doer who did it. The intelligent and interested worker builds himself into his work, puts into it by virtue of his distinctive personality a subtle something which differentiates it from the work of every other hand, which labels it as his and not another's.

You are an adept in art. You do not hesitate to attribute these canvasses, though they treat of similar subjects, the first to Raphael, the second to Correggio, and the third to Murillo. Your are a musician, and as the organ peals forth its splendid swell of harmonies, you recognize in the compositions presented, the touch of Beethoven, the strains of Mozart, or the melodies of Haydn. You are something of a reader, and when unnamed passages of Milton, Wordsworth, Longfellow, Shakespeare, Bacon, Addison, or Motley are put into your hand, and you are asked to distinguish their authorship, you do not hesitate; familiarity with their respective styles at once discloses it; so truly is the artist's, the musician's, the writer's, yes, every true workman's way his own and not another's.

It is truth most familiar that nature speaks everywhere of God, for God. Recall that wonderfully beautiful apostrophe of Coleridge to the glaciers of Mont Blanc:

"Ye ice falls! Ye that from the mountain's brow
Adown enormous ravines slope amain,
Torrents methinks that heard a mighty voice
And stopped at once amid their maddest plunge,
Motionless torrents! Silent cataracts!
Who made you glorious as the gates of heaven
Beneath the keen, full moon? Who bade the sun
Clothe you with rainbows? Who with living flowers
Of loveliest blue spread garlands at your feet?
God! Let the torrents like a shout of nations
Answer! and let the ice plains echo, God!
God! Sing, ye meadow springs, with gladsome voice,
Ye pine groves with your soft and soul-like sounds;
And they too have a voice, you piles of snow,
And in their perilous fall shall thunder God!
Ye living flowers that skirt the eternal frosts,
Ye wild goats sporting round the eagle's nest!
Ye eagles, playmates of the mountain storm!
Ye lightnings, the dread arrows of the clouds!
Ye signs and wonders of the elements!
Utter forth God! and fill the hills with praise!"
Thus God’s works, like man’s, are evermore a disclosure of Himself. So Milton:

“Unspeakable! Who sittest above these heavens,
To us invisible or dimly seen
In these thy lowest works—yet these declare
Thy goodness beyond thought! and power divine!”

So Paul: “For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead.”

And the sea! Who made it? The Psalmist answers out of the far past, He made it! Its boundless reaches tell of Him who is the unconfined, the illimitable One; its heaving tides and ceaseless currents and waters never still, of Him who is the ever-living and life-giving One; its mighty depths of Him whose “judgments are a great deep;” its endless coast-lines and boundary-shores,—placed “for the bound of the sea by a perpetual decree that it cannot pass it: and though the waves thereof toss themselves yet can they not prevail, though they roar, yet can they not pass over it,”—of Him who is at once the great law-giver and law-keeper of the universe; its wonderful beauties, cleansing tides and marvellous helpfulness to men, of Him who is the infinitely good and gracious One; its punctual, ceaseless flowings, never in excess and never in defect, never a moment early and never a moment late, of Him who is the God of truth and order, whose word and promise cannot fail; its majestic expanses, its maelstroms and waterspouts and terrific storms, before whose fury man is helpless, of Him whose might is irresistible. So Byron sang:

“Thou glorious mirror where the Almighty’s form
Glasses itself in tempests: in all time,
Calm or convulsed, in breeze, or gale, or storm;
Icing the pole or in the torrid clime;
Dark heaving; boundless, endless and sublime,
The image of eternity; the throne
Of the Invisible: even from out thy slime
The monsters of the deep are made;
Each zone obeys thee;
Thou goest forth dread, fathomless, alone!”

Pity the man who treads the shore, who sails the ocean, who, in the name of science, studies the sea, its fish, its shells, its tides, its flora, yet hears not God’s name in the music of the waves or the awful roar of the tempest, nor ever spells it out among the stars that look
down so quietly and silently upon the waste of tossing waters; nor seems to see it written in flaming, gleaming light across the eastern and the western sky as the sun rises slowly out of, or sinks majestically below the sea; nor ever worships Him!

Ours is the high and holy privilege of reverent adoration as we find ourselves surrounded by these impressive evidences of the divine presence and power, and realize that "He made it," this overarching heaven, this broad expanse of sea. And some of us, as we recall some hour of peril on the deep, when we were face to face with shipwreck, and understood as never before that only a few inches of plank were between us and a watery grave, and that all of help and hope we had was in the power and grace of Him who rules the waves, are ready to say with Joseph Addison:

"Think, 0 my soul, devoutly think
How with affrighted eyes
Thou saw'st the wide-extended deep
In all its horrors rise!

"Confusion dwelt on every face
And fear in every heart
When waves on waves and gulfs on gulfs
O'ercame the pilot's art.

Yet then from all my griefs, O Lord,
Thy mercy set me free,
Whilst in the confidence of prayer
My soul took hold on Thee.

