Charles and the second se



I had been amazed by the andacity of the seizure of this ship. But I was not the least bit surprised that my stepfather should have acted first rogue's part in the piece. I was shookbut not astonished that he should asve lied like sin throughout. And if he escaped the law who was to say he would not make a good end? Age pales conscience, which after a while strikes work like a drunkard's liver, and so we hear parsons and doctors talking with monder of the edifying death beds uf people whose ending according to the moralists should have been a miserable toene of shricks, struggles, and groans to God.

This sort of thoughts ran in my head whilst I sat in the cabin. I would not again go on deok. If Owen came below I would withdraw to my berth. I had not the least intention to profit from the Captain's advice to be civil to the man; quite the contrary; a fit of passion shook me, and I looked at a mife open the table. Then a feeling of cold horror corrected my wrath, which had been born of an affrighting imagination. I shuddered and paced the deck.

The awkward lost who had been told off to act as steward came below to olear the table. He sprawled and tumbled and lurched, often stopping to admire the things he picked up. His red and whiskered face was good natured with desire to talk, and at last satching my sys, he said:

"I allow wo're a going to 'ave a breeze, miss."

This interested me. "Is a fair wind looked for?"

"Whoy, yes. There's a deal of lightning." His eye caught the baromotor against the mizzenmast and he exclaimed, 'What''s the glass say, I wunder?" He looked at it. "I suppose they'd call this a drop," said he. I walked to the shaft of the mizzenmast, and said, "Do you understand this thing?"

"Whoy, 5'es." "That white stuff is quicksilver?"

That's roight, said he,

in the ship, no signs of breaktast being The frigute showed a formidable grup prepared, and the hour about a quarter artillery as she lifted with the yearn before mine, I pat on my hat and went if the swell; we were so close I could in deck. It was very hot. Clouds almost distinguish the faces of the offiwith bluish bellies, as though laden with electric matter, floated stately and "Ship aboy !" thundered a voice

shrough the peaking trumpet, whose sircular mouth framing the ruby face the voice belonged to seemed to threatin as like a quarter-deck gua. "Heave ronr ship to. I want to send a boat iboard you."

But we were sliding past, and alleady the frigate was on our quarter, with Captain Sinclair in the mizzen tigging shouting back: "What is it 100 want? I don't understand you." with his band to his head as though aard of bearing.

"Heave your ship to," roared the ther, and pulling his trampet from his month he braidished it in wrath it his own topsail and the line of signal age. Captain Sinclair shook his head, and

mringing out of the rigging, told Owen to dip the ensign once and then haul it iow**n**.

"Let them think we're madmen or logs in manners, "said he, addressing me with a wild light in his eves and a isering look in his face. "What does she want? She has no right to board

He fell silent on a sudden, watching the frigate with an expression that grew harder and darker. I watched her too, scarcely as yet understanding the meaning of it all. It was impossible that anything could be in chase of us as yet. Besides that noble ship had beaded up to as from waters into which it would take weeks to carry the news of the piracy. The backing of her tonsail yard seemed to me like a how from a stranger, a gentleman's swillty of the hat. She wished to sneak to us; why did not Captain Sinclair stav?

Motiouless one knee a little crooked. bis bead slightly advanced, his eyes shining in a level stare under a fixed fr.wn, my stepfather watched the frizate: so did i; so did all hands, the man at the wheel again and again swinging unensily off the spokes to look behind as though he feared a shot. "Round goes ber taws'l yard," sung

out Owen. "Count her broadside guns! Hell alive 0, there's a smasher ior ye, mates!"

