

THE FROZEN FIRATE.

BY W. CLARK RUSSELL.

It was possible to exchange my situation for it. A lantern hung from a beam, and swung violently to the rolling and pitching of the brig.

Thus it continued till daybreak, all which time we strove to encourage one another as best we could, sometimes with words, sometimes with putting the bottle about.

Being exceedingly anxious, for the brig lay unwatched, I looked forth on one occasion longer than the others chose to venture, and beheld the most extravagant scene of raging commotion it could enter the brain of man to imagine.

When the dawn broke something of its midnight fury went out of the gale. The carpenter made shift to sound the well, and to our great satisfaction found but little water, only as much as we had a right to suppose she would take in above.

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rent, and the live deck lying drowned and stiff in their coops and pen near the cabin.

With helm lashed and yards pointed to the wind thus we lay, thus we drifted, steadily trending with the sea of each giant surge further and deeper into the key regions of the south-west, helpless, following, disconsolate.

It was the night of the fourth day of the month. The crew were forward in the forecastle, and I knew not if any man was on deck saving myself. In truth, there was no place in which a watch could be kept, if it were not in the companion hatch.

I stood in the companion as in a sentry-box, with my eyes just above the cover. Nothing was to be seen but sheets of ghostly white water sweeping up the blackness on the vessel's lee, or breaking and boiling to windward.

After a long and eager look round into the obscurity, semi-luculent with froth, I went below for a mouthful of spirits and a bit of supper, the hour being eight bells in the second dog watch as we say, that is, eight o'clock in the evening.

"Nothing to be seen, I suppose, Rodney?" says the captain.

"I've been here to under bare poles more than once in my time," said the carpenter, "but never through so long a stretch. I doubt if you'll find many vessels to look up to it as this here *Laughing Mary* does."

"The loss of warmer forward will make her the more wetherly," says Captain Rodney. "But we're in an ugly part of the stretch. When bad sailors die they're sent here, I reckon. The worst sailor-sinner can't be here to long off the Horn without coming out of it with a purged soul. He must start afresh to deserve further punishment."

"Well, here's a breeze that can't go on blowing much longer," cries the carpenter. "The place it comes from must give out soon, unless a new trade wind's got fixed into a whole gale for this here ocean."

"What something do you allow our drift will be giving us, captain? I asked, munching a piece of beef.

"All four miles an hour," he answered. "If this goes on I shall look to make some discoveries. The antarctic circle won't be far off presently, and since you're a scholar, Rodney, I'll leave you to describe what's inside of it, though boil me if I don't have the naming of the tallest land; for d'ye see, I've a mind to be known after I'm dead, and there's nothing like your signature on a mountain to be remembered by."

He grinned and put his hand out for the bottle, and after a pull passed it to the carpenter. I guessed by his jocosity that he had already been making some-what tree; for although I love a bold face put upon a difficulty, ours was a situation in which only a tipsy man could find food for merriment.

foreast, and show the head of it." The fellows hung in the wind. I could not wonder. The bowsprit had been sprung when the jibboom was wrenched from the cap by the fall of the top-gallant-mast; it still had to bear the weight of the heavy spritsail yard, and the drag of the staysail might carry the spar overboard with the men upon it. Yet it was our best chance; the one sail most speedily released and hoisted, the one that would pay the brig's head of quickest, and the only fragment that promised to stand.

"Jump!" roared the captain, in a passion of hurry. "Great thunder! 'tis close aboard! You'll leave me no sea room for veering if you delay an instant."

"Follow me who will!" I cried out; "and others stand by ready to hoist away."

Thus speaking—and for there seemed to my mind a surer promise of death in hesitation at this supreme moment than in twenty such risks as laying out on the bowsprit signified—I made for the lee of the weather bulwarks, and blindly hauled myself forward by such pins and gear as came to my hands. A man might speed his life on the ocean and never have to deal with such a passage as this. It was not the bitter cold only, though perhaps of its full fierceness the wildness of my feeling did not suffer me to be sensible; it was the pouring of volumes of water upon me from over the rail, often tumbling upon my head with such weight as nearly to beat the breath out of my body and sink me to the deck; it was the frenzy excited in me by the tremendous obligation of despatch and my retardation by the washing sea, the violent motions of the brig, the encumbrance of gear and deck furniture admit and sweeping here and there, and the sense that the vessel might be grinding her bows against the iceberg before I should be able to reach the bowsprit. All this in a time that filled me with a kind of madness, by the sheer force of which alone I was enabled to reach the forecastle, for had I gone to my duty coldly, without agitation of spirit, my heart must have failed me before I had measured half the length of the brig.

I got on to the bowsprit nearly stifled by the showering of the sea, holding an open knife between my teeth, half dazed by the prodigious motion of the light ship, which, at this extreme end of her, was to be left to the full height of its extravagance. At every plange I expected to be buried, and every moment I was prepared to be torn from my hold.

It was a fearful time; the falling off of the brig into the trough—and never was I in a hollower and more swelling sea—her falling off, I say, in the act of veering might end us out of hand by the rolling of a surge over us big enough to crush the vessel down fathoms out of sight; and then there was that horrible heap of fat whiteness leaping out of the dense blackness of the sky, gathering a more visible sharpness of outline with every flying wave that forked us high into the air, and then with shrieking rigging and boiling decks.

Commending myself to God, for I was now to let go with my hands, I pulled the knife from my teeth, and feeling for the gaskets or lines which bound the sail to the spar, I cut and hacked as fast as I could my arms. In a flash the gale, whipping into a liberated flood of the sea, blew the whole sail out; the bowsprit reeled and quivered under me; I danced off it with incredible despatch, shouting to the men to hoist away. The head of the staysail mounted in thunder, and the slatting of its folds and the thrashing of its sheet was like the rattling of heavy field-pieces whirled at full gallop over a stony road.

