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GIBRALTARAMBACK





BY ONE OF THE CREW.

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TO GIBRALTAR AND BACK IN AN EIGHTEEN-TONNER

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THE SCHIPTPAN 18 TAKE

TO

GIBRALTAR AND BACK

IN

AN EIGHTEEN-TONNER

BY

ONE OF THE CREW

WITH CHART, ILLUSTRATIONS, FROM SKETCHES BY BARLOW MOORE,
AND PHOTOGRAPHS

LONDON

W. H. ALLEN & CO., 13 WATERLOO PLACE, S.W.

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PREFACE

A BRIEF account of this trip first appeared in Hunt's Yachting Magazine in 1886 and 1887. It has been brought out in this form at the express wish of my kind friend, Mr. Corry—the owner of the Chiripa—with whom I have made many a pleasant cruise, but none more delightful than our cruise to Gibraltar and back. I take this opportunity of expressing my best thanks to Mr. Underhill for the chart which he has drawn for me, showing the actual course we took; and to Mr. Barlow Moore for his spirited sketches, taken from my descriptions, which, with Mr. Underhill's chart and the Commodore's photographs, are the only features of the book worthy of notice.

ONE OF THE CREW.

TEMPLE, 1888.

INTRODUCTION

"MIND, you must all come and dine with me when you come back," were the last words we heard as, amid waving of hats and handkerchiefs, we steamed out of Charing Cross Station, in the night mail, on April the 6th, 1885.

We, a friend whom I will call Mac, and self, were on our way to join a mutual friend, Mr. Corry—better known to us as the Commodore—at Dover, where he expected to arrive on the following morning in his yacht the *Chiripa*.

After a long illness, he had been ordered by his doctors to take a two months' holiday, and he had asked Mac, Mr. Underhill, and myself to join him in a cruise along the coasts of Spain and Portugal, as it was much too early in the season to think of going anywhere else.

Though this involved crossing the dreaded Bay at a bad time of the year and in a small boat, we had all too much confidence in the *Chiripa's*

capabilities — having sailed in her before — to hesitate about availing ourselves of such a splendid opportunity of getting away from England in the spring. The yacht was ordered to be ready by the second of April, and the original plan was for us all to start from Aldeburgh, where she was laid up; but the usual delays took place, and when the Commodore eventually went down, Underhill and I were unable to accompany him, so Mac decided to join with me at Dover, and it was arranged that Underhill should meet us at Plymouth.

It was the fact that we contemplated crossing the Bay direct, instead of coasting, which had brought our friends down to the station to take, as they thought, a fond and last farewell. Foolhardy had been the mildest term applied to us by our friends and acquaintances when the cruise was decided upon, and the way in which our tradesmen sent in their bills when they got wind of it, made us most anxious to get well away on the waves which never cease from troubling, but where the debtor is at rest.

It was bitterly cold when we arrived at Dover, and when we found that there was a heavy sea running and the wind blowing fresh, we congratulated ourselves on being well out of it, and retired to rest feeling sure that we need not trouble the "boots" to call us extra early the

next morning. The prospect we had from the Lord Warden when we came down to breakfast on the following day was certainly anything but inviting. The sky was dull and threatening; there was a nasty soaking drizzle, and the sea seemed to have got up still more in the night, and was lashing itself into fury against the Admiralty Pier, sending clouds of spray over it and over the sea wall opposite the hotel, sprinkling the windows of the coffee-room with salt water. With the exception of one tiny boat far out at sea, which at the time I took for a fishing smack, not a sail could be seen. We heard that the volunteers were having a field day somewhere in the neighbourhood, but the weather was not sufficiently tempting to induce us to venture out, so having laid in a store of literature, we retired to the smoking-room for the rest of the morning, as we had given up all hope of seeing the Chiripa till late in the afternoon. We had, however, only just finished lunch, when we spied her coming into the harbour, with topmast struck, reefed bowsprit, small jib, three reefs down in the mainsail, and dinghy on deck, which gave us a very good idea of the dusting she had had. It turned out that the boat had arrived off Dover early in the morning, but as the Commodore could not get her into the basin in consequence of the tide, he stood

right out again, as he found there was less sea outside the pier than in the Wick. We were soon on board, and found the cabin in a nice state of confusion. A few pieces of the swinging lamp still remained to show where it had been, while boots, newspapers, and matchboxes were floating about in the water, which had found its way down the companion and fo'castle hatch, through the skylights, and covered the cabin floor.

Nothing put out by these little discomforts, the Commodore was making a big lunch. Seated alongside of him was a hungry-looking fox-terrier pup-a parting gift from the worthy proprietor of the East Suffolk Hotel, Aldeburgh-who was taking the deepest interest in the performance; while a friend who had agreed to take Underhill's place as far as Plymouth was hurriedly packing "What! not hungry after your sail?" I said. "No, I'm off," was the reply. "But you are surely not going to leave now?" "Oh yes, I am, my boy! I tell you what it is: I don't mind cold by itself, I don't mind rain by itself, I don't mind wet by itself, and I don't so much mind being sick, but when you get all these things together, it's not good enough. I tell you what it is, it's not the weather for yachting." He was as good as his word, and went up to town by the very next train, after taking a most touching farewell.

The Chiripa is a cutter of 18 tons, classed at Lloyd's A1, fifteen years. Her dimensions are:— Length over all, 52 ft. 6 in.; length on water-line, 44 ft. 3 in.; beam, 10 ft. 5 in.; depth, 7 ft. 6 in.; greatest freeboard, 4 ft.; least freeboard, 2 ft. 3 in. Considering that the area of her lower sail is only 1430 feet, she is exceptionally heavily sparred, her mast being 111 in., and her boom 71 in. in She was built by Messrs. Ogilvie and diameter. Co., 1884, from her owner's designs, and went straight off the slips to Christiansand, the workmen who were still engaged on her going ashore at the mouth of the river in a boat which they had towing behind. This, with the exception of a trip down the Channel on her return from Norway, was practically her second cruise. She makes up five berths without counting the forecastle, i.e. owner's cabin, one; two in the main cabin, and two in the ladies'. The owner's cabin was not used on this cruise, as it was piled up with stores, spare sails, etc. She is very dry, wonderfully handy, and about as good a little cruiser as can be found.

Her best run in the 24 hours on her outward journey was 154 miles, and homeward bound 171. It is only fair to say that the spinnaker was left behind, and these runs were done under jib, foresail, and mainsail alone. The crew consisted of

the owner—alias the Commodore—who holds a master's certificate, Orvis, who acts as master when the Commodore is not on board, Jack, and a cabin boy, Arthur.

Next morning the clocks on shore were just striking 4 as we passed through the gates. There was very little wind outside, but it breezed up during the day, and we had fresh winds, shifty from N.N.E., down to Plymouth. Two reefs down in the mainsail the whole way. Commodore had made up his mind that his twelve-foot wooden dinghy, which by the way had already been damaged on the journey from Aldeburgh, was not only inconvenient on deck, but also very dangerous in rough weather, he decided to put into Southampton and buy a Berthon collapsible boat; accordingly we ran into Southampton about 11.30 A.M., on Wednesday morning, and had left our own boat and got the new Berthon on board by 9 in the evening.

We got under-way next morning at 6 o'clock, and brought up at Plymouth, inside the Cattwater, at I P.M. on Friday. Anything so cold as the weather we had after leaving Dover none of us had ever experienced. Orvis went so far as to say that he had never felt it so cold in the North Sea. I only know that although I was wearing a double allowance of underclothing, two suits of clothes

and a thick muffler, I could not manage to keep warm.

After sending a telegram to Underhill, we spent the rest of the day over the fire in the smokingroom at the hotel, trying to thaw our frozen limbs. Underhill came on board at 6 o'clock on Saturday morning, and made such a terrific noise that, seeing no chance of being allowed to go to sleep again, we reluctantly turned out, and while Mac was still grumbling, he was formally introduced to the disturber of our repose, whom he had not met before. The best part of the day was spent in getting the topmast on deck, taking down the cross-trees, and making all snug for crossing the Bay. In the evening the Commodore divided us into two watches; himself, Underhill, and Jack taking the starboard watch, while Mac, Orvis, and I were in the port watch. As we had plenty of stores of all kinds on board, including a medicine chest, which, I am happy to say, was only once called into use, we were under no restrictions except as regarded water.

The Chiripa's tanks only holding 250 gallons, we were forbidden to use fresh water for drinking or washing purposes. This order, more especially as regarded the first part, met with everybody's most cordial approval and was strictly obeyed. The weather being so cold, the fresh meat we took

on board at Plymouth lasted till we got to Vigo, and it was only on the passage from Tangiers to Lisbon that we were obliged to have recourse to our tinned things; the salt beef was always preferred.



CHAPTER I

SUNDAY, 12TH APRIL.—It was a decided treat to come on deck and find the sun had emerged from his retreat and was shining brightly, this being the first glimpse we had had of him since leaving Dover. Unfortunately there was very little wind, scarcely sufficient to shake out the burgee, so the Commodore amused himself and tortured us by taking a more or less—according to the light in which the unfortunate sufferers look at it—successful photograph of the Corinthian crew.

Shortly after 8 the anchor was weighed and catted, sail got on her, and we drifted gently out of the Cattwater, past the Hoe, where as yet very few people were to be seen, past the breakwater, and we were off.

There was no more wind outside and we did not pass Rame Head till 10 A.M. Our course was then laid for the Lizard, from which point we meant to take our departure.

About noon the log was hauled, and we found

we had only run 15 miles. The log was set again, heaved over the counter, and the men went below to their dinners. Presently the Commodore, who was steering, called out to somebody to ease the foresheet. I was very comfortable and did not offer to move, so Mac got up and was strolling forward in his usual leisurely manner, when Underhill raced by him, and by the time Mac had reached the shrouds the order had been carried out. Mac's face, when he saw, to his intense astonishment, that his services were not required, and that the new-comer knew as much as he did, was a study, and when he had recovered from his surprise and said to Underhill in a deeply injured tone of voice, "How the --- did you know which was the foresheet?" we simply screamed with laughter.

The wind remained light all day, and it was not till 2 on Monday morning that we made the Lizard, and formally took our departure, laying our course S.W. S.

The wind, south-east, freshening up, we bowled along merrily. "On, on the vessel flies, the land is gone, and winds are rude in Biscay's sleepless Bay."

Next day at noon the Commodore was below working out the reckoning, and Mac was doing his spell at the tiller, when the Commodore called up the companion, "How's the wind, Mac?"
"D—— cold," was the prompt but useless reply.

On Wednesday the wind, which had shifted from W.N.W. to W.b.S., freshened considerably and a very nasty sea got up. At 7 P.M. we shifted jibs and took in a couple of reefs. Directly this job was over I went below, as it was not my watch, and it was decidedly damp and unpleasant on deck.

I turned in all standing, having only removed my oileys, but what with the various noises, as every now and again a sea struck the little vessel with a force which seemed to stop her and make her tremble all over, the crash of a wave as it came on board causing you to think for a moment that the decks were stove in, till you heard the swish of the water as it tore aft, and the unearthly groaning and moaning of the bulkheads and ceiling, sleep was impossible. At 11 Mac and I were called up to help in taking in the third reef, and when we came on deck we found the wind had shifted again to S.W.b.W. It was now blowing very hard, and as every now and then she would give a fearful lurch, we found it almost impossible to keep our legs without holding on. It was no easy matter taking in this third reef, as the boat was rolling about in a most uncanny way. When we had hold of the tackle we had

to wait till she was fairly steady and then all pull together; then the roll when the heavy boom would take charge of us, and swinging us over skylights and companion, deposit us in the lee scuppers, still holding on to the tackle like grim death. This amusement was repeated so often, that by the time we had got the reef made fast I don't think any one of us had escaped without a varied assortment of bumps and bruises.

In one of the worst of these lurches Mac, who had gone forward with Underhill to take a pull on the peak halliards, suddenly let go his hold, slipped up, and was literally brought up standing by the bulwarks, but not content with that, he was in the act of taking a somersault backwards over the ridge rope—which the Commodore had luckily had rigged before the start—when Underhill seized him by his oileys, and lugged him out of danger. After this the Commodore ordered him below, an order which he obeyed with delightful alacrity.

By this time we had got the boat pretty snug, so we invaded the cabin, as we all felt we stood in need of a dose of rum, for to add to our discomforts it was a horribly cold night. We found Mac had made his bed on the cabin floor—as he could not have stopped in his bunk—and was lying down smoking contentedly.



When I returned on deck, as I got to the top of the companion, I turned round as usual and looked forward. Judge of my horror when I saw a slate-coloured wall of water fringed with white coming straight towards us. To me it seemed higher than our mast, and as it drew nearer I held my breath and instinctively grasped the top of the companion with both hands and held on with all my might. Nearer and nearer, and then we were climbing it merrily.

Once on top, the *Chiripa* gave herself a little shake and pluckily dived down the other side. After that I didn't care, as, if that wave couldn't sink her, I felt that nothing—short of a steamer—could. The wind kept increasing, and at 2 A.M. it was screaming through the rigging as if in mortified rage that it could do us no harm.

One moment we would be in the trough of the waves—with a wall of black water all round us—and the next moment we would be looking down on them fighting and foaming in all directions as far as the eye could see.

At 2.30 A.M. it was blowing a whole gale. The wind had shifted round to the north, so we hove to with foresail stowed, and I turned in. Next morning the storm abated, though there was still a heavy sea running. The wind, however, had come round to north-east, so we scudded.

All Thursday we had a very heavy sea, and were obliged to keep three reefs down. The cabin lamp, which had been replaced at Dover, was again smashed, and it was impossible to keep anything on the swinging table.

Cape Finisterre was sighted at 5.30 on Friday morning, and the worst part of our journey was over: we had crossed the Bay. As it got later the wind dropped, the sky cleared, and the sun came out and helped to dry us after our wet passage. It was a lovely day, and the waves in the bright sunlight seemed vastly different to what they were during the storm on Wednesday and Thursday. Now they were a beautiful transparent green crowned with masses of snow-white foam, and they appeared to be frolicking about in wanton enjoyment. We were thoroughly enjoying ourselves, smoking and basking in the sun, when we made out a large steam yacht coming towards us, though from the course she was steering it was clear she would not come close; presently, much to our amazement, she altered her course and bore straight down for She turned out to be an English yacht, but we did not recognise her burgee; we dipped flags, and hoped they would report us at home. Going in by the North Channel, we opened Vigo Bay at 3.45, and running free, with

"A wet sheet and a flowing sail, A wind that follows fast,"

we went skimming up the Bay. Just then we noticed that Mac-whose usual position on deck, when not on duty, was a reclining one-was standing forward with the glasses riveted on some object ahead. Thinking it might be a buoy, the Commodore, who was steering, cried out, "What is it, Mac?"—"Oh! all right, don't bother!"-"What the dickens are you staring at?" This time with an exclamation of fervent joy the glasses were shut up, and Mac came aft. "I've found it," he proudly said.—"Found what?" -"Why, the hotel of course. There it is, that large white building on the right, 'Hotel Continental.' I say, Commodore," he continued, "I suppose we shall dine on shore to-night."-" Certainly," was the reply, "if we get pratique." That was enough for Mac; he immediately dived below to make himself beautiful, and we did not see him again till the pratique boat came alongside. We excited considerable interest as we passed close to what appeared to be the commencement of an iron jetty, and the workmen gladly suspended operations to look at the tiny boat flying an English flag. Sailing clear of all the vessels and dipping to the solitary Spanish man-of-war, we let go the anchor in seven fathoms of water

at 5.30. The health boat was soon alongside, but much to our disgust refused us pratique, as unfortunately we had come away without a bill of health.

Mac's disappointment—as he had been looking forward to having a good dinner at last—ought to have affected us to tears, but I am sorry to say it only provoked our laughter. The boat went away, the officer kindly promising to see what he could do for us, and as there was no chance of getting on shore that evening, we had to sit down and make the best of it, Mac in his shore-going clothes looking rather out of place. However, we had a merry time of it, and many a bottle of beer was cracked in honour of our—so far—successful trip.

About 9 the boat came back, and we were delighted to see the officers come on board, as we then knew it was all right. All the Commodore had to do was to sign a declaration that everybody on board was in good health, and had been so when we left England.

The officers inquired if we had not had rather a bad crossing, and seemed considerably surprised at our ever having attempted the passage. After they had gone we came on deck, had a final pipe, and turned in early, delighted with the thought that instead of a wretched nap of four hours, we could indulge in the luxury of a good square sleep of at least twelve. When we came on deck next morning we found the bumboat man had already been alongside, and had left a basket containing oranges, apples, and last, though not least, some fresh fish, eggs and milk, luxuries which one thoroughly appreciates when one has been deprived of them for a few days. How many oranges we each of us consumed before breakfast I should be ashamed now to confess, but under the circumstances gluttony was excusable.