"They should have been allowed to glancing instrous steam, the whole cond a boat., ' bawled a fellow on the main dock. "We've made old cheese of the ship by this. They've got the ten as I had admired the Monook she scent. "

sucmed mean as a barge beside that "See here, ballies," shonted anothtrighte, haughtily rising out of the er "wance let wan of them chaps in blue waters white as the lights she buttons come over the side, and ye shall was suiling through, and glearning sell the rest of your life and liberty for like silk when shone upon, from the a furden to the first bleedin' Jew ye proud arches of her lower canvas to comes across."

where the topmost cloths rounding Ouce the Captain looked round above the line of the yards trembled threateningly, but did not speak. The off into the faintness and vagueness of men seemed to have no respect for his

in tween the hollow thrad, like the daring of a cork, of the first explosion, and the smart metallic ring of the second. Some of our seamen cuddled them. elves about the decks. The fellow at the wheel cried out. "If they 20 on

> shooting I stand to be out in two." The Captain took no notice. He gianeed aloft as though seeking for some token of mischief there. The breeze new no fresher, but my stepfather had brought the Mohook to her best sailing peint; she was a clipper, with an entry it how like a racing yacht. She was plearing through it as though propelled by steam, sheeting out the water to leeward in a gem-colored dazzle that

went away into the wake without 00166. it was impossible to guess at this early time whether we gained or lost. The frigate hung astern like a cloud. she too, had set a foretopmast studding sail, and a third gun blazed at her bow as I watched ber. It was just then I

caught my stepfather's eye. "Go below, " he cried. "Wby? Let me watch this chase."

"Go below," he repeated. "They are throwing shot at us. The deck is no place for yon Go below." And he approached me in an attitude

that was made a menace of by Lie face. "I shall be as safe on deck as in the cabin," I cried, imploringly, for I was atraid to go below "A caunon ball might as easily kill me there."

He simply pointed to the companion, too enraged to speak, and indeed 1 was a fool to withhold instant obedience at such a time: for now the hig gnn-ship was after us you saw as plainly as you could see the powder sucke of her cannon that our bold piratic crew, from Owen down, for all their thick in homan attenauce to us poor passengers, and for all their brave heating of the decks with the butt ends of them muskets, had livers of cream with the brains of hares in their skulls.

I sinnk down the companion way, whether because we were out of range beast, awaits a leap.

very bends of her

cold meat, biscuit and wine, and linger- covered at sight of me

he rage of a gale with thunder rousing through it. I heard a vast deal of shouting on deck, and the drawn yawln: of seamen dragging upon ropes. My ... rt was beating violently, and a cold perspiration covered my face; indeed I ud not know but that the Mohook and been hulled and was sinking, and. which was equally terrifying, every instant I expected to hear the crash of a biz what flying through the saloon. Such was my terror, I sank upon my knees and crawled like a staggering sitten, to look for the ship astern. She was not to be seen from the window. No white race rushed now from our ressel. The Mohoek sat upright, head to wind, and the sea-flashes glanced and

melted in runs from under the counter as though she had been at anchor. I returned to the saloon, and looking through a port hole saw the frigate close by. She had backed her main topsail yard, and a long black boat, full of men, was descending to the water to a whistling like the concert of the trees. The large circular window gave me a fine view of the frigate and scene of water she was proudly pawing. sounted fourteen men in the boat, and an officer in blue cloth, a stripe on his wrist, and a gold band and crown on his cap as in the stern shorts. The symmetric flash and dip of the cars gave a romantic beanty to the appearance of the men as they bowed and lay back, all of them attired in the light blue

shirt and white tronsers of the Navy. The ships hong within easy speaking fistance and those sweeping blades speedily measured the dancing blue between. I lost sight of the boat when she came alongside, and was watching the frigate when I heard a step, and looking round saw Captain Sinclair.

I hardly knew him. It was not only Lis ashy paleness, nor yet a distorting expression of deep despair; it was that sort of change you witness in the dead when the pauge of dissolution have per-

ished out of the muscles, and the countand went straight aft into the Captain't enance puts on a character that recalls cabin, and watched th frigate for a another. He took no notice of me little through the open window. She whatever, he threw his cap down apon looked low down npon the sea, and as the table, weated himself, and folding far off again. It was only when the bis arms tightly upon his breast, lay swell rose us that I saw the broad back with an expressin of savage deswhite chequered bands meeting at her perate expectation, such as one might bows. She did not continue to fire, put on who, being cornered by a wild

of her bow shot, or because she knew I went to the end of the saloon and sat she was slowly overnauling us 'and down with my eyes upon him, not darwithheld her powder for a sure sling of ing to speak I suspected he had come ball I could not tell. She was a lit below to kill himself, and perhaps me, the to be ward on the quarter. I could and so I shunk off in a hiding way, for see the white of our wake broadening it was not in my power to restrain him out fan shaped as it did, flash to the it was certainly not my desire that he should involve me in his own destruc-

I went into the pantry to get some tion. After a little the light was obthing to eat, wondering when I again structed in the natch, and a naval lienlooked if I should find the pursuing tenant, followed by a blue-jacket, deship growing. I made a meal off some scended. The officer immediately un-

ed over it. What would happen i He was a fine-looking young man, the frigate sent an officer? Who wa about seven and twenty years of age, fresad some low blackguard saitor.

