

history from 1972 to the present. Part of this database will be published this year in a report entitled "Coastal State Profiles on Marine Scientific Research," which will be distributed free to the U.S. marine science community. IMSCOOP is also working on a project to help share marine research information with developing countries, and on the establishment of an international information and assistance service on "red tides."

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#### Note

Data for 1979-87 were obtained from yearly summaries of clearance requests prepared by Office of Marine Science and Polar Affairs, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, U.S. Dept. of State; data for 1972-78 come from W. S. Wooster, "Research in Troubled Waters: U.S. Research Vessel Clearance Experience, 1972-1978." *Ocean Development and International Law Journal*, 9(3-4): 219-39.

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## RETROSPECTIVE

As students, we are invariably reminded of Mathew Fontaine Maury, who is canonized for standardizing, collecting and publishing ships' observations of surface drift. Regarded in isolation, this seems a mundane accountant's task, not at all characteristic of a seaman's romantic or literary passions. But it is a historical misperception to limit Maury in this way. Hark back a century, open your reader, and pay attention to the recitation. Hear the Lieutenant speaking to American youth about the sea breeze in a far-away land:

"... In the summer of the southern hemisphere, the sea-breeze is more powerfully developed at Valparaiso than at any other place to which my services afloat have led me. Here regularly in the afternoon, at this season, the sea-breeze blows furiously; pebbles are torn up from the walks and whirled about the streets; people seek shelter; business is interrupted, and all communication from the shipping to the shore is cut off.

Suddenly, the winds and the sea, as if they had again heard the voice of rebuke, are hushed, and there is a great calm. The lull that follows is delightful. The sky is without a cloud, and the atmosphere is wonderfully transparent; the Andes seem to draw near; the climate, always mild and

soft, becomes now doubly sweet by the contrast. The evening invites one abroad, and the population sally forth – the ladies in ball costume, for now there is not wind enough to disarrange the lightest curl....

Alone in the night-watch, after the sea-breeze has sunk to rest, I have stood on the deck under those beautiful skies, gazing, admiring, wondering. I have seen there, above the horizon at the same time, and shining with a splendor unknown to the northern latitudes, every star of the first magnitude ... The stillness below is in harmony with the silence above; and one almost fears to speak lest the harsh sound of the human voice ... drown the music that fills the soul."

Mathew Fontaine Maury

Excerpt from "Land and Sea-Breezes."

*Barnes' New National Fifth Reader*

A.S. Barnes and Co., New York,

©1884

These are not the words of a dispassionate fact-collector. Some of the soul's music may have failed to impress the Fifth Reader's impounded audiences, but the legato passage is not lost on those who also have stood alone in the night-watch and heard the clear, thin notes.

- DAB