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# The Lookout

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NEW BUILDING

Now being erected

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THE SEAMEN'S CHURCH INSTITUTE OF NEW YORK  
ONE STATE STREET

# READ!!

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Our new home is being built! Twelve stories of steel, concrete and brick are already completed to form a structure that shall be a model of its kind for all the world.

We began to build, although a portion of the money required was not subscribed. The success of our work demanded it. We felt it our duty to our subscribers as well as to the seamen who depend upon us.

We still need \$250,000. The new building, completely furnished, will cost about \$675,000. The land has been paid for and over \$400,000 of the cost of the building has been subscribed. That leaves a balance of \$250,000 yet to be raised.

Subscriptions to the Building Fund have always been accompanied by a very genuine interest in the success of the undertaking and a pride in its future. Where the supporters of a society have its welfare so truly at heart it is incredible that the work of gathering up the residue of this fund should be unduly difficult.

We appeal, therefore, to the supporters of the Institute. Will you not aid us by bringing this work to the notice of your friends—personal contact is always helpful—in order that we may proceed with the building, assured that the money will be on hand to pay for it when it is finished?

Subscriptions, payable any time during 1912, should be sent to

EDMUND L. BAYLIES, Chairman Building Committee,  
54 Wall Street, City.

# THE LOOKOUT

Published by the Seamen's Church Institute of New York

RT. REV. DAVID H. GREER, D. D., LL. D., President

FRANK T. WARBURTON, Secretary-Treasurer

OFFICE, ONE STATE STREET, NEW YORK

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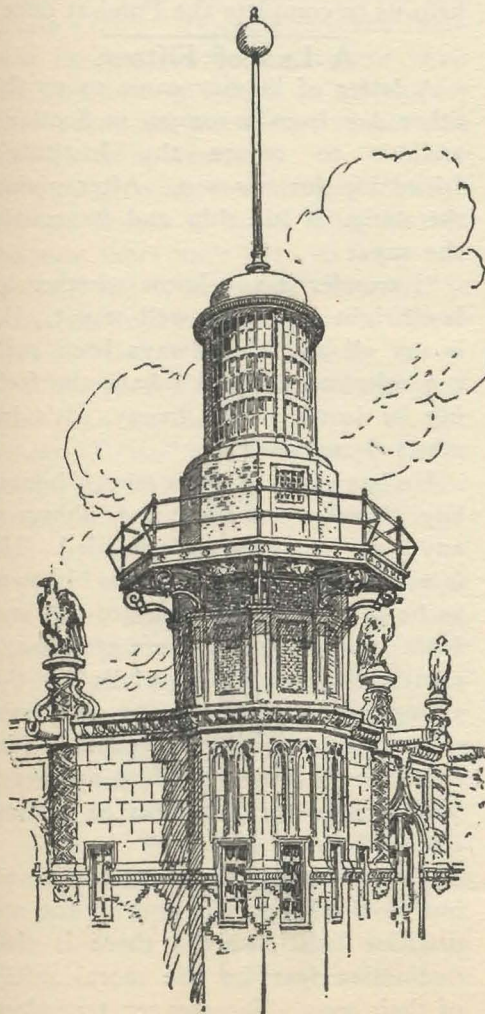
SEPTEMBER, 1912

No. 5

## Lighthouse Tower

and

## Time Ball



## Lantern Tower Memorial

LIGHTHOUSE AND TIME-BALL TO  
MEMORIALIZE "TITANIC'S" DEAD

The Lighthouse Tower on the new Seamen's Institute, corner South Street and Coenties Slip is to be given as a permanent Memorial to the men and women lost on the "Titanic."

Assisted by the following committee of well-known women, the Seamen's Benefit Society and the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society have raised \$7,792, leaving a balance of \$2,208 to complete the Fund—\$10,000.

Mrs. Wm. J. Gaynor  
Mrs. Felix Adler.

