

[Registered in accordance with the Copyright Act.]

TRUE PIRATE STORIES.

HOW JORDAN WAS CONFRONTED BY A MAN HE THOUGHT DEAD.

Conclusion of the Story of a Stolen Schooner—The Pirate Pursued and Captured—The Trial and Sentence of Death by a Notable Court Held at Halifax.

Having, as he supposed, effectually disposed of Captain Stairs, Jordan found himself in possession of the schooner, a full fledged pirate, with the whole ocean before him from which to choose a course. The bodies of the two murdered sailors were speedily thrown overboard, and the craft was headed to the northward and eastward for the south coast of Newfoundland.

Kelly, the mate, had made no effort to assist Captain Stairs or the two seamen, but had remained at the wheel, his back being turned to the contestants. He appeared to be acting with Jordan, but whether willingly or through fear could not be judged at the time. When Captain Stairs had last called to him for aid, he appeared to be loading a pistol, and it is quite clear that he afterwards readily lent himself to Jordan's plans in carrying off the vessel. Kelly seems to have been a young man of no great force of character, and he was no doubt so frightened of Jordan as to do whatever he was told.

Jordan's design was to go to some of the outports of St. John's, secure a competent navigator and one or two hands, obtain a supply of provisions and water, and take the vessel to Ireland. He had committed the crime to get rid of his business difficulties and get back with his family to his own country. How he would dispose of the stolen schooner was probably a matter which he intended to settle later, but he would at least be able to realize something by the sale of the cargo. In order to make his story agree with the schooner's papers, he assumed the name of John Treman, one of the owners, while Kelly, who was to act as captain, took the name of John Stairs.

Reaching Fortune Bay, he secured one man, William Crew, and some days later a fisherman named John Pigot came aboard, having heard that the vessel was bound for Halifax, to which port he was anxious to take passage. Jordan told him that Halifax was to be the destination, and Pigot accordingly shipped as one of the hands. Two others shipped later.

The next day, the 25th of September, Pigot went into the hold to do some work. He was surprised to see that the cargo of fish was not stowed, but was tossed carelessly about. This circumstance, together with the fact of part of the hatch being gone, excited his suspicions and he began to fear that all was not right. He was afraid the vessel was on what he called the "runaway account," and he told Crew that he did not want to go to Halifax in it. Crew then said that if Pigot did not go, he would not. Seeking some excuse for refusing to go, Pigot asked Kelly, whom he knew as "Captain Stairs," for what was known as a "protection," to save him from being impressed into the navy at Halifax. Kelly said he would give him the document after they sailed, but Pigot refused to go to sea without it. Finally Kelly admitted that he could not give him a protection, and Pigot thereupon told him he would have to find another man. Jordan, Kelly and a Mr. Thorn, a trader, finally persuaded Pigot that he would have sufficient protection if he was given a bill of lading for a hundred quintals of the fish. Even after getting his, he was afraid to go, but Thorn and a justice of the peace threatened him with the penalties of the law if he refused, and he was forced to consent.

Leaving Fortune Bay, the Three Sisters was taken to St. Mary's Bay, where it remained about a week, as neither Pigot nor Crew would consent to sail without a pilot or navigator. They finally got a pilot to take the vessel to St. John's, but the wind soon after failed and they lay becalmed. At this juncture a better sailing boat came along, bound for the last named port, and Jordan and Pigot took passage in it, in order to find and bring back a competent navigator.

Pigot had observed that, in laying in his supplies at Fortune Bay, Jordan had purchased quantities of articles for which he paid much more than the same kind of stores would cost in Halifax. This showed him that the schooner could not be bound for the latter port, and Jordan finally told him that he intended to go to Ireland. The reason he gave was that he owed money in Halifax and wanted to go to a market where he could sell his fish to advantage, so that he could return to Halifax and pay his debts.

