tion, or semetimes by an exchange of tearful looks, we would draw our conclusion that the talk had gone to the old subject and the shadow of the dead was in the hall,

I have hours when I blame Mr. Henry for taking all too patiently; yet we are to remember he was married in pity, and accept ed his wife upon that term. And indeed he had small encouragement to make a stand. Once, I remember, he announced he had found a man to replace the pane of the stained window; which, as it was he that managed all the basiness, was a thing clearly within his attributions. But to the master's fameles that pame was like a rolic, and on the first word of any change the blood flew to Mrs. Honey's fuel

"I wonder at you," she erled. "I wonder at myself," says Mr. Henry, with more of interness than I had ever heard

him to express. Thereupon my old lord stepped in with his smooth task, so that before the meal was at an end all seemed forgotten; only that, after dinner, when the pair had withdrawn as usual to the chimney side, we could see her weeping with her head upon his knee. Mr. Henry kept up the talk with me upon some topic of the estates-ho could speak of little else but business, and was never the best of company; but he kept it up that day with more continuity, his eve straying ever and again to the chimney and his voice changing to another key, but without check of deliv The pane, however, was not replaced; and I believe be counted it a great defeat.

Whether he was stout enough or no, God knows he was kind enough. Mrs. Henry had a manner of condescension with him, such as in a wife) would have pricked my vanity into an ulcer; he took it like a favor. She held him at the staff's end; forgot and then remembered and unbent to him, as we do to children; burdened him with cold kindness; reproved him with a change of color and a bitten lin. Has one shamed by his discrace ordered him with a look of the eye, when she was off her guard; when she was on the watch, pleaded with him for the most natural attentions as though they were unbeard of tayors. And to all this, he replied with the most unwerried service; loving, as folk say, the very ground she tred on, and carrying

that love in his eyes as bright as a lamp. Such was the state of this family down to the 7th of April, 1710, when there beful the break so many hearts and lose so many lives.

CHAPTER III. UNEXPECTED NEWS OF THE MASTER RE-CEIVED AT DUTRISDEER.



WAS sitting in my n little before sap-per, when John Paul burst open the Ar last Mr. Henry redoor with no civility of knocking. with the steward.

> name of my office. and what his pame was; and this dis-John's iii humor: for it appeared the

Well," said I, smiling a little, "I will see

I found in the entrance hall a big man,

very plainly imbited and wrapped in a sea is new landed, as indeed he was at the of Macconochie was standing, with targue out of his mouth and his hand cate, like a shall fellow thinking and the stranger, who had brought his his face, appeared uneasy. or researce coming than he went

o with an effusive manner. "My dear man," said he, "a thousand apol-ogies for disturbing you, but I'm in the most awkward position. And there's a son of a ranged there that I should know the looks of, and more betoken I believe that he knows mine. Being in this family, sir, and in a piace of some responsibility (which was the cause I took the liberty to send for you), you are doubtiess of the honest party?

"You may be sure, at least," says I, "that all of that party are quite safe in Durris-

"My dear man, it is my very thought." "You see, I have just been set on shore here by a very houset man, whose name I cannot remember, and who is to stand off and on for me till morning, at some danger to himself; and, to be clear with you, I am a little concerned lest it should be at some to me. I have saved my life so often, Mr.-! forget your name, which is a very good one -that, faith. I would be very leath to lose it after all. And the sen of a ramred, whom I

"Oh, sir," suid I, "you can trust Macconechie until to-morrow

Well, and It's a delight to hear you say so," says the stranger, "The truth is that my name is not a very suitable one in this country of Scotland. With a gentleman like you, my dear man, I would have no conceal ments of course, and, by your leave, I'll just breathe it in your ear. They call me Franets Burke-Col. Francis Burke; and I here, at a most dumnable risk to myself, to see your masters-if you'll excuse me, my man, for giving them the name, for I'm sure it's a circumstance I would never have guessed from your appearance. And if you would just be so very obliging as to take my name to them, you might say that I come bearing letters which I am sure they will be very rejoiced to have the reading of.

Col. Francis Burke was one of the prince's Irishmen, that did his cause such an infinity of hurt, and were so much distasted of the Sects at the time of the rebellion; and it came at once into my mind how the Master of Ballantrae had astonished all men by going with that party. In the same moment strong foreboding of the truth possessed my

"If you will step in bore," said I, opening a door, "I will let my lord know "And I am sure it's very good of you, Mr.

