



**The Life and Character of Stephen Decatur; Late
Commodore and Post-Captain in the Navy of the
United States, and Navy-Commissioner:
Interspersed With ... of the American Navy
(Classic Reprint)**

S. Putnam Waldo

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Excerpt from *The Life and Character of Stephen Decatur; Late Commodore and Post-Captain in the Navy of the United States, and Navy-Commissioner: Interspersed With Brief Notices of the Origin, Progress, and Achievements of the American Navy*

The rapid sale Edition of this Volume, was the inducement for publishing the present very large Edition. The writer is, of course, precluded from saying any thing of the merits of the work, in regard to the manner in which it is executed: but he will certainly escape the imputation of vanity, when he assures the candid reader, that, in "point of fact" it has been pronounced accurate by those who were best calculated to judge of its accuracy.

The Volume contains the first minute biography of any of the distinguished heroes, who commenced their naval profession in the American School in the Mediterranean, Sea. The writer began, prosecuted, and ended the memoir with a solicitude which was sensibly felt by himself, but which he could not possibly impart to the readers of this rapidly written volume.

The author, since the publication of the first-Edition, has enjoyed the pleasure of interviews with distinguished officers of the navy who have condescended to peruse it; and whose gentlemanlike civility has pronounced it correct. Their opinion gives a value to the Volume, which the writer certainly did not attach to it himself.


The Publisher of the present Edition has spared no pains or expense to add to the little value the work originally possessed.

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