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THE DARK FRIGATE

By CHARLES BOARDMAN HAWES



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THE DARK FRIGATE

CHARLES BOARDMAN HAWES



PHILIP MARSHAM WAS BRED TO THE SEA AS FAR BACK AS THE DAYS WHEN HE WAS CUTTING HIS MILK TEETH. HIS MOTHER DIED WHEN HE WAS BUT A CHILD. A FEW YEARS LATER, HE RAN AWAY FROM SCHOOL TO JOIN HIS FATHER ABOARD THE SLOOP, SARAH.

IN HIS NINETEENTH YEAR, PHIL WAS STRICKEN WITH FEVER WHILE HIS FATHER SAILED WITH THE SARAH. PHIL WAS SENT TO RECOVER HIS HEALTH AT AN INN OWNED BY MOLL STEVENS. THIS WAS IN LONDON, ENGLAND, DURING THE REIGN OF CHARLES I.



PHIL FONDLED THE GUN
ADMIRINGLY



HE RAISED IT PLAYFULLY

WHAT A STIR AND
CLATTER IT WOULD
MAKE IF I FIRED



HE WAS TOO HEAVY TO HOLD
IT STEADY HIS HAND
SLIPPED AND . . .



SHOT REPEATED THE PEOPLE IN THE INN NOT ONE
PLATTER WAS LEFT STANDING, AND MOLL
STEVENS' RICHEST WINE DASHED
OUT OF A BROKEN CASK



HOLD! /
DEVIL'S IMP! /
I'LL SCOUR
YOUR BACK!

MAY! LEAVE /
HIM TO ME! /
I'LL MAKE THE
SCOUNDREL PAY!



STRENGTHENED BY THE DANGER OF BOOBY NORM, PHIL LEAPED NIMBLY UP AND MADE FOR THE DOOR



AS HE RAN OUT, HE DROPPED THE GUN AND MOLL STEVENS FELL OVER IT



THE FAT MAN THEN REACHED FOR HIS GUN, AND HE AND MOLL STEVENS SO FILLED THE DOORWAY FOR A MOMENT THAT PHIL WAS OUT OF SIGHT BEFORE THE CHASE WAS RESUMED



PHIL HID IN A TRENCH AND THEY ALL RAN WILDLY BY



PHIL GOT UP AND WALKED QUICKLY IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION

AND NOW -- WHERE TO?
I CAN'T GO BACK TO LONDON
THAT I KNOW



PHE CONTINUED DOWN THE ROAD HE SOON SAW TWO FIGURES IN THE DISTANCE



YOU SEE BEFORE YOU, MY KING YOUNG GENTLEMAN, TWO SHIPWRECKED MARINERS WHO HAVE LOST ALL AT SEA AND ARE FORCED TO BEG THEIR WAY TO BIDEFORD



TELL THE BUMPH OF THE SHIPWRECK HE'LL NOT GUESS THE TRUTH



AYE BEFORE THE SHIP WENT DOWN, AN ENORMOUS RED SHARK CAME UP ON DECK AND DEVoured OUR BOATSMAN'S MATE

AYE, AND I'VE HEARD SEA LIARS BEFORE -- AND HEARD THE CAPTAIN SHOUT "A LIAR, A LIAR" AND HAVE HIM SWAB THE DECK TILL IT SHONE



SO YOU HATE MY T SALT WATER?

I HAVE SNIFFED AT IT





WHY NOT? THEY'RE ROGUES, 'T IS TRUE, BUT THEY'LL LEAD ME BACK TO THE SEA.

AYE, I WILL GO WITH YOU PHILP MARSHAM IS MY NAME

I, MY YOUNG FRIEND, AM TOM JORDAN

AND I AM CALLED MARTIN SARWICK



PHILP AND HIS TWO COMPANIES SET OFF FOR BIDEFORD BUT BEFORE LONG

I'LL TAKE THAT! YOU'VE HAD YOUR SHARE!

KNAVE! GIVE IT BACK!



Suddenly



NO! NO!

FAH! YOU'RE NOT WORTH KILLING! YOUR THIN BLOOD WOULD SPOIL MY KNIFE!



AND HE TURNED AND WALKED OFF ALONE



WE'RE WELL RID
OF HIM HE'S A
HOT-TEMPERED
FOOL!

THAT
HE IS



A FEW DAYS LATER, PHIL AND MARTIN
BARRETT REACHED STOCKFORD.

AND NOW, MY LAD,
TO MOTHER TAYLOR'S

MOTHER
TAYLOR'S?



