

The Houses in that Country are built with mud-Walls, one Story high. The Rafters that support the Roof are made of *Bamboes*, which is a light spongy Wood. On these they lay a great quantity of Thatch, which in the dry Season of the Year is like Tinder: Yet the Natives are so careless, that many Fires happen in that Season; there having been no less than five during the two Months I was there, in which some thousands of their Houses were burnt down. This carelessness of the *Negroes*, I judge, chiefly proceeds from the little regard they have for their Furniture. For it is very mean, except amongst some of the principal People, consisting of *Matts* to sleep on, earthen *Pots* to boil their Victuals in; with a few other things of small value. Moreover, the Walls of their Houses being made of Clay, the Fire does them rather good than hurt, as it bakes them harder. And to new cover them it costs but little. So that the *Europeans* that have Factories in the Town of *Jaqueen*, are often great Sufferers by these frequent
Fires,

The Fire began about two a clock that afternoon, in the *Feticbeer's* House, just opposite to our Door, which immediately taking Fire, prevented our Escape that way. However in the first Surprize, I gave my Box of Books and Accounts to one of my young Men, who ventured through the Door-way with them, tho' he was scorched by the Flames; and so I luckily saved them. My next care was to save our *Gold*, which I kept in a large *Dutch* Chest, thinking it safer there than in a Portmanteau, or a small Box, which our black Servants might have been tempted to run away with. But, in the hurry, I could not find the Key of the Chest, to take the Money out; and the Fire having taken hold of the Thatch of the room wherein it stood, I and the other white Man then remaining with me, took it up, and carried it into the Apartments belonging to the Duke's Women: Where we met him and his Brother with many People, going to endeavour to stop the Fire, by unthatching the adjoining Houses; but the Flames were got to such a head, that

that they were soon forced to fly before them. My Man and I having carried the Chest through several windings and turnings in the Duke's Houses, we began to be quite tired, (for it was very heavy) when, just in the nick of time, five black People came running towards us, and the way was so narrow they could not easily pass by us. One of these Men I knew, who spoke good *English*, "so I desired " him and the others to save the Chest, " for which I would well reward them." He answered, " They durst not assist me ; " being obliged, on no less a Penalty than " the loss of their Heads, to go and save the " Duke's Goods." By good fortune I had my Cane then hanging on my Wrist, which I used to such purpose, that two of them immediately took up the Chest ; whereupon I let the other three pass by : So, with the help of the two Men I had obliged to assist us, we got the Chest at last over a Wall ten foot high, into the Street, and so to the *Dutch* Factory in safety. But we had the Misfortune to lose in our Factory a large quantity of

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Goods,

Goods, with all my Necessaries, except what was in the Chest. All the Duke's houses, and the greatest part of his Furniture was destroyed; but his Brother's were preserved, by unthatching the Houses that stood next his Court. I think, for the time this Fire lasted, which was but about an hour, nothing could be fiercer or quicker; and had it happened in the night, we should certainly have been burnt; for we could never have found our way out, amongst so many Turnings and Windings, as were in the Dukes Apartments.

When the hurry was pretty well over, the Lord of *Faqueen* inquired after me, being under some concern about me; for he did not see me as he passed along in his Brother's Rooms: As soon as he was informed of my Safety, he sent a Messenger to enquire, "How I did, after so severe a Misfortune?"

It is remarkable, we could never learn how this Fire happened, for tho' I often press'd the Duke to make an inquiry after it, yet he always declined it; which I believe

was on account of his Brother's *Feticbeer*, in whose Family the Fire began. However, they were so wise as not to let them repair their Houses, but obliged them to build further from the Court which belonged to the Duke.

Adjoining to the *Feticbeer's* House that was burnt, there was a large square Court, adorned with many handsome Trees that grew round it. In the middle of this place stood the Lord of *Jaqueen's Fetiche*. It was made in the fashion of a large Hay-cock, and covered over with Thatch: On the top of this was placed a dead Man's Scull, before which Offerings were made for the Duke's Health and Preservation. This *Fetiche* escaped being burn'd, tho' all the Houses adjoining to the Court wherein it stood were consum'd. This was cryed up by the People as a great Miracle; saying, "Their Lord's God had taken care to preserve his own House:" Tho' by what I could judge it was impossible this *Fetiche* should be burn'd, because it was at a considerable distance from the Fire, and guarded by so many
Trees

Trees full of Branches and Leaves. But it was in vain to argue against their superstitious Notion.

After this Misfortune, I sent my People on board to get them more necessaries; during which time I remained in the *Dutch* Factory. On their return ashore, I was obliged, tho' much against my will, to take a new-built house belonging to the Duke, but finding no one durst let me one (which it seems had been forbidden for the sake of the Duke's Advantage) I complied. But what I feared came to pass, for we all got Fevers in a few days after we had been in this House.

About ten days after this, another terrible Fire happened, which began in a *Portuguese* Factory, and in this manner. A *Negroe* Cook frying some Fish in Palm-Oyl, the Oyl took fire; and he imprudently throwing Water thereon, the Flame of the Oyl ran up the side of the Wall, (for the *Negroe* Houses have no Chimneys) and instantly fired the Thatch. Whereupon, the Wind then blowing very fresh, it spread

spread in a moment and consumed, in two hours time, one third of the Town, in which stood several thousands of their little Houses: However, this did not come near our Factory.

Soon after this, my People grew so bad, that I was obliged to send them on board the Ship, and have others ashore in their room: In a little while after, the House we had been burnt out of, being repaired, we removed into it; and by this means had the Opportunity of seeing daily thousands of People bring *Bamboes* and Thatch, to repair the Duke's Houses with; it being the Custom of the Country so to do, when either their Lord or his Brother wants it. But the noise of the People's Musick, and antick dancing, on this occasion, gave me much Disturbance: Moreover, Trade continuing still very dull, it gave me no little concern; and having got rid of my Fever for a few days, it returned again. Being in these unhappy Circumstances, I received advice, that two of my Owner's Ships were arrived in the Road of *Jaqueen*. Whereupon I left my
L Factory,

Factory, and went on board my Ship; and there, the Commanders of the other two and I agreed, " It would be for our Owner's Interest that I should go directly for *England*." So, delivering to one of them what *Negroes* I had on Board, and receiving what *Elephants Teeth*, and *Gold* they had, I left the *Road of Jaqueen* the first day of *May*: And having had a fine Passage, in which I intirely lost my *Fever*, and recovered my *Strength* a little, I arrived safe in the *River of Thames* the 13th of *July* 1730.

ADDITIONS

To the foregoing Account.

AS the Publication of this Book has been deferred till the Winter Season, it may not be unacceptable to the Reader, to have a farther Account of the King of *Dabomè*, according to the latest Advices come from those Parts.

I ended the first Book with an account of that King's having concluded a Peace with the most powerful of his Enemies, the King of *J-oe*. This put the *Europeans* then residing at *Jaqueen* in great hopes, that those Countries would be settled, and Trade flourish again; tho' at my departure from that Place, in *May* 1730, I saw but little prospect of it: And indeed it has been quite ruined since, by the Destruction of the Country of *Jaqueen*, on the 22d of *March* 1731-2.

X For the King of *Dabomè* being a restless ambitious Prince, instead of endeavouring (after the concluding of the Peace with the *F-oes*) to settle his conquered Countries, he marched far Inland against a Nation called the *Yaboos*.

These People valiantly defended themselves for many Months, having retired amongst their Mountains and Woods, where they were besieged by the *Dabomes*. The rainy Season coming on, the *Dabome* Soldiers were desirous of returning to their own Country, but the King was highly incensed at it, and put several of the principal Officers to death, only for mentioning it to him. This caused great Murmurings in the Army, which were increased by their Sufferings from the Rains; so that some of his Captains deserted him with many Soldiers, amongst whom was one of his Sons, who fled with four thousand Men to the King of *Weemey*.