What-is-your-name," says the colonel. Up to the hall I went, slow footed. There they were, all three, my old lord in his place, Mrs. Henry at work by the window, Mr. Henry (as was much his custom) pacing the low end. In the midst was the table laid for suppor. I told them briefly what I had to say.
My old lord lay back in his seat. Mrs. Henry
sprung up standing with a mechanical motion,
and she and her husband stared at each other's eyes agross the room; it was the strangest, challenging look these two ex-changed, and as they looked the color faded in their faces. Then Mr. Henry turned to me, not to speak, only to sign with his finger; but that was enough, and I went down again for the colonel

When we returned, these three were in much the same position I had left them in. I believe no word had passed.
"My Lord Durrisdeer, no deubte" says the colonel, bowing, and my lord bowed in

colonel, bowing, and my lord bowel in answer. "And this," continues the colonel, "bould be the Master of Ballantruc?" "I have never taken that name," said Mr.

Henry; "but I am Henry Durie, at your ser-

Then the colonel turns to Mrc. Henry, bowwith his hat upon his heart and the most killing airs of gallantry. "There can be no mistake about so fine a figure of a indy," says he. "I address the seductive Miss Alison, of whom I have so often heard?"

Once more husband and wife exchanged a

"I am Mrs. Henry Durie," said she; "but before my marriage my name was Alison

Then my lord spoke up, "I am an old nam, Col. Burke," said he, "and a frail one. It will be mercy on your part to be expeditions. Do you bring me news of"- he besitated, and then the words broke from him with a singular change of voice-"my son?" "My dear lord, I will be round with you

like a soldier," said the coional. "I do." My lord held out a wavering hand; he seemed to wave a signal, but whether it was to give him time or to speak on, was more on we could guess. At length he got out the one word-"Good!"

"Why, the very best in the creation," cries the colonel. "For my good friend and admired comrade is at this hour in the fine city of Paris, and as like as not, if I know any thing of his habits, he will be drawing in his chair to a place of dinner. Bedad, I believe the lady's fainting."

Mrs. Henry was indeed the color of death. and drooped against the window frama. But when Mr. Henry made a movement as if to run to her, she straightened with a sort of shiver, "I am well," she said, with her white

Mr. Henry stopped, and his face had a strong twitch of anger. The next moment he had turned to the colonel. "You must not blame yourself," says be, "for this effect on Mrs. Durie. It is only natural; we were all brought up like brother and sister."

Mrs. Henry looked at her husband with something like relief or even gratitude. In my way of thinking, that speech was the first step he made in her good graces,

"You must try to forgive me, Mrs. Durie. for indeed and I am just an Irish savage, said the colonel; "and I deserve to be shot for not breaking the matter more artistically to a lady. But here are the master's own letters one for each of the three of you; and to be sure (if I know anything of my friend's gentus), he will tell his own story with a better grace

He brought the three letters forth as he speke, arranged them by their superscriptions, presented the first to my lord, who took it greedily, and advanced toward Mrs. Henry holding out the second

The lady waves it back, "To my hus-band," says she, with a choked voice. The colonel was a quick man, but at this he room on that day was somewhat nonplused. "To be sure," says a little before said be, "how very dull of me! To be sure." But

At last Mr. Henry reached forth his hand, and there was nothing to be done but give it up. Mr. Henry took the letters (both hers and told me there and his own and looked upon their outside, /was one below that | with his brows knit hard as if he were thinkwished to speak ing. He had surprised me all through by his excellent belinvior; but he was to excel himsneering at the selfnow.

"Let me give you a hand to your room," I asked what said he to his wife. 'This has come some-manner of man thing of the suddenost; and at any rate, you will wish to read your letter by yourself. Again she looked upon him with the same closed the cause of thought of wonder, but he gave her no time, coming straight to where she stood, "It will be better so, believe me," said he, "and Col. wisitor refused to Burke is too considerate not to excuse you,"
name houself except to me, a sore affront to And with that he took her hand by the

fingers and less her from the hall. Mrs. Henry returned no more that night: and when Mr. Henry went to visit her next morning, as I heard long afterward, she gave him the letter again, still unopened.