A'YE SHE'LL GIVE US FOOD
AND DRINK, AND DIRECT US
TO A LIKELY SHIP



AS THEY WALKED THROUGH THE TOWN

LOOK THERE! A FELLOW
IN STOCKS? LET'S HAVE
A LOOK

NO, NO WE
MUST BE OFF
I'VE NO WISH TO
STAY AND BE
HANGED



HE FEARS
SOMETHING
HERE



GOING BY WAY OF DARK BACK STREETS, THEY MADE THEIR WAY TO AN OLD COTTAGE. MARTIN KNOCKED ON THE DOOR, IMPATIENTLY.

WHERE IS THE OLD SHREW?



THEN...

WHO KNOCKS? 'T IS DARK AND I CAN'T SEE YOUR FACE.

COME, BOWE, OPEN THE DOOR 'T IS TWO HONEST MEN.



IF YOU BE HONEST MEN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

ENOUGH! 'T IS MARTIN BARRICK, AND A FELLOW WHO IS TO BE ONE OF US.

ENTER THEN THERE ARE TOO FEW OF US LEFT IN PORT.

WHERE IS THE OLD ONE?

HE HAS SAILED-- AND LEFT OWING ME MONEY!



BUT HE'LL FIT--WE ALL DO! NOT ONE OF US WOULD DARE CHEAT YOU YOU COULD HANG US WITH A WORD



WHILE MOTHER TAYLOR PREPARED DINNER

THE OLD WITCH IS QUICK TO SELL A CARGO-- ONE THAT'S BEEN PIRATED SHE'LL DO A SAILOR'S BUSINESS BETTER THAN HE COULD HIMSELF, AND NEVER GIVE HIM ANY



LATER

NOW TELL ME OLD WITCH WHAT SHIPS ARE IN PORT AND WHERE SHALL WE FIND THE SOFTEST BERTH?

THERE'S THE ROSE OF DEVON UNDER A MASTER BY THE NAME OF FRANCIS CANDLE.



I KNOW HIM NOT-- IT WILL BE SAFE WHAT VOYAGE DOES SHE MAKE?



TO NEWFOUNDLAND, TO FETCH COD

COD? THAT SEEMS A BARREN VOYAGE



METHINKS IT MIGHT BE WELL FOR ONE OF OUR GENTLEMEN TO LOOK INTO THAT TRADE

THEN WE'LL GO! AND NOW FOR GOD'S COME, LAD!







CAPTAIN CANDLE HAD A GOOD SHIP AND A GOOD CREW THERE WAS ONE LAD OF PHIL'S AGE.

MY NAME IS
WILL CANTY



LATER

CAPTAIN CANDLE IS A
SHRIMP MASTER I'M
PROUD TO BE
HIS BOOZON

AYE, AND WITH
GOOD REASON,
I DOUBT NOT



THEN THE ROSE OF
DEVON PREPARED
TO SAIL.

HOO! SAILS HALF-
MAST HIGH!



THERE WAS NOT A MAN ON BOARD AS
EAGER AS PHIL MARDININ

THERE'S A LAD WHO WILL
MAKE A FINE SAILOR



WITH HER GREAT SAILS SPREAD,
THE ROSE OF DEVON THROST
HER NOSE INTO THE HEAVY
SWELL. SHE WAS A BRAVE
TALL SHIP YET HER
TOWERING SIDES
GAVE HER A
SINGULARLY DARK
APPEARANCE.



FOR A WEEK, EVERYTHING WAS NORMAL ABOARD SHIP, THEN ONE DAY



THEY NEVER SAW HIM AFTER THAT FIRST WILD PLUNGE

IT WAS NEDDIE HART, THE BOATSWAIN

THERE WAS NOTHING ANY MAN COULD DO TO SAVE HIM



LATER THAT DAY

THE MASTER WOULD SEE YOU IN HIS CABIN

WOULD SEE ME? FOR WHAT PURPOSE, I WONDER



IN A FEW MINUTES

SIT YOU DOWN, MR MARCHAM ARE YOU ACQUAINTED WITH SAILING THEORY?

A YE, SIR



TEST YOUR SKILL ON THIS PROBLEM TELL ME THE COURSE AND RHOMB OF THE SECOND SHIP AND HOW MANY LEAGUES SHE'S SAILED.