Finding himself in these Circumstances, he resolved to make one grand Effort on the *Yaboos*, in which he prevailed; but
tho'

tho' he beat them out of their Fastnesses, he gain'd little by it, they making a brave Retreat, in which his wearied Soldiers could not pursue them; and soon after he returned to his own Country, with the loss of most of his Forces and of his Reputation.

At this the People of *Jaqueen* were not a little pleas'd; for they always stood in fear of him, but now began to entertain Hopes, he might at last be destroyed.

There resid'd at that Place, a *Dutch* Gentleman named *Mynbeer Hertog*. This Person carried on a considerable Trade, with the help of his black Servants, into several distant Countries, by means of a River that runs from *Jaqueen* into the Bay of *Bennin*. Having gained a great influence over the King of *Jaqueen*, they often consulted together, sending private Messages by the Traders to the King of *Weemey*, and other neighbouring Princes, to stir them up against the King of *Dabome*, and withal supplied them with Ammunition. Of this the King of *Dabome* having received Intelligence, and also that

the People of *Jaqueen* were going to build a Fortification by the Directions of the *Europeans* residing there; he resolved to attack them, in order to be revenged.

The better to deceive them, he gave out, that he intended a second Expedition far inland: And to blind the *Jaqueen* Spies, he gave Order to his General to march towards the inland Parts, but in the Night the Army wheeled about, and with great Expedition (tho' there were above fifteen thousand men in this Army) they came by the way of *Whidaw* to *Jaqueen*, without being discovered, till they were just entring the Town.

As the People of *Jaqueen* stood always in dread of the King of *Dabomè*, (as I have just now mention'd) they kept in readiness a great many *Cannoes* in the River that runs on the back part of the Town, to save themselves, in case they should be attacked and defeated. But being now surprized, they had little time to provide for their own Safety: However, the King and many of his principal People escaped in the *Cannoes*, to an Island he had fortified

tified against such an Accident, and which lies in the middle of the River towards *Appab*. By that means he escaped the fury of the *Dabomes*; but he lost all his Riches, and, to add to his Misfortune, his Mother, (that was highly revered by him and his People) was taken Prisoner by the Enemy, and carried to the King of *Dabomè*; and what became of her afterwards is unknown.

Mynbeer Hertog, the *Dutch Chief*, was at dinner, when the *Dabomes* entered the Town: And knowing how obnoxious he had made himself to their King, he immediately fled, being defended by four hundred of his People from the Enemy, till he got into a Canoe; and then they shifted for themselves. He lost every thing in the Factory, which at that time was full of *European Goods* to a very great Value. This Gentleman escaped to *Appab*, which lies on the Sea Coast, about ten Leagues to the eastward of *Jaqueen*. He was kindly received by the King and People, who have a great aversion for the *Dabomes*.

✧ In the Town of *Faqueen* the Conquerors met with a great deal of Plunder, the Inhabitants not having had time to carry any thing away. But not satisfied with this, they made, according to their barbarous Custom, a terrible Carnage of the People; and to compleat the Destruction of the Country, set all the Towns and Villages on fire.

There were at this time in *Faqueen* several *Europeans*, who fared little better than the Natives; their Factories being
 ✧ plundered of every thing. Amongst the rest there was Captain *Robert More* Commander of the *Squirrel Galley*, belonging to the late *Humphrey Morrice* Esq; This Gentleman being taken Prisoner with the white Men in his Factory, (as the *French* and *Portuguese* also were in theirs) was obliged to travel with them to the King of *Dahomè*, who then resided at *Ardra*, about fifty Miles within Land. And they were not so much as provided with Hammocks, or any other Carriages, but forced to walk on foot in the scorching Sun, which had like to have kill'd them.

Upon their appearing before the King, Captain *More* complained of his hard usage; telling his Majesty, "They had had no Victuals nor any Refreshment since they had been taken Prisoners." The King thereupon rose up, and went into an inner room; whence coming out again with a Hatchet in his Hand, the sight of it so frightened some of the *Portuguese*, that they fell on their Knees to implore his Mercy; imagining their Heads were going to be cut off. But Captain *More* severely upbraiding them for their cowardly Behaviour, so disgraceful to white Men, they rose up: And had soon after the pleasure of seeing a small Cask of Beef opened with it, and several pieces ordered to be dress'd for them. This Cask of Beef, it seems, was found by the Soldiers in the Captain's Factory, and sent up with other Plunder, to the King, the day before.

Then they were distributed according to their different Nations, and put under the care of several great Men. Captain *More* and his People were delivered to
Allegee,

Allegee the *English* Cabocier; (as he was termed) that is, the Person appointed to Trade with them in particular. This black Gentleman treated them with great Civility; but they had the Mortification, a few days after, to hear, he was seized and beheaded; tho' they could never learn the Cause.

It seems the King of *Dabomè* is grown exceedingly cruel towards his People, being always suspicious, that Plots and Conspiracies are carrying on against him: So that he frequently cuts off some of his great Men on bare Surmises. This, added to the many Disappointments he has met with from the *Foes*, has so soured his Temper, that he is likewise greatly altered towards the *Europeans*, as Captain *More* experienced. For this Gentleman had been at his Camp formerly, and was known to him soon after the Conquest of *Whidaw*, as I have related in the former part of this Book.

Besides, both King and People continue as savage as ever, tho' they have conversed for several Years past with white Men.

Men. For one day the Council having begged a Captive, his Majesty readily gave them one, whom they killed and feasted on.

But to return to Captain *More*: He and the other *Europeans* having continued a good while Prisoners, Mr. *Dean*, the *African Company's* Governor of the Fort at *Whidaw*, came to *Ardra*, and interceded with the King for them: Representing, "As they had been at *Jaqueen* only on account of Trade, it was very unjust to detain them." With these and many other Arguments, he at last obtained their Freedom: And a Guard was ordered to see Captain *More* safe down to *Jaqueen*. But he reflecting on the hard usage he had received at that place from the Soldiers, when at first taken Prisoner; and that they still were encamped there, he chose to go by the way of *Whidaw*: From whence he got on board a *French Ship*, and borrowed their Boat, which carried him to his own Ship, that lay in the Road of *Jaqueen*.

* From this and the foregoing Account the Reader may observe, that now all the Countries near the Sea side, which the King of *Dabomè* could possibly get at, are not only conquered, but also turned into Desolation, with the Inland Parts, in so terrible a manner, that there is no Prospect of Trade's reviving there again for many Years, or at least so long as the Conqueror lives. What little there is, is carried on chiefly at *Appab*, a place secured from him by a Morass and a River.

The End of BOOK I.

B O O K II.

The manner how the Negroes become Slaves. The Numbers of them yearly exported from Guinea to America. The Lawfulness of that Trade. Mutinies among them on board the Ships where the Author has been, &c.

BEFORE I give a particular Relation of the several *Mutinies* among the *Negroe Slaves*, whereof I have been a Witness, and which is to be the chief Subject of this present Book, it will be very proper to prefix a short account of the *Manner* how the *Negroes* become *Slaves*; what *Numbers* of them are yearly exported from *Guinea*; and

and then offer a few words in Justification of that Trade.

The manner how the Negroes become Slaves.

As for the *Manner* how those People become Slaves; it may be reduced under these several Heads. .

1. It has been the Custom among the *Negroes*, time out of Mind, and is so to this day, for them to make Slaves of all the Captives they take in War. Now, before they had an Opportunity of selling them to the white People, they were often obliged to kill great Multitudes, when they had taken more than they could well employ in their own Plantations, for fear they should rebel, and endanger their Masters Safety.

2dly. Most Crimes amongst them are punished by Mulcts and Fines; and if the Offender has not wherewithal to pay his Fine, he is sold for a Slave: This is the Practice of the inland People, as well as of those on the Sea side.