"Oh, read it and be done?" he had cried. "Spare me that," said she, And by tiese two speeches, to my way of thinking, each unded a great part of what they had previously done well. But the letter, sure enough, came into my hands, and by me was burned, unopened,

To be very exact as to the adventures of the master after Culloden, I wrote not long ago to Col. Burke, now a chevalier of the Order of St. Louis, begging him for some notes in writing, since I could scarce depend upon my memory at so great an interval. To confess the truth. I have been somewhat em-barrassed by his response; for he sent me the barrassed by his response; for he sent me the complete memoirs of his life, touching only in places on the master; running to a much greater length than my whole story, and not everywhere (as it seems to me) designed for edification. He begged in his letter, dated from Ettenheim, that I would find a publisher for the whole, after I had made what use of it I required; and I think I shall best answer my own purpose and fulfill his wishes y printing certain parts of it in full. this way my readers will have a detailed and, believe, a very genuine account of some essential matters; and, if any publisher should take a fancy to the chevalier's manner of narration, he knows where to apply for the rest, of which there is plenty at his service. I put in my first extract here, so that it may stand in the place of what the chevalier told us over our wine in the hall of Durrisdeer; but you are to suppose it was not the brutal fact, but a very varnished version that he offered to my lord.

CHAPTER IV.

THE MASTER'S WANDERINGS, FROM THE ME-MOIRS OF THE CREVALIES DE SUREE.



LEFT Ruthven tit's hardly necessary to remark) with much greater satisfaction than I had come to it: but whether I missed my way in the deserts, or whether my companions failed me, I soon found myself alone. This was a predicament very disagreeable;

stood this horrid

country or savage people, and the last stroke of the prince's withdrawal had made us of the Irish more unpopular than ever. I was refleeting on my poor chances when I saw another horseman on the hill, whom I supposed at first to have been a phantom, the news of his death in the very front at Culloden being current in the army generally. This was the Master of Ballantrae, my Lord Durrisdeer's son, a young pobleman of the rarest gallantry and parts, and equally designed by nature to adorn a court and to reap laurels in the field. Our meeting was the more welcome to both, as he was one of the few Scots who had used the Irish with consideration and as he might now be of ver high utility in aiding my escape. Yet what founded our particular friendship was a cir cumstance by itself, as romantic as any fable of King Arthur.

This was on the second day of our flight, after we had slept one night in the rain upon the inclination of a mountain. There was an Appin man, Alan Black Stewart, who chanced to be passing the same way, and had a jeal-ousy of my companion. Very uncivil ex-pressions were exchanged, and Stewart calls upon the master to alight and have it out.

Why, Mr. Stewart," says the master, "I think at the present time I would prefer to run a race with you." And with the word | might be short of hands; he approved my clans sours to his horse

Stewart ran after us-n childish thing to do-for more then a units; and I could not help laughing as I looked back at last and saw him on a hill, holding his hands to his side and nearly burst with running.
"But all the same," I could not help saying

to my compainton, "I would let no man run after me for any such proper purpose and not give him his desire. It was a good jest, but it smells a trifle cowardly.'

He bent his brows at me. "I do pretty well," says he, "when I saddle myself with the most unpopular man in Scotland, and let that suffice for courage."

"Oh, bedad," says I, "I could show you a

more unpopular with the naked eye. if you like not my company you can 'saddle' yourself on some one else "Col. Burke," says he, "do not let us quar-rel; and to that effect let me assure you I am

the least patient man in the world." "I am as little patient as yourself," said I. "I care not who knows that."

"At this rate," said he reining in, "we shall not go very far. And I propose we do one of two things upon the instant: either quarrel and bedone, or make a sure bar-gain to bear everything at each other's hands."

"Like a pair of brothers?" said I. "I said no such foolishness," he replied, "I have a brother of my own, and I think no more of him than of a colework. But if we are to have our noses rubbed together in this course of flight, let us each dare to be ourselves like savages, and each swear that he will neither resent nor deprecate the other. I am a pretty bad fellow at bottom, and I

find the pretense of virtues very irksome."

"Oh, I am as bad as yourself," said I.