Mrs. Richard Aldrich  
Mrs. Edmund L.  
Baylies

Mrs. Emil Boas  
Miss Cornelia Beek-  
man

Miss Mary R. Cal-  
lender

Mrs. Timothy M.  
Cheesman

Miss Caroline de  
Forest

Mrs. Cleveland H.  
Dodge

Mrs. David H. Greer  
Mrs. Frederick W.

Mrs. E. Henry Har-  
rigan

Mrs. J. Borden Har-  
rigan

Mrs. C. Oliver Iselin  
Mrs. De Lancy  
Kane

Mrs. Seth Low  
Mrs. Frederick

Nathan  
Mrs. William Robi-  
son

Miss Annie Russell  
Mrs. Jacob H. Schiff

Mrs. Wm. D. Sloane  
Mrs. Cornelius Van-

derbilt

The firm of Messrs. J. P. Morgan & Co., 23 Wall Street, is the Acting Treasurer for the fund, and all checks or currency should be sent to that address.

New York, the Titanic's American port, one of the largest mercantile ports in the world, the gateway thru which thousands of persons enter the

New World, is manifestly the appropriate home for this monument.

And this Lighthouse Tower is given as a memorial to **every** person without regard to rank, race, creed or color whose life went down when the giant vessel slipped beneath the waves.

The Lighthouse Tower will be given in memory of the engineers who sent their stokers up on deck while they went to certain death; of the members of the heroic band of musicians who played even while the water crept up to their instruments; of the postal clerks who bravely put duty ahead of personal safety; of the Marconi operator; of the officers and crew who staid by their ship. It will be given in memory of those in the steerage who perished without ever realizing their hopes of the new land, the America of endless possibilities. It will be given in memory of all the heroic deeds by first and second-cabin passengers.

A Memorial Tablet indicating for whom the Tower is given will be placed either at the main entrance or on the exterior of the new Institute, so that all who visit it may read and know for what the Lantern Tower stands.

And with this splendid Memorial given for everyone who perished on that April night already five months in the past, we feel sure that everyone who can will want to contribute, to be a constructive part of the plan which is to immortalize fine courage and self-sacrifice.

The Lighthouse Tower and Timeball will be the reminder New York needs. Sensational tales of harrowing accidents crowd each other for space in the newspapers and, very

gradually but certainly, the average person, engrossed with his own affairs, becomes hardened and callous to stories of sudden death and its consequent bereavement to those who must live and mourn.

This Lighthouse Tower Memorial must surely make all thoughtful persons realize afresh that the "Titanic" spirit must not die with the ship. It will make all careless people pause long enough to think—where they never thought before.

\$2,000 is still needed. Will you not help us to complete the Fund at once?

### ♦♦♦ A Lad of Fifteen

A letter of inquiry came to us the other day from a woman in Scotland anxious to secure the Institute's friendship for her son. After giving the name of his ship and its course she says:

"I wonder if you know whether he is all right and doing well or not. He is my all and has always been such a comfort to me that I have the feeling he is not at all happy. It's instinct, I suppose.

He has always been a manly, honest boy, keenly sensitive and abhorred anything mean or underhanded. He is very young to be away on his own, as he is only fifteen years of age and I am sure you know there are always plenty of snares and pitfalls for the young, and it's very easy to go astray.

I write to you thus because I feel that you try to do your best by everybody regardless of thanks or remuneration."

They do not all express it so well but in the hearts of most of the apprentice lads' mothers there is that instinctive fear for the moral safety of their sons. These eager, tremulous

messages that come to the Institute workers betray a pathetic confidence in the strength and power of this organized force—a force that is all the more potent for its intense humanity. A letter like the above supplies that millionth reason for the existence of social workers: it is a sort of key to the term Sociology.

### Fifty Years At Sea

His hair was very white, very long and curling and his beard made you think at once of Father Time and Santa Claus. He came into the Institute because he was eighty-five years old, had been an American seaman for fifty years and he wanted to get into Sailors' Snug Harbor.

It is growing increasingly difficult for old sailors to enter Snug Harbor because there have been so many imposters and it has been necessary to make the requirements most stringent. But our visitor told his story.