3dly. Debtors who refuse to pay their Debts, or are insolvent, are likewise liable to be made Slaves; but their Friends may redeem them; And if they are not able or willing

willing to do it, then they are generally sold for the Benefit of their Creditors. But few of these come into the hands of the *Europeans*, being kept by their Countrymen for their own use.

4thly. I have been told, That it is common for some inland People, to sell their Children for Slaves, tho' they are under no Necessity for so doing; which I am inclined to believe. But I never observed, that the People near the Sea Coast practise this, unless compelled thereto by extreme Want and Famine, as the People of *Whidaw* have lately been.

Now, by these means it is that so many of the Negroes become Slaves, and more especially by being taken Captives in War. Of these the Number is so great, that I may safely affirm, without any Exaggeration, that the *Europeans* of all Nations, that trade to the Coast of *Guinea*, have, in some Years, exported at least seventy thousand. And tho' this may no doubt be thought at first hearing a prodigious Number; yet when 'tis considered how great the Extent of this Coast is, namely

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Number
of Negroes
exported.

from *Cape Verd* to *Angola*, which is about four thousand Miles in length; and that *Polygamy* is allowed in general amongst them, by which means the Countries are full of People, I hope it will not be thought improbable that so many are yearly exported from thence.

Lawful-
ness of
that
Trade.

Several Objections have often been raised against the Lawfulness of this Trade, which I shall not here undertake to refute. I shall only observe in general, That tho' to traffick in human Creatures, may at first sight appear barbarous, inhuman, and unnatural; yet the Traders herein have as much to plead in their own Excuse, as can be said for some other Branches of Trade, namely, the *Advantage* of it: And that not only in regard of the Merchants, but also of the Slaves themselves, as will plainly appear from these following Reasons.

First, It is evident, that abundance of Captives, taken in War, would be inhumanly destroyed, was there not an Opportunity of disposing of them to the *Europeans*. So that at least many Lives are saved;

saved, and great Numbers of useful Persons kept in being.

Secondly, When they are carried to the Plantations, they generally live much better there, than they ever did in their own Country; for as the Planters pay a great price for them, 'tis their interest to take care of them.

Thirdly, By this means the *English* Plantations have been so much improved, that 'tis almost incredible, what great Advantages have accrued to the Nation thereby; especially to the *Sugar Islands*, which lying in a Climate near as hot as the Coast of *Guinea*, the *Negroes* are fitter to cultivate the Lands there, than white People.

Then as to the Criminals amongst the *Negroes*, they are by this means effectually transported, never to return again; a Benefit which we very much want here.

In a word, from this Trade proceed Benefits, far outweighing all, either real or pretended Mischiefs and Inconveniences. And, let the worst that can, be said of it, it will be found, like all other earthly Advantages, tempered with a mixture of Good and Evil.

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Mutinies
among the
Negroes,
in the
Ships
where the
Author
has been.

I come now to give an Account of the Mutinies that have happened on board the Ships where I have been.

These Mutinies are generally occasioned by the Sailors ill usage of these poor People, when on board the Ships wherein they are transported to our Plantations. Wherever therefore I have commanded, it has been my principal Care, to have the *Negroes* on board my Ship kindly used; and I have always strictly charged my white People to treat them with Humanity and Tendernefs: In which I have usually found my Account, both in keeping them from mutinying, and preserving them in health.

And whereas it may seem strange to those that are unacquainted with the method of managing them, how we can carry so many hundreds together in a small Ship, and keep them in order; I shall just mention what is generally practised. When we purchase grown People, I acquaint them by the Interpreter, " That, " now they are become my Property, I " think fit to let them know what they " are bought for, that they may be easy " in

“ in their Minds: (For these poor People are generally under terrible Apprehensions upon their being bought by white Men, many being afraid that we design to eat them; which, I have been told, is a story much credited by the inland *Negroes*;) “ So after informing them, That “ they are bought to till the Ground in “ our Country, with several other Mat- “ ters; I then acquaint them, how they “ are to behave themselves on board, to- “ wards the white Men; that if any one “ abuses them, they are to complain to “ the Linguist, who is to inform me of “ it, and I will do them Justice: But if “ they make a Disturbance, or offer to “ strike a white Man, they must expect “ to be severely punished.”

When we purchase the *Negroes*, we couple the sturdy Men together with Irons; but we suffer the Women and Children to go freely about: And soon after we have sail'd from the Coast, we undo all the Mens Irons.

They are fed twice a day, and are allowed in fair Weather to come on Deck

at seven a clock in the Morning, and to remain there, if they think proper, till Sun setting. Every *Monday* Morning they are served with Pipes and Tobacco, which they are very fond of. The Men *Negroes* lodge separate from the Women and Children; and the places where they all lye are cleaned every day, some white Men being appointed to see them do it.

It would be tedious to the Reader as well as to my self, should I relate all the Particulars of our Management of them, and the Care we take to keep them in health and order; wherefore I shall conclude with this remark, That if a Commander is himself well inclined, and has good Officers to execute his Orders, the *Negroes* on board may be easily governed; and many Difficulties (which unavoidably arise amongst such Numbers) got over with a little trouble.

The first Muriny I saw among the *Negroes*, happened during my first Voyage, in the Year 1704. It was on board the *Eagle Galley* of *London*, commanded by my Father, with whom I was as Purser.

We

We had bought our Negroes in the River of Old Callabar in the Bay of Guinea. At the time of their mutinying we were in that River, having four hundred of them on board, and not above ten white Men who were able to do Service: For several of our Ship's Company were dead, and many more sick; besides, two of our Boats were just then gone with twelve People on Shore to fetch Wood, which lay in sight of the Ship. All these Circumstances put the *Negroes* on consulting how to mutiny, which they did at four a clock in the Afternoon, just as they went to Supper. But as we had always carefully examined the Mens Irons, both Morning and Evening, none had got them off, which in a great measure contributed to our Preservation. Three white Men stood on the Watch with Cutlases in their Hands. One of them who was on the Forecastle, a stout fellow, seeing some of the Men Negroes take hold of the chief Mate, in order to throw him over board, he laid on them so heartily with the flat side of his Cutlase, that they soon

quitted the Mate, who escaped from them, and run on the Quarter Deck to get Arms. I was then sick with an Ague, and lying on a Couch in the great Cabbin, the Fit being just come on. However, I no sooner heard the Outcry, *That the Slaves were mutinying*, but I took two Pistols, and run on the Deck with them; where meeting with my Father and the chief Mate, I delivered a Pistol to each of them. Whereupon they went forward on the Booms, calling to the Negroe Men that were on the Forecastle; but they did not regard their Threats, being busy with the Centry, (who had disengaged the chief Mate,) and they would have certainly killed him with his own Cutlace, could they have got it from him; but they could not break the Line wherewith the Handle was fastened to his Wrist. And so, tho' they had seized him, yet they could not make use of his Cutlace. Being thus disappointed, they endeavoured to throw him overboard, but he held so fast by one of them that they could not do it. My Father seeing this stout Man

in

in so much Danger, ventured amongst the *Negroes*, to save him; and fired his Pistol over their Heads, thinking to frighten them. But a lusty Slave struck him with a Billet so hard, that he was almost stunned. The Slave was going to repeat the Blow, when a young Lad about seventeen years old, whom we had been kind to, interposed his Arm, and received the Blow, by which his Arm-bone was fractured. At the same instant the Mate fired his Pistol, and shot the *Negroe* that had struck my Father. At the sight of this the Mutiny ceased, and all the Men-negroes on the Forecastle threw themselves flat on their Faces, crying out for Mercy.

Upon examining into the matter, we found, there were not above twenty Men Slaves concerned in this Mutiny; and the two Ringleaders were missing, having, it seems, jumped overboard as soon as they found their Project defeated, and were drowned. This was all the Loss we suffered on this occasion: For the *Negroe* that was shot by the Mate, the Surgeon, beyond all Expectation, cured. And I

had the good Fortune to lose my Ague, by the fright and hurry I was put into. Moreover, the young Man, who had received the Blow on his Arm to save my Father, was cured by the Surgeon in our Passage to *Virginia*. At our Arrival in that place we gave him his Freedom; and a worthy Gentleman, one Colonel *Carter*, took him into his Service, till he became well enough acquainted in the Country to provide for himself.