We seemed to have jumped from winter into "The day was fair and sunny: sea summer. and sky drank its inspiring radiance," and not a ripple disturbed the water; the poor weatherbeaten burgee floated listlessly at the masthead, and the ensign hung in heavy folds over the counter. It was a morning to make you throw off your clothes and bask luxuriously in the sun, while you feasted your eyes on the lovely prospect. The houses with their eastern-looking latticed balconies rising one above the other on terraces facing the water, and the blue hills on the other side of this lovely bay standing out sharp and clear in the bright sun, made a picture which only an artist could portray. While we were thus enjoying ourselves, some one asked,

"What more could you want?" "Breakfast!" was the Commodore's unsentimental reply. At that moment it was announced, and forgetting all about the sunshine and scenery, we promptly tumbled below.



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CHAPTER II

DIRECTLY after breakfast we went ashore, and, under the guidance of our bumboat man, found the telegraph-office and sent messages off to our friends.

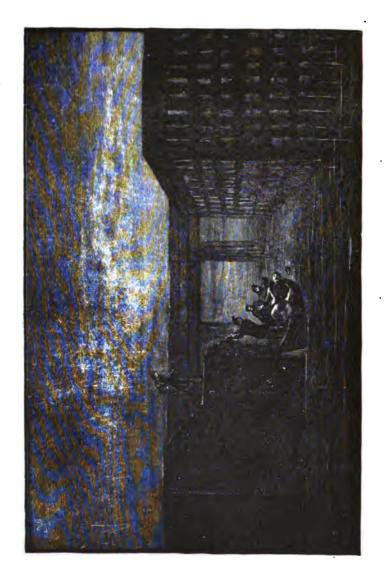
Vigo is so well known that I need say nothing further about it, except that we were charmed with its quaint, narrow streets, which opened suddenly upon some funny little squares, from some of which queer, narrow tunnelled passages led down to the water, through which from time to time you got a charming view of the Bay.

We were especially fortunate, as it was apparently a market-day, and the bright coloured head-dresses of the women and the men's brilliant costumes lent colouring to what was already a picturesque scene.

We called on the English Consul, who turned out to be a Spaniard. He had already heard of our little difficulty about the bill of health. He was most obliging, and sent one of his subordinates with us to the two clubs which Vigo boasts, in order that we might be properly introduced as honorary members. No difficulties were made, and five minutes after our introduction we were busily engaged in studying up the English papers.

These clubs, or "Tertullias," as they are called, are next door to one another in the Calle Imperial. They are quite different to anything we have in England, and seemed to be very little used except for the purpose of reading the papers. There are no dining-rooms, and no arrangements for feeding the members, but, on the other hand, they each rejoiced in the possession of a large ball-room, in which the members have a ball once a month, and in summer once a week.

Imagine the feelings of the old members of some of our London clubs, say the Athenæum, Reform, or Carlton, if it were proposed to devote one or more of the club-rooms to such an unholy purpose as dancing. I think that the bare idea of such a thing would be sufficient to give some of the selfish old fogies—the men who sit on four papers, with a fifth in their hands, and then go to sleep; the men who insist on keeping the temperature of the smoking-room up to 85 degrees, and then grunt at you if you object; and those who, in the height of summer, are always



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looking out for draughts, which exist only in their own imagination—an apoplectic fit. We dined at the table-d'hôte at the hotel, which Mac discovered, the "Hotel Continental"—so far as I saw, the only one in town fit to go to—and had an excellent dinner for the very moderate charge of 13s. 4d. for four persons, wine, very drinkable, cheese and fruit included.

After dinner Mac and I decided to go up to the club and finish the papers, but the Commodore and Underhill preferred strolling about the town, so we agreed to meet at the stone pier at 10. When we left the club it was pitch dark, and however else they may spend their money, the town councillors of Vigo do not waste too much on gas.

We found our way down to the pier and hailed the boat. We were answered immediately, as the boat was right below with the other two in it, but it was so dark we could not make it out. Mac went down the wooden steps first, but would not listen to my advice to go down with his face to the steps and hold on. He had not gone down twenty steps, if there are so many, before I heard Jack cry out, "Take care, sir, there's a seven-foot drop." The next moment I saw Mac waltz into space, and heard a heavy thud as he fell in the boat. It may easily be imagined that after that I went down those steps with considerable caution,

and dropped safely into the dinghy. I was glad to find him apparently all right, although of course considerably shaken. It appeared that he had fallen on his side on the gunwale of the boat. How it did not upset is a marvel to me; I used to be prejudiced against these boats, but I must say I have completely changed my mind, after seeing what our little twelve-foot Berthon dinghy went through.

The next day, Sunday, 20th April, the Commodore took his camera ashore and took two photographs, one of the promenade and one of the Bay, under the admiring gaze of the juvenile and ragged population of Vigo. Coming down from the terrace, Mac complained of a pain in his side, and great difficulty in breathing, so we thought it advisable to get him to the hotel and send for a doctor. The manager or owner of the hotel—I don't know which—was very kind, and sent out for one at once, who, besides his other qualifications, could speak French, as none of us could manage a word of Spanish. We had not long to wait before the doctor arrived, and having examined Mac, he informed us that he had broken a rib, and must go to bed at once, and that it was impossible for him to go on board at present; he forbade him to have any lunch, to Mac's intense disgust, and said he would return and put some leeches on him in a couple of hours. Why the delay of two hours we could not understand, except on the supposition that he meant to have his own déjeuner, cafe, cognac, and smoke first. Whether he lunched "not wisely, but too well," I don't know, but he certainly sent a substitute to put on the leeches. This gentleman brought two or three young fellows with him, and while putting on the leeches favoured them with what appeared to be a clinical lecture. We, perhaps, in our ignorance, thought it very funny treatment for a broken rib, and Underhill, who knows something about surgery, said it was adjectived nonsense, but, unfortunately, we could not help ourselves. At 5 the doctor found himself able to attend, and after binding Mac up, said we might take him on board that night. Leaving Mac to enjoy a little thin soup—all the doctors would allow him -we went in to the table-d'hôte, but before doing so, as there was an ugly sea in the Bay, we thought it wise to send a message on board by Manuelo, the bumboat man, telling Orvis to send some big coats and oileys ashore for Mac, and that we would not want the dinghy, but would go on board in Manuelo's boat.

After dinner we paid a visit to the theatre— "Teatro Circo Tamberlik," as it is called on the programme—and secured a box large enough to

hold four people, for the sum of twenty-four reales, or about five shillings in English money. fair-sized house, but was very empty, and the manager's finances evidently did not allow of a heavy expenditure in dresses, scenery, etc. The hero of the piece and the star of the company had somewhat peculiar ideas as to a gentleman's dress, his idea being white duck trowsers, much too short for him, a maroon waistcoat, scarlet tie, frock coat, of the very shiniest broadcloth, and to crown all a billycock hat. We left shortly before 10, and picking up Mac at the hotel, helped him down to the stone pier, and got him on board without any accident. It was lucky we had not the Berthon, as there was a heavy sea running, and Manuelo's boat was lifted up and down alongside the pier by every wave in a way which caused us considerable trouble in getting him, helpless as he was, safely on board. Vigo Bay was looking its very loveliest as we got underway about 10 next morning, bound for Lisbon. There was scarcely any wind, so we had plenty of time to enjoy its varied charms, as one by one they were developed before us, and it was not till some time after lunch that we got clear of Bayona Island. Our bumboatman's bill—presented at the last moment—had rather astonished the Commodore, and caused our delay.

CHAPTER III

For the next two days the wind remained light and variable, and we had every opportunity of studying the coast while we basked in the sun, as the weather-luckily for us-still continued beautifully fine. On the Tuesday, 21st April, Underhill and the Commodore—as they both hit it-succeeded in shooting a fine gannet; when we got him on board we found we had made a double prize, as he had been shot in the act of swallowing a fish, the tail of which was still protruding from his beak. It was such a handsome bird that the Commodore decided to keep him, and have him cleaned and prepared for stuffing when he got to Lisbon: this he eventually had done, but it was done so badly that we were obliged to throw it overboard some three weeks afterwards.

At 12 noon we made out the lighthouse, Mondego Point, bearing south, three and a half miles off. At 4 in the afternoon, wind W.\frac{1}{2}S.,

Mondego Point was bearing north-east, ten miles. The course was then altered to S.W.b.W., as the tide was fast setting us on shore. During the afternoon we got a little breeze and passed the dangerous Berlins, taking the inside passage about I A.M. on Thursday morning. Later on the wind dropped, and at 12 we were lolloping about on the top of a big swell, making no way, abreast of Cape Roca, only four miles off.

While we were rolling about in this aggravating manner several steamers passed us, and among others an English passenger boat bound home. We exchanged compliments, but when she was some distance astern we noticed that she was signalling us by means of the heliograph; unfortunately we had no code and could not read the signals. Passed Rago Point about 1, and when off the signal station we were rather astonished to find that they were signalling for The Commodore immediately sent our number. up the four flags which represented her letters. J L Q P., and official number, 86624, which told them that our boat was the Chiripa, of Ipswich. Going in by the north channel—the most dangerous, unless you have a fair wind—we passed Fort St. Joseph, keeping well clear of the nasty shelf of rock which juts out for some yards from it, and on which many a good ship has been wrecked,

and opened the Tagus about 4. With the exception of poor Mac, who had not left his bunk since leaving Vigo, we were all on deck eager to get the first glimpse of the river, whose wondrous beauties we had so often heard extolled—

"And Tagus dashing onward to the deep, His fabled golden tribute bent to pay." . . . "Oh, Christ! it is a goodly sight to see What heaven hath done for this delicious land."

Beyond that its fertile shores are refreshing, after Mondego's bare and rocky coast, there is nothing to rave about, and little to praise. We all agreed that the Tagus was a big sell, and could not for one moment compare with Vigo Bay.

Off Belem Castle, where the river is only about a mile wide, though it broadens out to five opposite Lisbon, we were kept messing about for half an hour waiting for the quarantine boat, and therefore had plenty of time to admire this diminutive castle's architectural beauties. It is a graceful building with massive walls, handsome terrace, and some funny hanging watch-towers. The battlements too are covered with carving. Though built in the fifteenth century it was still strong enough to withstand the famous earthquake of 1755, which almost razed Lisbon to the ground. To most people, however, it is chiefly interesting,

as recalling to them that it was on that spot that Vasco de Gama set foot on returning from the discovery of a new empire.

At last the boat came off to us, and we had rather a shave of being put in quarantine, as at first the official insisted upon Mac being brought on deck; this, however, we declined to do, and at last the officer gave in. Their boat had scarcely left us before the agent's boat was alongside. He had received a telegram from the signal station that we were coming in, and with an eye to business had sent his boat to meet us. His clerk piloted us up to our anchorage off the Lisbon Yacht Club house, where we brought up in five fathoms at 7.

As the Commodore thought it was not worth while to go ashore that evening, the agent was sent off with telegrams for friends, and instructions to bring off an English-speaking doctor and any other luxuries he could think of early next morning. Then we dined, and dined well, and over our final pipe on deck we came to the conclusion that Lisbon and the Tagus looked better by night than day.

When I woke up next morning I found the boat jumping about in such a very lively fashion that I rolled out of my bunk and ran up the companion to see what was up, found it was

blowing hard, with a nasty choppy sea, and the fishing-boats anchored ahead of us were having a merry time of it. It was much too cold to remain on deck with nothing on but pyjamas, so I tumbled below and commenced an elaborate toilette for the benefit of the poor Portuguese. The doctor, a jolly-looking old sportsman, came on board shortly afterwards, and after punching Mac about, told him-much to his delight-that he was all right, but it was quite unnecessary for him to tell Mac-as he did-to go ashore and enjoy himself, as Mac always made a point of doing that. As it would have been impossible for the Berthon to have lived in that sea with five people in her, the Commodore told the shore-boat to come back for us after landing the doctor.

We were anchored about one mile and a half from the landing stage, and so had to wait some little time for the boat. Once on shore, our first move was to indulge ourselves in our greatest luxuries—English beer, a shampoo, and a bath, which we found cheap and good at the Hotel Centrale, close to the river. About 12 we returned to the boat, as the Commodore wished to wind his chronometers, and by the time we got on board we were wet through from the spray which washed right over us. It was, however, very lucky that we did return, as we found Orvis

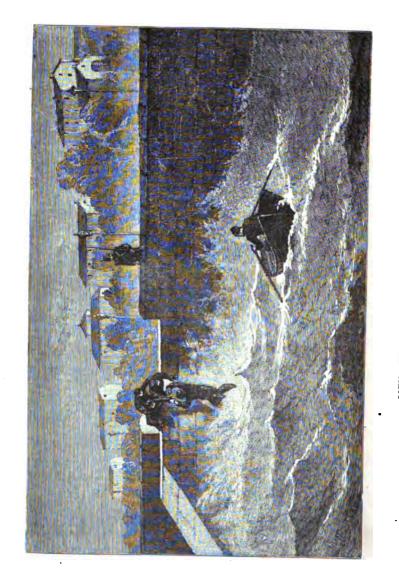
in an awful state of excitement. The boat had dragged her anchor and was on a shoal with only eighteen inches of water under her, a weathergoing tide and blowing a gale of wind from W.S.W. We immediately set to work, hove in anchor, which fortunately had got a good hold, and with the assistance of foresail and peak of mainsail hoisted a little, managed to claw off. Before we were able to take up a fresh anchorage, it came on to pour; oileys were no protection; it ran down your neck in streams, trickled into your boots and cut your face and hands like whip-cord. It continued to rain on and off for the rest of the day, but we could not complain, as that was the first wet day we had had since crossing the Bay. Dined at the "Hotel Centrale," and had a very good dinner at a reasonable price. After dinner we were delighted to find that our old friend Paulus was playing at the Gymnase. The place was full, but we succeeded in getting a box. Paulus was in splendid form, but we could not help thinking that he was laying it on rather thick when he sang a song, the refrain of which was Les Portugais sont toujours gais, as a more melancholy set of mutes it would be hard to find. The king was there with a large suite, and we saw them drive away afterwards in English-built carriages, each drawn by four mules!

It was a bright morning on 25th, Saturday, but the wind was still blowing hard, and a very heavy sea. We went on shore early and strolled about the town. Some fine Plazas and that was Wandering about the hill near St. George's, we were rather surprised to find some very small and poor houses boasting staircases with a dado about three feet high; it consisted of blue tiles, and the design appeared to be cupids playing with flowers. Shortly afterwards, in a church in the immediate neighbourhood, we came across a dado of a similar character, but representing religious subjects. On our way back to the hotel we passed a barrack-looking building with crowds of men in all sorts of costumes looking out of the barred windows. They shouted to us, no doubt uncomplimentary remarks, but as we did not understand what they said it did not affect our equanimity. On inquiring we found out it was a prison. Prison regulations are evidently very lax in Portugal. Soon after dinner we went down to the landing stage, but as our agent's boat was not there we had to look out for another one. Any amount of gentlemen were bidding for our custom, but the Commodore decided in favour of the most vociferous, and certainly the most amusing applicant. "Come along with me, sar-I know your yat-my name John Beef."-" John Beef?"

said the Commodore, "you mean John Bull."—
"All right, sar, you come with me; my name
John Beef, John Bull, what you like; you come
with me."

Next morning when I came on deck it was blowing a gale, and there was a regular sea running. We were most anxious to get ashore, as a bull-fight had been advertised to take place that afternoon; but in spite of all our signals, although we were only two cables' length off the nearest shore, no boat would come off to us. 4 the Commodore decided in making an attempt to land in the Berthon. Only two persons were allowed to go at a time, the Commodore and Underhill going first. If they succeeded in the attempt. Mac and I were to follow with the camera. They did not attempt to row to our usual landing-place, but simply went for the nearest point of the stone embankment, in the hope that they might be able to climb it. very exciting for us to watch the little dinghy bobbing up and down in the heavy sea, and at times we thought she must founder.

At last they reached the embankment. Jack turned the Berthon smartly on top of a wave and backed her in, but before the Commodore could catch hold Jack had to pull out again to prevent the boat being smashed against the wall. Over



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and over again this happened, till at last the Commodore caught hold, and some good-natured souls on shore helping him, was soon on top, and Underhill quickly followed. When, in our turn, we got near the shore we found—what we could not see from the yacht—that there was an iron hoop let into the wall rather more than half-way up. Mac went first and then I handed up the camera.

The first try I made for the hoop I failed, and when I did catch hold, and was hauling myself up, a wave broke against the wall and wet me through. However, we had succeeded in effecting a landing, but we were not through all our troubles, as two Custom-House officers bore down on us and insisted on examining the camera. They stretched it out, looked through it, and at last, though not without some misgivings, passed it. Hailing the first cab, we told the driver to take us to the bull-ring. Cabby said nothing, but bustling up his old gee, rattled away, and after a drive of about twenty minutes pulled up with a grand flourish in front of the building. He then descended from his seat and informed us that there would be no bull-fight that day, as it had been put off in consequence of somebody's We only smiled and looked pleasant, but for all that, like the old lady's parrot, we thought a lot. There was nothing for it but to return to the hotel, and there our curiosity was excited by seeing a crowd round the telegraph-board. We worked our way to the front, and found the cause of all the excitement was a press telegram to the effect that war was imminent between England and Russia, and that all the Russian men-of-war in the Mediterranean had been ordered home, with instructions to call at Cadiz and Lisbon on the way. From what we saw and heard, both then and later, it was quite clear to us that the sympathies of the Portuguese were most decidedly enlisted on the Russian side.

