

for us and I considered it very good for cheap tea. Later, the members began to arrive and we were soon seated, ready to open the meeting. Mr. Hooper said he wished to state that our secretary, Mr. Hogan, was playing it mean—that without doubt he was trying to shake the company, and draw his money out. Mr. Hooper claimed that the money was forfeited to the company, and so matters stood. Mr. Hogan was not present, but was expected, and we must keep quiet and he would do the talking, for he thought he could shame him and by so doing prevail on him to stay with us. Hogan soon put in an appearance; he was very pale, with a woe-begone look, and with a forsaken sort of demeanor. He took his seat, the chair rapped the meeting to order, and the record of the last meeting was read and approved. The chair arose and said, "We have got quite a push of business to go over to-night, and the most important part must come up first." He held in his hand an itemized account of the work done on the vessel and passed it to the secretary to read, and the amount of the bill was seven hundred dollars. After a great deal of talk and explaining, it was voted on and accepted, then Mr. Hooper brought up the subject of water casks. He had been looking at some and thought they would be just what we wanted; the members asked for some information regarding water casks, as they had never had any experience, and wanted to know what constituted a good water cask, to which Mr. Hooper referred them to me. I told them that a good water cask was a cask never used for anything else but water, that in buying casks you had to be careful not to be deceived into buying cheap casks, for I had all the experience I wanted in drinking rotten water, and before I took my seat warned Mr. Hooper to get nothing but the regular water cask. Mr. Rounds remarked that he had been a sea-faring man and thought I talked about right. On a vote being taken it was carried and Mr.