"There is no skim milk in Francis Burke.
But which is it to be? Fight or make friendsi "Why," says he, "I think it will be the

best manner to spin a coin for it. This proposition was too highly chivalrous not to take my fancy; and, strange as it may seem of two well born gentlemen of today, we spun a half crown (like a pair of ancient paladins) whether we were to cut each other's throats or be sworn friends. A more roman tic circumstance can rarely have occurred; and it is one of those points in my memoirs by which we may see the old tales of Homer and the posts are equally true today, at least of the noble and genteel. The coin fell for peace, and we shook hands upon our bargain. And then it was that my companion explained to me his thought in running away from Mr. Stewart, which was certainly worthy of his political intellect. The report of his death, he said, was a great guard to im; Mr. Stewart having recognized him, had become a danger, and he had taken the briefest road to that gentleman's silence.

"For," says he, "Alan Diack is too vain a man to narrate any such story of himself." Toward afternoon we came down to the sheres of that look for which we were heading; and there was the ship but newly come to anchor. She was the Sainte-Marie des-Anges, of the port of Havre de Grace. The master, after we had signaled for a hoat, asked me if I knew the captain. I told him he was a countryman of mine, of the most unblemished integrity, but, I was afraid, a rather timerous man.

'No matter," says he. "For should certainly hear the truth." I asked him if he meant about the battle; for, if the captain once knew the standard was down, he would certainly put to sea again at

"And even then!" said he; "the arms are now of no sort of utility. "My dear man," said I, "who thinks of the

arms! But to be sure we must remember our They will be close upon our he perhaps the prince himself, and if the ship be gone, a great number of valuable lives may

The cuptain and the crew have lives also, if you come to that," says Ballantrae. This I declared was but a quibble, and that I would not bear of the captain being told;

and then it was that Ballautrae made me a witty answer, for the sake of which (and also cause I have been blamed myself in this business of the Sainte-Marie-des-Angeso I have related the whole conversation as it

"Frank," says he, "remember our bargain. I must not object to your holding your tongue, which I hereby even encourage you to do; but by the same terms you are not to resent my telling."

I could not help laughing at this; though I still forewarned him what would come of it.
"The devil may come of it for what I care," says the reckless fellow. "I have alway sione

exactly as I felt inclined." As is well known, my prediction came true. The captain had no sooner heard the news than he cut his cable and to sea again; before morning broke we were in the Great

The ship was very old: and the skinner although the most honest of men (and Irish too), was one of the least capable. The wind olew very boisterous, and the sea raged ex-All that day we had little heart whather to eat or drink; went early to rest in some concern of mind; and (as if to give us a lesson) in the night the wind che suddenly into the northeast and blew a hur-We were awaked by the dreadful thunder of the tempest and the stamping of the marines on deck; so that I supposed our last hour was certainly come; and the terror of my mind was increased out of all measure by Ballantrae, who mocked at my devotions. It is in hours like these that a man of any piety appears in his true light, and we find (what we are taught as babes: the small trust that can be set in worldly friends; I would be unworthy of my religion if I let this pass without particular remark. For three days we lay in the dark in the cabin, and had but a biscuit to nibble. On the fourth the wind fell, leaving the ship dismasted and heaving on vast billows. The captain had not a guess of whither we were blown; he was stark in norant of his trade, and could do naught but bless the Hely Virgin; a very good thing too but scarce the whole of seamanship. seemed our one hope was to be picked up by another vessel; and if that should prove be an English ship, it might be no great blessing to the master and myself.

The fifth and sixth days we tossed there helpless. The seventh some sail was got on her, but she was an unwieldy vessel at the best, and we made little but leeway. time, indeed, we had been drifting to the south and west, and during the tempest must have driven in that direction with unheard-of violence. The minth dawn was cold and black, with a great sea running, and every mark of foul weather. In this situation we were overjoyed to sight a small ship on the herizon, and to perceive her go about and head for the Sainte-Marie. But our gratification did not very long endure; for when mediately filled with disorderly fellows, who sung and shouted as they pulled across to us, and swarmed in on our deck with bare cutasses, cursing loudly. Their leader was a borrible villain, with his face blacked and his whiskers curled in ringlets; Teach, his name a most notorious pirate. He stamped about the deck, raving and crying out that his name was Satan and his ship was called Hell. There was something about him like a wicked child or a half witted person that daunted beyond expression. I whispered in the ear of Ballantrae that I would not be the last to volunteer, and only prayed God they purpose with a nod.