In the evening we attended Paulus's benefit, and had a very jolly time. When we returned on board the Commodore showed us the agent's bill. The charge for water was most extortionate, considering that we had filled up our tanks at Vigo we really required very little, but for that the charge was £1. The Commodore had remonstrated about it, but was told that the charge was the same whether he took much or little.

Before turning in we sampled some Collares and Bucellas, which the Commodore had laid in. They are cheap rough wines, but very drinkable with soda water, or even plain water.

CHAPTER IV

WE got under-way next morning at 6, and with wind and tide in our favour soon left Lisbon behind.

At II we passed Cape Espichel, bearing E.b.S., let go log and laid course S.b.W., a fresh breeze blowing from W.S.W. The weather continuing fine we sighted Cape St. Vincent, bearing S.b.W., at 8. On Monday at 12, midnight, hauled log and took departure from Cape St. Vincent, bearing north-west, distance ten miles, and laid course S.E.&S. We made Cape Spartel about 2 A.M. on Tuesday morning, and when I came on deck at 4 we were just crossing Tangiers Bav. At 6 Arthur came on deck to look about him, and as it was quite calm I thought I would seize the opportunity and turn in for a couple of About 9 I came on deck again, and looking forward, as usual, directly I got up the companion, said, "Why, there's the Rock!" To my astonishment and disgust everybody commenced to laugh, but what annoyed me most was that although I expressed my willingness to back my opinion I could get no one to take me up. In another half-hour or so we were able to make out the batteries, and the scoffers had to take a back seat, and own that I was right. Some twenty-four years had elapsed since I had been at Gibraltar, but the impression it had then made on me had not been effaced. We brought up inside the New Mole at II A.M. and found two yachts lying there, the steam yacht Olivia, and the yawl Alruna.

When the pratique boat came alongside we were all disgusted to find that war had not yet been declared, and we were sorry to hear that poor Captain Rose of the Night Thought had been lost overboard off Cape St. Vincent. had made some wonderful passages across the Bay in small boats. Only stopping long enough to make ourselves somewhat presentable, we went ashore, and found, much to Mac's disgust, that it was some little distance into the town. He begged us to take a cab, but the Commodore was obdurate, and said a walk would do him much more good. Personally, I was only too glad to get an opportunity of stretching my legs. Although it was our invariable rule to go in for a square sleep when in harbour, it was so hot in the cabins

next morning that we were obliged to turn out much earlier than we otherwise would have thought of doing. At 10, with all the skylights, doors, and hatches open, the thermometer in the main cabin marked 70°. It was still hotter ashore, and when the Commodore proposed walking, there was a regular mutiny, as we, the crew, at once refused. The Commodore, however, was quite equal to the occasion, and simply said, "Very well, then you must give me a lift." As he left us to pay for the cab he had decidedly the best of it. We had intended to lunch at the "Hotel Royal," but were somewhat surprised when we were informed that the hotel was shut for the afternoon, as the proprietress had been married that morning, but that it would be open for tabled'hôte as usual. It was a great nuisance, as we had to go the whole of the way back to the boat for lunch. In the afternoon we strolled into the gardens to hear the band play, and luckily ran against a friend who was in garrison. He kindly offered to put our names down for the library, an offer which it is needless to say we accepted. Going off to the yacht the Commodore slipped on the steps and fell into the water, and was very nearly choked by Jack before we-as the wretched Commodore could not speak-could make him understand that he was amphibious. That night

we dined at the "Hotel Royal" and had a shocking bad dinner. The wedding had evidently upset the whole establishment. Mac said he hoped that the bridegroom was having a better dinner, as otherwise his temper would be utterly ruined, and his wife would have a real bad time. Captain H—— came off to lunch with us next day, and after looking round the boat he said he thought that we must hold our lives very cheap, as he would not have come out in such a small craft for anything. He tried to persuade us to remain for the races, in which he was running two horses, and he told us he was getting himself into condition by walking up to the signal station on the top of the Rock every day. As we had walked up to the galleries, which is only about half-way, the day before, and had barely yet recovered from our exertions, we admired the feat, but betrayed no wish to emulate it. Orvis compared chronometers with the Alruna, and found ours was eight seconds out. We strolled up to the library in the afternoon, and revelled in the English papers. The rooms were deliciously cool.

Got away next morning at 8, homeward bound, as the Commodore was due in London on the first of June. We had scarcely got clear of the Mole when we met H.M.S. *Neptune* coming in crowded with troops. The wind was S.W.b.W.,

consequently almost dead against us, and there was a nasty choppy sea, so what with the wind and the current, as it runs from the Atlantic into the Mediterranean at about the rate of four knots an hour, we could make no headway at all, and to be perpetually shifting the sheets to no purpose, especially when you get a dose of salt water over you every time, is not only far from amusing, but is quite sufficient to cool the ardour of the most enthusiastic mariner.

Even the Commodore got sick of it at last, and said he would run for Ceuta. The boat was accordingly put about, and we brought up in Ceuta Bay in five and a half fathoms, with twenty fathoms of chain out, at 12. There was a heavy sea running into the Bay, and when the wind is blowing hard from the north-east it would be impossible for any yacht to remain safely at anchor, more especially as the bottom is all rock. There is no harbour of any kind, but they are at present engaged in building a breakwater, which, when 'finished, if you once got inside, would no doubt make it a fairly safe harbour of refuge. greatly fear, however, that this important workjudging by the number of men they have employed and their rate of progress-will not be finished much before the Channel Tunnel. Somehow or another we had all got it into our heads that

Ceuta was worth seeing; but when we caught sight of the dilapidated collection of mud buildings which compose the town, we did not think it would be worth our while to land, so the Commodore set us to work to take in a couple of reefs before starting again. This had scarcely been accomplished to his satisfaction before the pratique boat came alongside. The Commodore informed the officer that we had no intention of going ashore, and therefore he would not trouble him to fill up our papers. However, whether it was for lack of work, and consequent need of fees, he insisted on taking our papers ashore, much to the Commodore's disgust.

There was no help for it, and so we resigned ourselves to circumstances, and although we dare not look it, we felt rather pleased, as we hoped that he would remain away long enough to allow us to have our luncheon in comparative peace; as no matter how hard it is blowing you can always feed more comfortably when your boat is at anchor than when she is thrashing to windward. In the one case, although the table may be dodging about in a very lively manner, you can generally manage to put away the greater part of the contents of your plate; in the other, as one moment the table may be, and very often is—constantly in our case—above your head, and next moment

considerably below your waist, nearly all your time is spent in trying to prevent the dishes and bottles from being emptied into your lap, and while thus employed your plate of food gently glides on to your knees, and from thence to the floor. We had succeeded in lunching, and were consequently enjoying our smoke on deck, when we saw a large barge full of people coming It was rather puzzling to us why such a number should think it necessary to come off to our little boat, and for a moment it was a question with us whether they were friendly or hostile. Our minds were soon set at rest, as the pratique officer hailed us and asked the Commodore's permission for his friends to see the boat. No doubt their curiosity had been excited on hearing from him the trip the boat had made, and from what we afterwards saw, Ceuta lacks amusement.

They gave us their cards, and as perhaps one or more of them may some day come across this little account, I set them out, and beg again to thank them on behalf of the crew for the great kindness they showed us. Miguel Sala Igual, Director de Sanitad Maritima; Andres Gonzales y Sanchez de Alva, Registrador del Presidad de Ceuta; Benito Tavaronna, Captain of Artillery; Francisco Annadion, Medico Militaire. There were also the Commander of the fort and another

gentleman, whose cards I unfortunately lost, but I think he was the military advocate. Of course the Commodore asked them on board and took them below, and our last luxury, some English beer, was produced. They expressed themselves very much pleased with the boat, but were considerably astonished at our having attempted such a long journey in so small a yacht. By this time the cabin was pretty full of smoke, as everybody was smoking something or another, and as the boat was rolling very badly in a nasty jerky sort of way, I was not surprised when one gentleman bolted up the companion, without even stopping for his hat, and was quickly followed by all the rest. They now displayed greater anxiety to get on shore than they had to come on board, and as they pressed us to go with them and see what there was to be seen in Ceuta, we tumbled into the barge and accompanied them. They kindly acted as guides, and first of all took us up to the It is some little distance from the landing stage, and as it was extremely hot, we did not hurry. I was walking with one of the party close behind the Commodore, who was discoursing eloquently about guns to the artillery officer. Presently the latter left him and joined us, and immediately asked me what the Commodore's profession was. "Engineer, military or civil?"

I made him happy by informing him he was only a civil engineer. "Then how does he know so much about guns?" he inquired suspiciously. "Oh," I said, "he's an amateur in those affairs."

When we got on board afterwards and compared notes, we found that he had put the same questions to every member of our party, the Commodore included. Whether for a moment or two he fancied we were spies from Gibraltar, and regretted having invited us to see the fort, I don't know; anyhow, we saw some splendid ten-inch breech-loading Krupp guns mounted, and others lying about ready for mounting. In the galleries at Gibraltar we had not seen any gun of equal calibre. The captain of artillery, for the sake of exercise, succeeded after a long struggle in lifting one of the shot, which weighed 90 kilos = 180 lbs., just clear of the ground; but both the Commodore and Underhill, determined not to let a Spaniard have it all his own way, succeeded in carrying the same shot right across the fort. Not content with doing it once, the Commodore repeated the feat and strained himself internally. He did not find it out till the next day, but then he was very seedy, and had to take a couple of days' rest. told us they had 6000 troops in garrison.

Ceuta is a large convict establishment, and when we were there they had 1500 convicts. It

seems a pity that they do not employ them in making a good harbour, instead of keeping them at their present work. We were afterwards taken to the Moorish quarter of the town. This is separated from the town by a high wall, and the gates of the enclosure are closed every night at a certain time. We looked into one or two of the houses, but were obliged to beat a hasty retreat, as the odours were anything but savoury. Some of the young girls had their faces uncovered and were strikingly good-looking. It appears that these Moors never intermarry with the Spaniards, and keep strictly to their own customs. they had showed us round they insisted on taking us up to their club, and on the way the military advocate nodded pleasantly to a Moorish woman sitting behind the grated window of a tumbledown old building. He informed me she was waiting her trial for having murdered her child. She certainly looked very unconcerned, and smiled and nodded back in a most cheerful manner.

The club was arranged in the same fashion as all the other clubs we had seen, the best room being used as a ball-room, but where the ladies come from, unless the members fall back on the dusky beauties, it would be hard to say. Some excellent sherry was brought in, and the health of the Queen was proposed in very flattering terms,

and drunk with all the honours. The Commodore then proposed the health of the King (since dead). It would have made a good picture if anybody had taken a sketch of us all standing up with our glasses in our hands singing "For he's a jolly good fellow," and the Spaniards trying to pick up the words from us. However, whenever they failed they always cheered, so it did not much matter, and the row was something terrific. spite of their unpleasant experience of the morning they came off to the boat with us, but nothing would persuade them to venture on board again. We had a final drink, and, amid mutual expressions of good-will and waving of hats, our kind friends left us. The wind was now blowing hard, so we had to turn to and get in another reef and set forth iib, and after getting up the anchor, bade farewell to Ceuta.

Although Ceuta was not one of the ports in the black list, to avoid going through the formalities again, the Commodore decided on making for Algesiras instead of going back to Gibraltar, and waiting there till the wind moderated or shifted.

We were all night working past Europa Point, and we did not bring up off Algesiras till 10 next morning, after a very wet passage. There is no need for a bill of health at Algesiras, so any

yacht coming from an unhealthy port, and the passengers and crew wishing to see Gibraltar without first doing seven days' quarantine, can easily manage it by anchoring off Algesiras and going across to Gibraltar, three miles and a half, in a little steam ferry-boat which runs morning and evening. It only shows the farce of the whole system of quarantine that this should be the case. Had we even had cholera on board, there was nothing to prevent us from going into Gibraltar whenever we liked. The guide-book informs you that Algesiras was once a town of magnificence and note, but few traces of its early splendour are now to be found. There is one good Plaza and a market-place, the shops being under a funny little colonnade surrounding a large open space. In the chief church here I noticed, among the other usual ex-votos, two splendid switches of human hair. If the young women who presented them really cut them off their own heads, it shows a depth of gratitude with which one does not generally credit lovely woman.



CHAPTER V

THE wind showed no signs of shifting, so we arranged with the manager of the "Hotel Victoria" to provide us with animals for a ride round to Gibraltar, as we thought we might just as well go and see the races, about which we had heard so much.

We were also still doubtful whether, if we went across in the ferry-boat, we would be allowed to land; while the boy at the hotel, who was to be our guide, assured us that he would take us into Gibraltar without any trouble. Our Berthon was alongside about 9.30 next morning, and we quickly stowed ourselves away in her, for were we not going to see the races, and the rank fashion and beauty of Gibraltar? Alas! were doomed to disappointment, for while, no doubt, the élite of Gibraltar were present, beauty was conspicuous by its absence, and with the exception of one young lady, daughter of a high official, we did not see a good-looking woman on the ground.

The painful recollection of my disappointment -which is still too vivid-must be my excuse for this digression. We had gone about fifty yards from the Chiripa when we heard the Commodore-who had been unable to join us, as he was still very seedy, having strained himself at amateur shot drill at Ceuta, and felt quite unequal to any exertion—hailing us; looking round we saw both Orvis and the Commodore pointing at something which, however, we were unable to discover, so keeping in the even tenor of our way, we arrived safely at the Mole. found the boy waiting for us with three sorrylooking steeds, caparisoned in queer-looking saddles of the Mexican type, a sort of arrangement which raises vou almost six inches above your gee. We walked our horses through the town, as the pavement did not permit of fast riding, and at the same time we had to keep a sharp look-out for holes, as in the middle of the street, every here and there, one came across a drain, minus its iron grating, or else set so low in the surrounding stone that should your animal step in it the results would be nearly as disastrous. of the town we took to the sands and had an exhilarating gallop. It is about ten miles round to Gibraltar, and the coast road is intersected by two rivers, the Guadaranque and Palmones, over

which we were ferried. The boats were worked by means of a wire rope, which, stretching across the river, was carried on board. The ferry-men had long pieces of leather with a large lump of cork at the end; when everybody was on board they walked forward, and without stooping, with a mere turn of the wrist, succeeded in hitching the wire rope with their leather, and putting the end over their shoulders walked aft; when they reached the end of the boat, with another turn of the wrist they disengaged their leather and commenced again de novo. The neatness with which they always caught hold and released their leather commanded our admiration. I had a try myself, but failed to catch once in half a dozen tries. Once over the Palmones, we cantered into the little Spanish village on the edge of the neutral ground, and leaving our horses at a little Fonda, crossed the neutral ground and entered the lines without the slightest difficulty. lunched at the "Hotel Royal," and as we had a decent meal, we came to the conclusion that they had got over the excitement caused by the marriage.

The race-course, just inside the lines, is certainly not one of the best, and the ground was as hard as a brick. We got there in time to see Captain H——— come in second, to a horse called the

Camel, for the first race; but the less said about the racing the better. The only noticeable feature of the meeting was the absence of "bookies," all the betting being done on the Pari Mutuel system, under the management of the officers of the garrison, and confined to members of the garrison library, jockey club, and officers in the army and navy. It was the first race-meeting I had ever been at where it was impossible to purchase a drink. It is true that the soldiers had their canteens there, but then they were some way down the course, and we did not know whether they were open to the public.

We saw two amateur "bookies" doing a thriving silver business among the soldiers. The gentleman who called the odds was a sergeant in the fusiliers, and his clerk—a private. The prices they laid were nearly as bad as the prices we now have to put up with in England. In a field of nine, I heard them offer three to one, bar two, and an outsider romped in.

When we got back to the hotel, where we had left our horses, we found only two, and our guide was also missing. After waiting about half an hour, we saw him galloping towards us from the racecourse on one of our gees, accompanied by a friend on the other. Both the wretched animals were in a fearful lather, and our guide had been

evidently galloping them about the whole afternoon. He explained to us that he had taken the horses to meet us, and when we pointed out to him that we were three in number, and that he had only taken two horses, he was not put out in the slightest, but simply said he did not think he could manage a third. Candid youth!

We had a delightful ride back in the cool of the evening, and found our dinner ready for us at the hotel, and we sat down, after our twenty mile ride, with excellent appetites, to a very good meal. We were still at table when the Commodore rushed into the room; but before we could even greet him, he burst out with, "I say, you fellows, you had a narrow squeak this morning."— "Narrow squeak! what do you mean?"—"Why, didn't you see that shark following you, when you went ashore in the Berthon?"-"Shark be ---, we heard you hailing us, and saw you pointing at something, but we couldn't see anything."—"Oh, very well," said the Commodore, "you ask Orvis. You hadn't got forty yards from the boat before Orvis drew my attention to a shark, which followed you steadily till you got near that shoal; we saw his fin plainly." He was so much in earnest that we could not help believing him, but we were all mighty pleased we had not seen the gentleman with the fin, as

to know that you are being attended by one of those pirates when one is in a small Berthon almost loaded down to the water's edge, must be anything but a pleasant sensation. The Commodore told us that he had had the tank filled up in the afternoon, and had only paid half a peseta (fivepence) a breaker. For this sum the man fetched the water from a distance of about a quarter of a mile.

