

Bancroft, the Historian, and the Scandinavians.

Mr. George Bancroft, whose history of the United States is regarded as one of the most important contributions to American history, has made several important changes in his revised edition just issued from the publishing house of Appleton & Co., New York. In his late edition Mr. Bancroft asserts that the claim of the Northmen to the discovery of America 500 years before Columbus planted the cross on the island of San Salvador, rests on "narrations mythological in form and obscure in meaning."

In the year 1837 the claims of the Norwegians to the discovery of America in the tenth century were thoroughly and searchingly investigated by the Society of Northern Antiquarians at Copenhagen, and a splendid work, *Antiquities Americanae*, published, which reduced tradition and "mythological narrations" to authentic history, showing to the world that not only were the Norwegians the discoverers of Greenland, but that they landed on the shores of New England and as far south as the coast of New Jersey, and even Carolina. Those bold mariners passed from Norway to Iceland, from Iceland to Greenland, thence to Labrador and farther south along the Atlantic coast. The researches of the Copenhagen society have produced facts and documents showing that the Northmen, in the tenth century, were the greatest navigators and explorers in the world, that they were the terror of Europe even as far south as Sicily and Greece, whose coasts they invaded, and that it was those sturdy pioneers who gave the name of Vinland to the southeast coast of New England, having landed in the vicinity of Boston harbor and other points.

Since the publication of this great work the intelligent and learned world have accepted the proofs and facts therein contained and collated to be the truth of history. Prof. Anderson, a celebrated scholar and professor of the Scandinavian languages in the University of Wisconsin, cites 127 works treating on this subject, and of these 113 give their judgment in favor of the Northmen being the first discoverers of America, and that as early as the tenth century. Nine, including Washington Irving, are in doubt, and only five, including Bancroft, the United States historian, cast their judgment in the negative. Prof. Anderson cites in the affirmative such illustrious names as Adam of Bremen, Grotius, Torfus, Mallet, Crantz, Benjamin Franklin, Malte-Brun, Wheaton, Alexander von Humboldt, Edward Everett, Rau, Cullen Bryant, and many others.

The Northmen earned the name of sea kings. The women partook of the fierce character of the men. Intrepidity in the midst of the clash of arms and obliviousness to danger could alone win their hearts. They even overran England, wrested Normandy from France, captured Belgium, and made incursions into Spain. They were foremost among the Crusaders, leading in the van of Peter the Hermit and the chivalry of Europe, in rescuing the tomb of our Lord, and they laid with their battle-axes, on the streets of Constantinople, the foundations of a great empire. "The old Norse Vikings," says Professor Anderson, "sailed up the rivers Rhine, Scheldt, the Seine and Loire, conquering Cologne and Aachen, where they turned the Emperor's palace into a stable, filling the heart of even the great Charlemagne with dismay. They carved their mystic runes upon the marble lion in the harbor of Athens in commemoration of their conquest of that city, just as they left their runic inscriptions upon the rocks of America in commemoration of their visits to its shores."

The tenth century was the period of their greatest enterprise, when they turned their direction westward, discovering Iceland, Greenland, and the countries now known as the United States and Canada.

A youth's history of the United States, by T. Wentworth Higginson, Boston, though an ordinary school book, gives as an opinion that the Vinland of the Northmen was on the American continent; and the American Cyclopaedia says that the discovery of Greenland led to the discovery of the main land of America by Bjarni, son of Herjulf, in the year 986.

In the face of the universal and overwhelming proofs that have been obtained through so many sources, it is difficult to see why Mr. Bancroft should fail to give them credence in his history of the United States.

The fact that America was discovered by the Norwegians 500 years before Columbus does not in the least detract from the achievements and fame of the latter. It is certain that there was no knowledge in Europe at the time that there was any such country as America in existence, hence Christopher Columbus was an original discoverer of this continent, and to him, above all others, is the world indebted for the greatest event in the whole history of civilization. In the words of Edward Everett, Columbus has so near "approached the work of his Creator as to bring an unknown world to the knowledge of his fellow men."—*Town of Lake Vindicator*.

