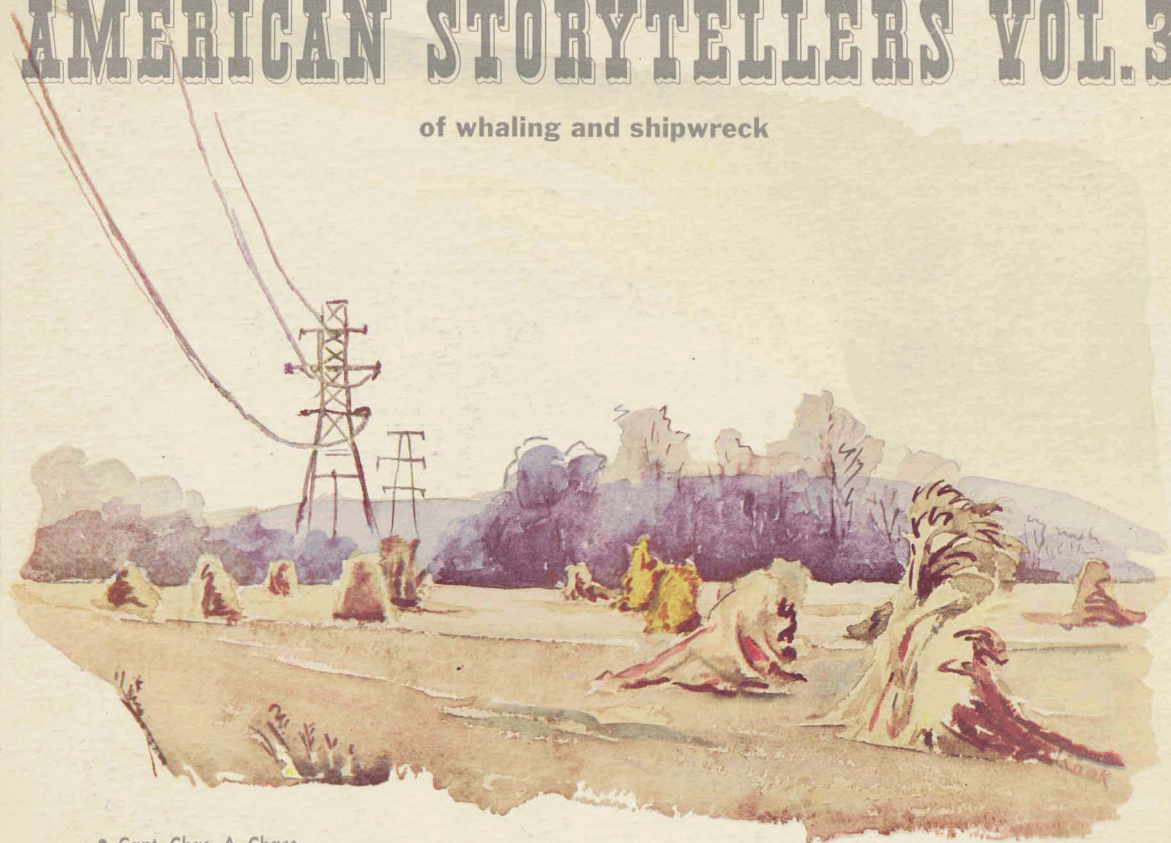




Road Recordings

AMERICAN STORYTELLERS VOL. 3

of whaling and shipwreck



- Capt. Chas. A. Chace—
one of the last
- Matthew Richards
from the Mystic (Conn.) Marine Museum

CAPT.
CHARLES A. CHACE

AMERICAN STORYTELLERS

VOLUME

3

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When within a hundred feet of him I softly ordered the men to "peak oars, out paddles, and send her a-long lively". Without any noise we glided up to him—and I could see that he was barely moving.

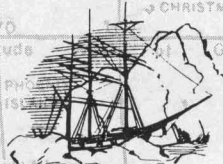
I do not think that I ever saw his equal in size.

"Stand up", I ordered George the harpooner, and get ready. Don't miss him. Take time, and give him two irons."

As we came within striking distance I saw a large whitish scar at the back of his head and two smaller ones aft of his starboard fin. We were now within ten feet of him—but there was no need.

Suddenly bang, bang! went both the irons—and then the fun commenced.

The whale straightened out. A-way he went. We were being dragged by the lines attached to the irons, and the other boats were left behind as if they were anchored. *



"Fare ye well,
Ye isles of shell!"

Many a time it was that this old sea-chanty broke out aboard a whale-ship as they cleared the whaling grounds and laid course for Cape Horn and home.

Today's farewell is of another sort and it is being said by the last old-timers like Capt. Charles A. Chace, who speaks to us here. His voice is of another day,—and, as he courteously welcomes us to visit with him in his retirement, the old captain lets us have glimpses of his long ago.

A man of mild demeanor, thin and straight, with light twinkling blue eyes and a close-cropped beard which he strokes continually, his gentleness gives way to a quick excitement as he talks and relives the past; and in that single swift moment—even for us—the past seems to become the present.

* courtesy Wm. H. Tripp, Curator
New Bedford Whaling Museum



MAT (THEW) RICHARDS

from all over the Atlantic

We heard of Mat Richards (and Archie McCleod) all over the sea-going communities of New England, finally located him asleep in the mate's quarters of a sailing vessel used by the Mystic (Conn.) Marine Museum to train Sea-Scouts.

There in the boat's cabin we talked that afternoon, wisps of Gaelic brogue accenting the conversation pleasantly. Mat Richards, only in his late 60's, is young as that generation goes, still actively pursuing his calling. "Next year," as he so often threatens, "I'm going back home to Yarmouth County (Nova Scotia) and settle down...." Whether he does or not (and we doubt it) the traditions of the men and the seas of Mat Richard's times will go on, handed down just as here, in conversation in a thousand cabins.



FIDELITY OF RR

Most RR discs are "high fidelity". All records are identified in the catalog, however, as HF, MF, and LF, for high, medium and low fidelity. MF and LF releases may be the result of field work with a spring-wound machine or 7 1/2" sec. tape originals or non-condenser-microphone work, for example. However, in each case, the MF and LF discs are released because they carry hard-to-find material which is precious to collectors.

IMPORTANT

Do not order Road Recordings until you have read carefully the catalog descriptions. Descriptions are made as complete as possible in order to warn away those who would not be interested... Since WE CAN NOT ACCEPT RECORDS IN RETURN or for exchange in this "Limited Edition" series.

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