Wednesday, 6th May.—There was no change in the weather; it may here be said that there are only two winds in the Straits of Gibraltar: those from the east and west, known respectively by the locals as "Levante" and "La Poniente." Unfortunately for us the wind was still in the latter quarter. Underhill left us and caught the 7 boat for Gibraltar, as he had to be back in London by the tenth, and had booked a passage in the Paramatta, which ought to have arrived at Gibraltar at 6 that morning. However, even with the glasses we could see no signs of her. We heard afterwards that the boat did not come in till late in the afternoon, and Underhill had a horribly slow time of it ashore. We were all very sorry to lose him, as he is not only an excellent companion, always in good spirits, but a good navigator, and an able and most enthusiastic yachtsman. In the afternoon we went for a

stroll, as Mac said he did not feel equal to a ride to the cascade, and spent the greater part of the morning in trying to discover a soft seat on board. During our peregrination Mac took a fancy to a three-cornered puppy we saw in the market-place, so the Commodore promptly took it in his arms, and held up a dollar to its noble proprietor, who was taking his siesta on his own doorstep. An electric shock could not have stirred him more: he jumped up, seized the coin with a profusion of thanks, and no doubt regretted that he could not sell a pup at that price every day. The Commodore presented it to Mac, and it was immediately christened "Chirps." Nobody could make out what breed he was, but we have since been informed that he is a Spanish pointer. His original owner had unfortunately cut or bitten off his tail as close as possible, which somewhat detracts from his appearance.

Next morning we got under-way at 10, wind N.N.W., but very light. We set our trysail, as the Commodore thought it was getting mouldy, in order to give it an airing. We had barely got into the Straits before the wind shifted to S.W.b.W., and once more we were in for a wearisome thrash, under a trysail, and with such a light wind, we were scarcely able to hold our own against the current; so the Commodore—much to our delight

—consented to bring up for the night under the shelter of Peregril Island (on the African coast), but after reading the sailing directions, he thought better of it, and decided in favour of Almanza Bay. I may as well here quote the sailing directions, as it may perhaps help to explain why we departed so hurriedly from Almanza Bay:—

"PEREGRIL ISLAND. - From Almanza Point a high rugged coast continues eastward as far as Peregril or Coral Island, and then turns north-east to Leona Point. centre of this island is exactly midway between each point, or a short mile from both. It lies at the base of the Sierra Bulones, or Apes Hill, with the land of which it appears blended; it is of nearly triangular form, a mile in circuit, and its northern point 244 feet high. . . . On its eastern side there are two coves, the northernmost, called Ruy or Levante, and the southernmost, Reina; they are only fit for small craft. There are other coves on the north and west, where landing may be effected to climb the cliffs, should it be necessary to reach its summit for any purpose, or to obtain fuel. It contains a cave called Palomas, in which 200 men could find shelter. . . . Anchorage: Between Peregril Island and the coast there is good shelter for small vessels, both from easterly and westerly winds, and the island would be resorted to but for the unfriendliness of the Moors. Smuggling craft and fishing vessels are all that frequent it, when overtaken by bad weather. In case of necessity a vessel may obtain water on the shore of the mainland opposite the island, but the greatest precaution must be used against any sudden attack." The same sort of warnings about the African coast appear over and over again in the sailing directions.

A little after 8 we stood in for Almanza Bay. By this time it was very dark and we could see no signs of an opening in the land, but the Commodore did not seem uneasy, and sailed right ahead into the very shadow of the tall cliffs. We made sure that he was going to put us on the rocks, but as we were only part of the crew, we had to sit still and await events: we were exactly in the same position as the gentlemen in the Light Brigade, about whom Tennyson has sung—

"Their's not to make reply, Their's not to reason why, Their's but to do and die."

However, just when things were getting too exciting to be altogether pleasant, we passed in between the headlands. The rocky cliffs run up to a considerable height on each side, and I doubt whether you could effect a landing on either side, as the cliffs seemed almost perpendicular. However, there appeared to be a strip of sandy beach at the head of the bay.

The bay is—at night, at all events—a very ugly one. We had just got the foresail off, the anchor was ready, and Jack was only waiting for

word to let go, when Orvis drew our attention to a boat which was sneaking up under our lee. We were still looking in wonder at this mysterious boat with its solitary occupant, when Jack called out, "Three boats to windward, sir." Apparently there was only one man in each of these boats, though Orvis said that the one which got closest to us was full of men lying down; anyhow, the effect was most uncanny. We knew there was no village in the Bay, or even any houses, and although it was calm, with next to no wind, we heard no rattle in the rowlocks, nor the sound of the sculls as they were dipped in the water. Orvis and the Commodore thought it best to get sail on her once more; but as there was very little wind, and things were looking decidedly ugly, for there was no doubt all these boats were bearing down on us, Mac was kept busy handing up all the firearms we had on board. It was rather a miscellaneous collection—a rook rifle, a doublebarrelled shot gun, and a Colt's revolver. time the last weapon and an adequate supply of cartridges had been handed up, the leeward boat was pretty close under our stern, so the Commodore handed over the tiller to Orvis, and taking the Colt in his hand stepped on the Monkey Island, and kept the strange boat covered; in another moment he would have fired, but luckily

we got a puff of wind, and without waiting to see them closer, we bolted.

"Mark the dens of Caitiff Moors:

Ha! the pirates seize their oars,—

Haste we from th' accursed shores."

It was horribly disappointing, for we had all counted on having a square sleep. As it was, we had a horribly stupid night, tacking along the coast, and making scarcely any way. All next day was the same, winds light and variable. this time everybody was in a bad temper. we were having only a thirty mile trip to make from Algesiras to Tangiers, and we had already been some thirty hours at it. It was my eight hours out, and I rejoiced when I came on deck to find it was such a lovely night. About 9.30, as we were standing in for the African shore, I made out a very bright light about two miles west of Cape Baga. Orvis or I could not understand it at all, as there is no light on this coast between Ceuta and Spartel, and there is no village where I saw the light. It remained visible till 10, when it suddenly disappeared. moments afterwards we made out a light about half a mile to the eastward of the spot we had seen the first one. The two lights then kept showing alternately; at 10.30 the east light disappeared altogether, and the west one became

a flasher, and then disappeared also. Whether, judging from our size, they mistook us for one of their smugglers, or whether they thought they could induce us to run ashore, it would be hard to say; but from what we saw of them, and what we have heard since, I would advise all small yachts to give that bit of "Afric's burning shore" a wide offing.

In the early morning we caught a nice breeze from the north-west, which brought us along merrily, and after sailing through a small fleet of open boats, all employed in fishing, we brought up off Tangiers in six fathoms, at 11.30 A.M. Slavery is still in vogue here, and we found out afterwards that nearly all the fishermen were The view of Tangiers from the Bay is slaves. most effective, and we could not have had a better day for our first glimpse. A strong sun, and the cloudless blue sky reflected in the clear water, calm, but for a passing ripple; while the white houses, with the minarets of the different mosques towering above them, stood out well in the bright sunlight.



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CHAPTER VI

THE anchorage here is very fair; but it seems a pity that the English destroyed the Mole-which they had been at so much trouble to build, and the remains of which are still clearly visible at low tide—when they evacuated the place in the seventeenth century. The quarantine officers made no difficulties, and they had scarcely pushed off when a shore boat came alongside with a most magnificent Oriental-looking gentleman seated in He introduced himself to us as Hadi the stern. Cador Sahta, and offered us his services as interpreter, guide, philosopher, and friend. seemed to have any number of most excellent testimonials from various yachts, including the famous Sunbeam, so the Commodore came to an arrangement with him, and shortly after we went ashore under his guidance. As we drew near the wretched landing-place, he said to us, quite seriously, "Now, gentlemen, when you get 'shore you do what you like; you knock, kick the people, you do what you wish." He seemed to have a very poor opinion of his own countrymen. We passed the Custom-House without any trouble, then up several narrow lanes, between monotonous whitewashed walls and houses, unrelieved by any windows, and arrived at the "Hotel Centrale," where we lunched.

This is a very nice hotel indeed, and when we entered the drawing-room we were nearly overpowered by the perfume from the roses, with which the room was filled. The view from the windows over Tangiers Bay is perfectly charming, and for this reason, I think, it is to be preferred to the next best hotel, the "Victoria," as the latter is outside the town; and although it too commands a view of the sea, it is a comparatively distant one. Besides, as the town gates are shut at 10 P.M. every night, you might possibly be shut in or out. Perhaps this rule is not enforced towards foreigners, as although you are not supposed to go out of the town, even to go on board, after 10, still, thanks to Hadj, who always saw us off, we never had any trouble, though we never went on board before 10, and the gates leading to the shore were always closed.

After lunch Hadj proposed that we should visit the Soko, or large open place outside the town, where the markets are held twice a week—



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on Sunday and some other day. He took us up the chief street, which is built on rather a steep incline, leading from the harbour to the Soko. The chief mosques are on the left hand side, but Christians are not allowed to see them. and did a Jew but put his unholy head within the door it would fare badly with him. shops are funny little kennels, about six feet square, and raised about two feet from the ground, Here you might see a lawyer dozing over some heavy legal work, and close by a public letterwriter, apparently doing a good business. other shops were chiefly straw-plaiters, coffee shops, and shops stocked with Moorish antiques, most probably supplied from Birmingham, for the benefit of unsuspicious tourists. The street -narrow enough at any time-was crowded, and every now and then you had to jump out of the way to make room for a string of mules coming in from the country laden with merchandise for the next day's fair; the overflowing panniers, sticking out on each side, kept knocking against you in a most unpleasant manner. The Moors are a splendid set of men, with grand physique and magnificent carriage. The women you could see nothing of, as their faces were hidden, except the eyes, and they were so swaddled up in their long wraps that they had no shape left. Those who were kind enough to drop their veils, and give us poor Christians a chance of gazing on their charms, were uncommonly ugly. curious to see the Jews walking about in a dress which we never see in England except on the stage, and which we associate with Shylock; but here were any number of gentlemen who would have required no make-up to enable them to play the part. At the top of the street we went through an archway, turned sharp to the right through another archway, then to the left through the gates of the town, and we were on the market ground. The fair, or market, was not till the next day, but large numbers of traders had already arrived, and it was a truly curious sight. It was like a scene out of the Arabian Nights. The monotonous tom-tom could be heard in every direction, and the popping of guns as some happy Moors showed their joy by firing off their six feet long flint-locks in the air. Right in front of us, towering over the crowd, we could see a pyramid of Arab acrobats dressed in white with scarlet sashes. Every now and then one of them would fire off his gun. Close to us were some twenty or thirty wretched-looking camels making the most of their rest, and near them were a number of women with uncovered faces guarding bundles of alfalfa. Every one of these women, and even their children, had some sort of blue mark between their eyebrows or on their chins. As they were evidently not Jewesses we asked Hadj how it was they exposed their faces. He told us that they were a low class, and that the marks were tribal ones. Just then we spied out a real snake charmer, and not waiting for further details rushed off, and Hadj, who seemed to be a person of consequence, soon got us a place in the front row.

We got there just as he was going to perform. On the ground in front of him, writhing about, were four or five snakes, the largest being about five feet long, and the rest varied from two to three. I could not tell what sort of snakes they were, and Hadj was as ignorant as myself. Taking one of the smaller snakes in his hand, the charmer bade the boy who was sitting beside him strike up, and he immediately began to peg away on the tom-tom - before we left Tangiers we longed to smash every tom-tom in the place. After he had tom-tommed—if the term may be excused—for about five minutes, the snake charmer put the small snake he was still holding up to his mouth, and put out his The snake immediately caught hold of it, and seemed to be trying to draw the man's tongue down its own throat. After giving everybody around an opportunity of seeing this, he picked up another and a larger one, and held it close to the neck of the snake which was still holding on to his tongue. The snake immediately caught hold, and the gentle pressure he brought to bear made the first snake let go. We noticed that when he did so the man was bleeding freely from his mouth. We had seen enough, more especially as we wanted to walk round the whole show before table-d'hôte, but when we eventually left the ground about 5, the wretched man was still performing and still bleeding. The Soko on a market-day is certainly not only an interesting but a brilliant scene, but I think what struck me most was the large audiences which the numerous story-tellers seemed to command.

Hadj next took us up to the Governor's Palace, which, as we understood, was scarcely or ever used, and which is decidedly out of repair. We walked through several rooms still showing traces of their former glories, and we only regretted that the place should be allowed to go to decay for want of ordinary repairs. We now thought we had done enough for one afternoon, as it was excessively hot, but Hadj was not to be denied, and insisted on taking us up to the prison, where we were invited to look at the wretched prisoners through a hole in the wall,

by courtesy called a window. I use the word "wretched" advisedly, as although I suppose all prisoners are more or less 'wretched, still the treatment which a Moorish prisoner has to put up with, or perhaps it may be safer to say, the lot of one who happens to be sent to the prison at Tangiers, is anything but a happy one. When we looked in at the window they all crowded round, either to beg tobacco or money, or to offer basket-work for sale. To this day I regret that when I paid my visit to the prison I did not know the prison regulations—or rather want of them-or I would certainly have subscribed more largely. It appears that all the prisoners—here of course I am speaking only of the male prisoners -are crowded together in one large stone cell. The sanitary arrangements exist only in name. At the time of our visit we saw that all these unfortunates had chains fixed to their ankles, and we were informed that at night they had also to wear an iron collar, and were then all linked together. Incredible as it may appear, these poor wretches are entirely dependent on what they can beg or earn, and on their relations, friends, and generous visitors, for their support. The materials for the basket-work they have to pay for themselves. As we returned to the hotel we noticed that a great many of the houses had

a hieroglyphic, painted in red on the wall. We were told that this was supposed to represent the human hand, and was placed by the Jews on their houses as an effective protection against the evil eye.

In the evening we dined at the hotel, and afterwards went to a Moorish Café Chantant. Half a dozen men were sitting on their heels in one corner of the room beating the infernal tomtom, and chanting in a sing-song way peculiar to these people, and horribly wearisome. There was no fee for admission, but we were supposed to take coffee, which was certainly not good.

Next morning we were ashore early, as we had arranged with Hadi to ride to the lighthouse on Cape Spartel—a ride no one should miss. was waiting for us, close to the gate leading from the port, with two good-looking mules and a couple of small weedy ponies. He was good enough to allot one pony to me, which I could not help looking on as a mark of honour, as he took the other one himself, and Hadi has a great idea of his own importance, while Mac and the Commodore had the mules. If I had had any idea of the sort of road we had to travel on I would most certainly have stood out for a mule, Not much as they are much more sure-footed. time was lost in mounting, and I flatter myself

we made a most effective start. Hadi led the way, sitting more erect than ever, and besides he had evidently put on a clean burnouse in honour of the occasion, although it must be confessed that his burnouses were nearly always dazzlingly white; then the Commodore, Mac, and myself-in the order mentioned—in blue flannel coats, white flannel trousers, boating shoes, and yachting caps, scarcely the costume for the Row; while Jack, looking very hot, brought up the rear, carrying the Commodore's camera. Once on the Soko we dismounted, and the Commodore took two instantaneous photos of the noisy and moving masses. Unfortunately the heat or damp affected the plates. and they became useless. Jack was glad to get leave to return, and mounting, we proceeded gaily on our way.

CHAPTER VII

LEAVING the Soko the road soon led us across the Jews' river, and then by a lot of narrow little lanes hedged in by the walls and fences enclosing the gardens of the pretty summer residences of the different ministers, rich Moors and Jews. As a woman does not care to hide her beauty, or to keep it for the gratification of one, so the flowers refused to keep within bounds, and wave after wave of clusters of roses of every hue-nasturtiums, convolvuluses, and other sweet-smelling flowersflowed over the walls and fences to rejoice the eye, and gratify the senses of the passer-by. struck us forcibly that the American minister, with national 'cuteness, had secured the position with the most shade, the best view, and had decidedly the best house.

Getting clear of these lanes, and crossing a large barren open space, the road leads up into the mountains. I have ridden in many countries, but I never met with such a road. Every here and there the rock cropped up for a distance of a hundred yards or so; no attempt has been made to level it or blow it up, so when you come upon it you must simply trust to Providence and the sagacity of your animal to climb, and slip, and creep, and tumble across it in his own way. It was fearfully hot, and when, after about an hour and a half of this amusement, we heard that we had only got about half way, we began to think that we had made a mistake in coming at all. However, just as we were beginning to feel rather dejected, Hadj pointed out our luncheon boywho had been sent on in front with a well-laden mule—waiting patiently for us by the side of the How grateful we were to Hadi for his forethought, and how we did bless Bass as Hadi extracted bottle after bottle of the foaming liquid from the mule's capacious panniers, and how delicious that drink seemed to our blistered palates and parched throats!

