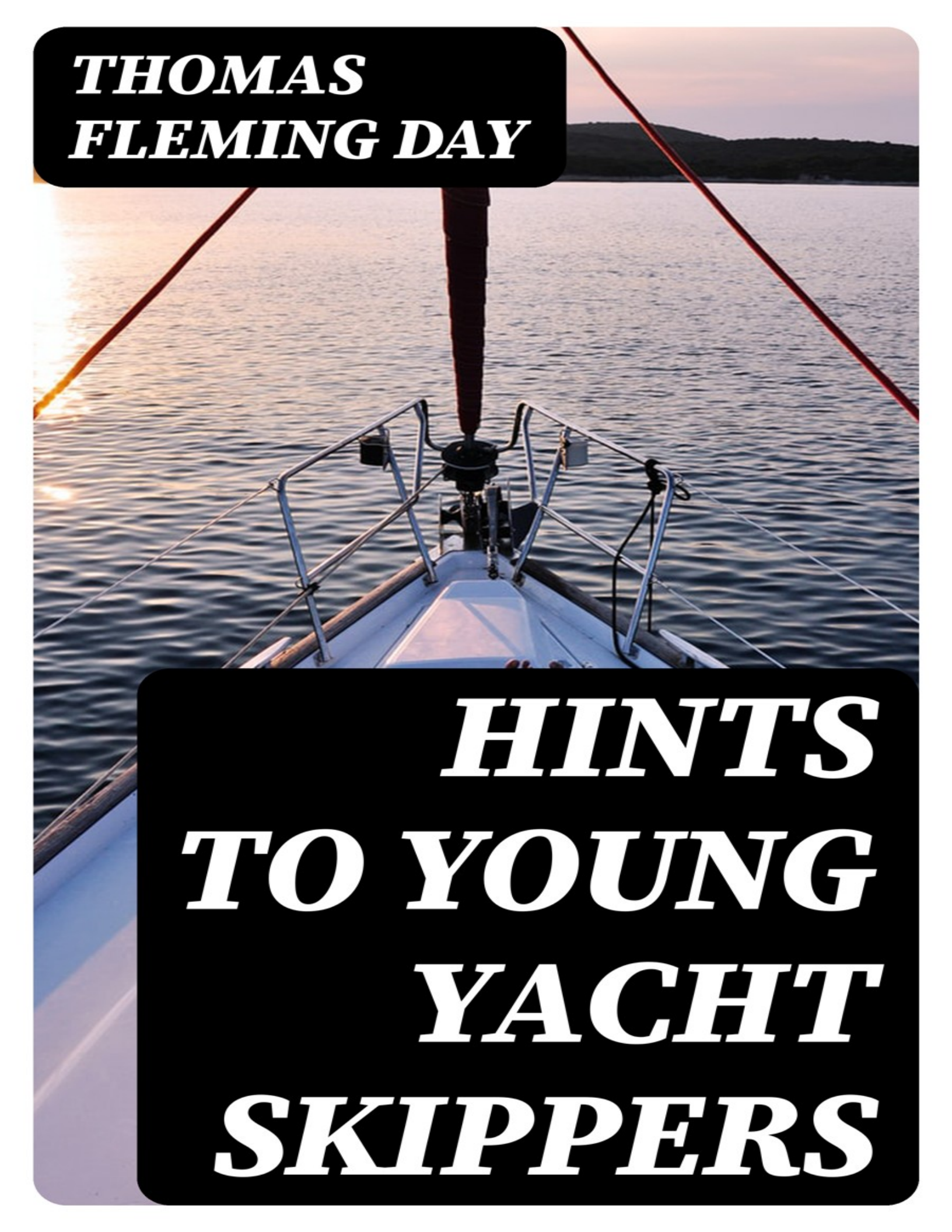


A photograph of a sailboat on the water during sunset. The sun is low on the horizon to the left, casting a warm glow over the water. The boat's mast and rigging are visible in the foreground. In the background, there are dark hills under a twilight sky.