I have been several Voyages, when there has been no Attempt made by our Negroes to mutiny; which, I believe, was owing chiefly, to their being kindly used, and to my Officers Care in keeping a good Watch. But sometimes we meet with stout stubborn People amongst them, who are never to be made easy; and these are generally some of the *Cormantines*, a Nation of the *Gold Coast*. I went in the year 1721, in the *Henry* of *London*, a Voyage to that part of the *Coast*, and bought a good many of these People. We were obliged to secure them very well in Irons, and watch them narrowly: Yet they

they nevertheless mutinied, tho' they had little prospect of succeeding. I lay at that time near a place called *Mumfort* on the *Gold-Coast*, having near five hundred Negroes on board, three hundred of which were Men. Our Ship's Company consisted of fifty white People, all in health: And I had very good Officers; so that I was very easy in all respects.

This Mutiny began at Midnight (the Moon then shining very bright) in this manner. Two Men that stood Centry at the Fore-hatch way, where the Men Slaves came up to go to the house of Office, permitted four to go to that place; but neglected to lay the Gratings again, as they should have done: Whereupon four more Negroes came on Deck, who had got their Irons off, and the four in the house of Office having done the same, all the eight fell on the two Centries, who immediately called out for help. The Negroes endeavoured to get their Cutlaces from them, but the Lineyards (that is the Lines by which the handles of the Cutlaces were fastned to the Mens Wrists) were so twisted

twisted in the Scuffle, that they could not get them off before we came to their Assistance. The Negroes perceiving several white Men coming towards them, with Arms in their hands, quitted the Centries, and jumped over the Ship's side into the Sea.

I being by this time come forward on the Deck, my first care was to secure the Gratings, to prevent any more Negroes from coming up; and then I ordered People to get into the Boat, and save those that had jumped over-board, which they luckily did: For they found them all clinging to the Cables the Ship was moored by.

After we had secured these People, I called the Linguists, and ordered them to bid the Men-Negroes between Decks be quiet; (for there was a great noise amongst them.) On their being silent, I asked, "What had induced them to mutiny? They answered, I was a great Rogue to buy them, in order to carry them away from their own Country; and that they were resolved to regain their Liberty if possible." I replied, "That

“ That they had forfeited their Freedom
“ before I bought them, either by Crimes,
“ or by being taken in War, according to
“ the Custom of their Country; and they
“ being now my Property, I was resolved
“ to let them feel my Resentment, if
“ they abused my Kindness: Asking at the
“ same time, Whether they had been ill
“ used by the white Men, or had wanted
“ for any thing the Ship afforded?” To
this they replied, “ They had nothing to
“ complain of.” Then I observed to them,
“ That if they should gain their Point
“ and escape to the Shore, it would be
“ no Advantage to them, because their
“ Countrymen would catch them, and
“ sell them to other Ships.” This served
my purpose, and they seemed to be con-
vinced of their Fault, begging, “ I would
“ forgive them, and promising for the
“ future to be obedient, and never mu-
“ tiny again, if I would not punish them
“ this time.” This I readily granted, and
so they went to sleep. When Day-light
came we called the Men Negroes up on
Deck, and examining their Irons, found
them

them all secure. So this Affair happily ended, which I was very glad of; for these People are the stoutest and most sensible *Negroes* on the Coast: Neither are they so weak as to imagine as others do, that we buy them to eat them; being satisfied we carry them to work in our Plantations, as they do in their own Country.

However, a few days after this, we discovered they were plotting again, and preparing to mutiny. For some of the Ringleaders proposed to one of our Linguists, If he could procure them an Ax, they would cut the Cables the Ship rid by in the night; and so on her driving (as they imagined) ashore, they should get out of our hands, and then would become his Servants as long as they lived.

For the better understanding of this I must observe here, that these Linguists are Natives and Freemen of the Country, whom we hire on account of their speaking good *English*, during the time we remain trading on the Coast; and they are likewise Brokers between us and the black Merchants.

This

This Linguist was so honest as to acquaint me with what had been proposed to him; and advised me to keep a strict Watch over the Slaves: For tho' he had represented to them the same as I had done on their mutinying before, That they would be all catch'd again, and sold to other Ships, in case they could carry their Point, and get on Shore; yet it had no effect upon them.

This gave me a good deal of Uneasiness. For I knew several Voyages had proved unsuccessful by Mutinies; as they occasioned either the total loss of the Ship and the white Mens Lives; or at least by rendring it absolutely necessary to kill or wound a great number of the Slaves, in order to prevent a total Destruction. Moreover, I knew many of these *Cormantine* Negroes despised Punishment, and even Death it self: It having often happened at *Barbadoes* and other Islands, that on their being any ways hardly dealt with, to break them of their Stubbornness in refusing to work, twenty or more have hang'd themselves at a time in a Plantation.

on. However, about a Month after this, a sad Accident happened, that brought our Slaves to be more orderly, and put them in a better Temper: And it was this. On our going from *Mumfort* to *Annamaboe*, which is the principal part on the *Gold Coast*, I met there with another of my Owner's Ships, called the *Elizabeth*. One Captain *Thompson* that commanded her was dead; as also his chief Mate: Moreover the Ship had afterwards been taken at *Cape Laboe* on the windward Coast, by *Roberts* the Pirate, with whom several of the Sailors belonging to her had entered. However, some of the Pirates had hindered the Cargoe's being plundered, and obtained that the Ship should be restored to the second Mate: Telling him, "They did it out of respect to the generous Character his Owner bore, in doing good to poor Sailors."

When I met with this Vessel I had almost disposed of my Ship's Cargoe; and the *Elizabeth* being under my Direction, I acquainted the second Mate, who then commanded her, That I thought it for

our Owner's Interest, to take the Slaves from on board him, being about 120, into my Ship; and then go off the Coast; and that I would deliver him at the same time the Remains of my Cargoe, for him to dispose of with his own after I was sailed. This he readily complied with, but told me, "He feared his Ship's Company would mutiny, and oppose my taking the Slaves from him:" And indeed, they came at that instant in a Body on the Quarter-deck; where one spoke for the rest, telling me plainly, "they would not allow the Slaves to be taken out by me." I found by this they had lost all respect for their present Commander, who indeed was a weak Man. However, I calmly asked the reason, "Why they offered to oppose my taking the Slaves?" To which they answered, "I had no business with them." On this I desired the Captain to send to his Scrutore, for the Book of Instructions Captain *Thompson* had received from our Owner; and he read to them, at my request, that Part, in which their former Captain, or his Successor

Successor (in case of Death) was to follow my Orders. Hereupon they all cried out, " they should remain a great while longer on the Coast to purchase more Slaves, if I took these from them, which they were resolved to oppose." I answered, " That such of the Ship's Company as desired it, I would receive on board my own; where they should have the same Wages they had at present on board the *Elizabeth*, and I would send some of my own People to supply their Places." This so reasonable an Offer was refused, one of the Men who was the Ship's Cooper telling me, that the Slaves had been on board a long time, and they had great Friendship with them: therefore they would keep them. I asked him, " Whether he had ever been on the Coast of *Guinea* before? He replied no. Then I told him, " I supposed he had not by his way of talking, and advised him not to rely on the Friendship of the Slaves, which he might have reason to repent of when too late." And 'tis remarkable this very person was killed by them

the

the next Night, as shall be presently related.

So finding that reasoning with these Men was to no Purpose, I told them, "When I came with my Boats to fetch the Slaves, they should find me as resolute to chastise such of them as should dare to oppose me, as I had been contenting to convince them by arguing calmly." So I took my leave of their Captain, telling him, "I would come next Morning to finish the Affair."

