

Fall Visitor Comes to Provincetown



Provincetown's huge Fall visitor, a sea turtle weighing in excess of 500 pounds, is shown above shortly after it was brought into the dock by Captain John Joseph in his trap boat. Notice the size of the huge fellow in comparison to the two men, James Santos (left), the older man with boots, and Irving Roderick. When no market for the turtle could be found, it was put back into the ocean.

Provincetown Crew Prizes Lipton Cup Highly



One of Provincetown's most highly prized possessions is the Thomas Lipton cup won by the schooner Rose Dorothea in 1907. Living members of the crew are shown with the trophy. Front, left to right, John Wilson, Joseph Leal, Jesse Fratus, Thomas O'Donnell and William Silva; rear, Isadore Costa, Antone Prada, Manuel Souza and Joseph R. Holmes.

Provincetown Had Whalers

Industry Scored Come- back to Send Out 175 Ships

In direct contrast to the neighboring town of Wellfleet, the whaling industry in Provincetown scored a lucrative comeback in the lean years that followed the Revolution.

The cream of the town's male population had left the tip of the Cape in the middle 1700's, when 12 whalers, fully equipped and fully manned, simultaneously set sail from Provincetown Harbor on long voyages. With such a background, the industry paused but never completely stopped while the industry paused but never completely stopped while the years of the Revolution came and went.

Whaling flourished again immediately after the close of the war, when determined and co-operative work succeeded in launching the fleet that had been marking time during the struggle with the British.

Financial returns were large and the whalers prospered until the Civil War struck a severe blow at the heart of the business. Many of the whaling ships that claimed Provincetown as their home port were seized and burned by Confederate cruisers and for a time it appeared that the industry was doomed to extinction.

With the ending of the war between the states, however, Provincetown seamen once again took out their oilskins and tested their ropes. Whaling began anew and by 1876 the town had 17 fast ships on the high seas.

During the last century, Provincetown has sent 175 ships to the whaling grounds. The last Cape flag was flown from a whaler in 1916, when Captain John Cook retired from the sea to spend his last years ashore.

Cannon Ball Believed Fired in War of 1812

PROVINCETOWN, June 16—

A 40-pound solid-shot cannon ball, believed to have been fired by British in the War of 1812, has been found near the top of Telegraph Hill, West End, Ralph S. Carpenter said today.

Mr. Carpenter, cottage operator and collector of historic items, said the cannon ball was found by John Whorf, an artist, on the hill back of his Commercial Street home.

Mr. Carpenter said Provincetown twice was in foreign hands, once during the Revolution, and again in the War of 1812, when the British bombarded the town and took it over as a base for raiding U. S. shipping. He had no doubt the ball was fired by a British ship-of-war standing offshore, he said.