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ON THE ROARING SEA.

A MUTINY, A CASTAWAY CREW AND A MARVELOUS VOYAGE.

What Happened on the British Ship Bounty in the Southern Ocean—Nineteen Souls Cast Adrift in a Launch 3,700 Leagues from Civilized Ports.

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IN ADVENTURE of a helpless band of castaways voyaging 1,200 leagues or 3,600 miles in an open launch, exposed to the mercy of the waves, to starvation, to water famine and disease, somewhat after dates back to the time when there were wide wastes of ocean seldom stirred by the flap of a sail or plash of a keel before the tariff laws of the sea had become the haunts of daring and savage robbers.

Today there is no stretch of water where civilized people could lose themselves and, being spared storm and shipwreck, exist so long under such conditions and not run upon a sail or make an island refuge.

On the morning of April 28, 1790, the captain of the British ship Bounty, then in the south Pacific 10 degs below the equator and 3,000 miles from the shores of either continent, was seized while asleep in his cabin, bound and taken on deck into the presence of his crew, the majority of whom—twenty-seven out of twenty-five—were in open mutiny. The mutineers made short work of it, and set their deposed leader, who was Lieut. William Bligh, of the navy, adrift in one of the ship's launches. Eighteen sailors and officers who were not in the strike also entered the launch, and the party was ordered by the mutineers to shove off from the ship and take its chances on the roaring sea.

The brutes on the Bounty had a little compassion for their late comrades, and stored in the launch 150 pounds of bread, thirty-two pounds of meat, a twenty-eight gallon cask of water and twenty quarts of liquor. The weight of the nineteen castaways, with their provisions, some clothing and a few cutlasses seized from the ship's stores sank the boat so low in the water that the sea broke over the stern at the slightest swell.

The mutiny took place near the Island of Tofoa, one of the Friendly's, where the ship Bounty had shortly before taken on a supply of breadfruit plants to transport to the West Indies. Bligh's second in the island again, intending to add to the stock of food and water in the launch. While the castaways were searching for supplies the savage native chiefs drove them back to the beach and pelted them with stones as they re-embarked, adding one poor belated fellow, whom they hammered to death.

This experience at Tofoa showed the forlorn navigators what they most expect in any of the isles which skirt the south Pacific. Bligh had been with Capt. Cook in his expeditions in that region, and was one of his party when the daring explorer was savagely butchered in the Sandwich Islands a few years before. He knew that these islands, scarcely supplied with everything to meet the wants of man—nuts, fruit, water and breadfruit—were peopled by races as untamed as wolves and as fierce when aroused. He therefore readily agreed when his men begged him to steer for some civilized coast on the tariff constants. He told them that the only hope lay 1,200 leagues distant in the Dutch colony of the Island of Timor, north of New Holland, the present Australia.

In order to make that with favorable voyaging even, the daily allowance of food and drink for each man could be only one ounce of bread and a quarter of a pint of water. The men took the startling situation cheerfully, for the prospect of a dawn among civilized Dutchmen 1,200 leagues away was far ahead of the certainty of butchery by savages or death by shipwreck and starvation roaming about the islands of Oceanica—born among the world's navigators at that date. The trip of the Bounty to that region was an accidental one and might not be repeated by a ship from a civilized port in years. The British government had sent her out to carry breadfruit plants to the West Indies as an experiment.

Bligh's position among the castaways was peculiar. The mutineers had sent him adrift to get rid of his imperiousness and his irritable temper, and those who followed in the launch had a choice of two evils, or perhaps no choice at all. They were not wanted on shipboard, and could share Bligh's fate and tolerate him as leader or do the next best thing, gain clear

BOXED AND TAKEN ON DECK.

of him and get it alone. They probably did not know what peril lay before them, or they would not have assented so cheerfully to take up the long voyage, with no hardship.

The homeward trip began when the boat was driven from the lands of Tofoa by the natives. That was May 3. On the 9th the wind blew a gale, the launch shipped water and could only be kept afloat by constant bailing. All surplus weight was thrown overboard in order to save the boat, and so extra clothing, sails, ropes, etc., had to go. The storm lasted two days and the men came out of it drenched to the skin, and cold and stiff with lying in strength positions in their narrow quarters. Bligh doled out liquor by the spoonful, a gulleyful in such circumstances.

After nearly a couple of days the launch passed the Fiji islands, and some large canoes put out in chase of the castaways. The launch was the swiftest and escaped, and shortly came into a stretch of gale back to after the foil. It rained and the poor fellows bailed it with joy because they could catch some drinking water, although they got another drenching into the bargain. Several days of storm followed and the rain grew wretched from sleeplessness, cold, stormy and hungry pains. Bligh was compelled to stop the daily spoonful of liquor for fear the need would be still greater. The result soon showed on the men, and they begged for additional food to stave off the anguish of famine.