But that very Night, which was near a month after the Mutiny on board of us at *Mumfort*, the Moon shining now very bright, as it did then, we heard, about ten a Clock, two or three Musquets fired on board the *Elizabeth*. Upon that I ordered all our Boats to be manned, and having secured every thing in our Ship, to prevent our Slaves from mutinying, I went my self in our Pinnace, (the other Boats following me) on board the *Elizabeth*. In our way we saw two Negroes swimming from her, but before we

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could

could reach them with our Boats, some *Sharks* rose from the bottom, and tore them in Pieces. We came presently along the side of the Ship, where we found two Men-Negroes holding by a Rope, with their Heads just above water; they were afraid, it seems, to swim from the Ship's side, having seen their Companions devoured just before by the *Sharks*. These two Slaves we took into our Boat, and then went into the Ship, where we found the Negroes very quiet, and all under Deck; but the Ship's Company was on the Quarter-deck, in a great Confusion, saying, "The Cooper, who had been placed centry at the Fore-hatch way, over the Men-Negroes, was, they believed, kill'd by them." I was surprized to hear this, wondring that these cowardly fellows, who had so vigorously opposed my taking the Slaves out, a few hours before, had not Courage enough to venture forward, to save their Ship-mate; but had secured themselves by shutting the Quarter-deck-door, where they all stood with Arms in their Hands. So I

went

went to the fore-part of the Ship with some of my People, and there we found the Cooper lying on his back quite dead, his Scull being cleft afunder with a Hatchet that lay by him. At the sight of this I called for the Linguist, and bid him ask the *Negroes* between Decks, "Who had killed the white Man?" They answered, "They knew nothing of the matter; for there had been no design of mutinying amongst them:" Which upon Examination we found true; for above one hundred of the *Negroes* then on board, being bought to Windward, did not understand a word of the *Gold-Coast* Language, and so had not been in the Plot. But this Mutiny was contrived by a few *Cormantee-Negroes*, who had been purchased about two or three days before. At last, one of the two Men-*Negroes* we had taken up along the Ship side, impeached his Companion, and he readily confessed he had kill'd the Cooper, with no other View, but that he and his Countrymen might escape undiscovered by swimming on Shore. For on their coming

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upon

upon Deck, they observed, that all the white Men set to watch were asleep; and having found the Cook's Hatchet by the Fire-place, he took it up, not designing then to do any Mischief with it; but passing by the Cooper, who was centry, and he beginning to awake, the Negroe rashly struck him on the head with it, and then jump'd overboard. Upon this frank Confession, the white Men would have cut him to Pieces; but I prevented it, and carried him to my own Ship. Early the next morning, I went on board the *Elizabeth* with my Boats, and sent away all the Negroes then in her, into my own Ship: not one of the other Ship's Company offering to oppose it. Two of them, the Carpenter and Steward, desired to go with me, which I readily granted; and by way of Security for the future Success of the Voyage, I put my chief Mate, and four of my under Officers (with their own Consent,) on board the *Elizabeth*; and they arrived, about five Months after this, at *Jamaica*, having disposed of most part of the Cargoe.

After

After having sent the Slaves out of the *Elizabeth*, as I have just now mentioned, I went on board my own Ship; and there being then in the Road of *Anamaboe*, eight sail of Ships besides us, I sent an Officer in my Boat to the Commanders of them, “ To desire their Company on board my Ship, because I had an Affair of great Consequence to communicate to them.” Soon after, most of them were pleased to come; and I having acquainted them with the whole Matter, and they having also heard the Negroe’s Confession, “ That he had killed the white Man;” They unanimously advised me to put him to death; arguing, “ That Blood required Blood, by all Laws both divine and human; especially as there was in this Case the clearest Proof, namely the Murderer’s Confession: Moreover this would in all probability prevent future Mischiefs; for by publickly executing this Person at the Ship’s Fore-yard Arm, the Negroes on board their Ships would see it; and as they were very much disposed to mutiny, it might prevent them from

“ attempting it.” These Reasons, with my being in the same Circumstances, made me comply.

Accordingly we acquainted the Negroe, that he was to die in an hour’s time for murdering the white Man. He answered, “ He must confess it was a rash
“ Action in him to kill him; but he de-
“ fired me to consider, that if I put him
“ to death, I should lose all the Money I
“ had paid for him.” To this I bid the Interpreter reply, “ That tho’ I knew it
“ was customary in his Country to com-
“ mute for Murder by a Sum of Money,
“ yet it was not so with us; and he
“ should find that I had no regard to my
“ Profit in this respect: For as soon as
“ an Hour-Glass, just then turned, was
“ run out, he should be put to death;”
At which I observed he shewed no Concern.

Hereupon the other Commanders went on board their respective Ships, in order to have all their Negroes upon Deck at the time of Execution, and to inform them of the occasion of it. The Hour-Glass
being

being run out, the Murderer was carried on the Ship's Forecastle, where he had a Rope fastened under his Arms, in order to be hoisted up to the Fore-yard Arm, to be shot to death. This some of his Countrymen observing, told him, (as the Linguist informed me afterwards) "That they would not have him be frightened; for it was plain I did not design to put him to death, otherwise the Rope would have been put about his neck, to hang him." For it seems they had no thought of his being shot; judging he was only to be hoisted up to the Yard-arm, in order to scare him: But they immediately saw the contrary; for as soon as he was hoisted up, ten white Men who were placed behind the Barricado on the Quarter-deck, fired their Musquets, and instantly killed him. This struck a sudden Damp upon our Negroe-Men, who thought, that, on account of my Profit, I would not have executed him.

The Body being let down upon the Deck, the Head was cut off, and thrown overboard. This last part was done, to

let our Negroes see, that all who offended thus, should be served in the same manner. For many of the Blacks believe, that if they are put to death and not dismembred, they shall return again to their own Country, after they are thrown overboard. But neither the Person that was executed, nor his Countrymen of *Cormantee* (as I understood afterwards,) were so weak as to believe any such thing; tho' many I had on board from other Countries had that Opinion.

When the Execution was over, I ordered the Linguist to acquaint the Men-Negroes, " That now they might judge, " no one that killed a white Man should " be spared:" And I thought proper now to acquaint them once for all, " That if " they attempted to mutiny again, I " should be obliged to punish the Ring- " leaders with death, in order to prevent " further Mischief." Upon this they all promised to be obedient, and I assured them they should be kindly used, if they kept their Promise: which they faithfully did. For we sailed, two days after, from
Anamaboe

Anamaboe for *Jamaica*; and tho' they were on board near four Months, from our going off the Coast, till they were sold at that Island, they never gave us the least reason to be jealous of them; which doubtless was owing to the Execution of the white Man's Murderer.

These three Mutinies, I have here related, are all that ever happened where I was present, tho' I have gone many Voyages to the Coast of *Guinea*. But I have heard of several, that have ended in a very tragical manner. However to avoid being tedious, I shall relate only one, which is very remarkable, and happen'd on board the *Ferrers Galley* of *London Capt. Messervy*; who by his over-care, and too great Kindness to the *Negroes* on board his Ship, was destroyed by them, and the Voyage at last came to nothing. I met this Gentleman at *Anamaboe* on the Coast of *Guinea*, in *January 1722*. At his coming on board my Ship, he informed me of his good fortune, in that he had purchased near 300 *Negroes* in a few Days, at a place called *Cetre-Crue*, on
the

the windward part of the Coast of *Guinea*; which happened in this manner.

It seems the Inhabitants of this place, which lies near the Sea-side, had been often misused by some inland People, who for a long time had treated them in a villainous manner, whenever they went to their Towns with Salt, or any other Commodities to sell. For knowing the People of *Cetre-Crue*, did in a great measure depend on them for their Food, which is Rice, they took their Commodities, and gave them just what quantity of Rice they pleased, in exchange. The *Cetre-Crues* having long complained of this Injury, without redress, resolved to bear it no longer, but to revenge themselves by Arms. And they were crowned with Success, destroying and taking all the Inhabitants of the principal Town where they used to go and buy Rice.

