

There must be no feud or old quarrel taken up while on board or on service.

Women were not allowed on board ship or inside a fort.

News was to be reported to the captain alone. (See *Origines Islandicæ*, Book II, sec. 2.)

The famous crew of King Anlaf's *Long Serpent* (the muster-roll of which reads like that of David's mighty men) and the 45 ships' companies (last relics of the buccaneer city of Iom) that followed Thor-cytel the Tall to fight for or against Æthelræd, or his rival Cnut, and afterward formed the nucleus of that renowned guard, the *house carles* of the English kings, the peers of the Warangians themselves,—these were but the highest expression of a discipline, skill, and power, that were present in more or less perfect form on board every ship in the fleets that were the terror of every European coast throughout the ninth century. The fact is that ship life gave to every free North man much of the training and skill that were in England and France peculiar to the immediate following of the prince, his *gesiths*, *antrustiones*, *sajones*, as they are variously called in various Teutonic tribes. Even the personal obligation of honour to the lord that paid and fed him, so strongly felt by the *comes*, was felt in some degree towards the captain of each ship by the crew.

For warlike purposes, or external action of any kind, the Scandinavian lands were organised like other Teutonic lands, the country being divided into districts, from each of which so many picked free