When he was fifteen years old—and that was in 1842—he sailed on the Barge "Draco" and for fifty years the rolling deck was his work room, the stars his companions through thousands of night watches.

And now all the captains with whom he sailed are gone on the long voyage and all the ships have been broken up. In the fire which consumed his boarding house last year all his pension papers and certificates were burned and he was unable to work any longer, so he came to us for assistance.

His story was investigated thoroughly and after convincing ourselves of the accuracy of his statements we have now secured his admission to Snug Harbor. He will be happy over there where he can look out to sea, content, with the memories of gales and heavy

seas, of fair wind and smiling weather.

### The Legacy

"If you can see John West" said the Australian letter which came about three weeks ago, "tell him that there is something about £1,000 left to him and he has a good chance of losing the lot if he don't turn up soon. We have been advertising for 2 years to know his whereabouts and at last we receive a letter and the address he told us to write to was Seamen's Institute, New York."

So we started an investigation and discovered that John West was an able seaman, 24 years old, and that he had deserted the S. S. Horatius from Buenos Ayres which arrived in New York June 16th. The assistance of the Chief of Police was sought but no trace of the man was found. Advertisements were also inserted in the Coast Seamen's Journal and notices put up in other seamen's missions in New York.

And then we received word that he had died at Fort Stanton, New Mexico. We wrote to the doctor at the Marine Hospital and were told that John West died the last of May, that he had given his mother's address as Abo, Finland. The mother was living at the time of his death and receipted to the hospital for \$40.00 which he left.

But the day before the arrival of this New Mexico letter there came the following post card:

"Dear Sir. Would you kindly forward any letters addressed to me to the Marine Post office, Detroit, Michigan. Yours truly, John West."

The real John West was found. He is on a Great Lakes steamer and word was immediately sent him that he had fallen heir to five thousand dollars.

## THE LOOKOUT

Published every month by the Seamen's  
Church Institute of New York at  
One State Street

*Subscription Price - - - One Dollar a Year*

NOTE—Address all communications to  
ARCHIBALD R. MANSFIELD, Superintendent

### Large Rooms Not Reserved

The Lunch Room and the main staircase have not yet been taken. It is a splendid opportunity for persons wishing to contribute large sums to the new building to have their gifts permanently memorialized.

#### Main Staircase—\$3,500

(Running from basement to 4th floor.)

It introduces the seamen to the Institute and to the hospitality of the port.

#### Lunch Room—\$4,000

(About 15 x 60 feet.)

Here the men may get quick lunches or come when they prefer its informality to the regular Dining Room.

### Gifts and Memorials

For those desiring to make small gifts or memorials there still remain untaken—

**Panel** with Biblical or Allegorical subject, memorializing all sailors lost at sea, also heavy wooden door with wrought-iron hinges, to be placed at entrance from Chapel to the street; the door and panel comprise the filling between the jambs. \$500.

**Cornerstone** of granite, bearing date and seal of Society, the latter modeled and carved, together with metal box for documents. \$500.

**Chapel Furniture**—Altar, Lectern, Credence Table, Font, Altar Rail and Pulpit may be used as memorials. The estimated cost of these has not been determined as yet.

The Organ has been selected and this will cost \$5,000.

There are drawings of all items mentioned, excepting Chapel furniture, and these can be shown at any time upon application at No. 1 State street.

### Two Dormitories at \$1,000 Each — One Already Reserved

On the fifth floor of the new building are three open dormitories, with beds at fifteen or twenty cents a night. There will be room for twenty-five men in each dormitory and they will be furnished somewhat better than the ordinary lodging house, being kept scrupulously clean. On cold nights in winter or rainy nights in summer scores of forlorn derelicts have applied to the Institute for a bed, and we have always had to send them down to the Salvation Army Hotel—and even that has been frequently overcrowded. Stairways in the rear will enable the men to reach the dormitories without entering the part of the fifth floor devoted to regular seamen guests.