Captain *Messervy* happened to anchor near *Cetre-Crue* just at that time, and had the opportunity of purchasing a great many of the Captives at an easy rate. For the Conquerors were glad to get something
for

for them at that instant, since if a Ship had not been in the Road, they would have been obliged to have killed most of the Men-Captives, for their own Security.

After the Captain had told me this story, he desired me to spare him some Rice, having heard, I had purchased a great many Tuns to the Windward; where he had bought little, not expecting to meet with so many Slaves. This request I could not comply with, having provided no more than was necessary for my self, and for another of my Owner's Ships, which I quickly expected. And understanding from him, that he had never been on the Coast of *Guinea* before, I took the liberty to observe to him, " That as he had on board so many Negroes of one Town and Language, it required the utmost Care and Management to keep them from mutinying; and that I was sorry he had so little Rice for them: For I had experienced that the Windward Slaves are always very fond of it, it being their
3 " usual

“ usual Food in their own Country;
 “ and he might certainly expect dissatis-
 “ factions and Uneasiness amongst them
 “ for want of a sufficient quantity.”

This he took kindly, and having asked my Advice about other Matters, took his leave, inviting me to come next day to see him. I went accordingly on board his Ship, about three a clock in the afternoon. At four a clock the Negroes went to Supper, and Captain *Messervy* desired me to excuse him for a quarter of an hour, whilst he went forward to see the Men-Negroes served with Victuals. I observed from the Quarter-Deck, that he himself put Pepper and Palm Oyl amongst the Rice they were going to eat. When he came back to me, I could not forbear observing to him, “ How imprudent it
 “ was in him to do so: For tho’ it was
 “ proper for a Commander sometimes
 “ to go forward, and observe how things
 “ were managed; yet he ought to take a
 “ proper time, and have a good many of
 “ his white People in Arms when he
 “ went;

“ went; or else the having him so much
“ in their Power, might incourage the
“ Slaves to mutiny: For he might depend
“ upon it, they always aim at the chief
“ Person in the Ship, whom they soon
“ distinguish by the respect shown him by
“ the rest of the People.”

He thanked me for this Advice, but did not seem to relish it; saying, “ He thought the old Proverb good, that *‘The Master’s Eye makes the Horse fat.’*” We then fell into other Discourse, and among other things he told me, “ He designed to go away in a few days:” Accordingly he sailed three days after for *Jamaica*. Some Months after I went for that place, where at my arrival I found his Ship, and had the following melancholy account of his Death, which happened about ten days after he left the Coast of *Guinea* in this manner.

Being on the Forecastle of the Ship, amongst the Men-Negroes, when they were eating their Victuals, they laid hold on him, and beat out his Brains with the
little

little Tubs, out of which they eat their boiled Rice. This Mutiny having been plotted amongst all the grown Negroes on board, they run to the fore-part of the Ship in a body, and endeavoured to force the Barricado on the Quarter-Deck, not regarding the Musquets or Half Pikes, that were presented to their Breasts by the white Men, through the Loop-holes. So that at last the chief Mate was obliged to order one of the Quarter-deck Guns laden with Partridge-Shot, to be fired amongst them; which occasioned a terrible Destruction: For there were near eighty *Negroes* kill'd and drowned, many jumping overboard when the Gun was fired. This indeed put an end to the Mutiny, but most of the Slaves that remained alive grew so sullen, that several of them were starved to death, obstinately refusing to take any Sustenance: And after the Ship was arrived at *Jamaica*, they attempted twice to mutiny, before the Sale of them began. This with their former Misbehaviour coming

to be publickly known, none of the Planters cared to buy them, tho' offered at a low Price. So that this proved a very unsuccessful Voyage, for the Ship was detained many Months at *Jamaica* on that account, and at last was lost there in a Hurricane.

The End of BOOK II.



BOOK

B O O K III.

Containing an Account of the Author's being taken by Pirates, on the North part of the Coast of Guinea, in the Bird Galley of London, belonging to the late Humphrey Morrice Esq; who was sole Owner of the said Ship. Interspersed with several Instances of the Author's many Deliverances, and narrow Escapes from Death, during the time he was detain'd Prisoner by the Pirates.

IN the beginning of *November*, in the Year 1718, the late *Humphrey Morrice Esq;* Merchant of *London*, appointed me Commander of the *Bird Galley*, and gave me Orders to go to *Holland*,

to take on board a Cargoe for the Coast of *Africa*: Having so done, we were unfortunately detained by contrary Winds, at *Helvoet-Sluis*, till the 10th day of *December*, when a violent Storm arose, and in the night following forc'd our Ship on Shore, with several others. The Ship, by the Strength of the Wind, and height of the Tide, was carried with a great force against the Dike, or Bank that secures the Land from being overflowed on such high Tides, which frighten'd the Inhabitants thereabouts not a little. Moreover, the Waves made her work so much on the Ground where she was stranded, that when the Tide had left her, we found she set seven foot deep abaft in the Strand; but had the Satisfaction to find, on Examination, the Ship had received no damage in her bottom. Having unloaded, and hired many Boors or Peasants, to dig a Trench of near 300 Foot in length to the low water mark, we waited some time for a high Tide; and then getting the Ship off, carried her into *Helvoet-Sluis Peer*.

Having

Having refitted and loaded again, we proceeded on our Voyage the latter end of *January*; but the Wind changing by the time we were off the Isle of *Wight*, and rising to a great Storm westerly, we were forced into *Spithead*; where having lain some time, we failed again with a fair Wind, which carried us above 70 Leagues to the westward of the *Lizard*. Here a severe Storm of Wind coming up at South-west, obliged us to lye by, under a reef'd Main-sail; and it increased to such a violent Degree, that we expected to be swallowed up every Minute, by the great Sea which ran Mountains high; but it pleased God, that after 24 Hours, it began to abate, and we received no other damage, than the loss of the *Lyon* from the Ship's Cut-water, which was washed away by the Sea.

The Wind (after this Storm) remaining contrary a long time, with frequent hard Gales, obliged us at last to go for *Kingsale* in *Ireland*: Where having lain a few days, and repaired the Ship's Head, with other things that were out of Order,

we sailed from that place, with a northerly Wind, the 10th day of *March* 1718-19, and had a short and fine Passage to the River *Sieraleon*; on the North Coast of *Guinea*, in the Latitude of 8 Deg. 30 Min. where we arrived the first day of *April* 1719: We met with nothing remarkable in our Passage, except, that near the *Canary Islands*, we were chased by a Ship whom we judged to be a *Sallec-Rover*; but our Ship outfailing her, they soon gave over the Chase.

There were, at the time of our unfortunate Arrival in the above mentioned River, three Pirate Ships, who had then taken ten *English* Ships in that place. As it is necessary for illustrating this Story, to give an Account how these three Ships came to meet there, I must observe, That the first of them which arrived in the River, was called the *Rising Sun*, one *Cocklyn* Commander, who had not with him above 25 Men. These having been with one Captain *Moody*, a famous Pirate, some Months before, in a *Brigantine*, which sailed very well, and

took the *Rising Sun*, they were morooned by him, (as they call it) that is forced on board that Ship, and deprived of their share of the Plunder, taken formerly by the *Brigantine*. These People being obliged to go away in her, with little Provision and Ammunition, chose *Cocklyn* for their Commander, and made for the River *Siera-leon*; where arriving, they surprized in his Sloop, one *Segnor Joseph*, a black Gentleman, who had been formerly in *England*, and was a Person of good account in this Country. This Man's Ransom procured the Pirates a sufficient supply of Provision and Ammunition. Moreover, several *Bristol* and other Ships arriving soon after, were likewise taken; and many of their People entring with the Pirates, they had, when I fell into their hands, near 80 Men in all.