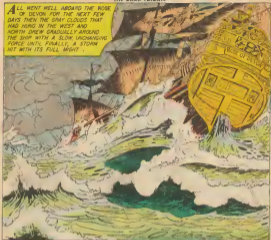


THE FIRST SHIP'S RHOMB SHALL BE DRAWN THUS AND NINETY LEAGUES TO THE WEST IS SHIP B GETTING A PROPORTION FROM POINT A TO POINT C





ALL WENT WELL ABOARD THE ROSE OF DEVON FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS THEN THE GRAY CLOUDS THAT HAD HUNG IN THE WEST AND NORTH DREW GRADUALLY AROUND THE SHIP WITH A SLOW, URGING FORCE UNTIL FINALLY, A STORM HIT WITH ITS FULL MIGHT.



OH DEE, PHIL AND BARRICK SAW ABOVE THEM A SEA LOOKING LIKE A BLACK CLOUD



IT BROKE UPON THE SHIP AND OVERWHELMED HER



BUT A MOMENT LATER!

HE'S BEEN
WASHED
OVERBOARD!



QUICKLY, PHIL LEAPED
TO A ROPE
OVERHEAD



HE SWUNG WITH ALL HIS STRENGTH
OUT INTO THE NIGHT



THEN HE SLID DOWN THE ROPE, STRUCK
THE IGY WATER AND WENT UNDER



CLUTCHING FAST TO THE ROPE AND WILDLY KICKING OUT, HE FELT SOMETHING



WITH ONE HAND, HE STRUGGLED TO LIFT BARRICK

COME NOW, MEN!
GRAB HOLD!



BARRICK SEIZED THE ROPE

HELP! HELP!
OR WE DIE!



THE ROPE WAS PULLED UP BY THE MEN ON BOARD

HOLD ON, PHIL!
WE'LL HAVE YOU
IN A MINUTE



THEY





THE BATTLE WITH THE SEA RAGED ALL NIGHT



JUST BEFORE DAWN, THE PRESSURE
CEASED. THE HOLE WAS PLUGGED



NAIL IT UP WELL,
CARPENTER

FINALLY, THE STORM PASSED AND THE SKY WAS CLEAR



LATER THAT DAY



AHoy!
A SAIL!

HELMSMAN, BRING
US IN AS CLOSE
AS POSSIBLE



TAKE

SAVE US! WE'VE SIX FEET
OF WATER IN THE HOLD!
WE'RE SINKING FAST!



HOIST OUT YOUR BOAT
AND WE'LL STAY BY
TO HELP



THE SAILING SHIP HAD ONLY ONE SMALL BOAT

IT HELD ONLY HALF ITS MEN
SLOWLY, IT MADE ITS WAY
TOWARD THE ROSE OF DEVON



WHEN THE BOAT WAS NEAR, PAUL
RECOGNIZED THE MAN IN THE STERN

WHY, IT'S TOM
JORDAN—THE
OLD ONE!

SHHH



A LINE WAS THROWN TO THE SMALL BOAT



ONE OF THE MEN LUNGED FOR THE LINE

YOUR SPEED TO
GET ON BOARD
WILL DROWN
US ALL!



HOLD OFF,
YOU FOOL!

FOOL, DO
AS I SAY!



IN A RAGE, JORDAN KNOCKED
THE MAN INTO THE SEA



SAVE HIM!
SAVE HIM!

LET HIM GO! THE
MUTINOUS BOYS!



A MOMENT LATER, THE BOAT
THREW AGAINST THE SIDE
OF THE SHIP AND



THE MEN OF THE ROSE OF DEVON
THREW HOPES.



AND



JORDAN INTRODUCED HIMSELF AS CAPTAIN OF THE SHARK SHIP.

THERE ARE STILL SEVEN
MEN LEFT ABOARD WHAT
SAY YOU--CAN WE
VENTURE BACK?

IT GRIEVES ME TO REFUSE
THEM AID, BUT WITH
DARKNESS DRIVING UPON US,
I WOULD BE FOLLY THAT
MIGHT COST
THE LIVES
OF ALL



TRUE LET
US GO AS
NEAR THEM
AS WE MAY
AND BID
THEM HAVE
COURAGE
TILL
MORNING

AYE TELL
THEM TO
KEEP A LIGHT
BURNING TILL
DAWN, SO WE
WILL KNOW
WHERE
THEY ARE



FOR SEVERAL HOURS, THE MEN OF THE ROSE OF DEVON WATCHED THE SINGLE LIGHT BURNING ABOARD THE SHIP.



THEN, THE LIGHT WENT OUT. THE SHIP HAD SUNK.