This Bligh denied them, but as a compromise granted an allowance of liquor on the nights that were peculiarly distressing. It is hard to see on what grounds he fixed the degree of distress, but he ladled out the rations, and at last, on the 18th of May, the rain ceased. Bligh advised the men to wring out their soaked and heavy garments and dry them in the sun. They did so, but that same night the rain began and for ten days fell in torrents.

The storm finally ended on May 31, just in time to bring relief. The men were on the brink of succumbing to the horrible evils they endured—hunger, sleeplessness, fatigue and pain.

Although these days of gloom Bligh had ingeniously diverted the minds of his men from their distressful condition and stimulated their hope of refuge in the land toward which he was steering. He had been in New Guinea and New Holland, and he described those countries, their coasts and their savage inhabitants, and devised schemes to be carried out in case of accident to himself on the voyage. After mutinously schooling their minds with the possibilities of the future, providing the distant haven could be reached, he announced on the 7th of May that a voyage of twenty-nine days still lay before them with the best of luck, and that the provisions in the launch would hold out just that length of time. He proposed that a reduction of allowance be made so that the stock should hold out forty-two days to cover any contingency. The proposal was cheerfully agreed to, and the already pitiful ration was docked one third.

On the very day following this decision and for some days succeeding birds of the sea of darkness and pigeons flew around the boat that they were readily caught. The blood of this game was given to the weakest of the crew, and the flesh was divided into eighteen portions as substitutes for the dole of food that had been cut off.

The appearance of catching birds and flying fish revived their spirits somewhat, and the food of the game built up their strength. Moreover, the appearance of the circle indicated land not far off, and on the 29th of May they struck the western coast of the island of Australia. It was

THE LIEUTENANT SEIZED A CUTLASS.

six miles of barren shore, but the rocks were covered with shellfish, and the shoots of young palm trees, growing inland were spread as a vegetable. Good water was also found in a streamlet, and on the 30th the boat put off again, stocked with oysters and the precious fluid. The next day a landing was made on an island and search kept up for vegetable food.

For the first time, note that relief was at hand, nearly began to show itself. The men were inured to mutiny at Bligh, and one of them, indeed, generously declared that good water as the leader. The lieutenant quickly seized a cutlass and held the fellow to do the same and make his words good or eat them. The bully willed and begged Bligh's pardon, and there was an end to rebellion at once. On the island were oysters, with cheese and fish, as well as water and a palatable kind of bean, were secured and the day of starvation was averted off for a spell.

The 1st of June found the castaways rounding the most northerly point of Australia, and they soon struck out again into the open sea. Their leaky boat on the coast had doubtless saved their lives for a time, but in a few days other evils began to show out. The men were growing for fully week, their flesh was swelled, their flesh a deadly color, their minds probably giving way and a general drowsiness fell upon all hands. Some were weaker than others, and for them the wise was jealously guarded and was barely enough to keep them alive. Strangely enough, the ship's surgeon was one of the victims of the jail, and a scientific gentleman, the botanist of the expedition, was not much better. A tough old seaman was also enrolled among the very low cases, so hardly exactly made no distraction of person on that awful boat voyage.

It was the 12th of June, forty-one days after the launch headed for Timor, when she reached that island. The Dutch inhabitants received the unfortunates in Good Samaritan style, took them into their homes to nurse them and wept tears of pity over those human wrecks cast up by the sea.

The castaways were not less astonished than the natives when they came to their senses and realized to the full their miraculous delivery. After weeks of rest all but one sailed for England, and five of them died on the voyage. The one left behind was never heard of again, and counting the nineteen souls in the launch as entirely on Tofoa, seven of the nineteen castaways perished and twelve survived.

The survival the mutineers was involved in thrilling interest. They remained among the islands in the Bounty, quarreled and divided. Sixteen of them settled at Tofoa, where four met with violent death and fourteen were captured when years later by a British searching party and taken to England to trial. The remaining nine mutineers landed on Pitcairn Island, married native wives, went through relapses and reversions, and a quarter of a century later the sole surviving man lived and ruler of Pitcairn, a particular distinguished for wicked and Christian policy.

Lieut. Bligh was promoted and given a new vessel and similar charge of the breadfruit scheme, sailed off in the spring on the Bounty. He carried it through without a break and planted the breadfruit trees of Tahiti in the West Indies.

GEORGE L. RICHER.

One morning company of Salem, Or., has canned 30,000 cans of strawberries this season. Half a dozen other canneries at different points have been preserving nearly the same amount each.

A Cold Day in the Senate.

Celebrated though it may be for the dignity of its proceedings, the senate occasionally affords rare amusement to those who are compelled to attend its sessions. Friday it furnished an incident which is still being laughed about.

