

Steam, Steel Shellfire: The Steam Warship 1815-1905 (Conway's History of the Ship)

Robert Gardiner

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Robert Gardiner : Steam, Steel Shellfire: The Steam Warship 1815-1905 (Conway's History of the Ship) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Steam, Steel Shellfire: The Steam Warship 1815-1905 (Conway's History of the Ship):

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Transition Period in Naval History By Thomas A. Goodwin I discovered this book on .com as I am an avid arm chair historian. And a Model Ship builder. The historical period between coming solely away from Sail power to Sail and Steam power is covered fully in this text. The Illustrations are excellent and the author has done his homework. An easy read and easy to understand. This book covers a void in the periods between 1850's and the early 1900's. When Naval Ships were crossing over from sail power to a combination of both Steam and Sail. A good example of this is the French Navies Ship "The Napoleon" 1857. As well as the American ship U.S.S. Susquehanna, 1860 and the U.S.S. Kearsarge 1863. Not forgetting of course the C.S.S. Alabama 1863. Confederate Raider of the American Civil War. I call this book a Transition Book and not many authors seem to cover this period in Nautical History. For some reason this era is almost forgotten. But none the less. It needs to be studied and understood. So one can experience the full gamut of Naval Histories. The book contains dates, and Illustrations of various ships from this time period. In detail and easy to follow text. The time frame of these ships and the reason this period has been overlooked is unknown to me.. But it was a critical time for navies wishing to draw away from Full sail propulsion to a combination of Sail and Steam. 3 of 3 people found the following review

helpful. Great Volume Great SeriesBy Richard VetlandI've now accumulated several volumes of Conway's History of the Ship. These have become the first references I reach for.Besides the informative text there are numbers of wonderful old photos. I've become interested in modelling the ships of the transitionfrom sail to steam, and this book has been a wonderful resource.You get details of not just the technology, but the forces driving the change. The only reason I didn't give it five stars is because the focus is more on British ships than American.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent referenceBy Fred D. Seth, Jr.Great reference for anyone trying to learn about the transformation of the world's navies from sail to steam in the 19th century.

Between 1840 and 1905, sail was replaced by steam, wooden hull construction with iron and then steel, and the shell-firing gun encouraged the adoption of armor plate. For this first time, this volume - the fourth in an ambitious series - offers a proper understanding of this neglected, misunderstood but fascinating period in shipbuilding.