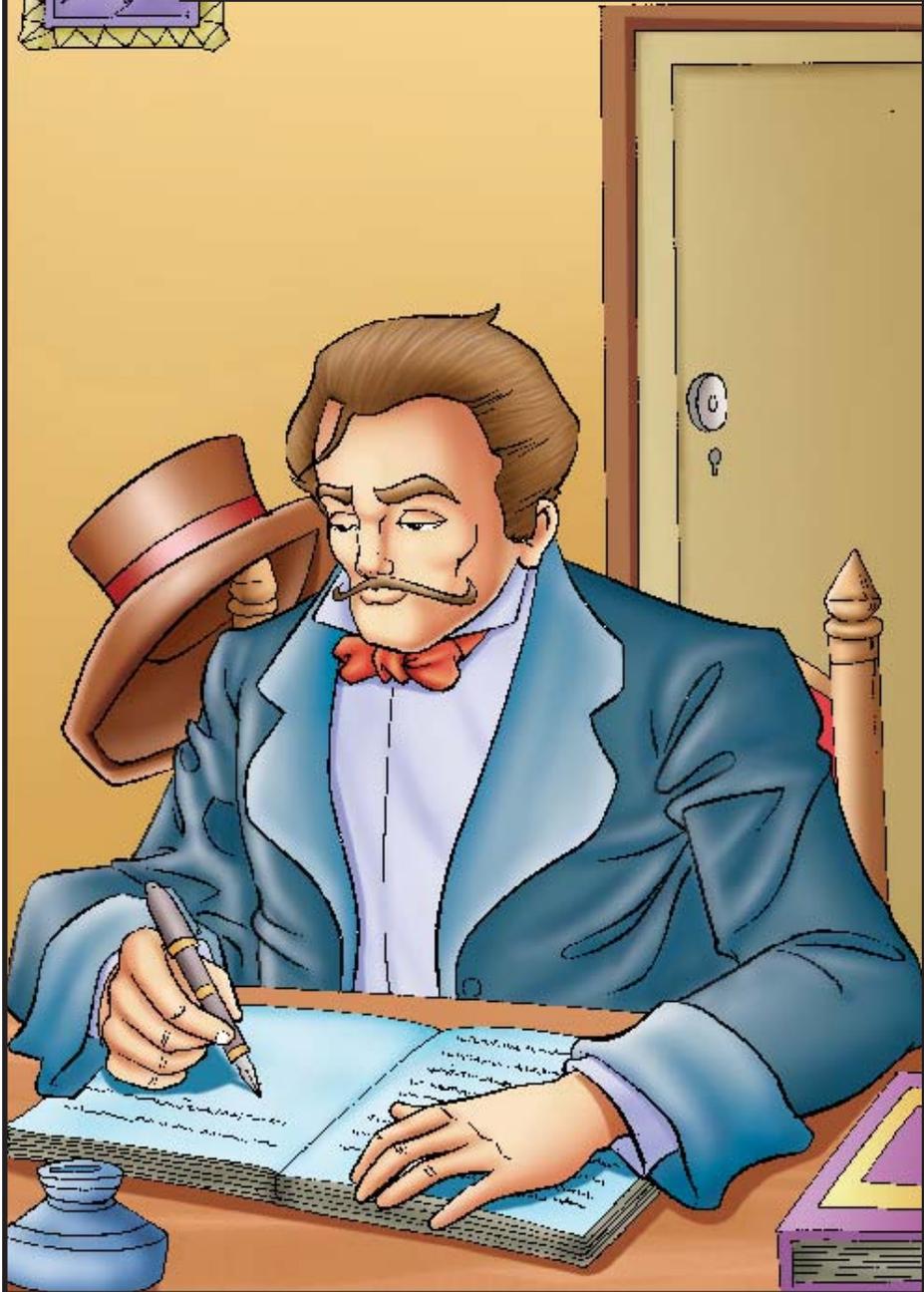


I AM PROFESSOR PIERRE ARONNAX, OF NATURAL HISTORY, AND THE AUTHOR OF THE MUCH ACCLAIMED BOOK 'MYSTERIES OF THE OCEAN DEPTHS'. I AM CONSIDERED AN EXPERT ON UNDERSEA LIFE. I REMEMBER THE YEAR 1866, WHICH WAS MARKED BY MYSTERIOUS EVENTS AT SEA.