The Crue of the *Brigantine*, who, with their Captain *Moody*, had thus forced their Companions away in the *Rising Sun*, soon after repenting of that Action, it bred great Discontents among them; so that they quarrelled with their Cap-

tain and some others, whom they thought the chief Promoters of it; and at last forced him, with twelve others, into an open Boat, which they had taken a few days before, from the *Spaniards* of the *Canary Islands*; and as they never were heard of afterwards, doubtless they perished in the Ocean. After this, they chose one *Le Bouse* a *Frenchman* for their Commander, who carried them to the River *Sieraleon*, where they arrived about a Month after their parting with the *Rising Sun*.

At the first Appearance, of this Brigantine, *Cocklyn* and his Crew were under a great Surprise; but when they understood how *Moody* and some others had been served by them, they cheerfully joined their Brethren in Iniquity.

On the same day also arrived one Captain *Davis*, who had been pirating in a Sloop, and had taken a large Ship at the *Cape de Verd* Islands. He coming into *Sieraleon* with her, it put the other two Pirates into some fear, believing at first it was a Man of War: But upon disco-

vering

vering her black Flag at the Main-top-mast-head, which Pirate Ships usually hoist to terrify Merchant-Men; they were easy in their Minds, and a little time after, saluted one another with their Cannon.

This *Davis* was a generous Man, and kept his Crew, which consisted of near 150 Men, in good order; neither had he conformed or agreed to join with the others, when I was taken by *Cocklyn*; which proved a great Misfortune to me, as will appear afterwards. For I found *Cocklyn* and his Crew, to be a set of the basest and most cruel Villains that ever were. And indeed they told me, after I was taken
 “ That they chose him for their Com-
 “ mander, on account of his Brutality
 “ and Ignorance; having resolved never
 “ to have again a Gentleman-like Com-
 “ mander, as, they said, *Moody* was.”

Upon mentioning this, I think it necessary to observe in this place, that the Captain of a Pirate Ship, is chiefly chosen to fight the Vessels they may meet with. Besides him, they chuse another principal Officer, whom they call *Quarter-master*,

who has the general Inspection of all Affairs, and often controuls the Captain's Orders: This Person is also to be the first Man in boarding any Ship they shall attack; or go in the Boat on any desperate Enterprize. Besides the *Captain* and *Quarter-master*, the Pirates had all other Officers as is usual on board Men of War.

I come now to give an account how I was taken by them. The day that I made the Land, when I was within three Leagues of the River's Mouth, it became calm in the Afternoon. Seeing a Smoke on Shore, I sent for my first Mate Mr. *Simon Jones*, who had been formerly at *Sieralem*, where I had not; "bidding
 " him take the Pinnace, and go where
 " the Smoke was, to enquire of the Na-
 " tives, how Affairs stood up the River."
 " But he replied, " it would be to little
 " purpose, for no People lived there: As
 " to the Smoke we saw, he believed it
 " might be made by some Travellers
 " who were roasting of Oysters on the
 " Shore; and would be gone before he
 " could

“ could get a Mile from the Ship. More-
“ over, as Night drew on, it would be
“ difficult for him to find the Ship again.”
Thinking this answer reasonable, I did
not press him further; tho’ I understood
afterwards, there was a Town where the
Smoke appeared. But I did not then in
the least suspect Mr. *Jones* would have
proved such a Villain as he did after-
wards.

About five a Clock in the Afternoon, a
small Breeze arising from the Sea, and the
Tide of Flood setting strong, we stood for
the River’s Mouth. At Sun-setting we per-
ceived a Ship at Anchor, a great way up
the River; which was the Pirate that took
us soon after. The other two Pirate
Ships, with their Prizes, were hid from
our sight by a Point of Land.

It becoming calm about seven a Clock,
and growing dark, we anchor’d in the
River’s Mouth; soon after which I went
to Supper, with the Officers that usually
eat with me. About eight a Clock the
Officer of the Watch upon Deck, sent
me word, “ He heard the rowing of a
“ Boat.”

“ Boat.” Whereupon we all immediately went upon Deck; and the night being very dark, I ordered Lanthorns and Candles to be got ready, supposing the Boat might come from the Shore with some white Gentlemen, that lived there as free Merchants; or else from the Ship we had seen up the River a little while before we came to an Anchor. I ordered also, by way of Precaution, the first Mate to go into the Steerage, to put all things in order, and to send me forthwith twenty Men on the *Quarter-deck* with fire Arms and Cutlaces, which I thought he went about.

As it was dark, I could not yet see the Boat, but heard the noise of the rowing very plain: Whereupon I ordered the second Mate to hail the Boat, to which the People in it answered, “ They belonged to the *Two Friends*, Captain *Eliot* of *Barbadoes*.” At this, one of the Officers who stood by me, said, “ He knew the Captain very well, and that he commanded a Vessel of that name.” I replied, “ It might be so; but I
“ would

“ would not trust any Boat in such a
“ place;” and ordered him to hasten the
first Mate, with the People and Arms
upon Deck, as I had just before ordered.
By this time our Lanthorns and Candles
were brought up, and I ordered the
Boat to be hailed again: To which the
People in it answered, “ They were from
“ *America:*” And at the same time fired
a volley of small Shot at the Ship, tho’
they were then above Pistol shot from us;
which showed the Boldness of these Vil-
lains: For there was in the Boat only
twelve of them, as I understood after-
wards, who knew nothing of the Strength
of our Ship; which was indeed consider-
able, we having 16 Guns, and 45 Men
on board. But as they told me after we
were taken, “ They judged we were a
“ small Vessel of little force. Moreover,
“ they depended on the same good for-
“ tune as in the other Ships they had
“ taken; having met with no resistance;
“ For the People were generally glad of
“ an opportunity of entring with them:”
Which last was but too true.

When

When they first began to fire, I called aloud to the first Mate, to fire at the Boat out of the Steerage Port-holes; which not being done, and the people I had ordered upon Deck with small Arms not appearing, I was extremely surprized; and the more, when an Officer came and told me, "The People would not take Arms." I went thereupon down into the Steerage, where I saw a great many of them looking at one another. Little thinking that my first Mate had prevented them from taking Arms, I asked them with some Roughness, "Why they had not obeyed my Orders?" Calling upon some brisk Fellows by name, that had gone a former Voyage with me, to defend the Ship; saying, "It would be the greatest Reproach in the World to us all, if we should be taken by a Boat." Some of them replied, "They would have taken Arms, but the Chest they were kept in could not be found." The reason of which will be related hereafter.

By

By this time the Boat was along the Ship's Side, and there being no body to oppose them, the Pirates immediately boarded us; and coming on the Quarter-deck, fired their Pieces several times down into the Steerage, and shot a Sailor in the Reins, of which Wound he died afterwards. They likewise threw several Granado-shells, which burst amongst us, so that 'tis a great wonder several of us were not killed by them, or by their Shot.

At last some of our People bethought themselves to call out for *Quarter*; which the Pirates granting, the *Quarter-master* came down into the Steerage, enquiring, "Where the Captain was?" I told him, "I had been so till now." Upon that he asked me, "How I durst order my People to fire at their Boat out of the Steerage? saying, that they had heard me repeat it several times." I answered, "I thought it my Duty to defend the Ship, if my People would have fought." Upon that he presented a Pistol to my Breast, which I had but just time

time to parry before it went off; so that the Bullet past between my Side and Arm. The Rogue finding he had not shot me, he turned the But-end of the Pistol, and gave me such a Blow on the Head as stunned me; so that I fell upon my Knees; but immediately recovering myself, I forthwith jumped out of the Steerage upon the Quarter-deck, where the Pirate Boatswain was.