"Thedad," and I to Master Teach, "If you

are Satan, here is a divis for ye." The word pleased him; and mot to dwell prose these shocking incidents. Ballanteae and "and come on deck again when you are sober. Do you think we are going to hang for you, you black faced, half witted drunken brute and butcher? Go down!" And he stamped his foot at him with such a sudden smartness that Teach fairly ran for it to the companion. and two others were taken for recruits. while the skipper and all the rest were cast into the sea by the method of walking the plank. It was the first time I had seen this done; my heart died within me at the specacle; and Master Teach or one of his lytes (for my head was too much lost to be precise) remarked upon my pale face in a very alarming manner. I had the strength to cut a step or two of a jig and cry out some ribaldry, which saved me for that time; but my legs were like water when I must get down into the skiff among these miscreants; and what with my borror of my company and fear of the monstrous billows, it was all I could do to keep an Irish tongue and break

n jest or two as we were pulled aboard. By the blessing of God, there was a fliddle in the they should have a quartermaster; and no sconer was the word out of his month than they were all of that opinion. The thing went by acclamation; Ballantrae was made pirate ship, which I had no sooner seen than fell upon; and in my quality of crowder I had the heavenly good luck to get in favor in their eyes, Crowding Pat was the name they dubbed me with, and it was little I cared for a name so long as my skin was What kind of a pandemonium that vessel was I cannot describe, but she was comself, and he opposed this stoutly,

manded by a lunatic, and might be called a floating Bedlam. Drinking, rearing singing, quarreling, dancing, they were never all ber at one time; and there were days together when, if a squall had supervened, it must have sent us to the bottom, or if a king's ship had come along, it would have found us quite belpless for defense. Once or twice we sighted a sail, and, if we were sober enough, overhauled it, God forgive us! and if we were all too drunk, she got away, and I would bless the saints under my breath. Teach ruled, if you can call that rule which brought no order, by the terror be created and I observed the man was very vain of his position. I have known marshals of France. sy, and even Highland chieftains that were ss openly puffed up; which throws a singu lar light on the parsuit of honor and glory. Indeed the longer we live, the more we per ceive the sagacity of Aristotle and the other old philosophers; and, though I have all my life been eager for legitimate distinctions, can lay my hand upon my heart, at the end of my career, and declare there is not oneno nor yet life itself-which is worth acquire ing or pracrying at the slightest cost of

It was long before I got private speech of Ballantrae; but at length one night we crept out upon the boltsprit, when the rest were better employed, and commiscrated our po-

'None can deliver us but the saints," said I. "My mind is very different," said Ballantrae; "for I am going to deliver myself. This Teach is the poorest creature possible; we make no profit of him and lie continually open to capture; and," says he, "I am not going to be a tarry pirate for nothing, nor yet to hang in chains if I can help it. And he told me what was in his mind to better the inte of the ship in the way of discipline, which would give us safety for the present, and a sooner hope of deliverance when they should have gained enough and should brenk up their company.

I confessed to him ingenuously that my nerve was quite shook among these horrible surroundings, and I durst scarce tell him to count

upon me. "I am not very easy frightened," said he,

"nor very easy beat,"

A few days after there befell an accident which had nearly hanged us all, and offers the most extraordinary picture of the folly that ruled in our concerns. We were all pretty drunk, and some bediamite spying a sail, Teach put the ship about in chase without a glance, and we began to bustle up the arms and boast of the horrors that should follow. I observed Ballantrae stood quiet in the bows, looking under the shade of his hand; but for my part, true to my policy I was at work with the Musiest, and passing Irish jests for their diver-

"Run up the colors," cries Teach, "Show

the -- s the Jolly Roger!' It was the merest drunken braggadocio at such a stage, and might have lost us a valu- surely been beat back at last. Everywhere able prize; but I thought it no part of mine to reason, and I ran up the black flag with my own hand,

Ballantrae steps presently aft with a smile

"You may perhaps like to know, you drunken dog," says he, "that you are chasing a king's ship."