'T IS A BITTER GRIEF TO BEAR.

AYE, A MAN CAN SO MANY YEARS TO SEA WITHOUT MEETING SUCH A STORM.



BUT NOW, TO THE TASKS AT HAND, I FEAR YOU HAVE COME FROM ONE WRECK TO ANOTHER. BUT YOU SHALL SHARE MINE OWN CABIN, CAPTAIN JORDAN.

YOU DO ME GREAT HONOR, CAPTAIN CANDLE.



IN THE NEXT DAYS, REPAIR WORK BEGAN ABOARD THE ROSE OF DEVON ONE NIGHT.

TELL ME, BARWICK, WHAT THINK YOU OF THIS PRETTY PUP WE MET ON THE WAY?

YOUNG MARSHAM? AH, HE BEARS HIMSELF SOMEWHAT STRUTTINGLY, YET HE HAS HIS GOOD POINTS.



TRULY, I BELIEVE HE IS A LAD AFTER MY OWN HEART. I HAVE MARKED HIM WELL.



CAME YOU
IN SEARCH
OF THIS
SHIP?

NO, IT
WAS
CHANCE
ALONE
THAT
BROUGHT
YOUR OLD
CAPTAIN
BACK TO YOU
AND NOW, WE
MUST SLEEP.
BUT THE
HOUR WILL
COME AND
THEN
STAND BY



THE NEXT DAY, WHILE PAUL
AND SOME OF THE OTHER
MEN OF THE ROSE OF DEVON
WERE IN THE FOREHOLD,
JORDAN STEPPED IN FRONT
OF THE FIRST MATE

YOUR BOATSWAIN IS
A BRAVE LAD. I
COULD
USE HIM

YOU?



JORDAN PLACED HIS HAND AT
THE SIGNAL, THE MAN
STANDING BEHIND THE MATE
STARRED HIM



HE FELL SILENTLY



THE MURDER OF THE
FIRST MATE WAS SEEN
ONLY BY JORDAN'S MEN
HURRIEDLY, THEY LOOKED
THE MATE TO THE
FOREHOLD.



THE NEXT VICTIM WAS
THE ROSE OF DEVON'S
HELMETMAN



**THE NEW HELMSMAN
CALLED TO JORDAN**

MASTER!
WE HOLD
THE HELM!

NOW!
NOW, MY
HEARTIES!



**THERE CAME A DASHY STORM OF VOICES, THE
FOUNDING OF MANY FEET, AND WILD CRIES.**

I YIELD!

MERCY, I
DES OF YOU!



SUDDENLY, THE GREAT CASH DOOR BURST OPEN

WHAT'S
AFOOT?



**IN A MOMENT, CAPTAIN CANDLE,
TOO, HAD FALLEN**

NOW WE HAVE US A
SHIP AND CAN RESUME
OUR DRIVE TRADE







THE OTHER MEN OF THE ROSE OF DEVON JOINED JORDAN'S CREW WITHOUT FURTHER PROTEST. A FEW, LIKE PHIL, REALIZED THEY HAD NO CHOICE.

THERE'S NOTHING A MAN CAN DO NOW BUT THEIR DAY WILL COME.



THE REST HAD NO OBJECTION TO BECOMING PIRATES. INDEED, IN RECENT YEARS, MANY A SAILOR HAD TAKEN HIS FLING AT SUCCANEERING.

HURRAH FOR THE LIFE OF A PIRATE!



HARRY MALCOLM WILL BE OUR FIRST MATE. PHILIP WARDHAM WILL CONTINUE AS OUR BOATSWAIN AND NOW, COOK, PREPARE US A FEAST! AND DON'T NEGLECT THE WINE CASKS!



NOW, BRAVE LADS, LET US HAVE OUR HEADS TOGETHER. WHERE SHALL WE TAKE A FLING AT OUR TRADE?

WHAT SAY YOU, YACOB?

I SAY THIS—LET US GO SOUTH TO THE CARIBBEAN. THERE ARE THE SPANISH ISLANDS. THEY HAVE SUN AND WARMTH AND FRUITS AND SPICES.



AND BETTER, THEY HAVE MINES OF GOLD AND SILVER, AND JEWELS OF GREAT PRICE



AYE, I'M FOR THE CARIBBEAN!

