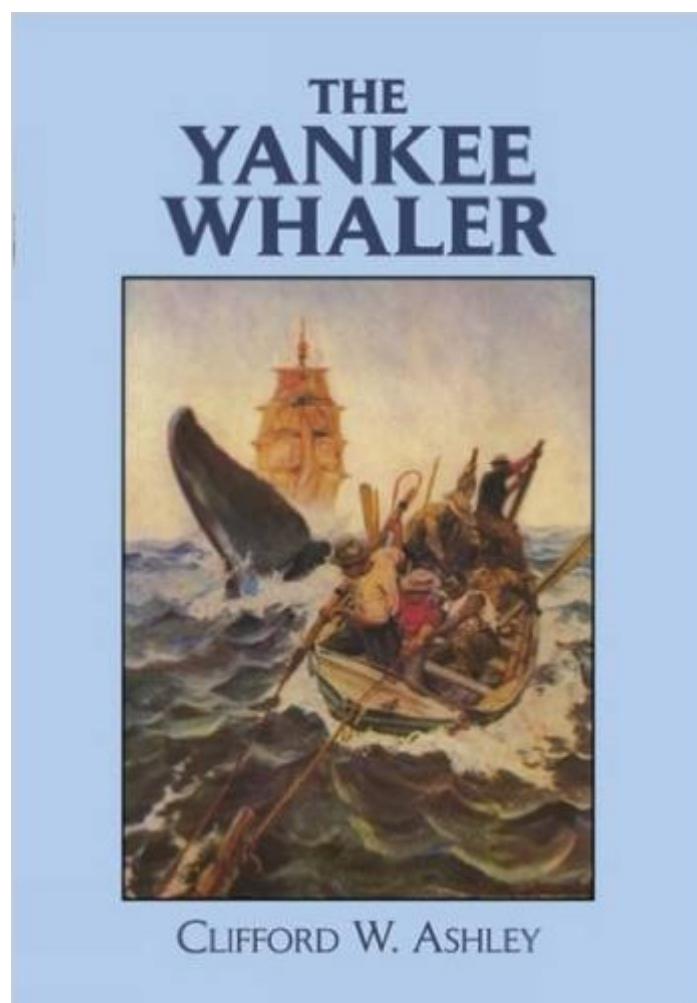


The book was found

The Yankee Whaler (Dover Maritime)



Synopsis

One of the finest, most colorful and definitive studies of whaling ever published. Describes whaling trade, rigging, gear and handicrafts; construction and outfitting of ships, with fascinating details and anecdotes about whales and whaling waters, whaling men, methods of attack, crafts and routines, much more. Richly illustrated with 133 halftones, 17 line illustrations.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (6 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #663,827 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #127 inÂ Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Natural Resources > Fisheries & Aquaculture #443 inÂ Books > Engineering & Transportation > Transportation > History > Ships #899 inÂ Books > Engineering & Transportation > Transportation > Ships

Customer Reviews

Clifford Ashley went to sea on a yankee whaler at a time when he felt that whaling would soon end as a viable business. He was right of course, his trip was one of the last and we are lucky today that someone had the foresight to preserve this information for the history books. The real business of whaling was for the oil taken from the whales blubber. The newly introduced practice of pumping petroleum oil from underground quickly made whaling a costly alternative instead of the prime source. This is the author's first hand account of whaling men and methods in the early 1900's. Fascinating stuff.

When I got the notice about this 'new' book by Ashley, I was more than a little confused. I am almost six decades old and I was pretty sure that he had passed on before I was born. As it turns out I was correct, this is NOT a new book, rather a new printing of an old one. To me this was great news, Ashley was a very talented artist, writer and historian who lived in an age many of us can not

even conceive of. The age of chasing whales under sail was all but past as Ashley grew up, many of the famous ships from the era were already in watery graves. Someone decided that one last venture in search of whales by tall ship might be worthwhile and we are very fortunate that when that ship sailed, Ashley was aboard to record the voyage. This is not a novel, not a romantic story of life at sea, it is a documentary, Ashley's attempt to combine his own experience and the countless hours he had spent researching to create a history of whaling in New England. For me it was time well spent, I've been told that I had a great ... grandfather who captained a whaler, perhaps it really is in my blood. I am not so sure that many among the generations younger than me, will feel that 'connection' and wade through the logs and lists that tell that history but if you read and enjoyed 'Moby Dick' and would like to learn more about that era, this is your book!

This book is filled with Artwork that was done by someone who was actually there. The entire process from the hunt to delivering barrels of finished oil is covered. A lexicon of whaling terms is included. You can almost hear the timbers creaking as you go on a several year enterprise! I just wish all the paintings were in color!

I am in the process of writing a novel involving a New England whaling Quaker. This book is an invaluable research tool. I think anyone with an active interest in whaling from sailing ships will cherish this book and keep it on the same shelf as the W.W. Norton unabridged version of "Moby Dick."

An eye witness account, written by a man who went to sea when he knew the age of whaling was coming to an end. The most incredible book on whaling I have ever read. A definite must buy!

Love this book!!

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