There is a new reading clerk in the chamber. He has a good voice, but has not "caught on" to the ins and outs of his position. Vice President Morton had some executive communications before the senate, among them, by mistake, a treaty negotiated by this government with Great Britain for the improvement of the condition of sailors on the high seas. Some time ago the London papers announced that this treaty had been perfected, but nothing a whisper concerning it has been dropped in the public ear by the president or those associated with him.

The new clerk seized upon this message and began to read it.

It herewith transmit to the senate for ratification," he began.

Instantly the experienced employes sent to him gruel his arms, the ancient Captain Bassett shot out of his chair, and the mercury in the thermometer heading west dropped 30 degs.

While the senators looked helplessly around the treaty was rescued and a document containing no executive secrets was placed in the clerk's hand. His voice was husky for the next hour, and the temperature in the neighborhood of the clerk's desk continued low until after the adjournment.—Washington Letter.

A Story About Disraeli.

Lord Beaconsfield once delivered a famous speech in Edinburgh, which was not reported in its entirety, at all events out of Edinburgh, for the very good reason that it could not be done. It was the occasion in which he boasted of having educated his party—a stinging reminder for which his orator came following did not thank him. On this occasion he was a lion. It was delivered at a banquet, and the flower and chivalry of the Tory party were around the premier at the head table.

By some mistake a decanter of good port instead of light claret was placed in front of the great statesman, who began to rise to speak, and every time he took a sip he felt rejuvenated, and the more he took the more he felt inclined to talk in radiant spirits. With his arms folded, his eyes glowed and his manner unusually sprightly, Disraeli poured forth column after column for hours, and the reporters were turning out the "copy" with manufacturing rapidity far beyond the abilities of the telegraphists to cope with.

The wires were gorged, the great speech only reached the newspapers in a mangled form, and wherever it was read there was mystification and a considerable row. But it was in added that some of the 3,000 others on that occasion had looked upon the wine when it was red, and their notes were taking exercise on stilts when they came to decipher them.—San Francisco Call.

Indiana Has No Cause to Complain.

Indiana was first represented on a national presidential ticket in 1852, when George W. Julian was the candidate of the Free Soil Democrats for vice president. The Democratic ticket that year had Indiana's next representative was Schuyler Colfax, who was elected vice president along with General Grant in 1868. In 1872 no Indiana name was on any of the regular tickets. But after Mr. Greeley's death the Democratic electoral votes were most of them cast for Thomas A. Hendricks, and a few vice presidential votes were cast for George W. Julian. In 1876 Thomas A. Hendricks was the candidate for vice president on the Democratic ticket. In 1884 William H. English played a similar role. In 1888 Thomas A. Hendricks resumed his place as second on the Democratic ticket. In 1892 Indiana for the first time had the first place on the presidential ticket. Benjamin Harrison was placed in the White House. This year he is on the ticket again. It is seen that in every presidential campaign since 1868 Indiana has had vital interest in the result.—Indianapolis News.

Three Black Crows Again.

The growth of a "line and cry" was well illustrated the other day on the banks of the Seine. Two fishermen in a boat got into an altercation with a woman engaged in washing a pestle on shore, upbraided her with water and fled from her wrathful shrieks. A crowd collected, the cry was raised that a woman had been drowned, and scared by the screams of their joins the two fishermen attempted to escape down the river.

They were finally arrested at some distance on the charge of having murdered a woman and her baby for the sake of the rings worn by the former, and of having thrown the bodies into the water, and it required all the energy of the police to save them from the 3,000 people who had followed them along the shore in order to "run them."—London Globe.

They'll Not Starve.

There will not be a full crop of peaches this year, but the Maryland pickers are not going to stop work. The blackberry and the whortleberry are right here in all their beauty, the tomato is on the way, and the crab never fails to crawl along the Chesapeake bay lotteries. Counting in the potato crop and not forgetting the watermelon, there will probably be something to eat in Maryland this year besides terrapin and canvasback duck.—Baltimore American.

California (Mo.) young ladies have organized a cooking club, and the young men, in retaliation, have established an eating club. Reciprocity has been determined on.

The Choice of a Dressmaker.

A woman who has given the subject some reflection says always choose a dressmaker in your own style. If you are thin, choose one who is thin, if stout, choose one stout, choose for who is well dressed. It is the dress who can enter into your feelings, relieve your difficulties and see to and clothe you on only fashionably, but with that sympathy which should always exist between a woman and her clothes.—San Francisco Argonaut.

A Philadelphia funeral took old service at a wedding a few days ago, and the floating lettered allowed the horse to carry the bridal couple into the cemetery.

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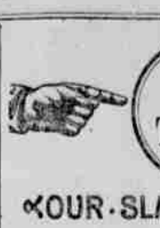

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