AND I, TOO THERE WE WILL FIND SPANISH GALLEONS WITH VAST TREASURES



WELL, A SPANISH SHIP IS FAR PRIZE FOR EVEN THE MOST LAW-ABIDING ENGLISH MARINER

IT IS DECIDED, THEN GENTLEMEN, A TOAST TO THE RICH SPANISH GALLEONS



THE ROSE OF DEVON SAILED SOUTH FINALLY

THERE IS A SPANISH ISLAND I KNOW WELL IT HAS A TOWN WITH GOLD PILED UP AND WAITING TO BE TAKEN



I KNOW A COVE IN THE ISLAND WHERE A SHIP MIGHT LIE FOR A YEAR UNSEEN

WE WILL ANCHOR THERE, AND ATTACK THE TOWN BY NIGHT



AND THAT NIGHT, LAST MINUTE PREPARATIONS WERE MADE

HERE IS A GOOD TALL GUN FOR YOU



THEN

THE COOK, JOE KIRK AND WILL CARTY WILL GUARD THE SHIP THE REST COME WITH ME



THEY CROPT SILENTLY TO THE TOWN

THEY HEAR US NOT IN A MOMENT, WE SHALL KILL, FLUNDER AND BURN!



THEN A DOG BARKED



THE TOWN WAS IMMEDIATELY BROOSED
 JORDAN AND HIS MEN TOOK TO
 THEIR HEELS AND RAN FOR
 THEIR LIVES



I MUST RUN WITH THEM
 SINCE THE SPANIARDS
 WOULD THINK ME AS
 GUILTY AS THE REST



BACK AT THE SHIP JORDAN FOUND ONLY ONE OF HIS THREE GUARDS

I--I WOULDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THEM! THEY--THEY'VE GONE!

WHO'S GONE, YOU IDIOT?



JOE KIRK AND WILL GANTY?



THERE WAS NO TIME TO TALK. IT WAS UP ANCHOR AND AWAY BEFORE THEIR PURSUERS COULD REACH THEM. BUT ONCE AT SEA, THE PRIVATEERS CURSED THEIR FORTUNE.

WE HAVE LOST A DOZEN MEN BY THIS FOOLISH MARCH, AND FROM THIS RICH TOWN OF WHICH SO MUCH WAS PROMISED, WE HAVE GOTTEN ONLY BLOWS.

AYE I AM OF A MIND TO CHANGE CAPTAINS!



Suddenly

WHAT IN THE DEVIL'S NAME MEAN YOU BY THIS? I HAVE SAILED BEFORE WITH MAD, FIERCE CREWS, BUT NEVER SAW I A MORE MAD CREW THAN THIS! COME OUT, YOU WHO SPOKE, AND LET US CONSIDER THE MATTER!

NO? HE WILL NOT COME, THOUGH BY SPEECH HE IS A BOLD MAN. LISTEN, THEN, MY HEARTS OF GOLD.



WE WILL TURN ABOUT AND SAIL BACK TO THE VERY TOWN THAT LAST NIGHT WE STORMED. WE WILL TELL THE TOWNPEOPLE A TALE OF MEETING WITH PIRATES.



THEY WILL THINK WE HAVE MET THE VERY MEN THEY THEMSELVES BEAT OFF, AND THEY WILL WELCOME US WITH OPEN ARMS. ONCE IN THE TOWN, WE CAN TAKE THEM BY ASSAULT.



THAT EVENING, THE ROSE OF DEVON ENTERED THE ISLAND HARBOR. JORDAN SIGNALLED THE TOWNPEOPLE.

THEY TELL US TO COME ASHORE HOW FOOLISH THEY ARE!



THEY

GOOD BOATSMAN, WHILE WE GO ASHORE, YOU AND TACOS KEEP WATCH ON BOARD.

LATER

HO, FRIENDS! WE HAVE BEEN ATTACKED BY PIRATES. CAN YOU HELP US?

THAT'S HIM! THAT'S THE PIRATE!





THE ROSE OF DEVON QUICKLY PUT OUT TO SEA

NOW, BRING CANTY TO MY CABIN AND KEEP A CLOSE WATCH ON MARSHAM. I WANT NO INTERFERENCE IN WHAT I AM ABOUT TO DO



A WHILE LATER, THEY CARRIED CAVY OUT OF THE CABIN.

NO, JORDAN, DON'T!
MERCY, I BEG
OF YOU



HOLD OFF,
LAD.



'T IS TOO LATE TO
HELP YOUR FRIEND
HE'S DEAD.



SO WILL IS DEAD. WELL,
AN HONEST MAN CAN DO
SO FAR IN A COMPANY OF
ROGUES, AND NO FARTHER.



AND THAT NIGHT...

