

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
UNITED STATES NAVAL  
INSTITUTE. APPENDIX.  
VOL. XVI., 1891**

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**APPENDIX.**

VOL. XVI., 1891.

# UNITED STATES NAVAL INSTITUTE.

1878-1891.

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## ORIGIN, PROGRESS, AND OBJECT.

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### HISTORICAL.

The inaugural meeting of the Institute was held October 9, 1873, at which Rear-Admiral John L. Worden, U. S. N., presided, and the late Commodore Foxhall A. Parker, U. S. N., read a paper entitled "The Battle of Lepanto." The object of the association as then stated was for the advancement of professional and scientific knowledge in the Navy by affording a medium for the free interchange of serious thought and the debate of important subjects concerning naval science and practice. In 1874 a Constitution was adopted and the membership increased to seventy-five. The first volume, entitled "The Papers and Proceedings of the United States Naval Institute," appeared in 1875. During the succeeding few years the Institute grew in membership and in the estimation of the Army and Navy, and by the adoption of the Constitution of June 2, 1884, it took a firmer hold and marked out its future success.

In addition to its membership the Institute has a large number of subscribers and exchanges, so that now the published quarterly edition numbers 1350 copies.

Since its organization, the field of usefulness of the association has become enlarged, and besides the first object, already mentioned, its work includes the following :

1st. By means of the large number of associate members, comprising Army officers, those of the Revenue Marine, naval architects of distinction, consulting and mechanical engineers of high standing, and the leading manufacturers of steel and other material for the Navy, it promotes good feeling and mental stimulation, which are broadening and beneficial to all parties.

2d. Its members and subscribers, including libraries and colleges, disseminate important authentic information relating to naval science and to the subject of national defense.

3d. The Professional and Bibliographic Notes furnish a compendium of valuable information, taken from home and foreign sources, to which most members have not access.

4th. The publications of the Institute become a repository for important historical records concerning the naval service, as well as for valuable reports of experiments in a form convenient for reference.

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