

In Luebeck *Buxtehude* was organist. His fame had gone forth over all Germany, and *Bach*, full of the desire to form and develop his spirit, felt that such extraordinary men were artistic revelations, which attracted him irresistibly; by contact with them he thought to gain freedom and light, and to Luebeck he felt himself drawn. In the year 1705 he asked for a four weeks' furlough, "for the purpose of perfecting himself in his art." He estimated as nothing the inclement season, as nothing the 250 miles distance, although he had to walk every inch of the way. Was it not his object "to perfect himself in his art?"

In Luebeck, four weeks passed quickly, and engrossed by all that appeared new and lovely in *Buxtehude's* playing, he never thought of the termination of his furlough, and remained for three months an unperceived listener of the admired artist. Thence he carried his "queer variations" to Arnstadt. This unauthorized prolongation of the furlough called forth the ire of his superiors, and was the cause of many a scolding. What did those gentlemen know of his irresistible power of the divine spark of genius, which sought form and light? In their official books they truly formed rules for town pipers, organists, &c., &c., but of genius there was nothing in them. *Bach*, on the other hand, only felt the pressing wants of his soul, and undisturbed attended to his studies with renewed zeal and strength.

THE MARITIME ENTERPRISE OF BRITISH AMERICA.

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INTRODUCTORY.

The history of maritime enterprise is replete with the deepest interest to every one who wishes to trace, step by step, the progress of commerce and civilization—and these, it is hardly necessary to add, are synonymous,—or takes pleasure in the record of man's heroism and energy. A subject of so comprehensive a nature could take up many pages of this periodical, but all I shall attempt to do in the present article will be to give what may be considered a single chapter in the history of maritime enterprise. The subject ought to be interesting to all of us, whether we live by the shores of the ever restless Atlantic, or by the side of the great freshwater lakes and rivers of the Dominion. Perhaps many of the readers of the *QUARTERLY* have no very definite idea of the progress that has been made in the branches of industry which form the subject-matter of this paper. The results that I shall present in the course of the following pages must give all of my readers reason for congratulation, for they prove that the people of the Dominion possess all that indomitable enterprise, that irrepressible energy, and that love of adventure which are eminently the characteristics of the great races to which they owe their origin.