"The storm was laid, the winds retired
Obedient to Thy will,
The sea that roared at Thy command,
At Thy command was still.

"In midst of dangers, fears and death
Thy goodness I'll adore—
And praise Thee for Thy mercies past,
And humbly hope for more."

The Psalmist affirms that God is the maker of the sea—"He made it"—an affirmation which carries with it the inference that the sea is in some sort a revelation of God. He also asserts a divine ownership of the sea. He broadly claims the ocean for God—"The sea is His!"

It is all His, all in it His, all on it His! From pole to pole, from continent to continent, from island to island, it is His! Every shore of it His, every fish in it His, every drop of it His, every rock and shoal and bottom in it His, and not least the millions of our fellow-men and women who for gain or pleasure sail and steam over its broad bosom in ships of every flag; His, and that in virtue of a double claim, the right of creation and the right of redemption.

The existence of this Society and the gracious and beneficent work it has been permitted to accomplish in the years gone by are at once a recognition and an assertion of that claim. It builds upon the truth, "the sea is His." The labors of every missionary in its employ rest
upon it. Every tract that it offers, every visit that its agents pay, every library that it puts on shipboard, every appeal for money to carry on its work proceeds on this high ground.

Its noble and holy function is "to testify the gospel of the grace of God," and this to the men of the sea; not to the ocean currents, for what ocean current ever deviated from the path marked out for it by he finger of God? Not to the fishes of the sea, for when did they ever violate the great laws of their being? Not to the petrel, or the swift-winged gull or the wild fowl, gaining a living in the salty marsh and along the shore, or loving to rest on the restless wave, for these need it not; but to men, intelligent, immortal men, gifted in noblest capacities of service and enjoyment and undying life; for these, alas, men of the sea as well as men of the land, are they who have lapsed into disharmony with God, and so fallen out of righteousness and peace, and into weakness, wickedness, loss, and suffering; and these are they who need to be redeemed and won back to God and righteousness and peace.

Christ's parting word to His disciples was "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." He claimed all men as the objects of His mercy; none were too great, none too insignificant to be the subjects of His grace. His religion was imperial, it knew no rival. It is exclusive, it is intolerant of every other faith. Its clarion cry is "There is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved." It is the blessed function of this Society to offer His distinctive gospel to the sailors of all seas, as men and means are at its call. It is not merely the American Seamen's Friend Society, the friend of American seamen—not indeed—but far more than that—the friend of seamen of every nationality; the American friend of seamen. It is on the basis of this great command, "Go ye into all the world," that we build up great mission enterprises, vindicate the sacrifice of precious lives, and justify the expenditure of millions of money on all the continents. And is then the soul of the man afloat any less precious than the soul of the man ashore? No, my friends, it is not! And this Society stands to-day with finger pointing seaward to say, Behold! One of the broadest, grandest, neediest, and most hopeful of all the world's mission-fields, magnificent in its expanses, for the waters of the lakes and oceans cover three-fourths of the surface of the globe; mighty in its populations, for what with the men whose business is occupied in these great waters, in the navies, in the fisheries, in the merchant service, in the coasting trade, in the passenger traffic
of the world, the citizenship of the sea runs up into the millions, and, though sparsely peopled when compared with the thickly settled states and kingdoms of the earth, probably outnumbering the populations of the cities of New York and Philadelphia, and surpassing that of the city of London.

If the capital of Great Britain had never heard the message of God's grace in the gospel, what heart that beats true to Christ and has not yet learned amid flooding unbeliefs to tamper with the essential verities of His faith, but would be for hurrying forward with all speed the tidings of divine love and mercy to the millions thus "sitting in darkness and the shadow of death?"

And again we ask, is the soul of the man afloat any less precious than the soul of the man ashore? Where did we learn that? To what verse in this Book can we point to prove that? With what word of the Lord will you verify that? Do we believe that He who is no respecter of persons, who turned a boat into a pulpit, who loved the shores of the sea of Galilee and chose His apostles from among its fishermen, cared more for the men of the land that He cares for the men of the sea? Do we think that when he said "Go ye into all the world," He meant Gaul and Britain and Rome and Persia, but had never a thought for the sea? Is the sin of the sailor any less heinous, any less ruinous and fatal to the soul, than your sins and mine? Is "the blood of Jesus Christ His Son that cleanceth away all sin" any less essential and availing for him than it is essential and availing for you and for me? Are the temptations of the sailor any less fierce and seductive than those of other men as he steps ashore at some strange seaport to find himself surrounded by a swarm of land-sharks, more cruel and greedy than the sharks of the sea, agents of the saloon, the brothel and the gambling hell, emissaries of the devil, awaiting him at every turn, and hungry to devour not alone his hard-earned money, but worse, his manly vigor, his bodily health, the peace of his conscience and his immortal soul!

