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Central Wharf Co.

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in Ship Chandlery, Ship Stores and Groceries.

Among those houses which have been long in existence and closely identified with the commercial growth of Provincetown, Mass., that of the Central Wharf Company occupies a conspicuous position, which it bids fair to continue annually to augment. The business had its inception over 40 years ago, and has therefore put nearly half a century behind it. It is also quite remarkable for enterprise with which it has been conducted. The premises occupied are commodious and well adapted for the large business. They consist of a large store on Commercial Street, the whole of which is stored with a complete stock of ship chandlery, ship stores, groceries, seamen's outfits, paints and oils, coal and wood, the outfitting of vessels being a specialty with them. Besides the store the company are proprietors of the marine railway.

The wharf facilities are excellent, enabling 10 to 12 vessels to load and unload at a time, on the wharf is a carpenter shop, blacksmith shop, rigging and sail loft, paint shop and caulker's loft, packing sheds and fish store; here whole cargoes are taken and cured and shipped in large and small quantities by rail and vessel to all the large cities, Philadelphia, New York and Baltimore being large consumers, and quantities are also sent to Chicago, in fact nearly all the large cities in the Union. A number of vessels are employed in the cod and mackerel fishing industry alone, and the company here fit those out and handle their cargoes on their return trips.

From its earliest establishment the house has been a favorite source of supply for vessels on their trips and those forming business relations with it, will find a large and superior stock from which to make selections, as well as the pursuance of a liberal policy and obliging promptness such as is in accord with an honorable record of so long standing.

The 1800's . . .



Finback whale on Provincetown beach. Central Wharf in background, late 1800's.