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The Nautical Magazine first appeared in 1832, published monthly at the price of one shilling. It aimed to advance 'the safety of seamen', with a focus on the merchant marine, and a readership of professional seafarers. The founding editor, A.B. Becher (1796–1876), served for many years under the distinguished hydrographer Sir Francis Beaufort, and the magazine reflected Beaufort's interests by reporting on new charts, research on weather and the oceans, astronomy and navigation, and statistics on wrecks and the Lifeboat Institution. The content regularly included serialised accounts of voyages, descriptions of distant countries, notes on new shipping regulations, and discussion of the latest technologies. There were also reports on current affairs such as (during the Victorian period) the searches for Sir John Franklin's lost Arctic expedition, the Crimean War and the Suez Canal project. Astute editorial decisions ensured that the content mirrored the evolving concerns of readers, enabling 'the Nautical' to remain popular for nearly two centuries. It is a fascinating source of data, news and opinions for maritime, economic and social historians, genealogists, and shipping enthusiasts.

The Nautical Magazine and Naval Chronicle for 1857

The Nautical Magazine first appeared in 1832, and was published monthly well into the twenty-first century. It covers a wide range of subjects, including navigation, meteorology, technology and safety. An important resource for maritime historians, it also includes reports on military and scientific expeditions and on current affairs. The volume for 1857 includes serials on privateering in the West Indies, a voyage to St Lucia, and on Cambodia. It also describes regions including Zanzibar, the Baltic, Arabia, the Indian Ocean, the Pacific and Australasia, and contains military reports about the Crimea and Canton. There are reviews of books by Dr Kane on the Franklin searches and by Livingstone on his missionary travels. Several articles describe the progress of the Atlantic Electric Cable project, and the prospect of telegraphic communication with India is also discussed. The volume also contains a translation of the French merchant shipping code.

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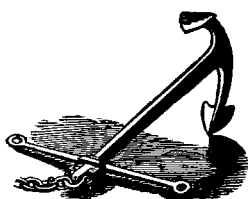
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