Not much time was wasted, and we were soon on the road again, as we meant to lunch at the lighthouse. The road soon began to descend, and this was the most beautiful part of a lovely ride. "It was a day that sent into the heart a summer feeling." The mountains were covered with heather, and sweet-smelling shrubs, arbutus, laurels, lauristinas, gum, broom, myrtle, and others

that I did not recognise, and the air was redolent with perfume. Far below us "The bridegroom sea is toying with the shore, his wedded bride. And in the fulness of his marriage joy, he decorates her tawny brow with shells; retires a pace to see how fair she looks, then, proud, runs up to kiss her. All is fair; all glad, from grass to sun!"

Far ahead of us Hadi was riding, but every now and then we could hear his monotonous chant, as he repeated some verses of the Koran. and his fine figure in its becoming costume stood out clear against the hill's green background, and gave the finishing touch to a lovely picture. A little farther down a sharp turn to the left and the lighthouse was before us. The house, like most Eastern buildings, is square-shaped, the middle part being open to the sky. On every side of this square there is a cloistered walk, on to which the different rooms open, and as usual, a small fountain graces the middle of the square. It was delightful to come in out of the glaring sun into this deliciously cool spot. The guardian of the lighthouse, a nice old Austrian, whose name I regret to say I have forgotten, allows visitors to the lighthouse to take their lunch in one of his rooms, a privilege which we were glad to avail ourselves of. After lunch we persuaded him to come in and have a cup of coffee with us. He

showed us his visitors' book, and pointed out to us with much pride Lady Brassey's name. also displayed before us what evidently seemed to be his greatest treasures, a French copy of the cruise of the Sunbeam, and photographs of Lady Brassey, her husband, and children, which she had kindly sent him from England. He told us that he had seen our little boat knocking about for some days in the Straits and wondered what it was. He complained bitterly about the difficulty of getting anything from Tangiers, and said that only a short time before he had been signalled by a passing vessel, but could not give an answer as he had no signal halliards, and although he had sent in for them over and over again, he could get nothing. The Commodore told him that he intended to start next morning, and said that he would signal him as he passed. The old gentleman seemed very pleased, and promised to wave back to us, but he said, "I am so high up, I am afraid you will not see me."

Shortly afterwards he took us to see some porcupines he had caught, and told us that there were plenty of them about. They were fine animals, but unfortunately both had been injured by the traps, one having lost nearly half his fore-leg. He kindly insisted on presenting us with a small bundle of their quills, as souvenirs of our visit to

Cape Spartel, and I am using one of them as a penholder while I write. It was now time to start, and after bidding good-bye to our hospitable friend, we mounted for the return journey. So far as I saw, our wretched animals were given nothing to eat during the whole time we were there. All that was done for them—to the best of my knowledge—was to loose their girths. By this time it was so much cooler that our ride back was most enjoyable. Hadj varied the return journey by taking us over the plain, an open space above Tangiers, from which you can get a splendid view of the Straits.

Stopping for a moment to enjoy it, we entered the town, and hurrying through the wretched streets, dismounted at the hotel, in time for the table-d'hôte, all thoroughly pleased with a most delightful excursion. Hadi's charge for mules, horses, muleteer, and luncheon, not including wine or beer, was only £1:12s. At dinner we met two young Englishmen who had just come over from Gibraltar. It turned out that we had some mutual friends, so it was not long before we struck up a sort of friendship. They had come over in the wretched little steamer which still plys between Gibraltar and Tangiers, and had noticed the Chiripa when they came in; and as they expressed a wish to be allowed to see her, the Commodore-who is as far gone over his boat as a woman over her first baby—invited them to breakfast next morning, as he meant getting under-way about 10.

Before going on board we had two or three games at billiards, the Commodore and I playing a double-handed game against our two new friends, on a table which most certainly had "a cloth untrue, with a twisted cue, and elliptical billiard balls"; and I regret to say we got the worst of it. At 8.30 our friends came alongside, and were shortly followed by Hadj, with the provisions we had ordered him to bring for our passage from Tangiers to Lisbon, which would be, if all went well, our next port. We were sitting aft, waiting for a summons to breakfast, and Hadj had taken his boat forward to unload, so we had not noticed anything, when presently one of our visitors said, "Why, he's plucking a chicken alive!"

It was quite true. Holding it firmly by the neck, one of Hadj's boat crew was, with true Oriental calmness, quietly plucking the unfortunate fowl, an attention which the wretched bird resented by kicking and struggling for all it was worth. The Commodore at once went forward and stopped it, much to Hadj's astonishment. It appeared that the Commodore had ordered a dozen chickens, and Hadj had brought them off to us alive. The Commodore pointed out to him

that in a boat only ten feet wide there was no room for a hen-coop, and that Hadi must despatch them before plucking them, "All right," said Hadj. "You give me knife." Orvis handed him a knife, and Hadj, taking one of the chickens by the head, proceeded to saw away at its neck, handling the knife somewhat after the fashion a violinist handles his bow. "Surely," said the Commodore, "you can kill it quicker than that?"— "How so?" indignantly replied Hadj. "You call this knife, this no good." Another was given him, and the poor fowls were soon put out of their misery. To give some idea of the prices charged at Tangiers, I have copied out a few items from Hadi's bill, which now lies before me. Fifty eggs, 10d.; four rabbits, 2s. (the rabbits were very small); twenty-nine pounds of beef, 12s. Id.; three pounds of butter, 6s, 6d.; one dozen chickens, I cannot make out how much milk we had altogether, but I see that I have a note on the bill to the effect that it was dear. It will thus be seen that while chickens, eggs, rabbits, and beef, were cheap, milk and butter were dear, water too was not cheap, as we had to pay 9s. 6d. for filling up our tank. As for flowers, you could buy bundles of lovely roses for next to nothing.

Unfortunately, the executions had rather spoiled the appetite of one of our visitors, and he

did not do that justice to his breakfast which I imagine the Commodore would liked to have seen. Breakfast over, they bade us farewell, and went off in Hadi's boat, Hadi first getting the Commodore to add to his list of testimonials, which he could conscientiously do. When our friends were some little distance off, they turned round to wave a final adieu, and at the same time one of them tried to comfort us by shouting, "You will never get back!" However we knew what the little Chiripa could do, and therefore this cheerful prophecy did not alarm us in the least. While we were getting up the anchor, the gun-boat Grappler, which had been at Gibraltar with us, went by, steering for Cadiz, and we exchanged compliments.

It is a marvel to me how it is that Tangiers has not yet come into fashion as a health resort. It takes only five days by one of the comfortable floating palaces of the P. and O. service from London to Gibraltar, while the cost is only £9, and Tangiers is but four hours from Gibraltar. Surely this would be less fatiguing—to say nothing of more comfortable—for an invalid than the wearisome railway journeys from Calais to Paris, and again from Paris to Nice or Mentone. As for the climate, Dr. C. J. B. Williams, the great authority, in his standard work on consumption,

says, "Tangiers stands as an intermediate between the Atlantic and Mediterranean climates;" and Dr. J. A. Lindsay in his climatic treatment of consumption says, speaking of the Riviera, "There is no such certainty in winter climate as may be had in Algiers or Morocco." In Tangiers, besides, you do not run the same risk of an earthquake, and you are certainly not obliged to wrap up after 5 P.M. to protect yourself from the Mistral. The hotels -though of course not so large-are equal in every respect to those on the Riviera, cleaner than some I could mention, and the charges are certainly not extortionate. Beautiful sites for building villas on can now be bought for a song, and I think the prices I have already given for provisions will compare favourably with any other health resort. Tangiers boasts a first class English doctor, an English clergyman, and an English consul; so while the first two gentlemen take care of your body and soul between them, the last will take care of your property.

CHAPTER VIII

THE anchor was soon up and catted, and with all plain sail set, we got under-way about 11. The wind was from the north, but very light, so light that we were scarce able to make any head against the current. However, it was a lovely day; we were close inshore, so we lolled about on the deck enjoying the grand view of the coast. At 5, still calm, the wind shifted to south-east, and we got the Berthon on deck, folded it up, and stowed it away in its usual place alongside the companion and saloon skylight. The Commodore then took his departure, and laid the course N.W.1W. About 5.30, Spartel lighthouse being about three miles off, as it was getting hazy, the Commodore thought it advisable to signal our friend according to promise. We signalled him two or three times, but could not get any response. Our glasses were scarcely strong enough to show a man at that elevation at that distance off. We had at all events kept our promise, and we tumbled down to dinner with good appetites and easy consciences.

Tuesday, I 3th May.—The weather was most aggravating, the wind still remaining light and shifty; during the course of the day it changed round to nearly every point of the compass, and as the clouds were dull and threatening, we scarcely knew what to expect; as we more or less anticipated, it freshened up considerably as the evening advanced.

Next morning the wind was blowing sufficiently hard for us to have to shift jibs and take in a reef. There was a very nasty short sea, and we were soon taking more water aboard than we did in the gale in the Bay.

Smack!—and some thirty or forty gallons of water were racing aft, pouring down the fo'castle, wetting all the men's bunks, then down the main companion, while the rest disappeared through the scuppers. Scarcely free of one wave before another was on top of us; go forward to shift the sheets and you got a wave over you which wet you through, in spite of oileys. Hold on to the shrouds and you got a wave which came to your middle, and when you did your trick at the tiller you never knew the moment you would be washed to the other side of the deck,

like your deck cushion, which was constantly washed from under you. The little boat seemed to know that we were not having a very gay time of it, and struggled bravely against the elements, coming up to time as bravely as any man who ever stood in a twenty-four foot ring; but wind and sea were too much for her, and all she could do was to keep her course and bravely take her knocking about. The wind kept on increasing during the night, and next morning it was blowing hard with a very heavy sea. You could not stand in the cabin without holding on, and you had to get your food the best way you could. The fire could not be lit in the stove, and it was hopeless to attempt to lav the cabin table.

One of the bookcases, screwed to the ceiling, came away, and one of Colt's heavy revolvers, which was in the rack on the port side, was flung right across to the other, making a considerable dent in the ceiling. It was most amusing to notice how, when you came off your watch and called up the next watch, "Now, then, wake up, starboard watch!" the individuals thus roused from their sleep would look you over to see if your oileys were streaming or not, and thus get some idea of what they were going to exchange their warm bunks for.

At 6.45 the Commodore hove her to, sailing her with foresail to mast. About I P.M. -in my watch-to add to our troubles, we had to tack to avoid a steamer. If there is one thing more annoying than another, it is in having to give way to these wretched channel and ocean bullies. The rules of the road are plain enough. All steamers must give way to sailing vessels; but the reverse is the case. Here we were having a nasty thrash, doing our best to get an extra mile or two out of her on each tack, and we had to lose the benefit of perhaps a couple of tacks to avoid being run down by a steamer. Over and over again, not only on this cruise but on others, we have had to tack to get out of the way of some wretched coasting collier. colliers are the curse of the channel. They most likely come out of port with nearly all hands helplessly drunk, one hand on deck, and that the man at the wheel, and the rest below getting over the effects of their last carouse, or, perhaps, commencing another. The man at the wheel has been set his course, and he is not going to alter it a quarter of a point to avoid anything which he thinks he can run down with impunity. To them it means nothing if they run into a small yacht or fishing smack. It would be something like a 'bus running down a perambulator or a costermonger's cart. The yacht or smack would be cut in two, while those on board the steamer would scarcely feel the shock, and the steamer would in all probability escape without If no one were rescued so much the better, as dead men tell no tales; but even if some one is fortunate enough to survive, and obtain the name of the vessel, and proceedings are eventually taken against the captain and owner of the offending boat, the decision of the court of inquiry—as in a recent running down case where one person was drowned-will be something to this effect: We find the steamer was entirely in fault; no blame can be attached to the captain of the yacht, and the court therefore orders that the certificate of the captain of the steamer shall be suspended for three months.

Can anything be more farcical? Most likely the captain takes a holiday for that time, receiving all the time full pay from his employers—who prefer a captain who drives along regardless of everything and makes quick passages—or else he acts as first mate, still receiving full money. But suppose for one moment that he only receives a first mate's pay for that three months, and gets a berth directly his time has expired, is that an adequate punishment for having wilfully and deliberately imperilled the lives of three or four,

or even a smaller number? The driver of a 'bus or van in our London streets who acted in that way would be tried for manslaughter, so would the driver of a locomotive, or even the captain of a small steam launch on the upper Thames; but the captains of these colliers and steam merchantmen seem to have a licence to murder. Of course these remarks do not apply to the large passenger vessels. These boats are well navigated, carefully handled, and always strictly observe the rule of the road. Till a steamer captain or two has been hanged, or received a sentence of penal servitude for life, the number of missing smacks will continue to increase, and small yachts will never be safe. An old yachtsman, a great friend of mine, will never stop out in the channel at night if he can possibly make a harbour, as he says the danger of being run down is too great.

A well-built and well-found yacht of from 17 to 20 tons, properly handled and navigated, will go anywhere, and with the exception of the risk you run of being washed overboard, you are safer on board a little yacht than on a big steamer. The dangers proper of yachting can be summed up in one word—Steamers.

The next day the wind went down a good deal, and at midnight it was easy, though there

was still a very nasty popple. At 2 on Saturday morning-in my watch-we had to tack twice to avoid steamers. At 10 A.M. the wind had moderated so much that we were able to shake out two reefs in the mainsail, one in the foresail. and stand in for the Tagus. Going in by the south channel, we ran up the river at a grand pace, but off Belem had to heave-to as usual to wait for the quarantine officers. At last they came off in a small steam launch and signalled to us to come alongside; with the main-sheet well hauled in we ran alongside and delivered our papers, but the man had scarcely seized them with his tongs before we had shot ahead. Hauling the boom in till it was almost amidships, we still ran ahead of them, although they were doing all they knew to keep up with us. This did not seem to please the officer in charge, who afterwards turned out to be the sanitary doctor who had made-or perhaps, I should rather say, had tried to make-himself so agreeable on our first visit to Lisbon. Having carefully perused our papers, he roared out, as we were fast leaving the launch astern, "Have you been anywhere else?"-"Yes, Algesiras," answered the Commodore.— "Oh! then you have quarantine; go and anchor over there," pointing to the anchorage in front of the old convent of St. Jeronymite, "and put your

flag up." Orvis came aft looking very much disgusted, and the dirty yellow quarantine flag was run up. "I thought he'd play you that trick," he said, "because you didn't get him to attend Mr. Mac when we were here last." Running in amongst some small coasters, all flying the bilious yellow burgee, we brought up off the convent at 4.30.

Here was a nice state of affairs. We had had an uncommonly nasty thrash from Tangiers lasting six days, during which time we had scarcely ever been dry, and certainly never had a square meal, and here we were pinned up in quarantine within sight of Lisbon for three days, simply because we had touched at Algesiras—a place where, as I have explained in earlier chapters, there is no quarantine arrangements, and consequently a place which could not be in the black list, and, as we found out afterwards, was not in the list at all.

After dinner—only the second hot one since we had left Tangiers—we had a long consultation as to what was to be done. We all agreed that, as we were entirely in the hands of the quarantine officers, it would not be advisable to annoy them; while it was most necessary that we should have an explanation as to the reason of our having been put in quarantine, considering that all our bills of health were clean ones. The Commodore

solved the difficulty by proposing that next morning we should hoist F C V L—J V R—J V W of the commercial code of signals, which meant: Wanted fresh beef, butter, eggs and milk. He pointed out that some one would have to answer the signal, and then, when the sportsman came alongside, we could press for an explanation. This was unanimously agreed to, and with full and final blessings on all quarantine officers, we turned in.

The next morning I was awakened about 7 by a boat hailing us. I didn't turn out, as I don't see the force of doing that in harbour, but listened anxiously. "You capitano, sar?" was what I heard first, and then I recognised the oily accent of the Commodore as he sweetly owned to the soft impeachment. "What you want?"— "Why, fresh milk, eggs, meat, water, vegetables, everything!"-"All right, sar, you may have agent's boat alongside; will tell him to come off." He was evidently then going to row away, but the Commodore roared out, "Here, I say, why are we in quarantine?"—"I don't know, sar; but you can come ashore and see chief officer." and he then scuttled away. Not long afterwards provisions of all sorts were brought on board, and we sat down to a splendid breakfast.

It was a perfect morning. The wind had dropped almost entirely, and the sun was shining

as it never seems to shine in our "tight little island." We brought cushions and pillows on deck, filled our pipes, and while reposing comfortably, discussed our chances of being let off our three days' boycotting. At 11 the Commodore went ashore to interview the chief quarantine officer. It seemed to us hours before we saw him returning, but directly we could make him out we saw him shaking his head most ominously. "No go," he said as he jumped on deck.—" Whom did you see?" I asked, as I thought if he had interviewed the man who had put us into quarantine there was no likelihood of getting any remission of the sentence from him.—" The head man," was the Commodore's doleful reply.— "What did he say?"—"Only that the doctor had put us in quarantine."—"What for?"—"He didn't know, but he was a good old sportsman; and although he put me in a sort of kennel, and only spoke to me through a tiny aperture, he was very civil. He said he would send up to the doctor's private house and ask him his reasons for putting us in quarantine." To cut a long story short, at 2 the same day a boat came off with a note, of which the following is a faithful copy:---

"Mr. CAPTAIN—Doctor, chief officer of this Board of Health, says, that he put you in quarantine, in consequence

of your having touched some ports of the Mediterranean, including Algesiras.