NOW IS MY CHANCE
THAT ISLAND IS NO MORE
THAN THREE MILES OFF.
WHATEVER HAPPENS TO
ME THERE CAN BE NO
WORSE THAN BEING
WITH THE LIVES OF
TOM JORDAN.





TWO NATIVES FOUND HIM.



THEY CARRIED HIM TO THEIR HUT AND CARED FOR HIM UNTIL HE RECOVERED.



ON THE DAY HE LEFT THE HUT, HE CLIMBED TO A HIGH HILL.

THERE IS
THE ROOF
OF DEVON!



AND THERE IS A STRANGE SHIP,
ANCHORED WHERE SHE CANNOT SEE
THE PIRATES I WONDER WHAT
NATIONALITY SHE IS PERHAPS SHE
SAILS FOR ENGLAND



**THAT NIGHT, PHIL SWAM TO
THE STRANGE SHIP.**



**HE CRAWLED UP THE STERN AND PEERED IN
THE CABIN WINDOW.**

WHAT A RICH PRIZE THIS
WOULD BE FOR THE PIRATES!



SOON PHIL HEARD VOICES SPEAKING IN ENGLISH

IT IS AN ENGLISH SHIP!
BUT HOW CAN I
INTRODUCE MYSELF
ON BOARD?



HE THREW A LEG OVER THE WINDOW, IN ORDER TO REST WHILE HE MADE HIS DECISION

IT WILL BE BEST IF I
SWIM BACK TO
SHORE AND
THERE CALL
FOR HELP



SUDDENLY



PHIL STRUGGLED TO FREE HIMSELF, BUT HE WAS HAILED THROUGH THE CABIN WINDOW

WHAT A CURIOUS WAY
TO ENTER A SHIP



PHIL DISCOVERED HE WAS ABOARD AN ENGLISH MERCHANT-SHIP HE WAS BROUGHT BEFORE THE COMMANDER, CAPTAIN WINTERTON, AND TOLD HIS STORY

AND IT WILL PAY YOU TO KEEP A SHARP
WATCH TONIGHT, FOR THE AGES OF DEVIL IS
THIS MINUTE LYING BEYOND
YONDER POINT

I HAVE HEARD OF THIS
"DARK PRIGATE" BUT THAT
DOES NOT MAKE YOUR
STORY TRUE. YOU MAY
HAVE DREAMED IT UP TO
SAVE YOURSELF FROM
HANGING WITH
YOUR FRIENDS



TAKE THIS FELLOW TO THE
GUN ROOM AND CLAP HIM
INTO IRONS



THAT NIGHT, ATTACK BOATS FROM THE
ROSE OF DEVON APPROACHED THE
ENGLISH SHIP

NO DRUMS OR TRUMPETS!
CALL THE MEN TO
QUARTERS BY WORD OF
MOUTH!



SOON, THE BOATS CRASHED
AGAINST THE MAIN-DECK

STRIKE YOUR FLAG!
YOU ARE TAKEN!

HAIL UP
THE PORTS
AND RUN
OUT THE
GUNS!



AND A MOMENT LATER



THERE GO THEIR BOATS! TO YOUR
GUNS, LADS, BEFORE THEY HAVE
TIME TO FLEE!



THE DARKNESS COULD NOT HIDE THE BLOOD THAT WAS SPILLED, AND THE CRIES FOR MERCY



THE MEN OF THE ROSE OF DEVON WERE QUICKLY TAKEN PRISONER: THEN

WELL, BRAVE BOATSWAIN!
THIS IS A JOY I HAD NOT
LOOKED FOR: IT SEEMS
THAT, IF HANG I MUST,
I SHALL NOT HANG ALONE.

FILTHY TRAITOR!
I'LL KILL
HEM WITH MY
OWN HANDS!



THAT DAY, CAPTAIN WINTERBURN TURNED HIS SHIP ABOUT AND SET HER COURSE FOR LONDON, AND THE TRIAL OF THE MEN OF THE ROSE OF DEVON



AND SOME WEEKS LATER

HEAR YE! HEAR YE! THE DEFENDANTS ARE HEREBY CHARGED WITH PIRACY, MURDER AND ROBBERY. THE PENALTY FOR THESE CRIMES IS TO HANG BY THE NECK UNTIL DEAD!



A NUMBER OF SHIP CAPTAINS WHO HAD BEEN CAPTURED WERE CALLED AS WITNESSES.

ARE THESE THE PIRATES WHO PLUNDERED YOUR SHIP?