Of a generous, confiding, unsuspicous nature, such a nature as too often falls an easy prey; unguarded and alone, or surrounded by evil companionships; mother and wife and children, if he has any, and the blessed restraints of a decent social life far, far away; has the sailor less need than others of the curb of a holy religion, of the tremendous warnings and sweet encouragements of the Word of God, of the hopes and alarms which might inspire him to the right and deter him from the wrong, while the syren voices of hell, with every fascination, seek
to lure him from the paths of righteousness and peace? Has this
sailor-brother of ours, thus tempted, thus beset, any less need of the
gracious and wholesome restraint of a Christian conscience, enlight­
ened by the Spirit of God, than the rest of us?

Remember, the sailor is our representative. He stands for our
civilization, he represents our Christianity, as many a time no other
can or does in foreign ports. You demand, by what right, on whose
commission? We answer, by no formal appointment of anybody, but
simply by virtue of circumstances and as an actual fact. A French­
man, an Englishman, an Italian, an American he enters some foreign
port. Hailing from a nominally Christian land, the people of the for­
eign port accept him naturally enough as a specimen product of the
land from which he hails, and accredit him as representing its faith
and social life. But what if he be a profane sailor, a drunken sailor,
a libertine sailor? Missionaries in the East have testified that many
a time the vices and debaucheries of Europeans and Americans, seem­
ing to the natives to stand for western civilization and Christian faith,
have proved unspeakable hindrances to their holy and beneficent work.
Poor tempted Jack is by no means the only transgressor in this respect
—very far from it! But too often he has been such a transgressor,
and as far as he is so are we willing that he should stand for our coun­
try, our institutions, our religion and social life? The Lord forbid it!
No, a thousand times no! Then let us, through noble agencies like
that in whose behalf we speak to-day, seek by the grace of God to
Christianize "Jack!"

It is the glory of our Lord that He is "Christus Consolator" and
that His faith is the best, the only really effective panacea for
all human ills; that it stanches the wounds and dries the tears of
humanity as no other religion, no science, no philosophy ever can
or ever will. Now, if there is a class of men on the globe who
need the consolations and comforts of our holy faith, it is the sailor
whose home is the restless, boundless sea; the sailor who is cut off
from a thousand resources of information, recreation, improvement
and endeavor which are open to the man ashore; the sailor on whose
ear the prattle of children seldom falls and whose life is rarely bright­
ened by their sunny smiles; the sailor deprived for months and years
at a time of the blessed ministries of wife, mother, sister, daughter;
the sailor who must confront disease in foreign hospitals, danger and
death in appalling forms on the stormy sea, and who realizes his perils
as keenly as you and I do ours; the sailor who many a time must
think how his may be an unmarked and nameless grave upon some lonely coast, or an unknown resting on some deep, dark sea-bottom, whither no dear one will ever come, and where no gentle hand will ever lay the tribute of its love.

And as there is no man who more needs, so there is no man who is more open to the ministry of faith, and having once received, better appreciates and improves it. The generousness and freedom of his nature, the exigencies of his condition, its privations, dangers, isolations, open his ear and heart, and make him peculiarly susceptible to its appeal. It is easy to preach to the sailor, for beyond most men he is unsophisticated, candid and ready to receive the truth. And our Christian sailor is wont to be a Christian of the up-and-down, out-and-out sort, who never mumbles his confession and is never ashamed of his creed, the flag under which he sails, the banner of the cross. Christ wants the sailor, and the sailor needs Christ, and the sailor is a man worth the saving.

What do we owe the sailor? Owe him for our civilization, owe him for a thousand of the comforts and adornments that enrich our homes, owe him for our pleasures, owe him for many things that have come to be almost necessities of our existence, owe him for commercial prosperity, owe him for our intercourse with other peoples, owe him for the stimulus which his daring and endurance impart to the manifold activities of great populations, owe him for his venture, his patience, his bravery, his skill in the navigation of the seas? What do we owe the sailor? Who can tell? For one, I cannot, nor will I try. It is a great debt!—a debt we can only pay by securing to him as much as in us lies, the best thing in all the world, the gospel of the grace of God, with its pardon for sin, its restraint in temptation, its joys, its consolations, its incentives to duty, its strength in life, its peace in death, and the assurance of an abiding place in that dear, dear country where, having for the last time stepped ashore, the wanderer of the trackless deep shall find a home forever, for of that land it is written "and there was no more sea!"

Paul wrote to the Romans: "I am a debtor both to the Greeks and to the barbarians, both to the wise an to the unwise, so as much as in me is I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also." Let us also say to these men of the ship and the mast, the compass, the engine, the net and the oar, "Your debtors we are, and so much as in us lies we are ready to preach the gospel to you that are on the seas also."
LIFE DIRECTOR AND LIFE MEMBERS

OF THE

AMERICAN SEAMEN'S FRIEND SOCIETY

CONSTITUTED DURING THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1897.

Life Director, by the payment of One Hundred Dollars.