Teach roared him the lie; but he ran at the same time to the bulwarks, and so did they all. I have never seen so many drunken men struck suddenly sober. The cruiser had gone about, upon our impudent display of colors; she was just when filling on the new tack; her ensign blew out quite plain to see, and even as we stared, there came a puff of smoke, and then a report, and a shot plunged in the waves a good way short of us. ran to the ropes and got the "Sarah" round with an incredible swiftness. One fellow fell on the rum barrel, which stood broached upon the deck, and rolled it promptly overpoard. On my part, I made for the Jolly Roger, struck it, tassed it in the sea, and could have flung myself after, so vexed was I with our mismanagement. As for Teach, be grew as pale as death, and incontinently went down to his cabin. Only twice he came on deck that afternoon; went to the taffrall; took a long look at the king's stip. which was still on the horizon heading after us; and then, without speech, back to his cabin. You may say he descried us; and if it had not been for one very capable sailor we had on board, and for the lightness of the airs that blew all day, we must cortainly have gone to the yard arm.

It is to be supposed Teach was humiliated and, perhaps, alarmed for his position with the crew; and the way in which he set about regaining what he had lost was highly charactoristic of the man. Early next day we smelled him burning sulphur in his cabin and crying out of "Hell, hell;" which was well understood among the crew, and filled their minds with apprehension. Presently es on deck, a perfect figure of fun, face blackened, his hair and whiskers curled his belt stuck full of pistols, chewing bits of glass so that the blood ran down his chin, and branchishing a dirk. I do not know if he had taken these manners from the Indians America, where he was a native: but such was his way, and he would always thus an nounce that he was wound up to horrid deeds. The first that came near him was the fellow who had sent the rum overboard the day before; him he stabbed to the heart, damning him for a mutineer; and then be capered about the hody, raving and swearing and daring us to come on. It was the silliest exhibition; and yet dangerous too, for the cowardly fellow was plainly working himself up to another murder.

All of a sudden Ballantrae stepped forth. "Have done with this play acting," says he. Do you think to frighten us with making faces! We saw nothing of you yesterday when you were wanted; and we did well without you, let me tell you that."

There was a murmur and a movement in the crew of pleasure and alarm. I thought, in nearly equal parts. As for Teach, he gave a barbarous howl, and swung his dirk to fling it, an art in which (like many seamen)

he was very expert. "Knock that out of his hand!" says Ballantrae so sudden and sharp that my arm

my mind had un bretned. I himself a good deal if it was carried out." Teach stood like one stupid, never talking Well, here waits, he was Teach were

"Go down to your cabin," cries Ballantras,

"And how, mates," says Ballantrae, "a onling and feign druntenness as I valued my first word with you. I don't know if you are gentlemen of fortune for the fun of the thing; but I am not. I want to make money, and upon the forecastle and watching the swamps get asiore again, and spend it like a man.

And on one thing my mind is made up—I will
not hang if I can help it. Come, give me a
hint; I'm only a beginner! Is there no way
to get a little discipline and common sense about this business? One of the men spoke up; he said by rights

quartermaster, the rum was put in his charge, laws were passed in imitation of those of a pirate by the name of Roberts; and the last proposal was to make an end of Teach. But Ballantrae was afraid of a more efficient captain, who might be a counterweight to him-Teach, he said, was good enough to board ships and frighten fools with his blacked face and swearing; we could scarce get a better man than Teach for that; and besides, as the man was now disconsidered and as good as deposed, we might reduce his proportion of the plus der. This carried it; Teach's share was on down to a mere decision, being actually less than mine; and there remained only two points—whether he would consent and who

was to announce to him this resolution "Do not let that stick you," says Ballantrae, "I will do that." early suppose the liquor had been tempored with. It was a long while before these yells and howls died out into a sort of miserable

And he stepped to the companion and down alone into the cabin to face that dronken savage. "This is the man for us," cries one of the

hands. "Three cheers for the quarter-master?" which were given with a will, my voice among the loudest, and I dare say these plaudits had their effect on Master Teach in the cabin, as we have seen of inte us three upon the lockers.
"Tut," says Ballantrue, "you might fire a pistol at their ears. You know what stuff days how shouting in the streets may trouble even the minds of legislators. they have been swallowing."
There was a batch in the cabla floor, and

What passet precisely was never known, though some of the heads of it came to the surface later on; and we were all aguared as well as gratifled when Ballantrae came on deck with Teach upon his arm, and announced that all had been consented.

CHAPTER V.