MY LORD, I KNOW NOT IT WAS DARK AND MY SIGHT OF THE SCOUNDRELS WAS BRIEF. I AM LOATHED TO SWEAR SURE THE LIFE OF AN INNOCENT MAN.



AND SO IT WENT WITH FOUR MORE WITNESSES. THEN MOTHER TAYLOR, HERSELF Awaiting HANDING FOR DEALING IN STOLEN GOODS, WAS BROUGHT IN.

IF YOU WILL TELL THE TRUTH ABOUT THESE MEN, YOU WILL BE REPRIEVED FROM THE GALLOW'S IS THAT CLEAR TO YOU?

AYE, MY LORD.



DO YOU KNOW THESE MEN?

NO, MY LORD.



THEN A NEW WITNESS WAS CALLED



KIRK IDENTIFIED EACH OF THE DEFENDANTS



AND HE TOLD OF THEIR NAUZY CRIMES



LATER, PHIL WAS ALLOWED TO DEFEND HIMSELF IN A TREMBLING VOICE HE TOLD ALL THAT HAD HAPPENED TO HIM FROM THE DAY HE LEFT BIDEFORD



IF THAT IS SO, YOUNG MAN, WILL YOU NOW TESTIFY AGAINST THE PIRATES?



MY LORD, MY TALE HAS BEEN TOLD WERE I TO SPEAK FURTHER, I SHOULD CARRY TO MY GRAVE THE KNOWLEDGE THAT I HAD DONE A TREACHEROUS THING. I WILL NOT, DESPITE THE SINS OF THESE MEN, HELP TO HANG THEM.







NOW THAT YOU HAVE READ THE CLASSICS Illustrated EDITION, DON'T MISS THE ADDED ENJOYMENT OF READING THE ORIGINAL, OBTAINABLE AT YOUR SCHOOL OR PUBLIC LIBRARY.

CHARLES BOARDMAN HAWES

CHARLES BOARDMAN HAWES was born in Clifton Springs, New York, on January 24, 1889. He was of New England descent, and during his childhood attended school in Bangor, Maine. He was admitted to Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine, in 1907. There he majored in English literature and composition.

In the calm, green beauty of the Maine woods, Hawes found the inspiration for some of his early tales. When he was a student, he liked to spend his summer vacations with surveying parties in the Maine forests. This enabled him to acquire a thorough knowledge of woodcraft.

After Hawes graduated from Bowdoin, he studied for an additional year at Harvard. Then he took a position teaching at a boys' school in Pennsylvania. Not long after, he decided that his vocation lay in writing. He joined the staff of *Youth's Companion* in Boston, Massachusetts, and began turning out short stories. These soon began appearing with comfortable regularity in various publications.

Hawes was as deeply interested in the sea as he was in forestry. He spent much time reading accounts of early voyages. He also liked to collect sea charts, maps,

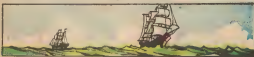


and ships' logs. His first book, *The Mutineers*, was published in 1920. The same year, Hawes became associate editor of the *Open Road*, a magazine for boys in which *The Mutineers* had previously appeared as a serial.

In 1921, Hawes published his second novel, *The Great Quest*. This was followed in two years by another novel, *The Dark Frigate*. These are adventure stories dealing with thrilling and reckless exploits on sea and land. Hawes' books were widely read and they enjoyed the reputation of being well above the level of the average boy's adventure stories. He showed a talent for characterization which, combined with his vivid imagination and his accurate description of historical background, brought him wide recognition as a master in his chosen field.

At the time of his death, on July 15, 1923, Hawes was writing a history of the whaling industry. It was completed by his widow and published under the title of *Whaling*.

The year after Hawes died, *The Dark Frigate* was awarded the Newbery Medal, as the most distinguished contribution of 1923 to American literature for children.



THE STORY OF GREAT BRITAIN

PART 6: THE TUDOR KINGS

THE REIGN OF THE TUDOR KINGS HENRY VII AND HENRY VIII WAS THE TIME OF THE RENAISSANCE IN GREAT BRITAIN. IT WAS A PERIOD OF REBIRTH OF LEARNING AND CULTURE, FOLLOWING THE MIDDLE AGES.



HENRY III CAME TO THE THRONE IN 1216. HE CRUSHED THE ENGLISH LORDS WHO HAD PRIVATE ARMIES, AND UNIFIED THE COUNTRY UNDER THE KING.



BY HENRY III'S TIME, THE SCOPION OF THE MIDDLE AGES HAD BEEN ABOLISHED.