Carter, Captain Christopher O., . . . . . Bath, Me.

Life Members, by the payment of Thirty Dollars.

Allen, Mrs. B. W., . . . . . Ellsworth, Ohio.

De Mott, John J., . . . . . Middlebush, N. J.


Mills, Edward B., . . . . . Fairfield, Conn.

Miller, Wm. H. . . . . . " "

Richard, Auguste, . . . . . New York, N. Y.

— 6.
RECEIPTS
OF THE
American Seamen's Friend Society,
From April 1, 1896, to April 1, 1897,
FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES.

MAINE.
Beth, Rodney Hyde, $2 00
Hampden, First Congregational Church and Sunday School, balance for library 11 14
South Berwick, Mrs. A. Tobey, 1 00

$14 12

NEW HAMPSHIRE.
Keene, a friend, 1 00
Nashua, Miss Clarissa Hills, 5 00
Rochester, Congregational Sunday School, for library, 20 00

$26 00

VERMONT.
Bennington, Second Congregational Church, 6 00
Lower Cabot, Mrs. James P. Stone, 2 00

$8 00

MASSACHUSETTS.
Andover, John F. Kimball, 5 00
Boston, in full settlement of legacy of the late Lucinda J. Hartshorn, of Boston, per Henry K. Ellis, administrator, 373 94
Rev. A. C. Thompson, for library work, 5 00
Dalton, Mary E. Crane, 100 00
Dorchester, E. H. Sharp, 2 00
Essexhampton, Payson Congregational Church, of which C. H. Johnson's Sunday School class, for library, $20, 37 40
Plymouth, Cecilia F. Shivering, for destitute seamen, 5 00
Franklin, Congregational Church, 3 00
Great Barrington, First Congregational Church, 23 62
Groton, Mrs. Mary M. Spaulding, for library, 20 00
Lowell, Eliot Church, for library, 20 00
Lynn, M. C. Bean, 5 00
Middleboro, a friend, 1 00
Montague, Congregational Church, 2 00
Northfield, Mrs. A. M. D. Alexander, annual Christmas Library, 20 00

Oxford, Congregational Sunday School, to refit library No. 9,009, 30 00
Pittsfield, South Congregational Church, for library in memory of Jabez L. Peck, 21 88
Randolph, S. D. A., New Year's Greeting, 20 00
Sheffield, Congregational Church, Sunday School, of which for library, $20, 3 61
South Framingham, Sunday School of Grace Congregational Church, 13 35
Springfield, Hope Congregational Church, "Benevolent Fund" of Park Congregational Church, 12 04
Stockbridge, cash from a friend, 21 00
Wellesley Hills, Miss Harriet Gray, for library, 21 00
Whitingville, Congregational Church and Society, of which for libraries, $20, 220 90
Arthur F. Whitin, to replace loan library No. 10, 101, lost at sea, 20 00

$1,062 49

RHODE ISLAND.
Newport, Mrs. E. Auchincloss, 10 00
Pawtucket, Pawtucket Congregational Church, 75 78
Providence, Central Congregational Church, 135 00
Union Congregational Sunday School, 17 88
Pilgrim Congregational Church, 70 00

$226 36

CONNECTICUT.
Berlin, Second Congregational Church, 82 80
Bethel, First Congregational Church, 12 64
Black Rock, S. J. Bartram, for library in memory of T. W. Bartram, 20 00
Congregational Church, 14 50
Bridgeport, Second Congregational Church, 24 21
Bristol, Congregational Church, 10 00
A N N U A L  R E C E I P T S  O F  T H E

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<td>Plainfield, Missionary Society, received per Henry T. Arnold</td>
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<td>Mrs. Villis Roberts, for library</td>
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<td>Alfred D. Whitehouse, for library</td>
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<td>Rev. Dr. Theol. Cuyler, for library</td>
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<td>Miss Mary Benson</td>
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<td>Clergy, executor, and Elizabeth Scrivin, executor</td>
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NEW YORK

