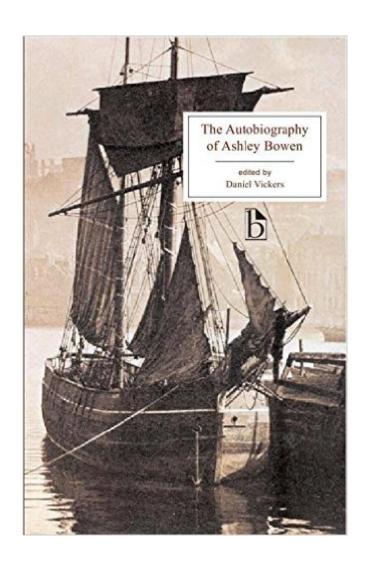
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# The Autobiography Of Ashley Bowen (1728-1813)





### **Synopsis**

The first American sailor known to write his own autobiography, Ashley Bowen remains a valuable storyteller who can speak to todayâ <sup>TM</sup>s readers about the maritime world in the age of sail. Ashley Bowen began his seafaring career at the age of eleven. After leaving the sea, Bowen spent the rest of his days as a ship-rigger in Marblehead, Massachusetts. A witness to significant historical events, including the British conquest of Canada and the American Revolution, Ashley Bowen confounds todayâ <sup>TM</sup>s audience with his eighteenth-century interpretation of eventsâ \*an interpretation informed by his deeply religious beliefs and his suspicion of Yankee patriotism. The Broadview edition is the first to present the story of Ashley Bowen as a continuous narrative. Vickersâ <sup>TM</sup> introduction provides the context for Bowenâ <sup>TM</sup>s life in colonial New England, and additional writings by Ashley Bowen and his Marblehead contemporaries are included. The appendices include Bowenâ <sup>TM</sup>s diary accounts of his experiences in the 1759 British expedition against Quebec, smallpox epidemics, and the American Revolution.

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Ashley Bowen was a man of a very few words. It was very authentic and interesting.

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