

SAILORS' LIFE



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SAILORS' YARNS.

BY

CAPTAIN RINGBOLT.

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TO  
CAPT. E. WHEELWRIGHT,  
OF NEWBURYPORT.

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THESE pages are inscribed to you, my dear grandfather, upon whose knee, in childhood, I have listened to those tales of the sea, which perhaps have influenced me in the choice of an occupation that I regard as the more honourable because it has been yours. Your numerous descendants, whatever their avocations, can ask no greater blessing than such consciousness of rectitude as is enjoyed by you. May you long remain with us, to witness that an active life of virtue is rewarded by a respected and happy old age.

DORCHESTER, Mass., Dec. 1, 1846.

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## A P R E F A C E

GENERALLY amounts to an apology, so here you have it :—

Most of the contents of this book, are contributions for the Boston Journal, written for my own amusement in leisure hours, at sea, when I had no passengers, and the tedious hours of a long India voyage hung heavily upon me. Such is my excuse for writing them, and my excuse for publishing them is—the desire that they may amuse others. Most of the “yarns” are founded upon fact; some are strictly true, with the exception of names of persons. Indeed, the only one which cannot be included in either of these classes, is the one for which its soi-disant narrator claims implicit credence.

I have one more reason for intruding them upon the public, which is, the hope that the sentiments which some of them contain, may commend themselves to sailors, and to those interested in the sailor’s welfare.

These are all my apologies, and now, if you please, you may turn over the leaf.