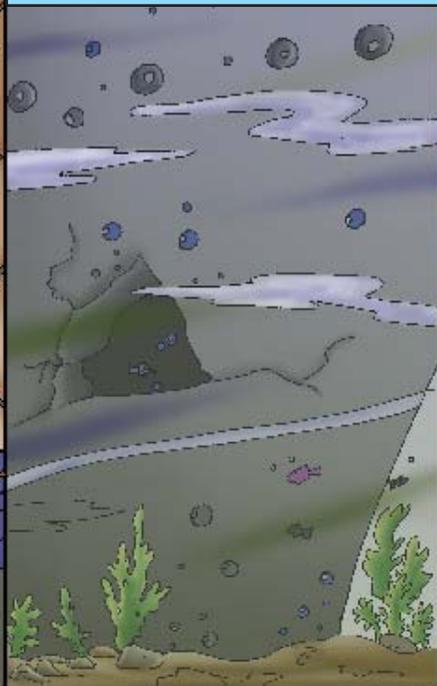


SHIPS FROM MANY COUNTRIES MET 'AN ENORMOUS THING' HUNDREDS OF FEET LONG! THIS ENORMOUS, UNIDENTIFIED 'THING' WAS FIRST SEEN IN JULY 1866, OFF THE COAST OF AUSTRALIA.

LOOK!

WHAT ON EARTH IS IT?
IT MUST BE SOME SEA
MONSTER!

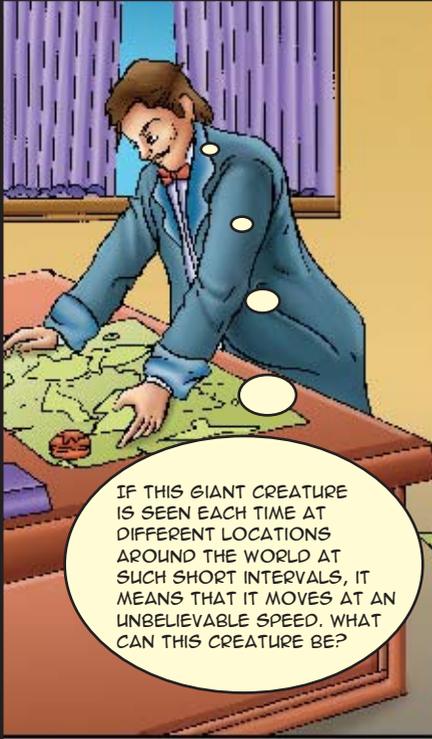
IN 1867, THIS SEA MONSTER CEASED
BEING A SCIENTIFIC PROBLEM AND BECAME
A REAL DANGER. MERCHANT STEAMERS
AND PASSENGER SHIPS WERE BEING
STRUCK AND DESTROYED BY IT!



WAS IT A ... ROCK? A REEF? OR A SEA
MONSTER??? ONE SHIP, THE SCOTIA, WAS
EXAMINED BY ENGINEERS AFTER ONE SUCH
INCIDENT. THEY WERE SHOCKED TO FIND A
TRIANGULAR HOLE IN HER THICK STEEL HULL.

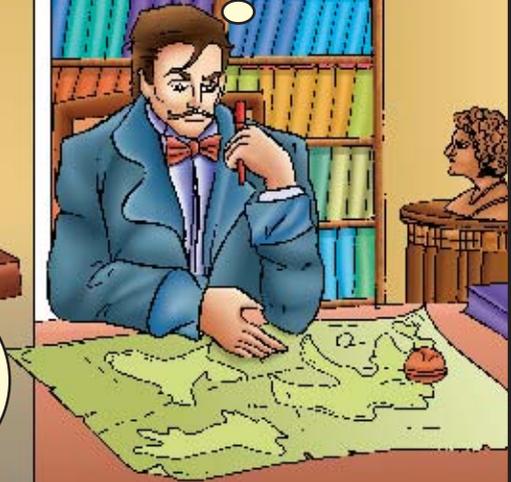


WHEN I ANALYSED ALL THESE DIFFERENT SEA ACCIDENTS ON THE MAP, I WAS AMAZED TO FIND...