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<td>Albany, Ulster County Woman's Christian Temperance Union, for the Emily Underhill Burgess Library</td>
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<td>C. B. Davis, for library</td>
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Chester, Congregational Church, $ 6 25
Colchester, Congregational Sunday School, Mrs. Geo. Destin, 6 26
Danbury, First Congregational Church, 56 83
Danielsville, Westfield Congregational Church and congregation, 14 54
Derby, First Congregational Church, East Windsor, Mrs. Sarah L. Wells, to refit library No. 7, 652, 6 51
First Congregational Church, Enfield, First Congregational Church, 8 20
Essex, First Congregational Church, 18 98
Fairfield, Congregational Church, of which Edward Sturges, 35, constituting Edward B. Mills and Wm. H. Miller, Life Members, 70 34
Farmington, First Congregational Sunday School, First Congregational Church, of which the A. L. Vorce Library, 30, 25 09
Green's Farms, Congregational Church, 8 13
Greenwich, Second Congregational Ch., 31 26
Griswold, First Congregational Church, 1 00
Groton, Sunday School, Congregational Church, for library, 20 00
Haddam, First Congregational Church, 14 00
Hambden, First Congregational Church, 86 13
Pearl Street Congregational Sunday School, for library, 95 55
Mrs. Mary C. Dennis, for library, 20 00
Warburton Chapel Sunday School, S. B. Mallett, 5 25
F. M. Smith, 5 00
Wm. Huntington, 1 00
Lebanon, Mrs. D. S. Woodward, 2 00
Litchfield, First Congregational Church, 20 10
Lyme, First Congregational Church, 10 00
Madison, First Congregational Church, 2 25
Manchester, Second Congregational Ch., 5 50
Middletown, Mrs. Janette A. Savage, 1 00
Middletown, Second Congregational Church, 62 14
Milford, First Congregational Church, 1 12
Mount Carmel, Congregational Church, 10 57
New Britain, Lucy J. Pease, for library, 10 of which balance for a loan library, 30 00
New Haven, First Baptist Sunday School, for library, 20 00
Mrs. Kate M. Sizer, 6 00
Rose M. Munger, 5 00
New Lebanon, the boys and girls of Junior Christian Endeavor Society of Second Congregational Church, for the Elizabeth Seeley Bixler Memorial Library No. 2, 20 00
First Church of Christ, 6 05
New London, Cornelia W. Chapell, First Church of Christ, 21 95
H. L. Memorial Library, 20 00
New Milford, Woman's Congregational Home Missionary Union, 15 00
Norfolk, Congregational Church, 30 15
North Greenwich, Congregational Ch., 11 00
North Haven, Congregational Church, 6 20
North Stonington, Congregational Sunday School, 3 85
Norwalk, "Highwood," 10 00
Norwich, Broadway Congregational Church, Park Congregational Church, 71 35
First Congregational Church, 26 00
Second Congregational Church, 22 13
Greenville Congregational Church, 5 00
Old Saybrook, Congregational Church, 1 20
Old Saybrook, Congregational Church, 9 51
Elmira, Mrs. S. D. Jennings, $5 00
Far Rockaway, Rev. L. D. Calkins, for library in memory of D. Osbert Calkins, 20 00
Gravesend, First Reformed Church, 32 25
Haverstraw, Rev. A. S. Freeman, 2 00
Itasca, Sunday School, First Presbyterian Church, 4 39
Montauk, Mr. B. H. Edmonds, for the Daniel Hopburn Library, 20 00
Newburgh, Union Church Sunday School, 20 00
New York City, balance of specific legacies of the late Joseph B. Spaney, per S. C. Burnett and John F. Hallsted, executors, 2,000 00
Collections on steamers of the International Navigation Co.'s lines, received per H. G. Phillips, cashier, 1,128 40
Collections on board steamers of the White Star Steamship Co., received per H. Mainland Kersey, agent, 625 00
Edinburgh, Miss E. B. Jerry, of which $500 for libraries, 300 00
From the Havens Relief Fund Society, for distribution towards temporary relief of shipwrecked and destitute seamen, 200 00
Hershey, Miss E. Bulkeley, for Bulkeley Fund Libraries, 100 00
James H. Dunham, 100 00
Brown & Bradshaw & Co., 100 00
John Dwight, 100 00
M. A., 100 00
Miss Rachel L. Kennedy, of which $40 for libraries, 90 00
Collections on board steamers of the Anchor Line, received per Oelrichs & Co., agents, 27 16
Horace Gray, 50 00
Ellen Gray, 50 00
Frederick Sturges, 50 00
Morris K. Jessup, 50 00
H. H. Rogers, 50 00
M. H. Stone, for libraries, one to be named Morningside Library No. 18, 43 00
Income from anonymous endowment, for two libraries, 40 00
Miss Emma Bogardus, for libraries, one of which in memory of Mrs. Mary A. Bogardus, 40 00
Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, 40 00
Collection on board steamship Normandia, on her late voyage, arriving at New York August 27, 1896, as a donation to the American Seamen's Friend Society, received per L. Scheppe, Esq., 33 00
Auguste Richard, constituting himself a Life Member, Collection on North German Lloyd steamer Saale, during trip from Brême, August 23, received per Oelrichs & Co., agents, 27 16
S. D. Babcock, 25 00
Morton, Bliss & Co., $25 00
Woodbury G. Langdon, 25 00
John T. Agnew, 25 00
C. S., of New York City, 25 00
Arnold, Constable & Co., 25 00
Mrs. Julia A. Agnew, 25 00
Collection on Anchor line steamer Fernandina, July 22, received per Jas. E. Ely, agent, 20 00
Gerard Beekman, 20 00
Wm. N. Crane, 20 00
Mrs. Frederick Billings, 20 00
A. G. C., in memory of Capt. E. B. Cobb, 20 00
A sea captain, for library, 20 00
Miss Emma Bogardus, in aid of destitute seamen, 30 00
Mrs. A. C. Brown, for library, 30 00
Missionary Society, Church of the Stranger, for library, 20 00
Robert Jaffray, 20 00
Capt. Wm. Dollar, for library in memory of benefits received from loan libraries in former days, 20 00
One of the young people in the "Old First," through Howard Duffield, D.D., for library, 20 00
E. H. R. Lyman, 20 00
A. L. M., for library in memoriam, 30 00
Mrs. D. C. Blair, for library, 30 00
Wm. H. Webb, 20 00
G. G. Williams, 20 00
Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church Sunday School, 30 00
Collection at sea on North German Lloyd Co.'s S.S. Havel, November 25, 1896, as a donation to American Seamen's Friend Society, received per Oelrichs & Co., agents, 18 67
Collegiate Church, 15 33
Geo. F. Betts, 15 00
Theophilus A. Brower, 15 00
Collection from passengers on North German Lloyd's steamer Ems, on June 15 last, received per A. Wedemeyer, purser, 13 25
E. V. S. Winthrop, 10 00
The Stamford Manufacturing Co., 10 00
Lord & Taylor, 10 00
James C. Carter, 10 00
Mrs. Daniel D. Lord, 10 00
Wm. Alexander Smith, 10 00
D. Stuarc Dodge, 10 00
The Little Bethel in the Seventh Presbyterian Church, 10 00
Benjamin Lord, M. D., 10 00
Wm. M. Evarts, 10 00
Mrs. Daniel D. Lord, 10 00
H. C. Fahmeestock, 10 00
Lesher, White & Co., 10 00
Capt. C. O. Carter and crew of ship E. B. Sutton, for library work, 10 00
Collection on Anchor line steamer Audubon, received per Rev. W. C. Bunting, 6 25
Samuel Wilde's Sons, 6 00
W. W. Kip, 5 00
Capt. Wm. Dollar, 5 00
Hawk & Wetherbee, 5 00
Charles C. Beaman, 5 00
E. N. Taill, 5 00
Miss Isabel McKee, 5 00
Wm. B. Kendall, 5 00
S. V. Baker, 5 00
H. G. M., 5 00
S. R. Kendall, 3 00
ANNUAL RECEIPTS OF THE