A Story of Summer.

Charles Sumner is generally spoken of as lacking the humor of perception, which is a great mistake. He not only enjoyed a witty remark, but would remember it, even when it was at his expense. Among other bon mots of Rufus Choate which he used to quote, was the great lawyer's remark to Mr. Sumner, as they met at the door of the Boston court-house, when Sumner's friends were working so hard to elect him to the United States Senate. "Good morning, Mr. Choate," said Sumner, pleasantly; "on the march, I suppose, to another forensic triumph?" Mr. Choate drew around him his old camel's cloak, throwing the cape over his emaciated, time-furrowed face, and looked very like one of the witches in Macbeth, as he said, in his deepest tones, "Glamis thou art, and Cawdor," then turned to the court-house. Once, when Mr. Sumner had tried in vain to decipher some notes which he had hastily made, and which he wished to

use in a speech that day, he exclaimed: "Why, this is worse than Chafee's writing." I suppose I may console myself, as he once did, when he had found it impossible to decipher some of his own obituary, and say: "Well, if I ever fail to get a living by my practice, I can go to China and support myself by writing the inscriptions on tea-chests."

—*Ben: Perley Poore.*

Margaret Fuller.

The great dream of Margaret's life was realized in 1846, when at last the opportunity came for her to visit Europe. She passed some time in England and Scotland, meeting Wordsworth, Dean Milman, Chalmers, De Quincey, the Carlyles, Harriet Martineau, Joanna Baillie, and other famous people. Then she went to France, and from there to Italy, reaching Rome in May, 1847. She spent several months in excursions to other Italian cities, returning to the Eternal City in October, where she remained, barring a short absence now and then, until May, 1850. During this period she married privately the young Italian nobleman, Ossoli, with whom she appears to have fallen in love at sight, and in due time a child was born to them, that occurrence being kept a secret. Those were stirring days in Rome—the days of Mazzini and Garibaldi, of the republic and the French invasion. Margaret was enlisted heart and soul in the patriotic cause, and when the city was invested she acted as superintendent of one of the hospitals, rendering admirable, untiring, and effective service. So great seemed the danger at one time that she sent for the American Minister, Lewis Cass, and disclosed to him the fact of the marriage, and that she had a child, asking that, in case of her death, certain important documents which she gave him should be sent to her family in America. On the next day, however, military operations ceased, and she and her husband left Rome, took their boy from his hiding place at Rieti, and made their way to Florence. There they spent the winter, and on the 17th of May succeeding they set sail for New York. Various things detained them here and there, and it was not until the evening of the 18th of July that the ship Elizabeth, on which they were passengers, sighted the Jersey coast. An early arrival in the city was promised, and everybody retired in good spirits, having made all arrangements to go on shore in the morning. The rest is best told briefly. At 4 o'clock on the 19th the ship struck on Fire Island beach, and the passengers sprang from their berths, only too sure what the shock meant. Margaret would not be separated from her husband or child, though promised escape with her life if she would go; and the three died together, the body of the child only being recovered after the catastrophe.

How Pepper Grows.

While at Penang my ghârâie driver took me to see a Chinese pepper plantation. Pepper is a very profitable crop. The vine begins to bear in three or four years after the cuttings have been planted and yields two crops annually for about thirteen years. It is an East Indian plant, rather pretty, but of rambling and untidy growth, a climber, with smooth, soft stems, ten or twelve feet long, and tough, broadly ovate leaves. It is supported much as hops are. When the berries on a spike begin to turn red they are gathered, as they lose pungency if they are allowed to ripen. They are placed on mats, and are either trodden with the feet or rubbed by the hand to separate them from the spike, after which they are cleaned by winnowing. Black pepper consists of such berries wrinkled and blackened in the process of drying, and white pepper of similar berries freed from the skin and the fleshy part of the fruit by being soaked in water and then rubbed.

