

**THE AMERICA'S CUP: HOW
IT WAS WON BY THE YACHT
AMERICA IN 1851 AND HAS
BEEN SINCE DEFENDED**

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The America's Cup: How it was Won by the Yacht America in 1851 and Has Been Since
Defended by Roland F. Coffin

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ROLAND F. COFFIN

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THE LAST APPENDIX TO "YANKEE DOODLE."

(*London Punch, September, 1851.*)

Yankee Doodle sent to Town
His goods for exhibition ;
Everybody ran him down,
And laughed at his position :
They thought him all the world behind ;
A goney, muff or noodle ;
Laugh on, good people—never mind—
Says quiet Yankee Doodle.

CHORUS.—Yankee Doodle, &c.

Yankee Doodle had a craft,
A rather tidy clipper,
And he challenged, while they laughed,
The Britishers to whip her.
Their whole yacht squadron she outsped,
And that on their own water ;
Of all the lot she went ahead,
And they came nowhere arter.

CHORUS.—Yankee Doodle, &c.

* * * * *

A steamer of the Collins line,
A Yankee Doodle's notion,
Has also quickest cut the brine
Across the Atlantic Ocean.
And British agents, noways slow
Her merits to discover,
Have been and bought her—just to tow,
The Cunard packets over.

CHORUS.—Yankee Doodle, &c.

* * * * *



LOOK OUT FOR SQUALLS.

AMERICAN YOUTH — "I guess, Master Johnny, if you don't look sharp, I'll show you how to make a
seventy-four next!"

From London Punch, September, 1854.

THE
AMERICA'S CUP

*HOW IT WAS WON BY THE YACHT AMERICA
IN 1851 AND HAS BEEN SINCE
DEFENDED*

BY
CAPTAIN ROLAND F. COFFIN
*Author of "Old Sailors' Yarns," "Archibald the Cat," "How Old
Wiggins Wore Ship," Etc., Etc.*

NEW YORK
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P R E F A C E .

HAVING been present at all of the races for the *America's* Cup, with the exception of the first one at Cowes, and having witnessed nearly all of the important yachting contests in this country for the past twenty years, which my previous twenty-five years of "tall water sailing," as a sailor would say, enabled me to thoroughly enjoy and appreciate, I thought that perhaps I, to a greater degree than some others, was most competent to give, not only to the yachting public, but to the public generally, a detailed and correct history of the *America's* Cup, and of the contests for it up to the present time.

By the courtesy of Mr. Charles A. Minton, the secretary of the New York Yacht Club, and of Mr. Neils Olsen, its steward, I have been enabled to quote largely from the official documents in the possession of the club, and have preferred doing this, as it will give my readers a better idea of the actual facts in connection with the negotiations for the previous contests than anything which I might be able to write.

From the great mass of material in my possession, I have culled a number of extracts from the newspapers, illustrative of public opinion; but in all cases I have been careful to quote only those writers known to be well competent to express a sound opinion upon all

matters relating to yachts and yachting. The accounts of the races I have written from my own recollections of them, aided by the official figures. I think I may, with modesty, say that the account of the *Cambria* race, in 1870, which I have rewritten fifteen years after its occurrence, is not only better than the account I wrote on the evening after the race, but I believe it to be more accurate than any account published at the time.

I have written this with the intention of making it a book of reference, not only during the pending contests, but in all the future contests, of which I expect to see not a few in this country before I realize the prime object of my present ambition, which is to retire to Nantucket, and become the happy owner of a twenty-foot cat-boat, the fastest in the harbor.

ROLAND F. COFFIN.

July 20, 1885.