After reaching St. John's, Jordan found a navigator in the person of Patrick Power, who had been in the habit of making voyages to Ireland. He entered into a written agreement engaging Power to navigate the Three Sisters to Ireland, either to Limerick or Galway, fixing the rate of wages at eleven pounds a month. This agreement Jordan signed by the name of John Treman.

Three days later, Jordan, with Pigot and Power, took a boat and went to the Bay of Bulls, where the schooner was supposed to be. Not finding it there they went to Agua Fort, and thence to Tre-

passy, when they at last found the vessel, with Kelly, Crew and a man from the shore aboard. Not seeing his wife there, Jordan asked where she was, and was told she had gone ashore.

This seems to have angered him and awakened his suspicions. Apart from the children, the only persons in the schooner who knew of the murders were Kelly and Mrs. Jordan. Jordan seems to have had no fear that the former would betray him, but he had his doubts about how far it was safe to trust his wife. It may be he did not think she would intentionally reveal the terrible secret, but like many another man before and since he was probably mindful of the mischief a woman's tongue can bring about from want of prudence. On this occasion, he had been drinking and was in the mood to be very suspicious. On hearing that his wife was ashore, he seemed much disturbed, and taking Kelly with him, went in search of her and brought her back to the vessel. Later, when all of them were in the cabin, he approached his wife and saluting her by a vile epithet said, "I heard you talk!" He then seized a musket as if he intended to shoot his wife, but Power took the weapon from him. Jordan then began to quarrel with Kelly and the two came to blows, and Jordan went to his trunk to get the pistols. They were not there; Kelly had hidden them under a bed, and now drew them out and kept Jordan at bay. The pirate demanded his pistols and musket to shoot his wife, but Kelly refused to give them up. Power finally interfered and secured the pistols, which he took on deck and put out of the way. Mrs. Jordan, who had also gone on deck, begged Power to throw the weapons overboard, saying, "You know not the mischief they have done." After a time Jordan became pacified, and went to his berth, but told Power not to let his wife come near him. "If you do I shall kill her," he threatened.

The woman took good care to give her husband no further provocation, but before daylight the next morning she called Pigot and begged him to put her ashore, as she was certain her husband would kill her if she remained on board, but she was prevailed upon to remain, though she was still in fear of her life should her husband again get in a rage.

Later in the day the schooner was taken from Trepassy to the Bay of Bulls, to get provisions sufficient for the voyage to Ireland. Jordan's wife again went ashore to do some washing, but when he learned of it he at once had her brought on board again. By this time he had got very apprehensive of danger and was anxious to get under way, but could not do so because the wind blew directly into the bay. So determined was Jordan to get away, however, that he went ashore that night and returned with a number of men in towed with the idea of getting the schooner towed out, but by this time Power had made up his mind he would not go, and refused to get the vessel under way, and at last the men with the boats returned to the shore.

Jordan had got very much excited by this time, and paced to and fro on the deck, though there was now no hope of getting out of the bay until daylight came. Kelly had also become so alarmed that he asked Power to go ashore with him and he would tell him something. Power agreed to go as soon as Jordan should retire, but the pirate was so thoroughly suspicious of everybody that he continued on deck, saying that he would not go to rest until he had first seen the others in their berths. Power then said that he and Kelly wanted to go ashore, but would not stay long.

"You might as well take my life at once as to attempt to go ashore tonight!" exclaimed Jordan. "I will keep watch to prevent you!" Finding no chance of getting ashore, Power went to his berth, while Jordan paced the deck, cursing the hour of the night and eagerly watching for the first faint light of day.

When at last the dawn came, Jordan roused Power and bade him get the schooner under way at once. Power went on deck, and declared that the wind blew too hard to attempt to make sail, whereupon Jordan flew into a frightful passion, cursing, stamping about and acting like a madman. Power went back to the cabin, but very soon he heard a cry that Kelly had taken the boat away. Going on deck, he saw Kelly in the boat, making his way to the shore as fast as he could row. Power shouted for him to return and take him also, but Kelly refused to come back, though he promised to send the boat for Power. Thereupon Power went below to get his effects in readiness to take with him. While thus engaged he heard Crew call out that the cable was cut.