"High enough!" I bawled, guessing enough was shown, for I could not see. "Get a drag upon the sheet lads, and then at five for your yars lives!"

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria. When she was a Child, she clung to Castoria. When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria. When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

Field's Candling Mill is in full operation and wool left with Mrs. Smith—of Newcastle, or of Brown, Esq., Chatham, will be received and graded weekly.

NEEDFUL!! MY STOCK OF FALL AND WINTER GOODS will be found complete and Prices Low.

Overcoats, Ulsters, Reefers, SUITS. Coats, Pants, Vests. Blankets, Quilts, Rugs. Dress Goods, Cloths, ULSTERINGS, OVERCOATINGS, TWEEDS. Fancy Woolen Goods, IN Clouds, Squares, Fascinators, Turques. Shawls, JACKETS, ULSTERS. New Styles and Nice Goods. Cardigans, Linders, Drawers. All sizes for Women, Misses, Men and Boys. White and Grey Cottons, See them, they are selling fast. Gloves, Hosiery, Caps, Hats, Waterproofs, Boots, Rubbers, Teas, Tobacco, Trunks, Guns, Revolvers, etc.

GENERAL BUSINESS.

CASTORIA for Infants and Children. Castoria cures Colic, Constipation, Sour Stomach, Diarrhoea, Eructation, Kills Worms, gives sleep, and promotes digestion. H. A. ARCHER, M. D., 111 So. Oxford St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

NORTHERN AND WESTERN RAILWAY. WINTER ARRANGEMENT. ON and AFTER WEDNESDAY, NOV. 28th, until further notice, trains will run on the above Railway, daily, as follows:

CHATHAM RAILWAY. WINTER 1888-9. ON and AFTER MONDAY, NOV. 26th, trains will run on the Railway in connection with the Intercolonial Railway, as follows:

OUR YOUTH'S FRIEND. A literary journal for boys and girls. Published monthly. Contains Departments of Stories; Social Notes; Temperance; Nature and Science; Art; Puzzles, etc.

RURAL CANADIAN INCORPORATING THE FARM JOURNAL, CANADIAN FARMER AND THE DAIRYMAN. An Illustrated Monthly FOR THE FARM AND HOME. 36 pp. and Cover, \$1.00 per Year.

White Beans. In Store—30 Barrels White Beans. For sale by C. M. BOSTWICK & Co., St. John.

DR. G. J. SPROUL, DENTIST. Teeth extracted without pain by the use of Nitrous Oxide Gas, or the use of Chloroform. Artificial Teeth set on Gold, Rubber, Celluloid or Crown and Bridge work a Specialty. Office in Benson Block, Chatham, N.B.

HAGGARD'S YELLOW OIL CURES RHEUMATISM. FREEMAN'S WORM POWDERS. Are pleasant to take. Contain their own Fungicide. It is safe, sure and effective. It destroys all worms in Children or Adults.

APPLES. Just Received 1 CAR NOVA SCOTIA APPLES, for sale Low. G. STOTHART. Oct. 17, '88. SALT! SALT! IN STOCK AND TO ARRIVE 12,000 Sacks Liverpool Common Salt and 2,000 Fishery do.

EXHAUSTED VITALITY. THE SCIENCE OF LIFE. THE CHEAP CASH STORE. JAMES BROWN. Custom Tailoring. TWO EXPERIENCED COAT-MAKERS WANTED. Apply at the Office of W. S. LOGGIE.

Legal Notices.

Notice of Sale. To John F. Baldwin, of Bathurst, in the County of Gloucester, in the Province of New Brunswick, City Merchant, and N. Herbert Molloy, formerly of Bathurst aforesaid, as executor of the City of St. Paul in the State of Minnesota, gentleman, and all others whom it doth or may concern.

Notice of Sale. To Patrick Conway of the Parish of Glenelg, in the County of Northumberland, in the Province of New Brunswick, Farmer and all other persons who doth, shall or may concern.

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Notice of Sale. To Peter Bremner of Newcastle, in the County of Northumberland, in the Province of New Brunswick, Labourer, and to all others whom it doth, shall or may concern.

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Notice of Dissolution. THE PARTNERSHIP heretofore existing between Philip J. McNally and Ulric C. Trudell, in the County of Gloucester, in the Province of New Brunswick, Merchants, Fish Packers, &c., under the name of McNally, Trudell & Co., has this day been dissolved by mutual consent.

Caution & Notice. I, Philip J. McNally, and all persons against giving employment to or doing business with James Ferguson, under the name of McNally, Trudell & Co., or otherwise, in the County of Gloucester, in the Province of New Brunswick, as a partner in the said firm, are hereby notified that I will not be responsible for any debts contracted by the said James Ferguson.

Notice. The subscriber has on hand and will sell TROTTLING SULKY, weight 45 lbs; also 2 HORSES four years old, bred by Zulu Chief, 1100 lbs offering good speed, and one 12 year old, weight from eleven to twelve hundred lbs. R. FLANAGAN, Chatham, Sept 5 1888.

Cheese. Cheese. 413 Boxes Late Made Cheese. For sale low in lots or by retail. C. M. BOSTWICK & CO. ST JOHN. American & Canadian BURNING OIL! JUST ARRIVED. One Hundred Bbls AMERICAN HOME LIGHT OIL. A FULL LINE OF McDONALD'S TOBACCOS always on hand, sold LOW TO THE TRADE. Correspondence by Telephone or Mail invited. P. Hennessy, NEWCASTLE. Chatham, 6th Sept. 88.

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