The nutmeg tree is a beautiful tree, from forty to fifty feet high when full grown, with shining foliage, somewhat resembling that of the bay, and its fruit looks like a very large nectarine. One fully ripe was gathered for me. It had opened and revealed the nutmeg with its dark brown shell shining through its crimson reticulated envelop of mace, the whole lying in a bed of pure white, a beautiful object.

Deformed Love.

Mary Ann fell desperately in love with a dude, but the imitation of a man had found out that the girl was not so much an heiress as he had supposed, and his love for her cooled down about 40 degrees. In fact his love for the homely dudine had fled forever, and of course, she became distract in body and mind. She loved him devotedly and she shed many bitter tears over his cold-blooded manner of speech.

The old lady gave her a little encouragement, though when she said, "Mary Ann, I never did go much on deformed love."

"Why, mother, why do you call my heavenly love for that man deformed love?"

"Because it's all on one side my child,"—*Carl Pretzel's Weekly*.

The Meadows of Maryland.

SPRINGFIELD, PRINCE GEORGE'S CO., MD.—Mr. Charles G. Addison, of the above place, states: "I sprained my right knee, causing intense suffering, and the use of crutches for several weeks. I found no relief in other remedies, and finally tried the miracle of cure, St. Jacob's Oil. In a short time I could bend my knee—which had been as stiff as an iron rod—laying aside my crutches, and was able to walk as well as ever."

"First boy, What is a sinecure?" "A cure for the signs, sir." "Explain your meaning." "Well, sir, some people make themselves troublesome for a while, and throw out signs that they want something for their silence, and when they *gahan* it, it is called a *sinecure*." "Go to the head of the class."

THE fashionable perfume in Paris now is bergamot, the favorite perfume of Richelieu.

We should do our utmost to encourage the beautiful, for the useful encourages itself.

A MYSTERY OF THE SEA.

The Fate Which Overtook the "City of Boston"—Capt. Murray's Ideas and Experiences.

A few years ago, the *City of Boston* sailed from harbor, crowded with an expectant throng of passengers bound for a foreign shore.

She never entered port.

The mystery of her untimely end grows deeper as the years increase, and the Atlantic voyager, when the fierce winds howl around and danger is imminent on every hand, shudders as the name and mysterious fate of that magnificent vessel are alluded to.

Our reporter, on a recent visit to New York, took lunch with Capt. George Siddons Murray, on board the *Alaska*, of the Guion line. Capt. Murray is an American, born in New Bedford, and has a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.

"Yes," remarked the Captain. "I shall never forget the last night we saw that ill-fated vessel. I was chief officer of the *City of Boston* on the day we sighted the *City of Boston* a full month earlier. The vessel was in bad frame, and a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.

"Yes," remarked the Captain. "I shall never forget the last night we saw that ill-fated vessel. I was chief officer of the *City of Boston* on the day we sighted the *City of Boston* a full month earlier. The vessel was in bad frame, and a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.

"Yes," remarked the Captain. "I shall never forget the last night we saw that ill-fated vessel. I was chief officer of the *City of Boston* on the day we sighted the *City of Boston* a full month earlier. The vessel was in bad frame, and a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.

"Yes," remarked the Captain. "I shall never forget the last night we saw that ill-fated vessel. I was chief officer of the *City of Boston* on the day we sighted the *City of Boston* a full month earlier. The vessel was in bad frame, and a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.

"Yes," remarked the Captain. "I shall never forget the last night we saw that ill-fated vessel. I was chief officer of the *City of Boston* on the day we sighted the *City of Boston* a full month earlier. The vessel was in bad frame, and a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.

"Yes," remarked the Captain. "I shall never forget the last night we saw that ill-fated vessel. I was chief officer of the *City of Boston* on the day we sighted the *City of Boston* a full month earlier. The vessel was in bad frame, and a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.