Rushing on deck Power found that Jordan had indeed taken this speedy method of getting under way, that the job was hoisted and the schooner was going to sea. Jordan was standing with an axe in his hand, and declared that the vessel should go to sea or there would be blood. The axe was taken from him by Pigot, Jordan being so anxious to get out of the bay that he made no attempt to quarrel with those on whose help he had to depend. By his request Power took a course to the westward, so as to deceive the people on shore into the belief that he was sailing for Halifax. After getting clear of the bay the course was changed to the eastward.

An hour later a sail was seen ahead. At the sight of it Jordan became still more agitated and kept inquiring of his men what they took the stranger to be. They at first thought it was a fishing boat, but in a little while it was seen to be a good sized schooner, and Jordan became more uneasy. He wanted the course of the Three Sisters changed again, so that it would appear to be bound for Halifax, but it was then too late to deceive those aboard the stranger.

The latter, meanwhile, was rapidly drawing nearer, and Jordan again asked Power what he took the vessel to be. "You may depend upon it, it is a king's schooner," was the reply.

"The Lord have mercy on me! What will my poor children do?" exclaimed Jordan in great agony of mind.

Power had judged aright. The stranger soon came up and proved to be His Majesty's schooner Cuttle, commanded by Lieut. Bray, one of the vessels sent in search of the stolen schooner. In a short time a party was sent aboard the Three

Sisters, and after securing the prisoners the cruiser and its prize sailed for Halifax. Jordan was at a loss to know how the authorities had so quickly learned of his crime, and doubtless believed that the information had come through his wife while she was on shore at Newfoundland. After he arrived at Halifax he was told that Captain Stairs was still alive, but as this seemed to him to be impossible he concluded the story was a device to lure him into making a confession. He had not a doubt that Stairs was among the dead in the depths of the sea.

The Cuttle reached Halifax on the 9th of November, and on the 11th Jordan and his wife were examined by the chief justice, Hon. Sampson Salter Blowers, in the council chamber, and committed for trial. On the 15th, a special court of admiralty was held at the court house, composed of the following members:

His Excellency the lieutenant-governor, Sir George Prevost, Baronet, president. Rt. Hon. Sir John Borlase Warren, Bart., K. B. and K. C., of the privy council of Great Britain, vice-admiral of the white and commander-in-chief of His Majesty's ships of war on the coast of North America.

Hon. Sampson Salter Blowers, chief justice of Nova Scotia. Hons. John Butler Butler, Michael Wallace, Edward Brabazon Brenton, Charles Hill, Richard John Uniacke and Charles Morris, members of His Majesty's council.

Robert Lloyd, commander of H. M. S. Guerrier; John Conn, of the Swifsure; Rt. Hon. Lord James Townshend, of the Aeolus; John Simpson, of La Furieuse.

Samuel Hood George, secretary of the province; Thomas Nicholson Jeffery, collector of customs.

Groton Umacke officiated as registrar. James Stewart, solicitor-general, conducted the prosecution, attorney-general Uniacke sitting as one of the counsel. Foster Hutchinson also took part as one of the counsel for the crown. S. B. Robie and Lewis M. Wilkins were counsel for the prisoner. The function of opening this very imposing tribunal, and the arraignment of Jordan and his wife, who pleaded not guilty, occupied the first sitting and the actual trial began on the following day, Thursday, the 16th, and was continued during that day and Friday, the 17th.

Jordan, not knowing what evidence there was against him, was taking the situation with much outward composure, gazing at the court curiously, as if wondering why so many important personages were required to interest themselves in him who had no claim, in the abstract, to any recognition in society circles. Presently his attention was directed by a stir among the crowd near one of the doors, and looking in that direction he was no less amazed than horrified to behold Captain Stairs, who seemed to have risen from the dead to confront his murderer.

