

**THE SEAMAN'S MANUAL; CONTAINING A
TREATISE ON PRACTICAL SEAMANSHIP, WITH
PLATES; A DICTIONARY OF SEA TERMS,
CUSTOMS AND USAGES OF THE MERCHANT
SERVICE, LAWS RELATING TO THE PRACTICAL
DUTIES OF MASTER AND MARINERS**

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The Seaman's Manual; Containing a Treatise on Practical Seamanship, with Plates; A Dictionary of Sea Terms, Customs and Usages of the Merchant Service, Laws Relating to the Practical Duties of Master and Mariners by R. H. Dana

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R. H. DANA

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MARINERS.

BY R. H. DANA, JUN^r,

AUTHOR OF
"TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST."

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MDCCCXL.

DEDICATION.

To all sea-faring persons, and especially to those commencing the sea-life;—to owners and insurers of vessels;—to judges and practitioners in maritime law;—and to all persons interested in acquainting themselves with the laws, customs, and duties of seamen;—this work is respectfully dedicated by

THE AUTHOR.

PREFACE TO THE ENGLISH EDITION.

THIS work is published at the same time in England and in America. In the latter country it appears under the title of the "Seaman's Friend;" while that of the "Seaman's Manual" is adopted in the British edition, as more significant of the nature of the book. Mr. Dana has here embodied in a small space and unpretending form a variety of information, which it is hoped may be extensively useful. Not that men who have been bred to the sea can be supposed to derive much instruction from the elementary hints of a book of this kind. Seamanship, like every other manual art, is thoroughly acquired by practice; and skill in its various branches can only be arrived at by actual experience. But young beginners will find useful helps in their study of the duties of sea-life, in the details and explanations here collected from the best available sources. Very few of the terms or the methods of management, in the Merchant Service of America, differ in any material respect from those which are used in English vessels. There is probably less difference in the sea-language common to both services than may be detected as peculiar in the different great sea-ports of the mother country; and in like manner, the received usages and modes of discipline have the close affinity which is the natural result arising from

common origin, laws, and general customs. It may therefore be expected without presumption, that the abstract given in this little work of the rules established in American ships will be found applicable to the practice in our own; and even where they differ, may suggest useful comparisons. At any rate, it is desirable to know what system obtains and is successful among a body of seamen which, in numbers, and the extent of commerce carried on by them, are only second in importance to those of Great Britain.

The laws of the United States relative to shipping, are considered in Part III. of this work, in reference to the rights and duties of the officers and crews respectively. A gentleman of the legal profession has appended a few notes, with the view of showing points of difference where they exist in the British laws.

Finally, it is hoped that the various classes of society which are led by their callings, duty, or affection, to take an interest in sea-faring men, and who may wish to know something of their business and their language, will find this little Manual useful for occasional reference. It cannot be expected to have the same claims to public favour as the Author's former work. But even in these pages, which only aim at being useful, the reader will not fail to perceive indications of the same good sense and right spirit which were so conspicuous in that remarkable production.

THE EDITOR.

LONDON, 4th October, 1841.

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