I could have wept my eyes out with mite and rage. What right had he to sall me his daughter to that fine, gentlemanly officer? His behavior, his looks, our situation, made his cumpanlonship intolerable then, and as he would not allow me to go on deck I walked into my capin. There I stay ad till I heard voices. When I peeued out I saw the young lieutenant addressing my stepfather, who leaned aginst the shaft of the missemast. I just caught the words:

THE C

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"You are at liberty to remain in this ship along with your daughter. The crew will be transferred to the frigate. which will keep us company to Kings-50n. 1\*

Captain Sinclair made no sign. As the lieutenant rounded on his heal he saw me standing in the door of my berth, and came to me with his hat in bis band.

"You are not to be inconventenced," said he, "you will remain in this versel. Had your father chosen to be civil. and answered my questions, we might not have had occasion to trouble you at all."

He half smiled as he said this, with a shrewd roll of his dark fine eres around the seloon.

"Captain Sinclair is my stop-father," said L

"I beg your pardon. And may I take the liberty of asking your name?" 'Laura Haves.'

He showed a set of fine white teeth with the smile he gave, whilst he exclaimed, with the most insinuatingly charming look:

"Did not this ship leave England bound for New York, Miss Hayes?" I glanced over his shoulder at my

steplather, and meeting his stern gaze, colored, and exclaimed: "Don't ask me any questions."

He smiled and sprang up the steps. The moment he was gone Captain Sinolair came up to ma.

"What has the fellow been asking yon" he exclaimed, his face discolored as though his wrath strangled him.

"If you were my father?" "What more?" "If this ship left London for New

York? "What did you say?"

"I retused to answer any questions." (For he Cont n ed.)

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subject to examination

"and if it. rises or falls below that mark upon the glass, good or bad weather's to be expeoted.

"Suppose the quickeilver rises above the mark; it may have risen the eighth of an inch; you book again, and it may have risen another one-sixteenth. But how can you tell? It's impossible to guess at such rises and falls by the measurement of the eye. "

"Whoy, don't jer see," he exclaimod, "that that there mark is meant to be shifted; you slide him up or down at a given time, keeping the top of the mercoury on a line with it, and sc you're bound to see if there's been a rise or a drop."

"Then," said L. "if you kept the key of this case you could easily threaten bud weather to the ship by sliding the mask above the line of the mercury?"

"It 'nd lok as if there'd been a drop. certainly." he answered, squinting into the glass with more earnestness. "But there's no sailor I allow, as un | derstands a glass who could be fooled by such larking."

"I warrant passengers could be fooied. though?\*\*

"Whoy, I doan't doubt they could." 

CHAPTER X. THE FRIGATE.

That nights whilst I lay in bed Hstening to the deepening guns of the gale, and the roaring thunder of seas rolling into troughs under the counter. I piece ed my steplather's plot, and understood tio liner down here. She's suspicions. it all as cleverly as though it had been of mine own contrivance.

He had arranged for a schooner full given places he mancevred with the cloud. weather and humbugged with the barometer to give the schooner the chance of time his bright lookout of her proved she stood in need of. He it was who placed the arms' chest in the way of the men and equipped them with other that shall make you look busy before weapons secretly brought aboard in the doold.

And now I began to think that hT. oblef reason in bringing me with him was to rescue him from the special hip had been seized; he would hope the instant of the fellow's speech. ) new had perished. they might reason thus; this has been The frigate's central pyramid of sails worked out through some sort of ponfederacy; the rogue of the Mohook raptain meditated so outrageous a. pro- as a gradual view of her beauty. ject he would not have brought his saw the red spot of a marine here and way-too fond to subject her to the fishs of this enormous act of piracy.

to show me the trath on all sides.

