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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 1868

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 1868 has a strong focus on the Pacific region, with a serialised account of a voyage from Manila to China and Japan, information on the tides in the Philippines, several articles on Hawaii and its volcanos, reports of an assassination attempt on the Duke of Edinburgh in Australia, and discussion of the earthquakes in Chili and Peru and the tsunami in New Zealand that August. It also includes lists of Royal Navy ships, progress updates on the Indian and Atlantic telegraphs and a fascinating essay on the environmental impacts of deforestation, railway expansion and sewage pollution.

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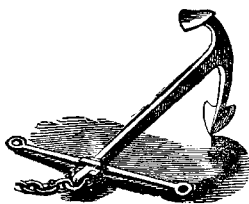
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