One of the dormitories has already been taken by Mrs. George Peabody Wetmore in memory of her sister, Miss Mary Keteltas. There are still two remaining unreserved. One thousand dollars will build and furnish one of these.

### Large Bedrooms at \$250

Forty-five large, outside bedrooms are still to be reserved. Those are the rooms intended for the use of the officers, stewards, expert engineers, boatswains and better class of seamen.

A chiffonier or chest of drawers and furniture of a less severe type of simplicity than that in the seamen's rooms will make these large rooms more at-

tractive to the men for whom they are designed.

Already six of these officers' rooms have been taken in memory of famous sea captains. Any person wishing to contribute \$250, the estimated cost of building and furnishing one of these rooms, may make it a memorial. A brass plate bearing the name of the donor, or an inscription containing the name of the person memorialized, will be placed over the door, if desired.

### What \$100 Will Do

One hundred dollars will pay the cost of building and furnishing a bedroom for a seaman in the new building.

There are 390 bedrooms. Two hundred and fifty have already been reserved either by persons wishing to memorialize someone whose interests were with sailors, or by those who wished to make the gift of \$100 for a specific part of the new building.

One hundred and forty bedrooms remain untaken.

Estimating that in one of these rooms a hundred men may lodge during the year—that is, averaging about four days for each man—it means that for \$100 you may give 100 men a clean room in a building that combines a sailors' club, a hotel, a restaurant, a shipping office, a savings bank, a store stocked with sailors' and seamen's needs, a baggage room, a post office—and under this same roof a little Chapel, simple, dignified and beautiful.

It is somebody's son, somebody's husband, somebody's father that is to receive a welcome, a clean bed in decent surroundings, good companionship, entertainment and care; then a

fair chance for another job through the free shipping bureau.

One hundred dollars will help 100 men to keep away from the temptations and degradation they would encounter in the Sailortown of this city.

Is there really a better philanthropy than that?

### A Vanishing Type

Over at Snug Harbor lives the old sailor who is rapidly becoming a "vanishing" type. This old sailor impresses one with the large way in which he does things, as if taught by the sea. Small tricks, petty jealousies, meanness in little things, surprise him. He believes his neighbor's word, just as it was spoken. He cannot defend himself from tiny cheatings, for he has never seen them. He seems like a great big-hearted boy.

His laughter is never muffled, as he sits there on his veranda for he has never been obliged to consider other people in the same flat. When he walks, he prefers the road to the sidewalk, and there are always children enough tugging at his big fingers. Never to have been crowded for room in forty years does somehow make a very different man. He is not the "slick" type that can slip through a roadway crowd.

The sailor can rest. His repose is perfect. He was taught to do this when all sails were pulling and his part was simply to wait for the next duty. He is no rover now. He is in port, awaiting orders. So strong, so full of life, yet so full of the nameless grace of leisure! To be his acknowledged friend is itself an education such as no school gives. "Evening Mail."

## Exchanges

### BATTLESHIP CONSTRUCTION

The one battleship authorized by the recent Congress is not to be built in a navy yard because of the increased cost of construction. Since the eight-hour day law was passed battleship construction in Government yards, says the Marine Journal, has reached a point where it is practically prohibitory. It will be recalled that before construction on the New York (a sister ship to the Texas, building at Newport News), could be begun in the Brooklyn Navy Yard, over a million dollars extra over the cost of the Texas had to be appropriated.

### DISTILLED SEA WATER

Santa Monica, California, says the Mariner's Advocate, is considering a unique plan for solving a serious water problem. The supply is already inadequate and it is proposed to distil ocean water for domestic purposes. The municipality may purchase the Burning Mountain, several miles up the coast in the Santa Monica range, for use as a heating plant. It is believed the sea water could be carried through a "U" pipe deep to the hot interior of the smoking hill and distilled at practically no cost.

### TUBERCULOSIS AMONG SEAMEN

The prevalence of pulmonary tuberculosis among seamen is much greater than is supposed, says a recent number of "Shipping Illustrated." One assumes that the sailor's life is particularly healthy but the conditions under which seamen on vessels live are such as favorably pre-dispose to the dissemination of this disease. Crew's quarters on vessels are habitually overcrowded. In the common lodging house on shore the cubic ca-

capacity is 400 cubic feet. Seamen have only 72 cubic feet per head.