Scarcely able to credit his senses, Jordan rose in the dock and strained his dilated eyes to gaze at the apparition, the embodiment of guilty terror. The next moment he threw up his arms, gave vent to a wild despairing cry, and fell back to his bench in abject fear.

Nor was the meeting without its effect on Stairs. At the sight of Jordan, the terrible scene on the ocean and his sufferings on the part of God came to his mind with such force of recollection that he staggered as it about to fall, and burst into tears. So greatly was he affected that the court for some time forbore to proceed with the inquiry.

When Captain Stairs became sufficiently composed to give his evidence, he told the story of his experience in substance as has already been given. John Pigot and Patrick Power followed him and told in detail all that had occurred after their coming on board the Three Sisters. Jordan was then asked if he had anything to say in his defence and in reply gave his version of the affair. Stairs had previously testified there was no liquor aboard and that Jordan was sober, but the prisoner claimed that he had been drinking at the time. He said that his son came to him saying that Stairs was taking liberties with Mrs. Jordan, and that when he seized Stairs the latter fired a pistol at him, the bullet striking Heath. After this, according to him, Stairs had thrown the hatch overboard and jumped after it. Then he, Jordan, had begged Kelly to put the schooner about and pick up Stairs, but that Kelly seemed too much stupefied to do so. Jordan declared that the witnesses had sworn falsely and concluded by asking that the court would examine a number of papers and accounts which he submitted.

Margaret Jordan then handed the court a written statement, claiming that her husband had been actuated by jealousy. She said she had not seen Heath shot. She had attacked Stairs when she was so excited that she did not know what she was doing, but she declared herself innocent of the crimes charged against her.

The court was then closed while the judges deliberated, after which the doors were opened and the prisoner again put to the bar. The president, Sir George Prevost, then addressed him as follows:

"Edward Jordan, the gentleman commissioners before whom you have been accused of piracy, felony and robbery, have deliberately examined the articles of charge exhibited against you; and having maturely weighed and considered the several evidences produced against you on behalf of His Majesty, as well as what has been alleged in your favor, upon the whole have unanimously found you guilty of the several articles of piracy, felony and robbery, wherewith you have been charged, and have agreed that sentence be pronounced against you for the same accordingly."

The registrar then asked Jordan if he had anything to say why sentence of death should not be pronounced. Jordan merely asked if his papers had been examined. The president then continued:

"The court by which you have been tried has examined your case with every just and merciful disposition towards you; and I have already informed you that the commissioners have unanimously pronounced you guilty. Nothing, therefore, now remains but for me, as president of this court, to perform the painful duty of pronouncing the dreadful sentence which the law directs to be executed upon you, not only as a just punishment for the horrid crimes of which you have this day been convicted, but as an example to all others of the vengeance which always pursues the steps of the murderer, whom no art can save from the sword of justice in this life; and whose only hope in the world to come must depend on the mercies

of the Almighty. You, who have shown neither mercy or compassion to your fellow creatures, can have none to expect from the hand of man. Let me, therefore, exhort you during the short time you have to live, that you do, with a contrite and penitent heart, humble yourself before God and seek forgiveness of your sins, through the merits and intercession of our blessed Saviour, Jesus Christ.

"You, Edward Jordan, shall be taken from hence to the place from whence you came, and from thence to the place of execution, there to be hanged by the neck until you are dead. And may God Almighty have mercy upon your soul!"

Margaret Jordan was adjudged not guilty, and was discharged.

It will be noticed that no reference to being hung in chains was made in the sentence, but as this was a stated punishment for piracy, such reference was not necessary. The theory was that the body, after execution was at the king's disposal and might be hanged in chains or otherwise ordered as the king should think fit. In the Saladin case, in 1844, judgment was given for murder only, that the hanging in chains involved by a judgment for piracy might be avoided.

