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A SEA STORY.

tell you the truth, I am not at used with the outlook of this I have been going to sea ir 15 years, and I never before feeling of dread on leaving d as we are."

above remarks were made by cond mate to the first mate of American bark Jame Clyde, from Alexandria to New York. rargo consisted of bones gathfrom the African deserts and consigned to a large fertilizer afacturing company in the

Well, I must admit, too, that I ather have a crew made up enof white men instead of the enish looking lot of Arabs that buddled together there for'rd; as to your superstitious fears, ry, they are groundless, and inunbecoming a man of your rea-

for a spider to crawl, did not disme when I was trying to perthat exactly now, but some dful feeling of depression, alt like a supernatural warning. ed to our grewsome cargo, the skipper is determined to sail torow morning bright and early, if it is Friday."

0h, well, even if is Friday, which owner, old Skikes, himself would to pass, even if our cargo is of an bones, and even if we have a wof black devils to work ship, the 'old wagon.'

Heave away there, my lads, erily now!"

he second mate was leaning over cathead watching the cable slide sily through the hawse pipe and ing the men at the capstan, who, the way, could not understand reely a word spoken, until the anor came in view. The auchor's up, sir, clear an-

or!" he sings out to the skipper, is on the bridge, who answers th, "All right, Mr. Lynan, cat and the anchor and secure it for sea send me another man aft here the wheel as soon as he can be

The first mate was busy with one tch of the crew, bending and setg the lighter sails, the second e securing everything loose and the deck for sea, while the tain was on the bridge repeating con to the men at the wheel in the pilot forward, who was using himself by jumping on the line from the little tug ahead, ich was stretched so taut that ry kick made it sing like the bassbass string on a bass violin.

he vessel was soo out to a safe ough distance to be turned over to officers of the ship by the pilot, d after the usual hand shaking and on voyage" from the pilot he opped into the little boat alonge, and the homeward bound trip s commenced, every man on her sy with the numberless duties oard a vessel the first few hours 'After the day had been spent aking the ship snug for sea, over-tuling the gear and lashing loose arcles, the watches were set with the st dog watch, the first mate and starpard watch taking the first watch. he day had been spent very lone mely, as the skipper was cross over e nautical ignorance of the crew ad their inability to understand, ad the men themselves had worked lently and sulkily on account of

nis narshness. The contrast was so | his threats murderous. great to the beginning of a homeward bound voyage with a jolly set of Yankee sailors, who are thinking to the galley, threw the cook out of the Nancy Lee in the states and bodily and proceeded to help them-

until my watch on deck commenced, The passage through the Mediter ranean was dull and tiresome, nothing happening to break the monottime to spend with these pieces of sullen, silent machinery and four below of dreading for the next four on deck. After the towering and threatening rocks of Gibraltar are passed we have the broad expanse of the western ocean (as the sailors term the feel more contented. Europe is be hind, and home is just a few days away at best, just over there, until I can almost smell the fresh earthy breezes coming out to welcome us. I had noticed for a day or two the

not engaged, and sometimes their conversation became quite animated. sions on their faces and peculiar and seemed to be incited mostly by a big, burly, rawboned fellow, with locked and opened aft, I managed to Thus for two weeks I drifted slowlong arms and long, bony finger nails, which looked more like a devil's claws than a human hand. Barricading the door hastily, I sat ed in a short while after the crew He would shake his head wildly, making the large gold rings suspended from his ears dangle like big pendulums. I would invariably put them to work at something to break up these communions, but finally head, but thanks to the constructors they left off very reluctantly and it withstood it all, although I sat from Havre bound for New York. especially when homeward cast such menacing glances at me that I told the first mate of the occurrences when he came on deck to hilate me. After so long a time it relieve me. He seemed a little sur ceased and in a little while I could prised and told me that the same had hear them bustling around on deck. been the case with the men in his The ship commenced to list over, and