Capt. E. W. Shackleford of schooner Johanna Swan, for library work, $2 00
Capt. Loren C. Caddell, bark Hector, for library work, 1 00
Capt. Frank W. Brown, schooner Sarah A. Fuller, for library work, 1 00
Capt. Fownez, bark Kate F. Troop, for library work, 1 00
Anonymous, 1 00
Capt. E. E. Wallace of bark Megunticook, for library work, 1 00
Capt. N. W. Kendall of schooner Annie Lord, for library work, 1 00
Mrs. W. Parker, 1 00
Capt. D. T. Dickson of brig Daisy, for library work, 1 00
North Tarrytown, the Christian Endeavor Society of First Reformed Church, for library work, 20 00
Mrs. H. E. Noxon, for library work, 2 00
Nyack, Dr. Geo. F. Blauvelt, Presbyterian Church, of which Sunday School, for library, $25 60
Peekskill, First Presbyterian Church, of which Sunday School, for library, 20 00
Poughkeepsie, "Friends," for library, 100 00
Rochester, Mount Hor Church, for the Mary Miller Library, 20 00
Rye, Marjorie and Murray Lewis, for library, 50 00
South Orange, Presbyterian Church, 53 90
Tarrytown, Sarah R. Lombard, 25 00
Troy, Rev. Arthur H. Allen, 2 00

$17,648 78

NEW JERSEY.

Blairstown, W. H. Vail, for library, 20 00
Mrs. Chas. E. Vail, for library, 20 00
Presbyterian Church, 12 00
Chatham, received on account of bequest of Miss Phebe Crane, late of Chatham, for Stephen H. Ward, executor, 1,500 00
Clifton, "Outlook Club" in Congregational Church, "Do Something Club" in Congregational Church, 50 00
East Orange, Sunnay School, First Presbyterian Church, for library, 20 00
Englewood, Presbyterian Church, 105 91
Franklin Park, Peter Cortelyou, to constitute John J. DeMott, of Middleburgh, N. J., a Life Member, 10 00
Glen Ridge, Sunday School, to refit library, 8 00
Hackensack, Christian Endeavor Society of First Presbyterian Church, for library, 5 00
Huntsville, Mrs. Hannah S. Hart, for library, 20 00
Jersey City, Caroline L. Ames, 3 00
Madison, First Presbyterian Church, 73 13
Mount Olive, Junior Christian Endeavor Society, for library, 20 00
Morristown, South Street Presbyterian Church, 96 54
Children's Missionary Society of First Presbyterian Church, for library, 20 00