" Belem.

"The Interpreter of the Board of Health.

" J. MASCASENHAS.

"17/5/85."

When the Commodore read it, he was simply "Algesiras," he said, "is not in the Mediterranean."-" Then come ashore and bring your log and chart," said the officer in charge.-"Certainly," said the Commodore; and then to us in a stage whisper, "By Jove, I must scratch that It appeared that when he had been ordered into quarantine, he had made the following entry in the log: "Brought up by order of quarantine officers (idiots)." This, however, was carefully altered into "pro tem" before he went ashore. Luckily he was not asked to show his log, for when he convinced them from the chart that Algesiras was not in the Mediterranean, they let us go, as we had clean bills of health from every other place, having been imprisoned for twentytwo hours through their own ignorance. We soon hauled down the quarantine flag, and getting under-way, brought up at our old anchorage at 3. As we were all dying to get ashore and stretch our legs, after having been cooped up in a little boat for six days, we lost no time over our

toilettes, and were soon on terra firma. After indulging in the luxury of a bottle of English beer, we had a bath and a shampoo, and sat down to an excellent dinner at the "Hotel Centrale," which we did full justice to.

At 10.30 next morning, according to arrangement, the proprietor of the hotel had a carriage and pair waiting to take us to Cintra. drive, until you get to Cintra itself, is most uninteresting. We stopped at a small village, the name of which I was unable to catch, about halfway, in order to feed the horses, but it struck us forcibly that the coachman did all the eating and drinking. I certainly did not see the horses get anything to eat or drink, but I did see the coachman pour vinegar over their loins: none of us had ever heard of this practice before, and I cannot imagine what possible benefit it can be. The whole time we were detained at the little inn we were of course persecuted by the usual swarm of loathsome mendicants. I say loathsome, because to obtain your pity they expose their deformities or open sores, and sometimes the sight is most sickening. Getting bolder, the small boys and girls—nearly all of them suffering from sore eyes-invaded our room, and we had to take refuge in our carriage. After driving for about one hour and a half more over an extensive heath, we reached the foot of a rocky mountain, but well clothed with trees; bearing to the right of it we entered a pretty village, nestling under the shadow of the rock, and turning sharp to the left round the base of the mountain, Cintra lay before us.

"Lo! Cintra's glorious Eden intervenes In variegated maze of mount and glen. Ah, me! what hand can pencil guide, or pen, To follow half on which the eye dilates; Through views more dazzling unto mortal ken, Than those whereof such things the bard relates-Who to the awe-struck world unlock'd Elysium's gates? The horrid crags, by toppling convent crowned, The cork trees hoar, that clothe the shaggy steep, The mountain moss, by scorching skies unbrowned, The sunken glen, whose sunless shrubs must weep, The tender azure of the unruffled deep, The orange tints that gild the greenest bough, The torrents that from cliff to valley leap, The vine on high, the willow branch below, Mixed in one mighty scene with varied beauty glow."

The road now runs downhill to the village, or town. On the right, in the valley far below, a fantastic group of buildings attracts the eye; it looks more like a collection of used-up lime-kilns than anything else. We could not ask our coachman, as we had found out a long time before that he could only speak Portuguese; but when we arrived at "Lawrence's Hotel," we were

informed that that building was the Palaccio Real, and the conical buildings were merely the kitchen chimneys.

Cintra is situated in a fertile basin, surrounded by rocky mountains—but all the same well covered with trees and verdure, which hide the sea from view; but from any of these heights, especially from the Palaccio de Pena, a view can be obtained which baffles description. We were told that it was from there that a look-out was kept to see if there were any signs of Vasco de Gama's returning fleet, and it appears that from that point it was discovered. After an excellent lunch, which did not lose anything by being served to us by a charming English Hebe, we took mules to ride up to the Palaccio de Pena-better known, I believe, as Pena Convent, as it formerly belonged to the monks of the beautiful Jeronymite convent at Belem, which we had so many opportunities of studying when we were anchored off it during our twenty-two hours' quarantine. It was fearfully hot-not a breath of air, and the road which zigzagged up the mountain was uncommonly steep. Imagine my delight when, after having gone about one hundred yards, my mule declined to go a foot farther. The muleteer exerted his utmost powers of persuasion, which consisted in striking the poor beast over the head

with a formidable-looking bludgeon, but it was no good, and I had to make the rest of the ascent on foot, hauling the beast after me, while the muleteer brought up the rear. I must honestly confess that my companions were just as stubborn as the mule, as, although I did my best to persuade them to get off and let me ride instead, they all turned a deaf ear to my convincing arguments and refused to assist me in any way. I think I felt the disappointment I experienced at finding them so selfish, more than the heat and labour of the climb. Presently we reached the gates, and leaving our mules, entered the gardens.

CHAPTER IX

THE change was wonderful: from the strong glare of the sun and the intense heat we entered into profound shadow and a deliciously cool atmosphere. It was as if we had stepped from the sunny side of the road—on which only dogs and Englishmen walk, according to a Spanish saying -into some old cathedral; only in our case we had trees for pillars, and the roof was a beautiful canopy of graceful foliage, which sheltered us effectually from the sun's scorching rays. Beneath these canopies extend mossy lawns. their swells, fragrant with perfumed herbs and eyed with blooms, minute yet beautiful." ing shrubs and choice ferns were there in profusion, and the murmur of falling water could be heard on every side. The walks have, nearly all, been cut out of the living rock, and the labour must have been very heavy. The building is constructed on the very summit of the peak, and the ramparts which surround it are also hewn out of the solid rock. The cloisters—a charming place to meditate, smoke, or flirt in—have been left very much as they were when the unlucky monks were driven out from this terrestrial paradise.

There is nothing very particular about the old monastery itself, but it was some time before we could tear ourselves away from the lovely panorama which stretched out below us. Far away to the west was the blue Atlantic, in front was the mouth of the Tagus, and turning to the north, as far as the eye could see, were miles and miles of plain, only broken by "Mafra's majestic pile." However, we had to think about getting back. Reluctantly we left the charming scene, and found our mules patiently waiting for us. I had no trouble with my animal, and we had an exciting ride back to the hotel. I have already mentioned in a former chapter that the road zigzagged up to the convent; coming back the muleteer ran behind us, distributing resounding blows most impartially among the mules, then ran down the face of the hill, perhaps catching us in time at the lower corner to favour the mules with some more of his attentions, and so on to the bottom. had a pleasant drive back, dined at the "Centrale," and went on board early, taking with us a gentleman whom we had met at the hotel on our former visit, and who had agreed to go with us as far as Vigo, on condition that he was to be allowed to go as passenger, and would not be called upon to keep watch, or do anything else. The Commodore readily excused him, and we were very glad of his company, but Mac complained bitterly, and said it was not at all fair.

Next morning, the 13th, we got under-way about 7 o'clock, and with a light breeze dropped down the Tagus. About 8.30, the wind beginning to freshen, the Commodore took in a reef and got the dinghy on board, and made it fast in its usual place. At mid-day it was blowing very hard, and the wind had shifted from N. to N.b.W., so we took in second and third reefs, then we tacked in for the land and commenced another enjoyable thrash. At 3 o'clock, Cape Roca bearing east, we let go the log. The rest of the afternoon we kept tacking on and off the land. At 4.15 we hauled the log and found we had done seven miles, which, as it was done on a wind, was not encouraging. All night long we were at it, perpetually shifting sheets, and getting a ducking every time; it had turned cold too, and the consumption of rum was prodigious. Mr. J---, our Lisbon friend, had decidedly the best of it; and when Mac and I came off our watch, wet through, and saw him slumbering peacefully in his warm bunk, I agreed with Mac

that it was a disgusting sight. At 3 we sighted the Burlins light, bearing N.N.E., and not long afterwards passed it, taking the outside course.

In the morning the wind eased up a bit, so at 1.15 the Commodore set second jib and shook out two reefs in the mainsail. At 6 o'clock the wind commenced to freshen, and at 8 it was blowing very hard from north-west, so it looked as if we were going to have another night's fun. At 12, midnight, the wind shifted to N.N.W., and we had a succession of heavy squalls.

Next morning, although the wind had died away completely, there was a very heavy swell running, and the boat rolled about in a way that was anything but comfortable. At 2.30 burst reef earring, and hove-to and shook out reef. At 3 o'clock, the roll being very heavy, we burst the main-outhaul. As we hoped to fetch Vigo that evening, a sharp look-out was kept for Bayona Island; towards evening, however, it came on hazy, and as the light is one of the highest in the world, being over 600 feet above the level of the sea, it is consequently very often obscured by the clouds. We certainly could not make it out, but the Commodore decided to run in. About 8 o'clock we could just make out Bayona Island towering out of the water right ahead of

us, but even then we could not make out any light. The weather had been getting thicker and thicker, making it impossible to see any distance. The Commodore was bent on getting in that night, and so we stood in by the north passage. It was ticklish work, as you could not see fifty yards. Orvis was steering, Jack was in the bows on the look-out, the Commodore and I were standing by the shrouds on the port side, when presently Jack roared out, "Breakers ahead!" Yes, there they were quite clear, and we could hear the roar of the water as it beat against the submerged rocks.

"Down with the helm!" yelled the Commodore, and with a swish the little boat came round, and we stood out to sea again, after as narrow a little shave as any of us were ever in. Only those who have experienced it can realise the effect produced by those two simple words, "Breakers ahead!" I cannot describe it, but I know it sent a cold shiver down my back, and I did not feel better till we were well out at sea again. Three or four minutes more and we would have been hard and fast on the rocks, and with such a heavy swell rolling it would not have been long before nothing but the *Chiripa's* bones had been left for the seas to lick, and of course we would not have stood a chance with the Berthon,

even if we had succeeded in launching it. The Commodore, after having taken in a reef, hove her to on the port tack, and I turned in.

Next morning we found we had drifted a long way back, and as the wind was very light we did not bring up at Vigo till half-past seven P.M. By the time we had made her snug, it was too late to think of going ashore, so we dined on board. It was quite a comfort to be able to have the table laid and to be able to eat like a Christian, off a plate, and without having to hold on.

Early next morning Manuelo was alongside with everything we could desire, amongst other things some delicious strawberries, and we had a splendid breakfast. Coming on board about I for our lunch, we saw that the Vanadis, a steam yacht of 300 tons, had come in, and while we were at lunch, her owner came on board and kindly invited us all to dine with him that night, and the Commodore accepted the invitation. spent the afternoon idling about the shore and showing Mr. J--- the sights, and we did not forget to call on the manager of the "Hotel Continental" and sample some English beer. At halfpast six the steam launch from the Vanadis was kindly sent to fetch us, and we spent a delightful evening on board. About eleven o'clock we bade good-bye to our kind host, who expressed his

doubts as to our ever getting back to England, and he also said that "although he was going to stop at Vigo two days and two at Corunna, he would be back at Southampton before we were." His prophecy, however, did not come true, as we were at Southampton at least ten days before him.

The next morning the Vanadis party paid us a visit, and were pleasantly surprised at the extent of the Chiripa's accommodation. We exchanged books, and were delighted to get something fresh to read. We informed our friends of the curious news we had heard at the Consul's that morning, i.e. that the cholera had broken out in England, and, of all places in the world, at Durham, but we could not fancy cholera in that dreariest of The Commodore told them he cathedral towns. would get under-way after lunch, and they said they would look out for us, and wishing us a safe passage they steamed away. Lunch despatched, our friend, Mr. J ----, wished us good-bye, and was put ashore by Jack, it being his intention to return to Lisbon by train. Before we say goodbye to Mr. J --- I think I ought here to repeat a story-not an anecdote, but a fact-which he told us. We had been complaining to him about the way in which we had been mobbed whenever we went to the theatre at Lisbon, and at the

same time expressed our astonishment at the unusual amount of politeness we received from the manager and all the employees at the hotel. So far as the mobbing at the theatre went, we had attributed it, more or less, to our costume, because, as our wardrobe was limited, and we never knew what weather we might have to go off in, we always went ashore in blue flannels, yachting caps, and shoes. We had raised the question one evening, over our pipes, when he said, much to our amusement, "Why, don't you really know?"-" No, certainly not," was our reply; "unless it was our generally disreputable appearance."—" Nothing of the kind. The fact is, it was in all the papers when you first arrived that you were four English noblemen who had made a very heavy wager that they would do the trip from England to Gibraltar and back; and the manager told me that lots of people came to the hotel simply to stare at the representatives of England's old nobility." I can only hope we did it credit. While Jack was away a big bouquet of fresh flowers was affixed to the Chiripa's bowsprit, the anchor was weighed and made fast inboard, and under all plain sail, we bore down on the Vanadis, running close alongside, we dipped, and, with waving of hats and handkerchiefs, bade good-bye to the Vanadis and to Vigo.

CHAPTER X

IT was a perfect day—just such a day as we had when we left Vigo for Lisbon—and we looked forward hopefully to a pleasant crossing. There was next to no wind, but what there was, was from the north, so it was not till 7.30 that we got clear of Bayona Island, going through the north passage. We were very glad when we were clear, as it was rather thick, and it was fast getting thicker. At 8.30 the wind freshened up considerably, so we hove-to, took in two reefs, and shifted to fourth jib. There was a nasty lumpy sea running, and we shipped a lot of water. After midnight, to our great joy, the haze commenced to lift and the wind eased.

Next day, 26th May, broke nice and fine. We met several steamers during the day. Shortly after mid-day the Commodore shook out two reefs, and we set second jib. At 7 o'clock we tacked in to Finisterre light, bearing N.b.E., and distant about five miles. Hour after hour

did we stand on and off the shore, but we did not seem able to shake off the light. It was a lovely night, quite clear, and a bright moon. I think the moon must have been accountable for it, as during our watch Mac concocted the following poem, with which he favoured us the next morning:—

"TO THE COMMODORE.

"When at the helm I breathed a prayer, But you were hard of hearing, That when I reached Cape Finisterre, That I might finish steering."

At I o'clock A.M. Finisterre light, then bearing E.1S., suddenly disappeared. The Commodore then laid course north-east, and took departure. It was such a lovely night that I did not mind yielding to Mac's entreaties to dog one watch, as there was certainly no necessity for more than two to be on deck at a time. When I relieved Mac and came on deck I went forward as usual to inspect our side lights, and found the starboard one had gone out, so I came aft and took the tiller from Orvis, while he went below to trim and re-light it. I was alone on deck, not the first time by many, but this was such a perfect night that one could, for a short time at least, realise "how passing sweet is solitude." I know nothing so impressive as to be alone at sea at night. The feeble glimmer which straggles through the saloon skylight, and the light from the binnacle, only seem to throw the forward part of the vessel into deeper shadow. No lights in sight, no land, and no sound, except the splash of the water as a sea occasionally strikes the vessel, or a porpoise playing round, brings his head out of the water with a splash and a snort, close by where you are sitting steering, causing you, the first time you hear it at night, to jump and almost fall off your cushion. If it is impressive in calm weather, it is awesome when rough. It is then you really realise the sea's irresistible power.

In a few minutes Orvis came up, and having lit his pipe, began to entertain me with one of his yarns. He is a first-class watch mate, as he has got an inexhaustible fund of stories, which he relates with much humour, so that the time passes merrily, and you can scarcely believe you have been on deck for four hours. One of his yarns, and one which I never heard without laughing, will, I think, bear repetition here. Talking about the meanness of a certain large yacht owner, he used to say, "You may laugh, sir, but it's perfectly true; the very mice on board that boat used to go about with tears in their eyes for want of something to eat."

That night there was scarcely any wind, and

yet, in the Bay, we had to tack no less than four times to avoid the yachtsman's curse—steamers. In the morning we had a fresh breeze S.W.b.W., and the sky was overcast. About mid-day the wind softened, but only for us to have it very thick about an hour afterwards, and then, to make things still more comfortable, we had some nice fine rain.

Next evening we passed an English-armoured turret ship, of the Glatton class; she was going more under than over the water, her decks being a-wash, and was apparently making shocking bad weather of it. I don't think any one of us on board the *Chiripa* would have willingly changed places with the individuals on board that vessel, though it was one of our glorious iron kettles.

29th May.—It was still raining, but we had a fair breeze. About 8 o'clock P.M. we took soundings with armoured lead, got eighty fathoms, and brought up white shells, showing we were off the Ushant. As this may not be quite intelligible to some of my readers, I will attempt to explain it.