awhile and reaching no conclusion I ting sail on her, and as each new sail went below to catch a little sleep be would fill the list became greater fore the night commenced, for it was and the water commenced rushing my eight hours out that night. Dur- by, making a gurgling noise as the ing my first watch at night, the ship passed through it. I concluded wind being steady, there was but lit they had started for home, but even tle to do and the talking was re if they should be sailors enough to sumed, and during the morning manage the ship without instrucwatch, 4 to 8 o'clock, not only my tions, who among them could shape watch assembled to converse, but their course? Did any of them unalso about half the starboard watch | derstand navigation? For a ship withremained on deck, but kept well up out a navigator is as helpless as if forward and spoke in whispers. At without a rudder, for there are no three bells those of the starboard trossroad guideposts to say this watch who had turned in were way to New York or London or some the boys for leaving the ship called by their comrades, and the en other place so many miles, only a tire crew came marching aft, headed vast stretch of water and every spot ther." The idea of the grinning skulls by the long fingered, villainous look of it just alike—simply nothing but the delegate, "you need not be flat bleached bones of dead Arabs, ing agitator of my watch and a simrded into the hold of the vessel lilar one from the starboard watch.

I was safe so long as the bulkhead for Barksdale for governor, although the respective to the hold of the vessel lilar one from the starboard watch. there was not room enough They marched up to the break of the poop, halted and the two leaders came up to speak to me.

"Us no go no more far away," said himself for an answer. I pretended watchings, and thinking that might I not to understand, but he repeated it need more strength to fight again I over and over again, growing more proceeded to attend to the inner emphatic with each repetition. I man. All during the day I sat in my called the skipper and first mate and prison and listened to the creaking told them of the crew being aft and of the rudder and wheel, which was what they had said. They both came on deck, and again the refusal to proceed was repeated to them. The skipper asked them why, and in very broken and disconnected Enghsh the spokesman explained that, away from my contract to stay was the bones of their own people things the cargo of rattling dead had they known the vessel's cargo being carried away to a far country things the cargo of rattling dead to be ground into pulp to restore the men's bones could conjure in my strength to exhausted earth, they would never have shipped. They considered it a sacrilege a desecration, and demanded that not only should but should discharge the cargo after my thoughts that I had not noticed reaching Alexandria again. Their punctuated by shrugs, gestures and ing heavily by a high sea was rushgrimaces, and their conclusions were definite.

The skipper and first mate argued and threatened, but they were determined and refused to budge until the ship was bouted and headed for the sailing port. The skipper ordered them to "turn to." The men went forward, held a consultation for a short time and then sprang into the rigging like cats and stripped her of every thread of canvas. There we lay for the entire day, rolling in the trough of the swell under the poles. The skipper stamped the poop like a madman, swearing and threatening until he was hoarse, but the heathens never relaxed, nor did they eat. The long, lonesome night was spent as the day, and morning dawned only to find them back again, as the preceding morning, demanding to be carried home again. The fury of the skipper was something terrible; his oaths were blood curdling and

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They next demanded breakfast, haul on a rope that I was glad a rush after them, and with reenough to go below and rest alone volvers drawn tried to clear the place. I ran to my room to arm myself and while there the fight started and bemurderous knives.

> doorway, which happened to be un longitude west. the thick watertight doorway.

For two hours they kept up their yelling and hammering at the bulk trembling with fear lest at any moment they would rush in and annias it gradually leaned more and After talking the matter over more i reanzed that they were put-

of all kinds and several gallons of wine to replace the absence of water. to stay by her. Nor can I say the long fingered man and posed Being hungry and tired from the long taken a correct compass course for Gibraltar, then within 10 days we would be in the Mediterranean again; if not we would probably be piled

upon the beach a helpless wreck. Thus for two days and nights I sat able shipwreck or dreading lest any moment those fiendish heathens would again seek to take my life. I was so completely wrapped up in at a fearful angle, and while laborrate of speed. It came over me suddealy that we were in a heavy gale, and the men on deck did not realize the danger in not reefing down the square sails to relieve the vessel of

the terrible strain. Every timber in her was creaking and straining until it seemed she would go to pieces. Then I heard a fearful crash on deck and realized that something had carried away; the flapping canvas thus set adrift was popping in the wind like rifle reports and over my head I could hear the men rushing hither and thither. How I itched to go on deck and risk my chances with the men in order to set to shipshape the wreckage that must be scattered over the decks!