CURIOUS AND HOBRIBLE EXPERIENCE ON

was what the worst troops in Europe would

part of our employment was to clamber up

he side of the ship; and ,I have even known

ng the plank. This constant immunity had

the poor souls on board to cast us a line, so

eager were they to volunteer instead of walk

made our fellows very soft, so that I under-

stood how Teach had made so deep a mark

upon their minds; for indeed the company of

that lunatic was the chief danger in our way

ferred was this. We had sighted a little full

rigged ship very close under our board in a

haze: she sailed pear as well as we did-I

should be near the truth if I said near as ill;

and we cleared the bow-chaser to see if we

could bring a spar or two about their ears.

The swell was exceeding great; the motion of

the ship beyond description: it was little won-

der if our gunners should fire thrice and be

a stern gun, the thickness of the air conceal-

ing them; being better marksmen, their first

shot struck us in the bows, knocked our two

gunners into mince meat, so that we were all

sprinkled with the blood, and plunged

s quick perception of the men's wishes, and

sickener of their trade. In a moment they

away from us, it was needless to hold on, the

was mere foolery to keep the sea with her

and on these pretended grounds her head was

for the river. It was strange to see what merriment fell on that ship's company, and

and each computing what increase had come

to his share by the death of the two gunners

We were nine days making our port, so

light were the airs we had to sail on, so foul

the ship's bottom; but early on the tenth, be-

fore dawn and in a light, lifting haze, we

passed the head. A little after the haze lifted

and fell again, showing us a cruiser very close. This was a sere blow, happening so

near our refuge. There was a great debate

of whether she had seen us, and, if so, wheth

er it was likely they had recognized the

Sarah. We were very careful, by destroying

to leave no evidence as to our own persons:

but the appearance of the Sarah herself we

could not keep so private, and, above all, of late, since she had been foul and we had pur-

sued many ships without success, it was plain

that her description had been often published.

I supposed this alert would have made us sep-

arate upon the instant. But here again that

in store for me. He and Teach (and it was

gone hand in hand since the first day of his

never got an answer but once, when he told

me he and Teach had an understanding

which would very much surprise the crew

appointment.

original genius of Ballantrae's had a surprise

the most remarkable step of his success) had

I often questioned him upon the fact, and

every member of those crews we overhauled

ow they stamped about the deck

continently put about and the course isid

were all of one mind; the chase was drawing

Sarah was too foul to overhaul a bottle, it

was plain this lucky shot had given them a

ed there was nothing in this contretemp

But in the meanwhile the chase had cleared

still quite broad of what they aimed at.

of life. The accident to which I have re



very carefully made up and with a loop for those twelve or fifcarriage. teen months in "And now," says Teach, "let us be going." "One word," says Ballantrae, "I have dis-covered there is another man buildes yourwhich we continued to keep the sea in the North Atlantic. elf that knows a private path across the getting our food swamp. And it seems it is shorter than and water from the yours. ships we overhaul-Teuch cried out in that case they were uned and doing on the done, "I do not know that," says Ballantrae, whole a pretty fortunate business. In the meanwhile our ship was grow-

"For there are several other circumstances with which I must acquaint you. First of all, there is no builted in your pastols, which ing very foul, and of you remember; I was kind enough to load it was high time we both of us this morning. Secondly, as should make for there is some one else who knows a passage, our port de carre- you must think it highly improbable I should nage, which was in the estuary of a river saddle myself with a lunatic like you. Third-ly, these gantlemen (who need no longer preamong swamps. It was openly understood that we should then break up and go and squander our proportions of the spoil; and tend to be asleep, are those of my party, and will now proceed to gag and bind you to the mast; and when your men awaken (if they this made every man greedy of a little more, so that our decision was delayed from day to day. What finally decided matters was a ever do awake after the drugs we have mangled in their liquor I am sure they will triffing accident, such as an ignorant person be so obliging as to deliver you, and yo might suppose incidental to our way of life. have no difficulty, I dare say, to explain the But here I must explain; on only one of all business of the keys. the ships we bearded-the first on which we

binds and by their joint procurement, to

amilier was to somer sown than the whole

upon the forecastle and watching the swamps

to me to "real down into the cabin and seem to fall askep upon a locker, for there would

be need of me soon."

