

were the scenes of grand and useful maritime expeditions. The tropical islands of the Pacific arose, one by one, from the bosom of the sea, to reward the navigator, or relieve the outcast. For years property was not safe upon the sea, and trading ships went armed, while the armed vessels of nations turned buccaneers. Commerce was by and by spread over the world, and civilisation and Christianity were introduced into the desert and the wilderness. Two centuries more, and steam made the Atlantic Ocean a ferry-transit.

The ocean, then, has a history; it has a past worth narrating, adventures worth telling, and it has played a part in the advancement of science, in the extension of geographical knowledge, in the spread of civilisation and the progress of discovery, which it is eminently worth our while to ponder and digest.

—GOODRICH'S "The Sea."

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### THE FORGING OF THE ANCHOR.

COME, see the Dolphin's anchor forged; 'tis at a white heat now;  
The bellows ceased, the flames decreased; though on the forge's  
brow

The little flames still fitfully play through the sable mound;  
And fitfully you still may see the grim smiths ranking round,  
All clad in leathern panoply, their broad hands only bare:  
Some rest upon their sledges here, some work the windlass there.  
The windlass strains the tackle chains, the black mound heaves  
below,

And red and deep, a hundred veins burst out at every throe;  
It rises, roars, rends all outright—O Vulcan, what a glow!  
'Tis blinding white, 'tis blasting bright; the high sun shines not so!  
The high sun sees not, on the earth, such fiery, fearful show,  
The roof-ribs swarth, the candent hearth, the ruddy lurid row  
Of smiths that stand, an ardent band, like men before the foe.  
As quivering through his fleece of flame, the sailing monster, slow  
Sinks on the anvil—all about the faces fiery grow—

"Hurrah!" they shout, "leap out—leap out;" bang, bang the  
sledges go;

Hurrah; the jettèd lightnings are hissing high and low;