The charts have marked on them the depth of water you will find in the different degrees of latitude and longitude, and besides that, they tell you what the character of the bottom is in those places, *i.e.* whether it is rock or shells, or

sand, or clay, or even what sort of sand, or shell, or clay you ought to meet with. I may further say that an armoured lead is a lead with an opening in the base, which is filled up with tallow or some greasy substance, to which the sand, shells, etc., adhere; therefore, when the lead showed eighty fathoms and we brought up the white shells, we knew we were off the Ushant.

There are lots of fishermen who know nothing whatever about navigation, but who will take you half round the coast of England by the use of the lead line alone.

30th.—A shocking nasty raw morning, with a horrid drizzle. We were once more getting into our detestable English climate, and pea-jackets and mufflers were again in demand. The Commodore became rather anxious at not making land, although for the last week he had begun to distrust his patent log. According to the log, we ought to have been close home, but we could see no signs of land. As there was a nasty haze, the Commodore's anxiety increased, and when at three o'clock we sighted the barque Achille, of Dunkerque, he determined to speak her and verify his position; accordingly we ran alongside. was a long job, as, although we were sailing with our foresail to the mast, we would shoot right ahead of the old tub before we had time to get

an answer, and then have to come round and repeat the process. However, we found our position was quite correct, and the log had played us the trick.

About 4 o'clock P.M. it came on very thick, and Jack was set to work with the fog horn, or, as it is endearingly called, the little squeaker. I remember once being in Dieppe harbour, and a French yacht lay close to us; the sailors belonging to it made night hideous with their songs and their violent but unsuccessful attempts to extract melody from a concertina. We in the cabin did not like it at all, and it was evident that our men liked it less, as one night, when the concert on board the neighbouring boat had nearly driven us frantic, Jack came on deck-of course with something more than Orvis's tacit permission—and played the little squeaker till they were reduced to silence. Every night after that, when they started a concert Jack did so too, and he was always left in possession of the field.

It got thicker and thicker, and so at 7 o'clock the Commodore hove-to. We had a hideous night of it; all round us we could hear the steamers whistling, and never knew the moment we might not see the bows of some adjectived collier towering above us. At 10

o'clock the haze lifted and we sailed her again, and at 11.15 we sighted the Eddystone, bearing N.1 E.

When we came on deck after breakfast next morning the fog had cleared away and the sun was shining brightly, as if to welcome us on our Right ahead of us we could see Rame Several times during the morning we Head. were hailed by fishermen asking us where we were from, and I fancy this must have been on account of the Chiripa's battered, rakish, and generally disreputable appearance. A little after ten o'clock we passed the west end of the breakwater and entered Plymouth Sound, having been seven weeks away. What a different appearance it presented to when we were there last. Then there were only a few fishing smacks, two or three small yachts anchored off the pier, a revenue cutter and Now it looked animated and one steamer. positively gay, for some twenty or more oceangoing steamers—the finest of their class, among them the Oregon, which has since been lost in a very mysterious way off Newfoundland-newly painted, decked with all their available bunting and with steam up, were brought up waiting for orders, never, alas, to arrive.

They were the vessels commissioned to take out stores and the troops who were going to peg

back the Russians. It made one's heart glad to think that at last we were going to put a stop to Russia's insolence, and at all events put a check on her further advance. But it was not to be, and after wasting millions of money, we drew back as usual. When the Russians get to Herat, I suppose we shall find that it is not necessary for our defence of India, and so on and so on, till they are in India itself, and then, as usual, it will be too late. At 11.30 we brought up inside the Cattwater, and a few minutes after the Custom-House officers came on board. High and low they searched; in the bunks, in the drawers, under the cushions, in the wine lockers, not a place was left unvisited; but as there was nothing to find they went away empty-handed. my experience I have never known a yacht treated in that way before, and I can only come to the conclusion that the officials at Plymouth are unusually polite. It may be as well to mention that this was the only time in the whole cruise that we were searched, or, in fact, had any unpleasantness. It was a nice welcome home. hurried ashore, as we wanted to stretch our legs, and we were all anxious to see if English beer still retained its flavour. We took the dogs ashore, it being only the second time that they had had a run since leaving Vigo, and the puppy

had only once been ashore since we bought him at Algesiras. Anything more ridiculous than his walk it would be almost impossible to imagine, and even now at the time I write he has not been able to get over his sea roll. He walks exactly as if he had extremely high-heeled boots on his hind legs, so that his quarters are at times at right angles with his fore body. He kept us in roars of laughter, and was an unfailing source of attraction to all the small boys and gals in Plymouth.

At first we could not make out why everybody we met turned round to stare at us, but it presently seemed to us that our complexions were rather darker than the majority of the people we met; and not having shaved since we left England, we presented rather a hirsute and ragged appearance. A visit to the nearest hairdresser, and things were soon put right; but unfortunately in getting shaved we made matters rather worse, as the parts of our faces which had been protected were quite fair, and the rest of the skin was almost as black as a Our appearance was most ludicrous, and we could scarcely look at one another without laughing. The Commodore lunched and dined with us at the Grand Hotel on the Hoe, and went up to town by the night train, as he had to be in town by 10.30 next morning, kindly leaving the boat at our disposal. The Commodore caught his train and kept his appointment, which he had made before he left England; as great a feat of punctuality as any of Monte Christo's. He had travelled nearly 2800 miles, reckoning it from Aldeburgh, in a small sailing yacht, and only arrived at Plymouth about twenty-four hours before time, having about fifteen hours to spare.

The next day Mac and I took things very easily. For once in a way we were not disturbed in our sleep by the odious cry of, "Now then, port watch, turn out," and we were able to sleep the sleep of the just.

Monday, 1st June.—We loafed about, bathed, and enjoyed ourselves thoroughly. We made arrangements with Hawke to have the boat photographed, and next day several instantaneous photos were taken from the Cattwater. Wednesday morning we got under-way, bound for Southampton. There was a nasty haze and a very light wind. About 3 o'clock we were becalmed, and in a very ugly fog. About four hundred yards off on our port quarter was a large schooner becalmed also. Of course the little squeaker was brought into use, and day or night, it was hard to say which it was, was made hideous. Presently we heard the whistle of a steamer, but from which direction the sound came was, as is often the case in a fog, hard to make out; but presently I saw

Orvis rush forward, seize the little squeaker from Jack, and blow through it, for all he was worth. "Good Heavens!" he roared, "she'll be into us." We then made out that a big steamer was bearing straight down upon us. We were utterly helpless; there was not even sufficient wind to make the sails flap, and an accident seemed inevitable. Suddenly it seemed that the people on the steamer had perceived us, as her helm was put hard a-starboard, which would have had the effect of clearing us and going outside of us, but just as we thought we were all right, they put the helm hard a-port, and once more we thought they were coming into us; however, they raced by between us and the schooner at a pace which, considering how the fog was, was certainly most dangerous. The steamer came close enough to us for me to read her name, and I saw she was the Electra, which, I believe, belongs to one of the telegraph companies.

The wind continued light. We called in at Southampton for our dinghy, and found that the steamer which had heliographed us had reported having seen us off Lisbon, and that, so far as they could make out, we had lost our boat and topmast, and that we must certainly have foundered in the gale which they met with two hours afterwards. We stopped the night at Southampton, and got

under-way early next morning; not too early, but just early enough, as Mac and I are quite of one mind that it is a great mistake to make a toil of pleasure. Somehow or other the anchor would not come up, and in a weak moment I volunteered to help. As there is very little room in the bows, the Commodore is obliged to have one of the patent windlasses, worked by a lever. I had an hour of this amusement, as our anchor had got foul of some moorings, and we had to keep on heaving it up a little and then letting it out again. If any one wants to get into condition I would recommend a little of this exercise, as I believe the treadmill must be child's play to it. Directly it was up, I went below to refresh, and Mac followed, as he thought that no doubt I might not care to drink by myself. While we were thus pleasantly occupied I heard a good deal of cheering, and going up the companion, I found Orvis was receiving quite an ovation from the different yachts as we ran by, so I once more retreated below. We had nothing but light winds, calms, and fogs from here to Dover, where we eventually brought up in the Wick at 5 o'clock A.M., on Monday, June the 8th, thus bringing a delightful cruise to a successful termination.

The dire forebodings of the croakers, cowards, and Solent sailors had not been realised. I

cannot conclude without saying that in his choice of the crew Orvis had shown himself a shrewd judge of character, as no matter what the circumstances might be, they were always cool and courageous, cheerful and civil. We had no grumblers on board, and it will give me much pleasure to ship with them again, even if only as one of the crew.

Note.—Since the above was written I have seen a copy of the report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the cause of the upsetting of the life-boats off Southport, on the night of December the 10th, 1886. The Daily Telegraph described it as "An Awful Night at Sea." I see from the report that "at Lytham it was blowing 7 by Beaufort's scale." In the gale we were in the Bay, on April the 13th and 14th, the wind was registered at Biarritz as blowing 9, of course by the same scale. One may then fairly assume that it was blowing at least 10 outside. That being the case, I think we may fairly claim to have once more established the fact that a small boat, well built, well found, and properly handled, will go anywhere, and live in almost any sea.

APPENDIX

As the majority of those who read the newspapers nowadays never think of looking at or for the shipping intelligence—which is generally printed in small type and hidden away in some obscure corner-and would never know or believe that a vessel was ever lost in any other but the orthodox ways so dear to novelists, such as springing a leak, being wrecked, or catching fire, if their attention was not every now and then attracted, by a sensational headline printed in heavy leaded type, to the exciting details of some fearful disaster, such as the loss of the North Fleet, the running down of the Princess Alice, or perhaps the collision between the royal yacht and the Mistletoe, I have for their benefit, and as a justification of what I have said about the reckless way in which steamers are now navigated, compiled a list as nearly complete as possible of the yachts, sailing vessels, barges, etc., which have been run down or come into collision with steamers during the last thirteen years.

This list of course deals only with those cases where I have been able to find a full report, but how often does it occur that the poor fisherman's wife waits at the end of the pier or jetty, with one little one in her arms

and a little toddler hanging on to her skirts, straining her eyes gazing out to sea heedless of the spindrift which flies in her face, bedraggling her scanty gown, running down on to her for the moment forgotten babe, and making her other little one cry petulantly to "mither" to take her home,—wearily waiting for the bread-winner, never, alas! to return.

Several smacks missing, supposed to have been lost in the last gale, will be all the notice in the paper; but to those who really know the seaworthiness of our smacks, and how ably they are handled, this report will not be hurriedly accepted, but they will heartily sympathise, and will understand what is meant when they hear some fishermen say, "Poor Bill! lost? Not he, run down by one of them —— steamers." No report appears, those on board the steamer feel nothing, and perhaps know nothing, only a smack is missing!

Cases where steamers have been run down or come into collision with other steamers are not given, nor those where sailing vessels have come into collision with other sailing vessels. I have besides set out nine judgments—taken at random from the reported Board of Trade Inquiries, with the exception that I have given the preference to those cases of collision which have been attended with loss of life—in order that the public may see for themselves the value which our officials place on the lives of those who are foolish enough to go to sea.

When one reads a judgment something like the



¹ In the case of the running down of the yacht *May Fly*, a schooner of 120 tons, it was reported after the accident by some of those on board the steamer that they felt nothing, and did not know that anything had happened till they heard the cries of the drowning people.

following-and it is not an isolated instance-where an open boat on the high seas, in broad daylight and in perfectly calm weather, had been run down by a steamer because the officer in charge of the steamer imagined he would just miss the boat, and therefore kept going ahead till too late to avoid an accident, thinking he would chance it, and consequently several lives were lost; and one then reads that the Court decided that the officer was to blame for not giving way to the boat according to the Regulations, yet they could only say it was an error of judgment, and considering his excellent character, they did not propose to deal with his certificate, one is frightened to express what one really Just fancy a station-master, in bold defiance of the rules for the Regulation of Traffic, letting a train go on because he thought he could chance it: would that man be let down so easily? Take another case which is quoted at the end of this Appendix, where the mate of the steamer—this was in the Channel too—was found to blame for not having kept a proper look-out, and having only one man on deck, and where the Court said "the steamer was not navigated in a seamanlike manner." This was also a fatal collision, but will any one venture to say that if the same sort of accident (?) had happened on shore the accused would have got off in the same ridiculously easy manner? Let the reader go through these cases and judge for himself.

This list does not pretend, at least so far as the ten years from 1875 to 1885, to be by any means a complete one, as for that period they have been taken only from *The Field*, which I imagine simply mentions cases of collisions where yachts are concerned, and very

likely is not able to spare the space to report every case which occurs. It must also be borne in mind that the number of yachts which are put in commission every year is very limited, and that the majority of them are not in commission for more than four months.

For the remaining three years, from 1885 to 1888, I have gone to the pages of the *Shipping Gazette*, which, I believe, is the official paper.

There are three other cases of collision besides those I have set out at the end, in two of which several lives were lost, but which I have not set out, or taken into account in any way, as I have been unable to find a full report, and without the report of the Board of Trade Inquiry before me I am unwilling to apportion the blame. One of these must be fresh in the public mind, as I believe an illustration of the accident appeared in more than one paper. I refer to the running down of the mission smack (belonging to the Society for Providing Mission Vessels for the North Sea Fishermen), when four lives were lost; another is the sinking of the Kalafish (yacht), when both the owner and his wife were drowned; and the last is the running down of the pilot cutter (Maiden) in fine weather and in broad daylight off Aldeburgh. In the analysis which follows I have only laid the blame on the steamer or sailing vessel when the decision arrived at by the Court has been such as to leave no doubt in any one's mind, and all other cases where there is a shadow of doubt I have put both vessels down as in fault. Looking through all these cuttings, it appears from my collection that in the thirteen years, from 1874 to 1888, there have been 130 cases of collision or running down, in which 120 lives

were lost. While all the blame has been attached to the steamer, in no less than 60 occasions out of the 85 where I have been able to find that there has been an inquiry, or an action at law, in only 16 cases have the sailing vessels or barges been proved to have been in the Blame has been attached to both in 6 instances, and only 3 cases have been found to have been accidental. It is scarcely necessary to point out to any one that a captain of a steamer has far greater command over his ship than the captain of a sailing vessel, but in spite of that we find, out of the reports which I have been able to discover, that the number of occasions when steamers were held in fault was 60 to 16 of the sailing vessels; while the loss of life occasioned by these collisions was for the former 72, and for the latter 14. Some one may say that I have only accounted for 85 out of 130 cases, but the reason for that is that I have been unable to find that any proceedings were taken in the others. With the exception of one case, where it was decided that both vachts were to blame. I have been unable to find a single instance where it has been held that the yacht has not been navigated with proper and seamanlike care, or where a proper look-out has not been kept. It is satisfactory to note that out of all the cases I have set out-where an inquiry has been held or legal proceedings have ensued—that in two only has the Court come to the decision that the officer or officers in command were guilty of inhumanity—by that is meant not attempting to save life-but I much regret to have to say that in both those cases the vessels were English, commanded by English officers and manned (?) by Englishmen.

FROM 'THE FIELD'

- 18th December 1875 to 5th December 1885
- 18th December 1875.—The 'Lady Ambrosine' (s.) v. the 'Princess Royal.' Collision.
- 1st April 1876.—Collision with a yacht the 'Ytene' v. the 'Solent' (s.) Moens v. Solent Steam Packet Company.
- 1st January 1881.—The yacht 'Lily' and a tug. Collision.
- 5th August 1882.—The yacht 'Wave Queen' and the 'St. Malo' (s.) Collision.
- 29th July 1882.—Loss of the 'May Fly.' Collision. 'Valhalla' (s.) and 'May Fly.' Six lives lost.
- 9th September 1882.—Board of Trade Inquiry into the running down of the yacht 'May Fly.'
- 22d September 1883. Loss of the 'Challenge.' Collision. 'Ossian' (s.), 'Challenge.'
- 26th April 1884.—The 'Enchantress.' Running down case. 'India' (s.), 'Enchantress.'
- 28th June 1884.—Sinking of the 'Olga.' Running down case. 'Violet' (s.), 'Olga.'
- 6th September 1882.—Collision in the Solent, a yacht sunk. 'Prince Leopold' (s.), 'Juanita.'
- 15th November 1882.—The 'Vanessa.' Collision. 'Don' (s.), 'Vanessa.' One life lost.
- 6th December 1882.—Collision, the 'Vanessa' and 'Don' (s). Board of Trade Inquiry.
- 5th December 1885.—The collision between yachts off Cowes. 'Brilliant' (s.), 'Avalanche.'