I did as I was told, and coming into the

cabin, where it was quite dark, let myself fell on the first locker. There was a man

there already, by the way he stirred and threw makelf, I could not think he was much

in liquor; and yet when I had found another

piace, he seemed to continue to sleep on. M#
heart now best very hard, for I saw some

desperate matter was in act. Presently down came Ballantrie, lighted the lamp,

looked about the cabin, nodded as if pleased

and on deck again without a word. I peared out from between my fingers, and saw there

were three of us siumbering, or feigning to siumber, on the lockers; myself, one Dutton

and one Grady, both resolute men. On deale

the rest were got to a patch of revelry quite beyond the bounds of what is human; so

hat no reasonable name can describe that

ounds they were now making. I have heard

many a drauken bout in my time, many on board that very "Sarah," but never any-thing the least like this, which made me

mouning, and then to sllence; and it seemed

a long while after that, before Ballantras ame down again, this time with Teach upon

his beels. The latter cursed at the sight of

mder that the richest part of the booty was

tored against the day of division. It fastens

d with a ring and three padlocks, the keys

for greater security) being divided; one to l'each, one to Ballantrae and one to the mate,

a man called Hammond. Yet I was amazed

to see they were now all in the one hand, and

set more amazed (still looking through my

bring up several packets, four of them in all

fingers) to observe Ballantrae and

Not a word said Teach, but looked at us found women-did we meet with any genuine like a frightened buby as we gagged and resistance. On that occasion we had two men.

resistance. On that occasion we had two men killed and several injured, and if it bad not been for the gallantry of Ballantrae, we had surely been beat back at last. Everywhere sise the defense (where there was any at all)

I think you are now rather Capa. Learn."

That was our last word on board the Sarah, we four with our four packets lowered our-selves softly into a skiff and left that ship have laughed at; so that the most dangerous behind us as silent as the grave, only for the meaning of some of the drunkards. There was a fog about breast high on the waters, so that Dutton, who knew the passage, must stand on his feet to direct our rowing; and this, as it forced us to row gently, was the means of our deliverance.

We were yet but a little way from the ship when it began to come gray, and the birds to fly abroad upon the water. All of a suc den Dutton clapped down upon his hams and whispered us to be silent for our lives and hearken. Sure enough we heart a little faint creak of ears upon one hand, and then again, and further off, a creak of ours upon the other. It was clear we had been sighted yesterday in the morning; here were the ruiser's bonts to cut us out; here we were defenseless in their very must. Sure, never were poor souls more purifously placed, and as we lay there on our oars, praying God the mist might hold, the awest poured from my brow. Presently we heard one of the boats, where we might have thrown a bacult in her. "Softly, men," we heard an officer whisper; and I marveled they could not hear the drumming of my heart.

through the deck into the forecastle, where we slept. Balantrae would have held on; "Never mind the path," says Ballantrae, "we must get shelter anyhow; let us puil straight ahead for the sides of the basin." to affect the mind of any soldier; but he had

This we did with the most anxious precaution, rowing, as best we could, upon our hands, and steering at a venture in the fog, which was (for all that) our only safety. But heaven guided us; we touched ground at a thicket, scrambled ashore with our treasure, and having no other way of concealment and the nust beginning already to lighten, have down the skill and let her sink. We were still but new under cover when the sun rose, and at the same time, from the midst of the basin, a great shouting of seamen spring up, and we knew the Sarah was being boarded. I beard afterward the officer that took her got great honor, and it's true the approach was creditably managed, but I think he had an easy capthre when he came to

I was still blessing the mints for my escape, when I became aware we were in trouble of another kind. We were here landed at random in a vast and dangerous swamp; and how to come at the path was a concern of doubt, fatigue and peril. Dutton, indeed, was of opinion we should wait until the ship was gone and fish up the suif; for any delay would more wise than to go blindly ahead in that morass. One went back accordingly to the basin side and opening through the thickets saw the fog already quite drunk up and Enghish colors flying on the Sarah, but no movement made to get her under way.

Our situation was now very doubtful. The ewamp was an unhealthful place to linger in; we had been so greedy to bring treasures that we had brought but little food, it was highly lesirable, besides, that we should get clear of the neighborhood and into the settlements be fore the news of the capture went abroad; and against all these considerations there was only the peril of the passage on the other side. I think it not wonderful we decided on the

if they should hear of it, and would surprise It was already blistering het man we say