The blow hard all that night and all ext dey. The weather kept Owen out at the saloon, not that that signified; be seen, but one very well knew that take ns. ad he shown himself I should have this side of any degradation? and ting was to end!

Uwen and my steptather constantly lifted their glasses with feverish switt 'a l movements; they crossed and re-crossed

each other in short excursions of ath wartship walk, talking with excitoment, but in low accents. All the fellows who had seized the ship were on deuk at this time, regardless of their watches. They, too, showed them, subset over the white seething of the selves extraordinarily perturbed. They trudged in comples, now stopping to look ahead, now halting to stare aft. I from the bow that arched a rainbow could not imagine, girl that I was, what there might be in yonder ship to oraite all this pressinesse When the frigate was within a mild

abrupt, short, convulsive gesture, he

seemed half distraught. He levelled

the glass again and Owen loosed, and

"She's a frigate and an Englishman

You may swear to her by her square

yards. What foreigner outs his sails

"Shonidn't we shift our helm. sir?"

You will bloase remember it was in

the year 1844, and in those times steam

was rare in the navies of the states.

Onr Colonial seaboards and home

waters were navigated by ships which

offered in nothing to a landsman's

eye from the versels which had flown

the flags of Collingwood., Nelson, and

Exmunth. Three-deckers under whole

breasts of topsails roured down the At-

lantic from the Chons to the Strait.

The waters of the West Indies were

whitehed by the canvas of frigates,

correctes and schooners with long pen-

nants blowing from their mastheads.

Line of battle ships protected our in-

terests in the Eastern seas. The ves-

sel now approaching was apparently a

frigate of forty-four or fifty guns, and

might be making a straight course

hope from the West Indies. I leased

over the rail, and watched her. drink-

ing in her lieanty, for I found no other

significance in her then than the majes-

t) of her lofty wings, the slow and

stately swaying of her mastheads, the

white foam reeling from her stem un-

der a line as white, chequered by the

black touth of gnus, and topped by the

longth of her, of her stowed hammooks.

She was the only ship in sight. Of

together they stared in silence.

Captain Sinclain then said:

"No, you fool."

of us, up floated a string of flags to her mizzen royal masthead. It was clearly the code of the Merchant Service, something that Captain Sinclair under stood, though he would be unable to spell messages without the help of a book; he violently struck the glass and hoists as to a single impulse; the beatder his arm and exclaimed loudly: "How shall I be able to give her the miles astern.

go-bye?" He then cried to Owen: 'Hoist the ensign-there's the flaglooker under the grating yonder; peak end it and belay it. for that's all the talk they shall get out of me." Whilst the ensign was floating to our mizzen gaff-end, the stately ship was "luffed" as it is called, which brought her head

a little more towards us it was clear she had something to communicate. I running to midway the quarter-deck heard Captain Sinclair exclaim: "They'll wonder to find an Atlan-What's to be done?"

He flung his glass down on the skylight and came aft, his fingers workof men to intercept the Mohook at a ing and his face dark as a thunder. Gounder."

> "Get about some work, men," he roared on a sudden. "Don't loaf about like that. Your sogering airs would damn us if we were as honest as she. Get to jobs-get to jobs - anything their glassee sweep our decks."

"Captain," shouted Owen. in a voice of terror, "she's a backing her main'-topsail!"

tle withdrawn held a speaking trumpet. The ship leaned from us, show-

ight that a very keen intelligence shoked with tompions. The green lives, and yonder spacious tower astern, was startled by the sound of a gun. I these days, and quickly blew any water combed her copper in fingers of grim, silent, patient, with the spray interspark into a flame piercing enough froth. On high streamed her pennant, lifting to her haw se pipes, was after vanishing from the sight in a miracle as, and meant to question us, and of delicacy when it was still flicker- was trembling to her topmost cloths apright. I moved as best I could in

> the hatches of such a ship as that were boatiwain and his mates.

that into the missen rigging and held him- had loaded with ball Even my un- per sails thundering. The noise of that manualt affiling to a posture of attention.