Mrs. Edward Bigelow, to refit loan library No. 6,439, $5 00
Newark, bequest of the late Rear Admiral John W. Livingston, late of the United States Navy, per Joseph W. and Isaac E. Plume, executors, 5,000 00
On account of bequest of Daniel Price, late of Newark, per M. Price, executor, 1,759 00
Second Presbyterian Church, 79 00
Third Presbyterian Church, 60 13
H. K. Steele, for two libraries in memory of Wm. H. Steele, Jr., and one in memory of George H. Steele, 90 00
First Presbyterian Church, 15 15
New Brunswick, The Guion Street Sunday School, for library, 20 00
Newfield, a friend, 2 00
Orange, Mrs. Chauncey W. Goodrich, 5 00
Princeton, Miss Janetia Alexander, of which for libraries, $40 00
Prof. Gerhardus Vos, 4 00
Prof. Geo. Mackeskie, 2 00
South Orange, Geo. H. Brown, 25 03
Stanley, Sarah C. Bonnell, 1 00
Trenton, First Presbyterian Church, 4 00
West Hoboken, George Taylor, 1 00

$9,150 56

PENNSYLVANIA.

Germantown, Thomas MacKellar, 10 00
Montrose, Henry A. Riley, 5 00

$15 00

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Washington, Annie B. M. Craig, for library in memory of David W. and Jane O. Mahon, with the inscription "The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance," Psalm ci: 6; "And thou was both righteous before God," Luke i: 6. 20 00

VIRGINIA.

Chincoteague Island, S. M. Feddeman and crew of Pope's Island Life Saving Station, 2 00

NORTH CAROLINA.

Knotts Island, J. B. Cason, 5 00

GEORGIA.

Augusta, Mrs. Gamaliel G. Smith, 20 00

OHIO.

Ellsworth, Mrs. B. V. Allen, balance to constitute herself a Life Member, 15 00

INDIANA.

Rockville, Margaret Digby Rice, 1 00

ILLINOIS.

Chicago, Julia Hatch, 4 00
## Recapitulation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>$14.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>$1,052.49</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhode Island</td>
<td>$236.38</td>
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<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>$1,593.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>$17,648.78</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>$9,160.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District of Columbia</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia</td>
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<td>North Carolina</td>
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<td>Georgia</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
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<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Mexico</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dutch Guiana</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>$2.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>$1.92</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$29,846.03</strong></td>
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</table>
ANNUAL STATEMENT OF THE AMERICAN SEAMEN'S FRIEND SOCIETY.

1896.

PAYMENTS.

March 31st, To Foreign Missions,

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paid Chaplains, Missionaries, Helpers, Bethels, &amp;c.............................</td>
<td>$6,450.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Domestic Missions, do. do. do.</td>
<td>8,370.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Missions Expenses, Etc.</td>
<td>477.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Aid to shipwrecked and destitute seamen</td>
<td>216.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Presentation of books to the graduates of the Annapolis Naval Academy at Annapolis</td>
<td>139.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Repaire to Sailors' Home and insurance premium</td>
<td>497.18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Publication Department.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cost of Sailors' Magazine, Seamen's Friend and Life Boat</td>
<td>5,301.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Loan Library Department.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Books, cases and expenses of Loan Library Work</td>
<td>3,033.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office expenses, rent, salaries, etc.</td>
<td>5,036.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment changes and advances account</td>
<td>10,380.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance of cash in treasury to new account</td>
<td>2,714.02</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$44,096.93

1897.

March 31st, By balance to new account.............................................. $2,714.62

New York, March 31, 1897.

W. M. STURGES, Treasurer.
MAP OF THE
WORLD
Showing the PORTS at which are
MISSIONS TO SEAMEN
AIDED BY THE
AMERICAN SEAMEN'S FRIEND SOCIETY.
76 WALL ST., NEW YORK.
American Seamen’s Friend Society.

Organized, May, 1828—Incorporated, April, 1833.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.—The name of this Society shall be “THE AMERICAN SEAMEN’S FRIEND SOCIETY.”

ART. II.—The object of this Society shall be to improve the social and moral condition of seamen, by uniting the efforts of the wise and good in their behalf; by promoting in every port, Boarding Houses of good character, Savings’ Banks, Register Offices, Libraries, Museums, Reading Rooms and Schools; and also the ministration of the gospel, and other religious blessings.

ART. III.—Any person contributing five dollars annually shall be a member of this Society, or by paying thirty dollars at any one time shall be a member for life; and any person paying one hundred dollars, either at one or two payments, shall be a director for life. Life Members and Directors shall be entitled to the SAILORS’ MAGAZINE upon an annual request for the same.