IF THIS GIANT CREATURE IS SEEN EACH TIME AT DIFFERENT LOCATIONS AROUND THE WORLD AT SUCH SHORT INTERVALS, IT MEANS THAT IT MOVES AT AN UNBELIEVABLE SPEED. WHAT CAN THIS CREATURE BE?

IT MUST BE THE NARWHAL—A WHALE, WHICH CAN GROW TO A LENGTH OF SIXTY FEET. IT HAS A TUSK AS HARD AS STEEL.

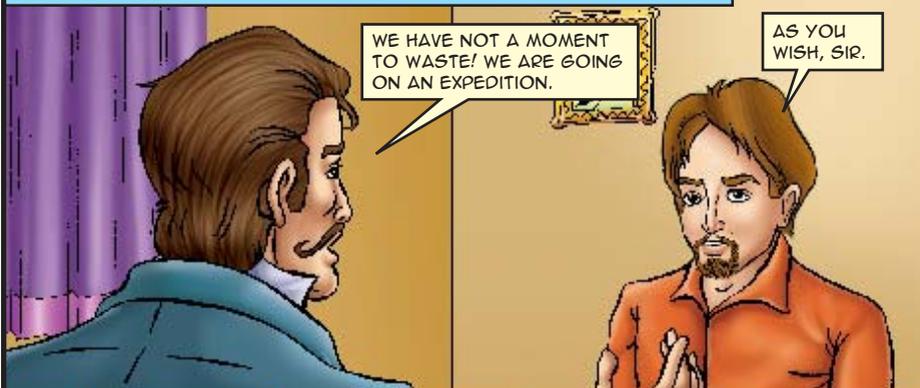


MY MIND WAS JUGGLING WITH THIS THOUGHT WHEN CONSEIL, MY SERVANT, CAME IN WITH A LETTER.



IT WAS AN INVITATION FROM THE THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO JOIN AN EXPEDITION, AIMED AT GETTING RID OF THE TERRIBLE SEA MONSTER. A WARSHIP, THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN WAS BEING SENT TO TRACK DOWN AND KILL THE CREATURE.

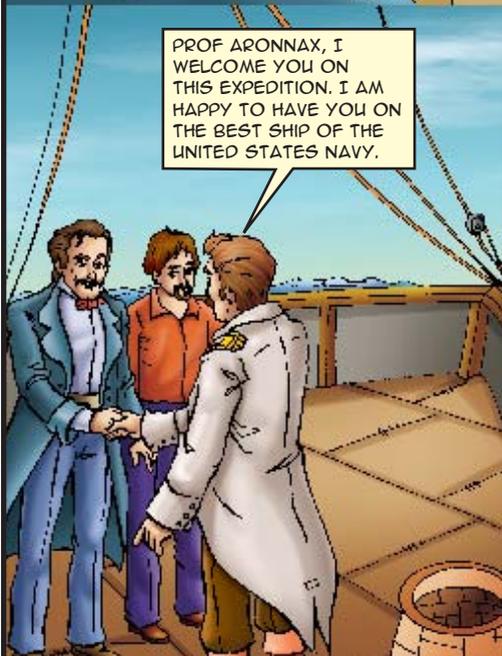
WITHOUT WASTING A MOMENT, I ORDERED CONSEIL TO PACK MY THINGS.



WE HAVE NOT A MOMENT TO WASTE! WE ARE GOING ON AN EXPEDITION.

AS YOU WISH, SIR.

PROF ARONNAX, I WELCOME YOU ON THIS EXPEDITION. I AM HAPPY TO HAVE YOU ON THE BEST SHIP OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY.



HUNDREDS OF FERRYBOATS FILLED WITH CHEERING PEOPLE HAD COME TO WISH US GOOD LUCK. WITHOUT WASTING TIME, THE CAPTAIN BEGAN THE JOURNEY AND WE SOON ENTERED THE DARK WATERS OF THE ATLANTIC OCEAN.



COMMANDER FARRAGUT WELCOMED US ON BOARD.