***THOMAS
FLEMING DAY***

***HINTS
TO YOUNG
YACHT
SKIPPER***

Thomas Fleming Day

Hints to Young Yacht Skippers

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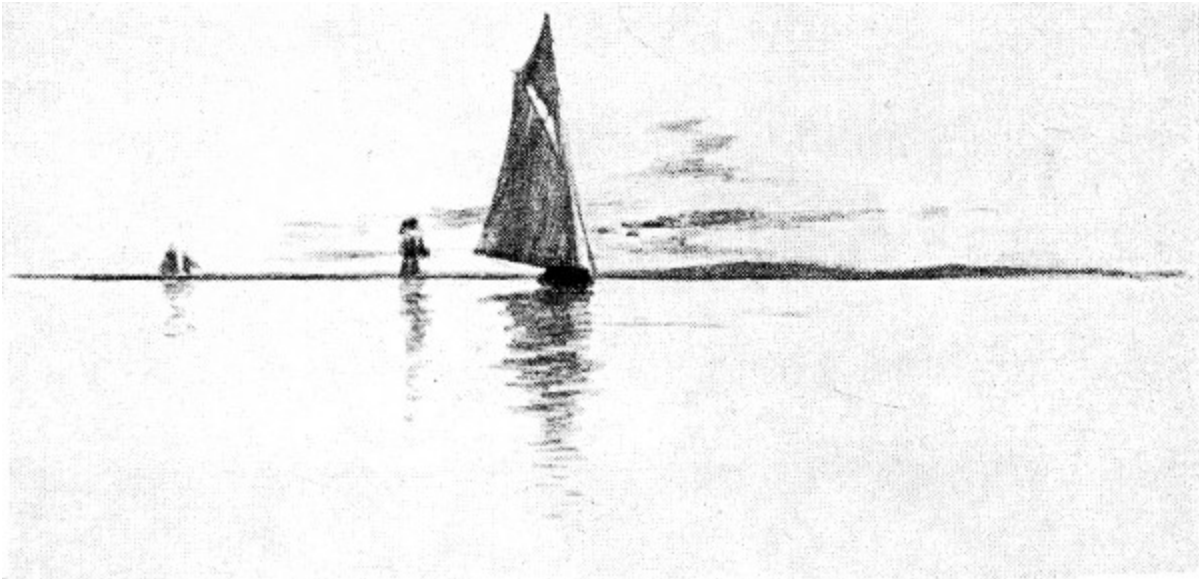
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INTRODUCTION.

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This book is the response to a constant appeal for information. During the last nine years I have received thousands of letters, asking for hints on all manner of subjects relating to the care, handling, buying and equipping of small yachts. The majority of these letters came from boys and young men living throughout the world, who were just entering the sport, and who were anxious to become skillful sailors and competent skippers. I can thoroughly understand their position, and sympathize with their desire for fuller and more practical knowledge than that contained in the majority of works upon yachting.

What knowledge I possess of this art, or profession, I have gained by years of hard work and close observation, and having begun my studies when very young can testify to the dearth of literature of value to the green hand, who is looking for practical hints that will help him to become a

skillful yacht sailor. Had I possessed a book like this, it would have saved me time, money and lots of hard work and anxiety.

But, in using this book, it must be remembered that a hint is not a law or a command, it is simply a concise statement for you to take, think over, and make use of, if it appears to be logical and practical. There may be better and easier ways of doing many of these things I speak of—that is for you to find out. I am an authority only as far as my knowledge goes, and no further. The basis of my authority is my years of observation and experience; your right to confute my findings can only be based on similar premises. Unless you have tried and proved that my instructions are wrong, they are still good medicine.

If a man, especially a young one, decide to go into yachting, he should also decide to learn the business of handling these craft from the keel up. It is not sufficient, as many of you think, that all that is necessary is to learn how to sail a boat about. You should know not only how to sail her, but you should know why she sails, and all about the gear and canvas used to propel her. You should learn to rig and unrig, to care for and to understand every part of her structure, both above and below decks. It is certainly a sorry spectacle to see a man sailing a yacht who cannot tie a proper knot, splice a rope, or bend a sail, and who does not know the terms used to designate parts of the structure which he essays to manage. If he is ashamed to learn, or if he is too lazy to gather such knowledge, he is out a place in a sport which is the life and joy of energetic, skillful and brave men.