"Yes," remarked the Captain. "I shall never forget the last night we saw that ill-fated vessel. I was chief officer of the *City of Boston* on the day we sighted the *City of Boston* a full month earlier. The vessel was in bad frame, and a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.

"Yes," remarked the Captain. "I shall never forget the last night we saw that ill-fated vessel. I was chief officer of the *City of Boston* on the day we sighted the *City of Boston* a full month earlier. The vessel was in bad frame, and a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.

"Yes," remarked the Captain. "I shall never forget the last night we saw that ill-fated vessel. I was chief officer of the *City of Boston* on the day we sighted the *City of Boston* a full month earlier. The vessel was in bad frame, and a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.

"Yes," remarked the Captain. "I shall never forget the last night we saw that ill-fated vessel. I was chief officer of the *City of Boston* on the day we sighted the *City of Boston* a full month earlier. The vessel was in bad frame, and a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.

"Yes," remarked the Captain. "I shall never forget the last night we saw that ill-fated vessel. I was chief officer of the *City of Boston* on the day we sighted the *City of Boston* a full month earlier. The vessel was in bad frame, and a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.

"Yes," remarked the Captain. "I shall never forget the last night we saw that ill-fated vessel. I was chief officer of the *City of Boston* on the day we sighted the *City of Boston* a full month earlier. The vessel was in bad frame, and a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.

"Yes," remarked the Captain. "I shall never forget the last night we saw that ill-fated vessel. I was chief officer of the *City of Boston* on the day we sighted the *City of Boston* a full month earlier. The vessel was in bad frame, and a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.

"Yes," remarked the Captain. "I shall never forget the last night we saw that ill-fated vessel. I was chief officer of the *City of Boston* on the day we sighted the *City of Boston* a full month earlier. The vessel was in bad frame, and a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.

"Yes," remarked the Captain. "I shall never forget the last night we saw that ill-fated vessel. I was chief officer of the *City of Boston* on the day we sighted the *City of Boston* a full month earlier. The vessel was in bad frame, and a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.

"Yes," remarked the Captain. "I shall never forget the last night we saw that ill-fated vessel. I was chief officer of the *City of Boston* on the day we sighted the *City of Boston* a full month earlier. The vessel was in bad frame, and a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.

"Yes," remarked the Captain. "I shall never forget the last night we saw that ill-fated vessel. I was chief officer of the *City of Boston* on the day we sighted the *City of Boston* a full month earlier. The vessel was in bad frame, and a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.

"Yes," remarked the Captain. "I shall never forget the last night we saw that ill-fated vessel. I was chief officer of the *City of Boston* on the day we sighted the *City of Boston* a full month earlier. The vessel was in bad frame, and a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.

"Yes," remarked the Captain. "I shall never forget the last night we saw that ill-fated vessel. I was chief officer of the *City of Boston* on the day we sighted the *City of Boston* a full month earlier. The vessel was in bad frame, and a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.

"Yes," remarked the Captain. "I shall never forget the last night we saw that ill-fated vessel. I was chief officer of the *City of Boston* on the day we sighted the *City of Boston* a full month earlier. The vessel was in bad frame, and a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.

"Yes," remarked the Captain. "I shall never forget the last night we saw that ill-fated vessel. I was chief officer of the *City of Boston* on the day we sighted the *City of Boston* a full month earlier. The vessel was in bad frame, and a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.

"Yes," remarked the Captain. "I shall never forget the last night we saw that ill-fated vessel. I was chief officer of the *City of Boston* on the day we sighted the *City of Boston* a full month earlier. The vessel was in bad frame, and a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.

"Yes," remarked the Captain. "I shall never forget the last night we saw that ill-fated vessel. I was chief officer of the *City of Boston* on the day we sighted the *City of Boston* a full month earlier. The vessel was in bad frame, and a cheery, genial disposition. He has been a constant voyager for a quarter of a century, over half of that time having been in the trans-Atlantic service. In the course of the conversation over the well-spread table, the mystery of the *City of Boston* was alluded to.</