THE SHIP WAS WELL EQUIPPED TO CATCH THE STRANGE SEA CREATURE. ROUND THE CLOCK, THE CREW WAS ON VIGIL WITH TELESCOPES. THE BEST EYE PROBABLY BELONGED TO NED LAND, THE PRINCE OF HARPOONERS.

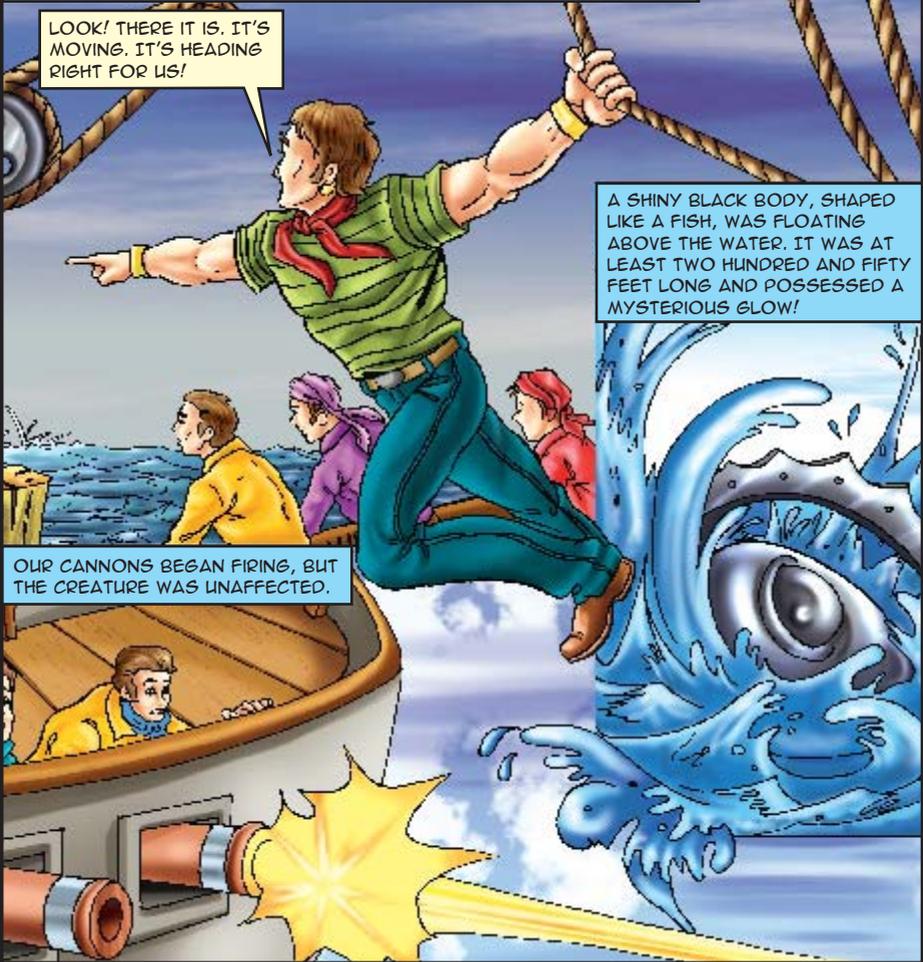
THREE MONTHS PASSED WITHOUT ANY SUCCESS. EVERYONE ON BOARD GREW ANXIOUS. EVERYONE HAD STARTED DOUBTING THE PURPOSE OF THE EXPEDITION.



CAPTAIN, WE THINK THAT THERE IS NO SUCH MONSTER. WE SHOULD RETURN.

IF WE DON'T SPOT THE MONSTER IN THREE MORE DAYS, WE WILL RETREAT.

THREE DAYS LATER, WE WERE ON THE DECK STARING AT THE DARK SEA WHEN SUDDENLY, WE HEARD NED LAND SHOUTING TO US.



LOOK! THERE IT IS. IT'S MOVING. IT'S HEADING RIGHT FOR US!

A SHINY BLACK BODY, SHAPED LIKE A FISH, WAS FLOATING ABOVE THE WATER. IT WAS AT LEAST TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY FEET LONG AND POSSESSED A MYSTERIOUS GLOW!

OUR CANNONS BEGAN FIRING, BUT THE CREATURE WAS UNAFFECTED.