

The Autobiography Of A Yankee Mariner

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In 1806, when retired sea captain and religious activist Christopher Prince (1751-1832) began to write his life's story, he wanted simply to leave his family a record of his experiences. Today, his autobiography survives as one of the extremely rare participants' accounts of seafaring during the American Revolution. As a literary work, it shares characteristics of three genres-the war story, the captivity narrative, and the spiritual autobiography. Prince tells what it was like to grow up in a seaport town in colonial Massachusetts, why a boy would choose the seafaring life, of the hardships of fishing on the Grand Banks, and the education of a merchant seaman. The core of the autobiography, however, constitutes Prince's adventures and exploits during the American Revolution, on board both British and American ships, as a naval enlisted man, as an officer of privateers, and a master of merchantmen. It ends with an account of his religious conversion and its transforming effect on his life as a merchant seaman after American Independence had been secured. This book is served well by the editor, Michael J. Crawford, who provides introductions and contexts, commentary, notes, appendixes, and a glossary. Prince and Crawford together make an important contribution to American naval and maritime history. Publisher: Potomac Books Inc. Illustration: N Language: ENG Title: The Autobiography of a Yankee Mariner Pages: 00296 (Unencrypted EPUB) On Sale: 2002-07-03 SKU-13/ISBN: 9781574884401 Category: History : United States - 19th Century

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