

**AFLOAT ON THE PACIFIC,
OR NOTES OF THREE
YEARS LIFE AT SEA**

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Afloat on the Pacific, or Notes of Three Years Life at Sea by W. P. Marshall

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W. P. MARSHALL

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YEARS LIFE AT SEA**



CORAL REEF. See pg. 106.

AFLOAT ON THE PACIFIC,
OR
NOTES OF
THREE YEARS LIFE AT SEA,

COMPRISING SKETCHES OF PEOPLE, PLACES, AND THINGS
ALONG THE PACIFIC COAST AND AMONG THE ISLANDS OF
POLYNESIA, VISITED DURING SEVERAL VOYAGES
OF THE U. S. S. LANCASTER AND SARANAC.

BY W. P. MARSHALL.

"What heed I of the dusty land
And noisy town?
I see the mighty deep expand
From its white line of glimmering sand
To where the blue of heaven on blue waves shuts down."
J. G. WHITTIER.

ZANESVILLE, O.
SULLIVAN & PARSONS.
1876.

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PREFATORY.

FOR those who delight in tales of the marvelous, the ocean is full of suggestion; but however entertaining such stories may be for those whose minds require a strictly sensational diet, I have chosen to write for that class who prefer facts to fiction, and a "plain unvarnished tale" to the creations of imagination. The sea may be considered a trite subject by some; but to the lover of nature its sublimity never becomes commonplace. Its vastness and its vicissitudes, its solitary grandeur and its stern realities of danger, combine to invest it with interest; and for those who have been long tossed on its waves and spent their years in familiarity with its varying moods, there is an indescribable charm about it and its incidents which will amply apologize for these sketches.

Keeping in-view the excellence of truth in narratives of this kind, I have endeavored to present only facts, and make my pictures true to nature.

THE AUTHOR.



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