

In Finnish Waters.  
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## IN FINNISH WATERS

IN FINNISH WATERS. By K. ADLARD COLES.  
(Arnold. 7s. 6d. net.)

In sailing, as in most other matters, the aphorism holds good that one cannot expect to have it both ways at once—in other words, what is gained on the roundabouts is lost on the swings. Mr. Adlard Coles's Baltic cruise is a case in point. There are, of course, certain navigational difficulties which need not be taken into account in non-tidal waters; but they have problems peculiar to themselves, as mariners who used "the tideless dolorous midland sea" had learned long before St. Paul's day, and as plenty of people have found who have experienced the nasty short lumpy seas which can get up on the Great Lakes with such amazing swiftness. Mr. Coles mentions at least one occasion when he would have preferred the open Baltic even in his 33-foot *Sjöfröken* to the intricate channels of the Åland Islands in a full gale. The season, too, is very short for cruising, three months at the least; and there are abnormal magnetic conditions on the sea floor to be reckoned with here and there, much like those which prevail in the Bay of Fundy. Against these drawbacks, however, are to be set a varied and picturesque coastline—some of Mr. Coles's photographs might almost have been taken among the islands of British Columbia—inhabited by a kindly, hospitable and still unsophisticated people, while the navigational difficulties of its winding channels are such as to provide the requisite spice of excitement and opportunity for the yachtsman's skill and seamanship.

Mr. Coles was probably well advised in chartering his vessel on the spot instead of sailing his own across. However gratifying the latter course may be to one's pride, local conditions have generally developed the best build and rig for their special demands, apart from the fact that a vessel capable of making the North Sea crossing requires gear too heavy to be handled with the necessary ease by a small crew where sea-room is limited. Baltic cruising, as some of Mr. Coles's pictures show, derives an additional interest from the fact that here, as in the other tideless sea, sailing craft still are to be met with in greater numbers than in any other Western waters. They range from the timber schooners, mostly locally built, of two, three and four masts to Captain Erikson's fleet of square-riggers, mostly old British ships, which has its headquarters in the Åland Islands and is, since the dispersal of that of the Alaska Packers, the largest in the world; and Mr. Coles also met with an old Lowestoft trawler doing useful work fitted with an auxiliary engine.

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English translations are announced by Messrs. Lippincott of two historical memoirs by Jehanne d'Orliac—"The Lady of Beauty: Agnes Sorel," and "Francis I.: Prince of the Renaissance." Both books are illustrated.