The seamen are shut up in quarters below deck which are constantly in use as sleeping, living and dining room, dark, dirty, damp and encumbered with clothing. In some smaller vessels men even have to provide and keep their food in their quarters. The following case was met with recently:

A sailor had been on a ship for about eight months, had been ailing two months with general debility—off duty at various periods, and finally laid up for three weeks with cough and general weakness, suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. He died at sea and was buried at Perim. This man had been capable of spreading the disease among the other occupants of the forecabin for at least two months.

## “Only Sharks”

Perhaps the crux of this whole work for seamen lies in the concluding sentence of this little letter from Glasgow.

“Please excuse me troubling you but I am staying in Herefordshire for a few weeks and one Sunday I went to Kingston Church and heard a beautiful lecture on seamen and what good your missionaries did for sailors at all ports abroad as well as at home.

My husband is trading abroad at present and I think his ship will arrive in New York about the end of August. I should be so grateful if you could manage to look him up when he came in as he is a little foolish sometimes and spends all his pay.

I do feel sure you would do him good as he has no friends in New York, only sharks.”



**Sailors as Skyscraper Riggers**

"Sailors, the deep water lads of the days of the old square-riggers, have practically gone into history," says a pilot who ought to know, in a recent issue of the Sunday "Times."

The evolution of the sailor into the seaman has been faithfully traced from time to time, but the evolution of the sailor into the steel worker on some of New York's tallest cloud sweepers has the glamour of novelty.

Although it requires years of training before a man is able to swing around 600 feet in the air with nothing under his feet but a swaying girder, keeping all the time his judgment of distance, his nerve, his ability never to become dizzy, the old pilot contends that it is not the sort of training a landlubber would receive.

The best of the steel workers have been sailors and they learned their business hanging on yards high aloft in the weather that turns the sea into a seething cauldron; swinging and pitching about in the peaks, overhanging it among the lines when things were snapping and cracking, snugging up tops'ls in a smother of canvas flapping with diabolical fury. It was lashing up weakened spars and splicing chafed out tackle, with the wind "blowing the stars out of heaven" and the waves burying the ship in smashing seas that the best of the skyscraper lads got their training.

The old pilot lamented, "And look what they've come to! A life time of training wasted in their calling and to become land rats in the end!"

But there is almost no call for the deep water sailor now. There were, it is true, about a hundred American sailing vessels built last year and

against that were built more than a thousand steam vessels.

Seamen multiply, but the average able seaman on the steamship is dock-bred and, to quote the pilot again, he could not distinguish between a marlinspike and an icepick, a belaying pin and a bootjack, the spanker and the jib.

**Stuart F. Randolph**

It is with deep regret that we announce the very sudden death of Mr. Stuart F. Randolph on Friday, August 16th, at his home, 47 East 58th, after an illness of but three days.

Mr. Randolph had been a member of the Board of Managers since 1901 and was on the Ways and Means Committee. He was always most regular in his attendance at the meetings and his suggestions, based on the shrewd deductions his legal training had developed, were always welcomed. His unobstrusive personality had a kind of quiet force which will be greatly missed at the Institute.

**Shipping Department**

MONTH ENDING AUGUST 31, 1912

1 State Street

Name of Vessel	Men Shipped	Destination
S.S. Tennyson	15	Brazil
S.S. Cavour	6	River Plate
S.S. Sallust	2	River Plate
S.S. Vasari	18	River Plate
S.S. Christopher	32	Brazil
S.S. Gregory	16	Brazil
S.S. Stephen	2	Brazil
S.S. Dominic	2	Brazil
S.S. Florida	10	Coast
Barge Dalls	2	Coast
Barge Caddo	1	Coast
Barge "City of San Antonio"	4	Coast
S.S. Ocean Prince	25	River Plate
S.S. Scottish Prince	20	Brazil
S.S. Craster Hall	26	Chile
S.S. Aros Castle	3	Europe
Various Towboats, Barges, etc.	13	
Men provided work	73	In Port
From 341 West St.	16	Various positions
<b>Total</b>	<b>286</b>	