ART. IV.—The control and disposal of the funds, property and estate of the Society, and direction of its concerns, shall, in accordance with the act of incorporation, be vested in a Board of Trustees consisting of twenty-four persons, who shall be chosen by the members of the Society, eight of whom shall be a quorum at a regular meeting convened. Absence without excuse, by any Trustee, from the regular meetings of the Board for six successive months may be held equivalent to his resignation. To guard against the evil of inexperienced legislation the Board shall be divided into three classes of eight each, one class of which, and one only, shall go out at the end of each year, and these be reeligible. To guard furthermore against sectarian predominance, a majority of the Trustees shall at no time be of one denomination. Said Board shall have power to fill all vacancies that may occur therein; to appoint from their own number a President, a Treasurer, and other officers, as the interest of the Society may require. They shall furthermore appoint such Standing Committees as they shall deem needful to immature business for execution by the Board.

ART. V.—The Board shall have power to appoint their own meetings, form their rules of business, and, when necessary, convene the Society; they shall have the disposal of its funds, take such security of the Treasurer as they shall think proper, employ such means for accomplishing the object of the Society as in their judgment its exigencies may require, keeping regular minutes of their proceedings.

ART. VI.—Any Society whose object is the welfare of seamen may become auxiliary to this Institution by expressing its desire, forwarding its Constitution, list of officers and Annual Report, and such surplus funds as may not be needed for its local use. Each Auxiliary shall be entitled to send one delegate to all the meetings of the Society and of the Board of Trustees.

ART. VII.—Societies for the same object in our large seaports, which may prefer to become Branches of the National Society, with a view of forming their own auxiliaries and thus enlarging the sphere of their operations, shall be received as such upon the terms above specified for auxiliaries; and shall be entitled to three delegates at all the meetings of the Society and the Board, and to any other privileges which in the progress of the Institution the Board shall deem it expedient to grant.

ART. VIII.—The Society shall meet annually on the Monday preceding the second Thursday in May, in the city of New York, when the report of the Board shall be presented, and a new Board constituted according to the provisions of the 4th Article.

ART. IX.—No alteration shall be made in this Constitution unless requested at an annual meeting and sanctioned by two-thirds of the members present.
American Seamen's Friend Society.

ORGANIZED, MAY, 1828. INCORPORATED, APRIL, 1833.

76 Wall Street, New York, N. Y., U. S. A.

JAMES W. ELWELL, President.
CHARLES A. STODDARD, D.D., Vice-President.
W. C. STITT, D.D., Secretary.
WILLIAM C. STURGES, Treasurer.

CLERGYMEN, CHAPLAINS, MISSIONARIES AND COLPORTEURS
LABORING FOR SEAMEN, IN CONNECTION WITH THE SOCIETY,
IN THE UNITED STATES AND IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES,
DURING THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1897.

New Haven, Conn.—Rev. J. O. Berg.
New York City.—Capt. Wm. Dollar.
Brooklyn, N. Y.
Norfolk, Va.—Rev. J. B. Merritt.

New Orleans, La.—Rev. R. E. Steele.
Pensacola, Fla.—H. C. Cushman.
Savannah, Ga.—H. Iverson.
Mobile, Ala.—Rev. R. A. Mickle.
Portland, Ore.—Rev. A. Robinson.
Astoria, Ore.—Rev. J. McCordac.
Tacoma, W.—Rev. R. S. Stubbs.
Port Townsend, W.—C. L. Terry.

Domestic Stations, 16; Laborers, 17.

Sweden, Helsingborg.—Rev. N. P. Wahlstedt.
Sundsvall.—E. Eriksson.
Stockholm.—J. T. Hedstrom.
Gothenburg.—Christian Nielsen.
Denmark, Copenhagen.—Rev. A. Wollesen.

Germany, Hamburg.—British and American Sailor's Institute.—H. M. Sharpe.
Belgium, Antwerp.—Rev. J. Adams.
Italy, Genoa.—Rev. D. Miller.
Naples.—Rev. T. Johnstone Irving.
Mr. Bell.

India, Bombay.—Seamen's Rest, F. Wood.
Karachi.—W. H. Dowling.
Japan, Yokohama.—Rev. W. T. Austen.
Kobe.—J. M. Harmon.
Nagasaki.

Chile, S. A., Valparaiso.—Rev. F. Thompson.
Argentina Republic,
Buenos Ayres.—Thos. McCarthy.
Rosario.—George Nye.

Republic of Uruguay,
Montevideo.

Madeira, Funchal.—Wm. Geo. Smart.

Foreign Stations, 19; Laborers, 20.

Homes for Seamen.

Sailors' Homes are aided by the Society in various seaports. By their moral and religious atmosphere they often make the sole places of refuge for seamen from the destructive influences to which, as a class, they are always exposed when on shore.

Loan Libraries, Bibles and Testaments for Ships.

Twenty Dollars contributed by any individual or Sabbath School will send a Library to sea in the name of the donor.

Bibles and Testaments in various languages may be had either at the office of the Society or at the Depository of the New York Bible Society, Room No. 44, Bible House, Astor Place, New York City.