A CONTRACTOR

brissince. Full for stays by the thunder of God!" roared a voice. "She's arter Suppose they searched the ship, there

The frighte heeled as she courted the steady gust of the brilliant wind into her swelling cloths; her stern windows flashed, the gilt work about her quartergalleries glowed like a splendor of first of her race of foaming water; she gathered way with a burst of brine from cathead to gangway. in another minute her shape changed, the edges of her sails sharpened upon us, the length of her broadside stole ont under the shaking milk-white heights as she came rounding into our wake, and with the astonishing swiftness of the seamanship of a British man-of-wur, where there are thirty men for a rope and where everything swings and tiful fabrio was in hot chase about three

Puff! The first intimation of her intention was a bright ball of gunpow. seemed sternly quiet and hidden. At der smoke that sprang from her tow times some sailors would come into the gun and went shredding like torn ailk bows; once a gang of eight or ten men down the wind. It was unshotted and sprang aloft. There was something the report struck the ear in a single empty blast.

"My lads, his next gun will have a messenger," orled Captain Sinclair, en, swollen to the heavens with relentand coming to a halt there. "We'll make a long chase of it. We'll escape her in the night. I know the Mohock's beels better than yon. Starboard mainbraces! Trim to bring her close to the wind. Keep your wits-don t

He made a signal to the wheel. Tie ship was brought a little nearer to the and longer lights. Its dys was a dark wind, and the yards baced forward. "Up aloft, some of you, and rig out

that foretopmast stu'n sail boom. They were clumsy seamen, and they sprawled in the rigging and shook the | the Mohock leaned sharply, and as she shrouds and were slow in getting the boom out; but they worked as for life or over the bows of the frigate. death; they did their 'longshore best; and indeed it might mean death to some I perfectly understood this expression all of them if it should turn out that mapioion of the passengers when the sion, and witnessed the manoevre in any of the passengers or the original

It was nearly eleven o'clock. I had gloomed into shadow out of morning act broken my fast, but could feel no brilliance, whilst every yard swong as a ounger in the wild, the almost madmay be one of the mates; he may be one though operated by a single rope as lening excitement raised by this sudis more of the men forward; had the we approached she drew out, giving ien, most amazing, tragic change of countenance in our affairs. It was intelligible to me now. That ship susiten daughter along with him. He is there. A group of officers stood near pectug us was pursuing us, and if she fond of her in his grim, hard weather the mizzen rigging; one who was a lit- boarded us the detection of my steplather's and the crew's crime could scarce be more than the matter of a | I might have sank into a reverie that Thus I reasoned, and no doubt I was ing her guns whose non' throats were question or two. We were flying for our was like a doze; be this as it will, I ing for fathoms; few seamen were to with flerce suppressed resolution to the direction of the Captain's cabin, but

Did I say she was silent? Not for meant is was immediately fol-Little could L grees, however, how first heart shaking summons of the nince she first fired, when I saw her lowed by a smart noise of splintering; inff, a tremble of rich shadows ran a great piece of mast or yard hit the we were going along at about six through the satin of her sails, red fire leck overhead with a mighty thump; we wild it blew hard for a night miles an hour. Captain Sinchair did glanced near her figure-head, and a the Mohock then in a minute or two day, and her manual 1 coefficient and shift heim a spoke; he merely got second gun was let fly. This time they tame upright on a level keel with all the bard to a minute or two that into the minute rigging and held him. This time they the upright on a level keel with all practiced sars could tell the difference (ast spread of flapping canvas was like

contradict Captain Synclair a lie and his men held their tongues! was nothing contraband in the vessel I

imagined? What was good as a consignment for New York would be equally good as a consignment for any port the Captain might choose to swear he was bound to.