## North River Station Notes

### THE WAITING TIME

Two old sailors who have recently been admitted to Sailors Snug Harbor were for some time on our "Payroll." That is, the Morrill and Morgan Fund for destitute seamen has furnished meal and lodgings for weeks and months during the days of waiting for admission. It is difficult to imagine just what would become of these old men and many others whom we carry along day by day on the tide of this same fund until they get into some harbor of relief.

### EXCHANGING OPPORTUNITIES

Drawing repeatedly upon the same source of generosity is likely to cause ultimate embarrassment to both the donor and the intercessor. A happy exception is the never failing response of the President of one of the steamboat lines along the North River when asked to pass stranded folk seeking a New England destination.

Recently a penniless family, sent into the Institute by a policeman was "passed" after the Chaplain had told the all too familiar story of hard luck to the steamboat company's President. Sometimes it is a landsman and sometimes a sailor. The other day, after securing a pass for a lad of seventeen, the Chaplain was interrupted in his expressions of gratitude by the President's saying:

"It is I who am obliged to you for offering me the chance to do something worth while."

### A BILLIARD TABLE

With the approach of autumn and the increasing attraction of indoor games we hope we may have at this station the gift of another billiard

table. Billiards is the most attractive game we can offer the sailors who seek our station for recreation and another table would be just another potent factor in keeping more men out of the West Street saloons and pool rooms.

### A MEDICINE CABINET

At the close of a Sunday service recently a crowd gathered about a man who had fallen in front of the Institute. His fall was due to exhaustion from heat and insufficient nourishment and he had cut his head very badly. He was carried into the reading room and everything possible done to relieve him until the ambulance came. In this case the injury proved serious but there are a number of minor injuries which demand the Institute's attention and a cabinet stocked with bandages, liniments, salves and "first aids" is greatly needed.

This is the only Institute, place of retreat or public shelter below Christopher St. and it is made use of by lands people as well as seamen in time of accident or sudden illness.

### ◆◆◆ "Breakwater" Games

In the game room of our little hotel for seamen, there is need for the following:

Chess, Dominoes, Checkers, Billiard Cues.

LOOKOUT readers having old games or half worn billiard cues may send them either to the Institute at No. 1 State Street or to "The Breakwater," 19 Atlantic Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y. We state elsewhere in the magazine, and it will bear repeating, the games are one of our strongest weapons in the combat with the evils of the streets that fringe the Harbor.

## REPORT FOR JULY

### DEPARTMENT REPORTS FOR JULY,

The following synopsis of the work done in the various departments during the month of June gives a fair idea of the working of the Institute:

JULY, 1912

#### Savings Department.

July 1st, cash on hand.....	\$19,807.47
Deposits .....	10,460.92
	\$30,268.39
Payments (\$4,415.02 transmitted)	11,437.31
August 1st, cash balance.....	\$18,831.08

#### Shipping Department.

No. of vessels shipped by Seamen's Church Institute .....	17
Number of men provided with employment in port .....	112
Number of men shipped .....	262
Total (number of men) .....	374

#### Reading Rooms.

Total attendance .....	8,161
Letters written and received .....	3,196
Packages reading given .....	828

#### Relief Department.

Assisted .....	92
Sent to Legal Aid Society .....	48
Hospital visits .....	23
Visits to ships in port .....	84

#### Religious and Social Departments.

Number of services .....	8
Attendance, total .....	351
Communion services .....	1

#### Institute Boat "Sentinel."

Trips made .....	33
Visits to vessels .....	79
Men transported .....	77
Pieces of baggage transported .....	156

## BUILDING COMMITTEE

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**Contributions to the Building Fund should be  
sent to Mr. EDMUND L. BAYLIES, 54 Wall Street.**