Jordan was hanged at Point Pleasant on the 23rd of November, 1893, six days after being sentenced. He made a full confession acknowledging that he had planned the murder of Stairs before leaving Perce. He wholly exonerated his wife and Kelly from any share in the crime.

Jordan was attended by a clergyman and expressed himself penitent. After death had resulted from hanging, the body was wrapped in tar and canvas, and hung suspended on the gibbet for some years, until removed during the administration of Governor Lord Dalhousie.

Kelly, the mate, was captured by a party of the military, between Bay of Bulls and Petty Harbor, Nfld. Early in December he was brought to Halifax, tried and sentenced to death, but subsequently received the king's mercy.

Captain Stairs lived for many years, but it was only on rare occasions that he could be persuaded by friends to tell of his terrible experience with Edward Jordan, pirate and murderer. ROSLYNDE.

A Question of Probability.

"How are you getting along with your new novel?" he asked of a feminine genius. "Not so well," she answered, "as I have been. I came to a very troublesome point last week, and I haven't done anything on it since."

"What was the matter?" "I find my heroine all alone. She takes her hat and goes out into the darkness and loneliness in search of the village lawyer."

"That sounds very good."

"Yes, but it is improbable."

"Why?"

"She is all alone."

"Of course."

"And puts on her hat to go out."

"Yes."

"Whom is she going to ask whether it is straight or not?"

A Pointer for Doctors.

Mr. Coates, of Boston, Massachusetts, the millionaire, who intends bequeathing his collection of drugs to the University of Boston, gathered them together in rather a curious way. He has reached the age of eighty-three years without ever having taken any medicine. It must not be thought, however, that he never called in medical men; on the contrary, he seems to have had recourse to his doctor whenever he had the slightest ailment. He had all the prescriptions religiously executed at the chemist's. Only, he never swallowed the drugs, but carefully put them away in his cupboard, and to-day he finds himself the possessor of a most original collection—1,900 bottles of sundry medicines, 1,370 boxes of various powders, and 870 boxes of pills.

Some of my scholars are qualified for first class office positions in 5 to 8 weeks' study of Simple Shorthand. Average 3 months.

Name another school showing like like results? It can't be found. Save time and money by coming here. Write at once.

SNELL'S BUS. COLL., - TRURO, N. S.

CONDENSED ADVERTISEMENTS.

Announcements under this heading not exceeding five lines (about 35 words) cost 25 cents each insertion. Five cents extra for every additional line.

FOR SALE, A 5 x 8 Amateur Photographic "Outfit," consisting of an Anthony Novlette Camera, two lenses, view and portrait stand, case, shutter, &c., in first-class working condition. Apply CAMERA, Box 232, Halifax, N. S. 10 13 14

WANTED, GOOD AGENTS to handle the "RUBBER," Ideal Sewing Machine throughout New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. First-class American Machine. Special prices and circulars on application to M. J. HARNEY, 208 St. Lawrence St., Montreal, P. Q. 9 5 51

RUBBER GOODS Do you want ANYTHING in RUBBER goods? If so send to us, as we supply the best known to the trade. Please ask for quotations and you will save money. STANDARD RUBBER CO., ST. JOHN.

DYSPEPSICURE Mr. Alonzo C. Hayes, of Fremont, N. H., was a hopeless chronic dyspeptic till he tried Short's "Dyspepsicure." After taking one bottle he wrote: "It is surely the best remedy for Dyspepsia I ever found." Two more bottles cured him.

INTERESTING AND PROFITABLE employment can be made by the sale of a number of ladies and gentlemen selling the celebrated "Sole Photographs and Works of Art," throughout New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, by applying personally or by letter to A. PETERSEN, 68 King St., St. John, General Agent for Canada. 2-24

YOUR ADDRESS ON A POSTAL CARD mailed to us brings you promptly 20 samples of cloth, guaranteed self-measurement blanks, whereby you can have your clothing cut to order and sent to any express or P. O. Pants \$3 to \$12. Suits from \$12 up. Agents wanted. PILORIN PANTS CO'Y., St. John N. B.

AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHERS. Printing and general finishing for amateurs. Developers, fixing and fixing solutions for sale. LEONARD PHOTO STUDIO, 38 Charlotte St., St. John, N. B. 11 9 11

RESIDENCE at Rothessay for sale or to rent for the Summer months. That pleasant situated house known as the "Three Sisters" is about one and a half miles from Rothessay Station and within two minutes walk of the Kennebec case. Rent reasonable. Apply to H. G. PENNEY, Barrister-at-Law, Pugsley Building. 24-4

I CURE FITS!

Valuable treatise and bottle of medicine sent Free to any sufferer. Give Express and Post Office address. H. G. ROOT, M. C., 186 West Adelaide Street, Toronto, Ont.

THE DOMINION BREWERY CO'Y., LIMITED, - - - TORONTO.

Manufacturers of the Celebrated

WHITE LABEL ALE, INDIA PAL ALE, Amber Ale

AND XXX Porter.

Which are now taking the place of the best imported.

For the above brands we hold Diplomas and Gold Medals when competing against the most celebrated brewers of the world.

Ask For Them. See that our Brand is on every Cork.

THERE ARE MANY IMITATIONS OF OUR WHITE LABEL. See that ROBERT DAVIES' Name is on Every Label.



JOHN O'REGAN, - - St. John, N.B.

AGENT FOR THE DOMINION BREWERY CO. And Salvador Export Large.

ELEY'S AMMUNITION.

Job, Brown, and Green Cartridge Cases, Caps and Primers, Card-board, Black Edge, Pink Edge and Felt Wads.

Hazard's Black Gunpowder.

Indian Rifle, Sea Shooting, Trap, Duck Shooting and Electric Brands.

Schultze's Smokeless Powder.

Red Shot, Common Shot, Clay Pigeons, Keystone Traps, Guns, Rifles and Revolvers. We have a large and varied assortment which we shall be glad to show and quote prices.

W. H. THORNE & CO., MARKET SQUARE, ST. JOHN.

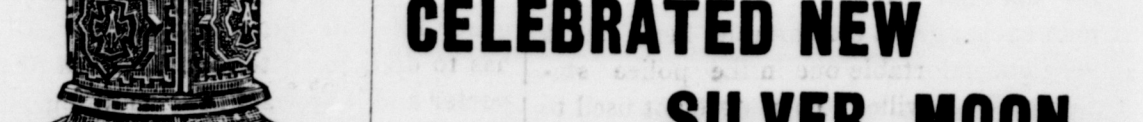
Prepare for Cold Weather.

We sell a large line of Heating Stoves, and among them is the CELEBRATED NEW SILVER MOON.

This Stove has held its place among all the Stoves placed on the market, and today is more popular than ever.

IT HAS NO EQUAL as a Heater.

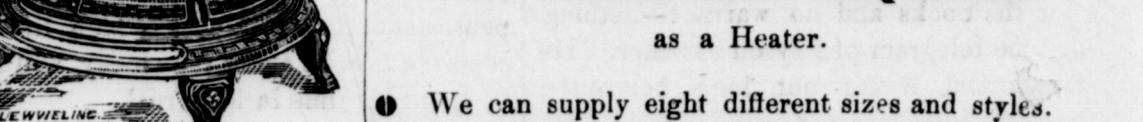
We can supply eight different sizes and styles.



Emerson & Fisher

McAVITY SPECIAL RAZOR.

Warranted. \$1.25 Each.



Genuine WADE & BUTCHER Extra Hollow Ground Razors, Round Rubber Handle, Black, 3/4 inch. Finely Tempered Steel Blade, Honed, Set, and ready for use. Sent by mail on receipt of price.

We have a large assortment of other Razors, Pocket Knives, Table Cutlery, Scissors, &c., &c. Prices on application.

T. M'AVITY & SONS, 13 and 15 KING ST., ST. JOHN.