Heavens, bow little did I know of the sea in those days

After half an hour I again entered the Captain's cabin. There hung the frigate steady as the moon upon the waters. Was she growing? I now seemed to see the gleam of her coppered forefoot as the surge lifted it out of the foam boiling about the bows. The captain's telescope was on deck; picked up the binocular glass and the splendid vessel swelled close in the lenses. I saw the redcoated sentries. also two or three men in brass buttons and gold bands carelessly pacing the quarter dock; now and again one would

pause and lightly inspect us through such another glass as I ased. All merciless in that steady silent chase; twas as though the men left all the work of it to the ship; she, iron-throatless cloths followed as living and lickerishly eager as a bloodhound in chase. The Mohook seemed to thrill: we were

her.

as the hare; the agony of the fear and expectation of the hearts above was in Whilst I looked I beheld the sea

darkening on the windward side. It roughened also with broader gleams

violet, whose edge flickered raggedly against the vast purple cloud that shadowed the weather seaboard. The color spread with the rush of the wind: did so a sea sprang in a cloud of salt

I had no means of judging our pace save by the wake that scaled in a liv. ing sheet of brilliance from under the cabin window. The Monock seemed to boil through it with a cornet's speed. but the ship astern leaning heavily over with her studding-sail boom and every yardarm pointing at the sky, and

ber canvas rounding out of soft shadow into brassy brightness, hung steady. Was she gaining or losing ground? My eyes were weary, my limbs trembled, and as I dared not return on deck I went into the saloon and threw my-

self upon a sofa sprang to my feet, but the angle of the leck was so sharp that for some moments I found a difficulty in standing cefore I arrived I heard a second gun that seemed to my cars a loud and

10.5th obeeks. A sword bung at his side, and his left hand carelessiy reposed upor the bilt of it as he made a step towards Cantain Sinclair.

"Are you the master of this shir sir?" he asked.

''l am,'' answered my stepfather without rising or relaxing his rigid pos, LD TO.

"Pray, why didn't you heave to when we signalled you to do so'?' "I am an Englishman and this is s trader and I chose to pursue my course, ' answered the Captain.

"I will thank you to show me your papers, " said the lieutenant, glancing round the saloon with many but quiet marks of surprise at the elegance of the decorations

"You have no right to see my pa pers," anwered Captain Sinclair.

"I have so much right that I must insist upon your producing them at ). (e." e X.m. ..eu ...e .i. utenant sternbut without temper.

My steplather made no reply. On this the liutenant looked about him. and then said something to the seaman which I did not catch. I observed that the blue-jacket was armed with a cut-lass. The lieutenant, instinctively Branch Office, 655 F St., Washington, D. C. lass. The lieutenant, instinctively guessing the captain's cabin, walked straight into it. My stepfather followed him with his eyes, and as the officer crossed the threshold started restrained himself, and turned his back.

"Do you refuse still to show me your napers?" said the lieutenant coming out of the cabin quickly, after rummaging there five minutes.

"I refuse nothing,' sir.' "Produce them."

"It is your business to find them." "You have hidden or destroyed them. Do you withhold all information as to the character and nature of the voy age of this ship?"

"You must find out everything for yourself," answered my stepfather, rising and expanding his chest, and swelling himself as though he measured his height against the lientenant's. The officer paused a moment with his eyes upon me.

"Are you this gentleman. wife?" said he.

"My daughter," snapped in Captain Sinclair.

The lientenant making me a slight how went on deck followed by the seaman. The frigate had floated out of my scope of vision, owing to some shift in our ship's position. The lieutenant had not been gone a minute when I heard his voice hailing his thip: the man-of-war appeared to be lying astern. I did not clearly near his words; I made his hail out to signify that the Captain of this vessel had destroyed or secreted his papers and refused all information. This was followed by a faint long-drawn growl and I clearly heard the lieutenant sing

"No appearance of a slaver about ber. She has a richly furnished saloon, and is evidently an American plipper liner."

Here the voices ceased, and I could not imagine what was next to happen.

"Stop, here!" he answered with a manner and voice as though he adf f und perfective at a statistic to be the set of the TO FIT ANT BUGGT OR GOAD WAGON YOU can be them near and Dack state in such So 14% cloth, side cur-tation of a state in such as a state of the such as a ned prophats wought in a sufficient rail patch but tons, such nules it all value fullement back our tons, which nules it all value fullement back our tons which plans which was a sufficient and our of DER TO-DAT. WRITE FOR FRIE DI GOY (ATALOGUE Address, SEARS, ROEBUCY & Ci) (Inc.), Chicago, Ia (Bears, Roebart & Co. are then a chit cell ble-Editor.) 50 YEARS' EXPERIENCE

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