Another crash came, and the little vessel righted herself in the water so that I was sure the fore and main masts must have carried away and relieved her of the strain. I could not stand it much longer below and was just debating with myself the question when I heard the men getting the boats over the side. They had lost all hope and were abandoning her. My first impulse was to rush out with them, but another thought struck me that the vessel now seemed quite buoyant after the strain was relieved, and that the ship was much safer than a small boat in a heavy sea. After waiting some time to let them all get away, ventured out cautiously and found that not a living soul had remained. The decks were all awash fore and aft and covered with the wrackage

from aloft; everything above the lower masts having carried away on both the fore and main mast. No wonder the poor Arabs were fright ened, although there was no danger whatever.

whatever.

They had pulled off from the ship several hundred yards and were viewing the wreck, expecting to see her sink at any moment no doubt. After watching for nearly a half hour they started rowing away to the southward, one boat following close in the other's wake. Whether came general. Sheathknives, belay. After watching for nearly a half ing pins and pistols were all being hour they started rowing away to ony of the voyage, simply showing used at once. The pistols of the two the southward, one boat following officers did deadly work for a mo close in the other's wake. Whether speaking to tell them was a waste of ment, but the 24 Arabs were too they had provided food and water l many and surrounded them, killing could never tell, for even a compass them almost immediately by blows was not missing from the ship. I upon the head from the belaying immediately turned to cutting the pins and wounds from their long. wreckage away, letting it drop over board. I worked through the entire By the time I could arm myself day and into the night until exhaus and get out of the room my two tion drove me to my lonesome bunk. comrades were dead, and they were The next morning I arose early and Atlantic) spread out before us like a chasing the poor cook, who was runbig race track, and I commenced to ning aft as fast as he could fly. 1 of the lonely hours and the thoughts stood in the doorway and com- of grinning skull bones. By night menced firing, hoping to save the the shivered spars were all overcook until he could make the cabin, board and considerable order rebut a big brass belaying pin hurled stored. After setting the foresail, by one of the mob caught him back which had been spared in the smashof the head and sent him reeling up, as best I could alone, I went aft men in my watch standing around into the scuppers senseless. On they to the wheel and found she had in groups talking mysteriou y when came directly for me, and I retreat steerage way, so locking the wheel ed, firing all the while, until 1 after heading her toward America reached the after cabin. The after I proceeded to make myself comfort as one could see by the wild expres storeroom was separated from the able. By observation of the sun cabin by a very thick watertight that day I found myself about 37 degestures. For a week this kept up bulkhead. So rushing through the grees latitude north and 17 degrees

get in and swing the door in place ly in a homeward bound course with just as the first ones reached me. fine weather, the storm having abatdown and listened breathlessly to had abandoned her. At the end of their vain attempts to break down that time I was becoming quite accustomed to my lonely passage, for there was nothing I needed but company to make me perfectly at home. The wreck was sighted by a steamer She took the bark in tow and landed her safely home, minus the masts and crew, which I am afraid must have perished in a short time.-Jeorge W. Crussele in Atlanta Con-

The site has been selected for the Paris World's fair in 1906. The exposition grounds are situated on noth sides of the Seine, and the beautiful river will be spanned by a magnificent bridge at this

Colonel Stone's Witty Retort. Colonel Stone of Tennessee, when he was running for governor, met for the first time a delegate from one of the rural counties to the state convention. The colonel said: "I am glad to meet you. I have known your father for many years, but 1 never had the pleasure of your acquaintance. I see, however, that the son is better looking than the fa-"Look here, colonel," said your father, but I did not say you had half as much sense as he has,' returned the colonel. Those stand-

joined.-Exchange. "Who was the author of the saying that a man is a benefactor who makes two blades of grass grow where but one grew before?"

ing around roared with laughter, in

which the delegate good humoredly

"Dunno. Some lawn mower manufacturer, I suppose."-Buffalo Courier.

No Disputing Her. Lawyer-I'm sorry, but hearsay won't do here. We must have evidence which no one will dare dispute. Client-Heavens, man! My mother-in-law saw it!-Truth.



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