I MAKE ENOUGH MONEY SELLING WOOL TO PAY THE LANDLORD FOR MY ACRES

IT IS GOOD THAT WE DON'T HAVE TO WORK OUR BAYOTA OF DAYS ON THE LORD'S LAND AS OUR FATHERS DID



THE PEOPLE SUPPORTED THE KING AGAINST THE LORDS THEY BELIEVED THIS WOULD GIVE THEM STILL GREATER FREEDOM



DURING THIS TIME, SCHOLARS WERE WRITING NEW BOOKS AND GETTING PEOPLE TO THINK. SIR THOMAS MORE PUBLISHED HIS VIEW OF AN IDEAL SOCIETY, UTOPIA.



JOHAN AND SEBASTIAN CABOT SAILED TO EXPLORE THE NEW WORLD. THIS LED TO THE FOUNDING OF GREAT BRITAIN'S OVERSEAS EMPIRE.



HENRY III DIED IN 1272. HIS EIGHTEEN-YEAR-OLD SON WAS CROWNED HENRY III.



SEVENTEEN YEARS LATER, HENRY III DIVORCED HIS WIFE, CATHERINE OF ARAGON, AGAINST THE WILL OF THE POPE. LATER, HE BROKE AWAY FROM ROME AND HAD HIMSELF MADE HEAD OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.



FOR CENTURIES, THE BRITISH ISLES HAD BEEN ON THE EDGE OF A WORLD CIVILIZATION CENTERING IN ROME. BY 1547, WHEN HENRY VIII DIED, GREAT BRITAIN WAS EMERGING AS THE CENTER OF WORLD EVENTS.



THIS IS THE SIXTH OF TWELVE FEATURES ON THE HISTORY OF GREAT BRITAIN IN THE NEXT ISSUE "THE ELIZABETHAN AGE."

THE BATTLE OF TRAFALGAR

AS THE outnumbered fleet moved into battle, its commander gave the signal "England expects that every man will do his duty."

The commander was Lord Horatio Nelson, English sea hero. He was on the deck of his ship, *Victory*, wearing his admiral's frock coat with four stars on the left side. They represented the different orders with which he had been honored for his many naval victories. These victories had, however, cost him his right eye and his right arm.

Now Nelson was at Cape Trafalgar near the coast of Cadiz, Spain, facing a combined French and Spanish fleet that outnumbered his, thirty-three ships to twenty-seven. It was October 21, 1805. For years, Napoleon's forces had raged over Europe, defeating one major power after another, until only England stood in the way of Napoleon's dream of conquering western Europe. When it became apparent that Napoleon might attempt to invade and crush England, Nelson and his fleet were sent out with orders to find Napoleon's fleet and destroy it.

The battle of Trafalgar began at ten minutes of noon, when the enemy fleet opened fire on the English. A shot tore through the main top-gallant sail of the *Victory*. An instant later, the massed guns of the enemy roared a merciless torrent of fire on the English ships. The air was filled with the screams of the wounded and dying.

The sailors on the English ships withheld their fire on Nelson's orders. Then, when the firing against them reached its full fury and it seemed they would be destroyed in another moment, Nelson gave

the order to fire.

The men of the *Victory* fired at a distance of thirty feet and blasted full into the stern of one of the French ships. Then the guns of the entire English fleet began to roar. The sound of splintering wood and agonized screaming rang out above the sound of the guns. The air was full of smoke and swirling dust. The men fought amid a tangle of lines and netting. Hand to hand fighting went on across the decks.

Sharpshooters on the French ship *Redoubtable* raked the decks of the *Victory* with musket and pistol fire. Nelson paced the quarter deck, his decorations for his earlier victories making him an easy target. His sailors asked him to cover the medals for his own protection, but he replied, "In honor I gained them, and in honor I will die with them."

A few minutes later, Nelson was hit by a bullet fired from the *Redoubtable*. Nelson's flag captain said that he hoped he was not severely wounded. Nelson replied, "They have done for me at last. My backbone is shot through."

He was carried below deck. There he lay while the battle raged around him. From time to time, one of the men came below to tell him of its progress.

The English won the battle of Trafalgar. Ship after ship of the enemy's fleet surrendered. By two o'clock, the English were clearly victorious. The sea power of Napoleon was broken forever. England no longer had to fear a French invasion.

It was reported to Nelson that the battle was almost over, and the English were winning. Nelson said, "Now I am satisfied. Thank God I have done my duty." Then he died.



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