FROM THE 'SHIPPING GAZETTE'

23d JANUARY 1885 TO DECEMBER 1887

- 23d January 1885.—Before Mr. Justice Butt. The 'Magdeburgh' (s.) v. the 'Henry Villard.' Collision. Seven lives lost.
- 23d January 1885.—Before Mr. Justice Butt. The 'Luke Bruce' v. the 'Durango.' Collision. Whole crew drowned with exception of mate, who died very shortly afterwards.
- 23d January 1885.—Before Sir F. Roxburgh, Q.C. The 'Alice' v. the steam-tug 'Cruiser.' Collision.
- 9th January 1885.—Before Mr. Commissioner Kerr. The 'Ostrich' (s.) Collision, dumb barge 'Ban Righ.'
- 6th February 1885.—Before Mr. Justice Butt. The 'Union' v. the 'Kuikoura' (s.) Collision.
- 6th February 1885.—The 'Dione' v. the 'Camden.' Collision. Twenty-four lives lost.
- 27th February 1885.—Before Sir F. Roxburgh, Q.C. The 'Pride of the Yare' v. the 'Speedwell' (s.) Collision.
- 27th February 1885.—Before Mr. Justice Butt. The 'Santa Clara' v. 'Admiral Moorson' (s.) Collision.
- 13th March 1885.—House of Lords. Owners of the 'Elysia' v. owners of the 'Emily' (s.) Collision.
- 20th March 1885. Before the Recorder. The 'Endeavour' (s.), 'Rose' v. Great Yarmouth Steam Carrying Company. Collision with a raft.

- 2d April 1885. Before Mr. Justice Butt. The 'Union' v. 'Kuikoura' (s.) Collision.
- 10th April 1885.—The 'James Billenan' v. the 'El Darando' (s.) Collision.
- toth April 1885.—The 'Arabia' (s.) Bombay Police Court. Collision between the B. I. S. N. Company's Steamer 'Arabia' and a native fishing bagora. Three lives lost.
- 1st May 1885—Before Sir James Hannen. The 'Atmosphere' v. the 'Thyatira.' Collision.
- v. the 'Adolph Meyer' (s.) of Gothenburg. Collision. Official Inquiry ordered.
- 8th May 1885.—The 'T. M. Stevens' v. the 'Stormcock' (s.) Before Sir James Hannen. Collision.
- 8th May 1885.—Before Mr. Justice Butt. The 'Pride of the Yare' v. the 'Speedwell' (s.) Collision.
- 8th May 1885.—The 'Daunebrog' v. the 'Zoe' (s.) Before Sir James Hannen. Collision. Six lives lost.
- 22d May 1885.—The 'United Kingdom' (steam-tug) and the 'Ellen Anne.' Collision.
- 19th June 1885.—The 'I. C. U.' v. the 'Chusan' (s.)
 Before Mr. Justice Butt. Collision. All hands of
 'I. C. U.' lost.
- 26th June 1885.—The 'Hans Gude' and the 'Merchant Prince' (s.) Before the Wreck Commissioner. Collision. Eight lives lost.
- 26th June 1885.—The 'Egret' (s.) Before Mr. Commissioner Kerr. Tug-boat 'William' and her cargo through collision with the steamer 'Egret.'
- 3d July 1885.—The 'Capulet' (s.)—Voss v. General

- Steam Navigation Company. Before Judge Holroyd. Collision between the 'Capulet' and the barque 'Thunia.'
- 3d July 1885.—The 'Lapwing'.—Cowan and Sons v. General Steam Navigation Company. Before Mr. Justice Wills. Collision between the 'Lapwing' (s.), barque 'Eliza.'
- 3d July 1885.—The 'Collingrove' v. the 'Colstrup' (s.)
 Before Mr. Justice Butt. Collision.
- 10th July 1885.—The 'Havilar' v. the 'Empress' (s.) Before Sir James Hannen. Collision.
- 10th July 1885.—The 'Hawk' (s.-t.) Before Mr. Commissioner Kerr. Collision between the brig 'Ann Peat' v. the screw-tug 'Hawk.'
- 24th July 1885.—The 'Trojan' (s.-t.) Collision between iron barge 'Fly' v. the steam-tug 'Trojan,' and the barge 'Mary' in tow.
- 24th July 1885.—The 'Hans Gude' v. the 'Merchant Prince.' Before Sir James Hannen. Collision. Eight lives lost.
- 24th July 1885—Bail Fees. The 'Colstrup' (s.) v. 'Colingrove,' etc.
- 24th December 1885.—The ketch 'Humility.' Before Judge Owen. Ketch 'Humility' of Bideford v. Newport and Alexandria Dock Company. Collision.
- 14th August 1885.—The 'Kaluju' v. the 'Main' (s.)
 Before Sir James Hannen. Collision, Russian
 Finn barque 'Kaluju' North German Lloyd Screw
 Steamship 'Main.' One life lost.
- 21st August 1885.—Nantes Tribunal of Commerce. The 'Abeille.' Collision. Owners of dredging machine sued the owners of the 'Abeille' tug, No.



- 18, and the ship 'Meta,' which was in tow, for damage to a barge.
- 28th August 1885.—The 'Glamorganshire' (s.) and the 'Clarissa B. Carver.'
- 18th September 1885.—'Cheong Po'v. 'Crusader' (s.), and the 'Crusader' (s.) v. 'Cheong Po.'
- 18th September 1885.—'Trevethick' (s.), 'Mauve.' Official Inquiry ordered. Collision.
- 2d October 1885.—The 'Medina' v. the 'Brunswick.' Collision.
- 2d October 1885.—The 'Mauve' and the 'Trevethick'
 (s.) Before Wreck Commissioner. Collision.
 Twelve lives lost.
- 2d October 1885.—The 'Excelsior' (s.), Cardiff Town Hall. Collision.
- 6th November 1885.—Before Mr. Commissioner Kerr. The barge 'Rebecca' v. the tug 'Ada.' Collision.
- 13th November 1885.—The barges 'Alice,' 'Maud,' and 'Eliza Ballard,' v. the 'Vesper' (s.) Collision.
- 13th November 1885.—'Maltese Cross' (s.) v. the 'Alma.' Collision.
- 4th December 1885.—The 'Kate' v. the 'Odiel' (s.) Collision.
- 4th December 1885.—The 'Bertie' v. the 'Challenger' (steam-tug). Collision.
- 1st January 1886.—Official Inquiry ordered. Collision between the 'Hayle' of Aberdeen and a schooner, off the Bell Rock, North Sea.
- 1st January 1886.—Official Inquiry ordered. Collision.
- 15th January 1886.—The 'Hayle' (s.) Collision. Six lives lost.
- 15th January 1886.—The 'Kirkheaton' (s.), the

- 'Catherina,' and the barge 'Charles,' and 'Eliza.' Collision.
- 29th January 1886.—The lugger 'Jenne Lousia' and the 'Potaro' (s.) Collision. One life lost.
- 5th February 1886.—The 'Elene' v. 'General Roberts' (s.) Collision.
- 12th February 1886.—The 'Hugh Cann' v. the 'Seaham Harbour' (s.) Collision.
- 12th February 1886.—The 'Storjohann' v. the 'Para' (s.) Collision.
- 12th February 1886.—Owners of the 'Santa Clara' v. London and North-Western Railway Company. Collision.
- 12th February 1886.—Judge Bedwell. The 'Emily' and the 'Ada' v. the 'Stephen Gray' and 'Watt' (s.) Collision.
- 12th February 1886.—The barge 'Eastcourt' and the 'Ella' (s.) Collision.
- 26th February 1886.—'Duchess of Albany' v. the 'Oakfield' (s.) Collision.
- 5th March 1886.—Official Inquiry ordered.
- 5th March 1886.—The 'Annie' (s.) and the barge 'William.' Collision.
- 5th March 1886.—The 'J. W. J.' v. the 'Seafisher' (s.) Collision.
- 2d April 1886.—The 'Alexandra' (s.) and the barge 'John.' Collision.
- 2d April 1886.—The 'Empress' v. the 'Risea' (s.) Collision.
- 9th April 1886.—The 'Jane' (s.) and the barge 'Flint and Essex.' Collision.
- 9th April 1886.—House of Lords. The 'Duke of

- Leinster' (s.) v. the Dublin and Glasgow Steampacket Company, Dublin Port and Dock Board. Collision.
- 22d April 1886.—The 'Antelope' (s.) and the barge 'Alfred Little.' Collision.
- 22d April 1886.—The 'Idlewild' (s.) and the sailing barge 'Director.' Collision.
- 22d April 1886.—House of Lords. The 'Glenogle' (s.) v. the 'Achille.' Collision.
- 14th May 1886.—The 'Mildred' and the 'El Dorado' (s.) Collision. One life lost.
- 14th May 1886.—The 'Jane' v. 'Ralph Cheyke.'
 Collision.
- 28th May 1886.—The cutter 'Ida' and the 'Martello' (s.) Collision. One life lost.
- 28th May 1886.—The 'Doncaster' (s.) v. the 'Unity.' Collision.
- 4th June 1886.—The 'Perseverance' and the 'Donegal' (s.) Collision. One life lost.
- 4th June 1886.—House of Lords. The 'Kaluja' v. the 'Main' (s.) Collision. One life lost.
- 18th June 1886.—The 'Rotifer' (s.) and the barge 'Tees.' 25th June 1886.—The 'Crusader' v. the 'Strathnairn'
 - (s.) Collision.
- 2d July 1886.—The 'Antelope' (s.) and the barge 'Little.'
 Collision.
- 9th July 1886.—The 'Osprey' v. the 'Pioneer' (s.) Collision.
- 30th July 1886.—The 'Clan Macintosh' (s.) and the 'Fidelio.' Collision. Seven lives lost.
- roth August 1886.—The junk 'Lim Yeang Seang' v. the 'Pahnam' (s.)

- 13th August 1886.—The 'Ogmore' (s.) v. the 'Alice.' Collision.
- 13th August 1886.—The 'Friends' v. the 'Ethelbert' (s.) Collision.
- 20th August 1886.—The 'Daisy' v. the 'Bee' (s.) Collision. One life lost.
- 10th September 1886.—Official Inquiry ordered.
- 24th September 1886.—The 'Elsy' (s.) v. the 'Jane.' Running into moorings.
- 8th October 1886.—The sloop 'Marie' and the 'Sailor Prince' (s.) Collision. One life lost.
- 29th October 1886.—'Re Edward Lawson.' Fatal running down case.
- 29th October 1886.—The barge 'Bob,' the 'Florence' (s.), and the 'Naiad' (s.) Collision.
- 26th November 1886.—The 'Donegal' (s.) and the 'Eagle.' Collision.
- 26th November 1886.—The 'Port Victor' (s.) v. the 'Ane Jorgiane II.' Collision.
- 26th November 1886.—The 'Neptunus,' the 'Ansgar,' and the 'Prince of Wales,' v. the 'India' (s.) Collision.
- 3d December 1886.—'Gemini' v. the 'Mayo' (s.)
- 10th December 1886.—The 'Sultan' v. the 'Sardinian' (s.) Collision.
- 7th January 1887.— 'Eliza A. Kenny.' Collision.
- 7th January 1887.— 'Japanese' (s.) v. 'Stimpson.' Collision.
- 7th January 1887.—'Glan Wern' (s.) Collision.
- 7th January 1887.—'Duke of Connaught' and 'Dragoman' (s.) Collision. Fourteen lives lost.
- 7th January 1887.— 'William Cochrane.' Collision.

- 7th January 1887.—'Ulster' (s.) Eva.
- 28th January 1885.—The steam barge 'Speedwell' v. the barge 'Fanny.' Collision.
- 28th January 1885.—Official Inquiry. 'Duke of Connaught' v. the 'Dragoman' (s.)
- 4th February 1887.—The 'Ocean Bridge' and the 'Beryl' (s.) Official Inquiry. Four lives lost.
- 4th February 1887.—'Alpha' v. 'Glenmore' (s.) Collision.
- 4th February 1887.—The 'Rivera' (s.) and the barge 'Duet.' Collision.
- 11th February 1887.—The 'Nith' v. the 'Ville de Permambuco' (s.) Collision.
- February 1887.—'St. Rene' v. the 'Gaulois' (s.) Collision.
- 18th February 1887.—The 'Sybille' v. the 'Nova Scotian' (s.) Collision. One life lost.
- 18th February 1887.—The 'Falcon' (s.) and the barge 'Frederick.' Collision.
- 4th March 1887.—The 'Hopestill' v. the 'Raven' (s.) Collision.
- 4th March 1887.—'Juan Cunningham' (s.) and the barge 'John.' Collision.
- 18th March 1887.—The 'Annie' and the 'St. Clements'
 (s.) Collision. Eight lives lost.
- 15th April 1887.—Barge 'Ivy' and the 'Charles Morand' (s.) Collision.
- 10th June 1887.—The 'Alacrity' (s.) and the 'Leila.'
 Collision. Three lives lost.
- 10th June 1887.—The 'Betsy' and the 'Samuel Laing' (s.) Collision. One life lost.
- 1st July 1887.—The 'Tern' (s.) and the 'Hamburg. Collision. Five lives lost.

- 1st July 1887.—The 'Seaton' (s.) and the 'San Cayetano.' Collision. Three lives lost.
- 1st July 1887. The 'Carnarvon Castle' and the 'Trojan' (s.)
- 15th July 1887.—Running down of the fishing-boat 'Darling.' Collision. Two lives lost.
- 15th July 1887.—The 'Express' and the 'Alf.' Jameson v. 'Rasmussen,' et è contra. Collision.
- 5th August 1887.—The 'Tenasserim' (s.), the 'Norcross,' and the 'Antares.' Collision.
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Fatal collision.—"It was the opinion of the Court that the —— (s.) was also navigated with proper and seamanlike care up to the time of the sinking of the ——. The steamer had not kept a proper look-out on board. The Court, however, believed that after the

collision everything was done by the officers and crew of the steamer to save life. The collision and loss of life caused thereby was caused by the default on the part of ——, first officer of the steamer, who had failed to keep a proper look-out and had not shown proper seamanship. It was the intention of the Court to suspend his certificate for twelve months from this date."

Fatal collision.—"The Court were of opinion that—, master of the steamer, and —, second mate, did not exhibit sufficient humanity in trying to save lives, and suspended the captain's certificate for four months, and the second mate's for three months."

Fatal collision.—"The master was not in default, but the mate, in the opinion of the Court, was in default, in respect that prior to the collision he did not keep a proper look-out, and left his post when only a man at the wheel was on the bridge in charge of the vessel. In the circumstances the Court found it necessary to deal with the mate's certificate, but having regard to his previous good character, as proved in evidence, limited its suspension to a period of six months. The nautical assessors unanimously and unreservedly concurred in the judgment of the Court."

Fatal collision. — "Mr. — in giving judgment said the Court was of opinion that the steamer did not comply with the 'Regulations for preventing Collisions at Sea,' and that practically the sailing vessel did comply therewith. It thought further that at the time of the collision the sailing vessel was stationary, and that she exhibited the light required by the Regulations. In the opinion of the Court the steamer did not comply

with Arts. 17 and 18 of the Regulations. The master of the steamer was not justified in leaving the deck in charge of the boatswain after the light of the sailing vessel had been reported. The life of one of the crew of the sailing vessel was lost in consequence of injuries which he received in the collision, but it appeared that all proper steps were taken by the master of the steamer to avoid this loss of life. The steamer was not navigated with proper and seamanlike care, and the casualty was caused by the wrongful act and default of her master, but in view of the excellent testimonials that he had received, the Court would not suspend his certificate for a longer period than three months. Board of Trade would be recommended to grant him a first mate's certificate during the period that his master's certificate was suspended."

Fatal collision.—The Commissioner in giving judgment said: "The sole blame for the collision rested with the master of the steamer, and the question was whether. in the opinion of the assessors, his certificate should be dealt with as regards his conduct in porting when he saw the red light, in not starboarding when the green light appeared, and in not stopping and reversing. The Board thought that they were merely errors of judgment, for which they would not think of dealing with his certificate. The Court, however, had more doubt as to what it ought to do in regard to his conduct in going at this rate of speed over a spot frequented by such a number of vessels. They thought, however, that there was some excuse for him in being led to believe that he could see much farther than as a matter of fact he could. On the whole they were disposed to take a lenient view

of the case, and they would not, therefore, deal with his certificate."

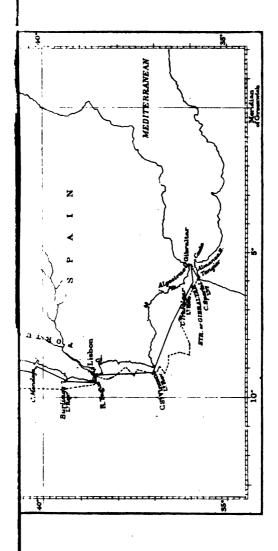
Fatal collision.—"The Commissioner in giving judgment said the sailing vessel was navigated with proper and seamanlike care, and kept her course, as it was her duty to do. But with regard to the steamer the feeling of the Court was that she was navigated in a very improper and unseamanlike manner, and that it was due to this, and this alone, that the collision was due. In the opinion of the assessors, the collision was entirely due to the wrongful act and default of the second officer, and thought that it was a case in which it was impossible for them not to deal with his certificate. Looking at all the circumstances, they were of opinion that his certificate should be suspended for nine months."

Fatal collision.—"The Court found that the collision was due to the second mate of the steamer having neglected to observe the 'Regulations for preventing Collisions at Sea,' and they suspended that officer's certificate for twelve months."

Fatal collision.—"The collision and loss of life caused thereby was caused by the default of the first officer, who had failed to keep a proper look-out, and had not shown proper seamanship. It was the intention of the Court to suspend his certificate for twelve months from this date."

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