He was a bloody Villain, having a few days before killed a poor Sailor, because he did not do something so soon as he had ordered him. This cruel Monster was asking some of my People, "Where their Captain was." So at my coming upon Deck, one of them, pointing to me, said, "There he is." Tho' the night was very dark, yet there being four Lanthorns with Candles, he had a full sight of me: Whereupon lifting up his broad Sword, he swore, "No Quarter should be given to any Captain that offered to defend his Ship," aiming at the same time a full stroke at my Head. To avoid it I stooped so low, that the Quarter-deck

Rail

Rail received the Blow; and was cut in at least an inch deep: Which happily saved my Head from being cleft asunder: And the Sword breaking at the same time, with the force of the Blow on the Rail, it prevented his cutting me to pieces.

By good Fortune his Pistols, that hung at his Girdle, were all discharged; otherwise he would doubtless have shot me. But he took one of them, and with the But-end endeavoured to beat out my Brains, which some of my People that were then on the Quarter-deck observing, cried out aloud, "For God's sake don't kill our Captain, for we never were with a better Man." This turned the Rage of him and two other Pirates on my People, and saved my Life: But they cruelly used my poor Men, cutting and beating them unmercifully. One of them had his Chin almost cut off; and another received such a Wound on his Head, that he fell on the Deck as dead; but afterwards, by the care of our Surgeon he recovered.

All

All this happen'd in a few Minutes, and the Quarter-master then coming up, ordered the Pirates to tie our People's Hands, and told me, " That when they boarded us, they let their Boat go adrift, and that I must send an Officer, with some of my People in our Boat to look for theirs." Whereupon my first Mate, Mr. *Simon Jones*, who stood by, offered to go: And the Quarter-master telling him, " He must return quickly, otherwise he should judge that they were run away with the Boat, in order to go on Shore; and if they did so he would cut me to pieces:" Mr. *Jones* replied, " He would not stay above a quarter of an Hour, but return whether he found the Boat or not." Happily for me he soon found her, and returned (tho' it was very dark) in less time than he had promised.

Then the Quarter-master took me by the hand, and told me, " My Life was safe provided none of my People complained against me." I replied, " I was sure none of them could."

The

The Pirates next, loaded all their small Arms, and fired several Vollies for Joy they had taken us: Which their Comrades on board their Ship hearing, it being then very near us, tho' we could not see it for the darkness of the Night, they concluded we had made Resistance, and destroyed their People.

It will be proper to observe here, that soon after we had anchored in the Mouth of the River *Sieraleon*, it became calm; and the Tide of Ebb beginning to come down, the Pirates cut their Cable, and let their Ship drive down with the Tide towards us, from the place where we had seen her at anchor; having sometime before sent their Boat against the Tide of Flood, to discover us. The Ship being by that means come near us, and seeing our Lights, without asking any Questions, gave us a Broad-side with their great Guns; verily believing we had destroyed their Boat and People. This put the Pirates on board us into Confusion, which I observing, asked the Quarter-master, "Why he did not call with the speak-
P "ing

“ing Trumpet, and tell their Ship they
 “had taken us?” Upon that he asked me
 angrily, “Whether I was afraid of go-
 “ing to the Devil by a great Shot? For,
 “as to his part, he hoped he should be
 “sent to Hell one of these days by a
 “Cannon Ball.” I answered, “I hoped
 “that would not be my Road.” How-
 ever, he followed my Advice, and in-
 formed their Ship, “They had taken a
 “brave Prize, with all manner of good
 “Liquors and fresh Provisions on board.”

Just after this, *Cocklyn*, the Pirate Cap-
 tain, ordered them to dress a quantity of
 these Victuals; so they took many Geese,
 Turkeys, Fowls and Ducks, making our
 People cut their Heads off, and pull the
 great Feathers out of their Wings: But
 they would not stay till the other Fea-
 thers were pick'd off. All these they
 put into our great Furnace, which would
 boil Victuals for 500 Negroes, together
 with several *Westphalia* Hams, and a large
 Sow with Pig, which they only bow-
 elled, leaving the Hair on. This strange
 medley filled the Furnace, and the

Cook

Cook was ordered to boil them out of Hand.

As soon as the Pirate-ship had done firing, I asked the Quarter-master's leave, for our Surgeon to dress my poor People that had been wounded; and I likewise went into the Steerage, to have my Arm dress'd, it being very much bruised by the Blow given me by the Pirate-Boatswain. Just after that, a person came to me from the Quarter-master, desiring to know, "What a Clock it was by my Watch?" Which judging to be a civil way of demanding it, I sent it him immediately; desiring the Messenger to tell him, it was a very good going Gold Watch. When it was delivered to the Quarter-master, he held it up by the Chain, and presently laid it down on the Deck, giving it a kick with his Foot; saying, "It was a pretty Foot-ball: On which, one of the Pirates caught it up, saying, "He would put it in the common Chest to be sold at the Mast.

I would not mention such trifling Circumstances, but that I judge they serve to

shew the Humours and Temper of these sort of People.

By this time I was loudly called upon to go on board the Pirate-ship. As soon as I came upon Deck, they hurried me over our Ship's side into the Boat; but when we arrived along the side of the Pirate-Vessel, I told them, "I was disabled in my Arm, and so desired their help to get me into their Ship:" Which was readily done. Then I was ordered to go on the Quarter-deck to their Commander, who saluted me in this manner. "I am sorry you have met with bad usage after Quarter given, but 'tis the Fortune of War sometimes. I expect you will answer truly to all such Questions as I shall ask you: otherwise you shall be cut to pieces; but if you tell the Truth, and your Men make no Complaints against you, you shall be kindly used; and this shall be the best Voyage you ever made in your Life, as you shall find by what shall be given you." I thanked him for his good Intentions, telling him, "I
 " was

“ was content to stand on the footing he
“ had propos'd to me:”

Having answered all his Questions, one of which was, “ How our Ship failed
“ both large, and on a wind?” I replying,
“ Very well:” He then threw up his
Hat, saying, “ She would make a
“ fine Pirate Man of War.” When I
heard that, I must own I could not but
be concern'd for having answer'd so truly
in that particular: But then considering,
that some of my People would no doubt
have told them the same; and moreover,
my Journal, when they look'd into it, would
have made it plainly appear, which
might have proved my Destruction, I sa-
tisfied my Mind with these Reflections.

As, in this whole Affair, I greatly ex-
perienced the Providence of Almighty
God, in his Goodness delivering me
from the hands of these Villains, and
from many Dangers; so the same good
Providence gave me such a presence of
Mind, that when I believed I was upon
the point of being killed, such Terrors
did not arise, as I had formerly experi-
enced,

enced, when in danger of Shipwrack And tho' I fared very hard, and endured great Fatigues during the time I was there Prisoner; yet praised be God, I enjoyed my Health: Submitting with that Resignation to the Will of the Almighty, as a Man ought to do in such severe Misfortunes.

But to return to my Narrative, which the Remembrance of my past Dangers hath interrupted.

As soon as I had done answering the Captain's Questions, a tall Man, with four Pistols in his Girdle, and a broad Sword in his Hand, came to me on the Quarter-deck, telling me, "His name was *James Griffin*, and that we had been School-fellows." Tho' I remembered him very well; yet having formerly heard, it had proved fatal to some who had been taken by Pirates, to own any Knowledge of them; I replied, "I could not remember any such Person by name." Upon that he mentioned some boyish Pranks that had formerly pass'd between us. But I still denying any
Know-

Knowledge of him, he told me, " He
" supposed I took him to be one of the
" ~~Pirate's~~ Crew, because I saw him armed
" in that manner; but that he was a
" forc'd Man, and had been lately chief
" Mate to Captain *James Creighton* of
" *Bristol*; who was then, with his Ship,
" in the Possession of the Pirates in the
" River, and had not been destroyed by
" them, at his earnest intreaty: That since
" his being forced, they had obliged him
" to act as Master of the Pirate-ship;
" and the reason of his being so armed,
" was to prevent their imposing on him;
" for there was hardly any amongst the
" Crew of Pirates belonging to Captain
" *Cocklyn*, but what were cruel Villains;
" misusing much better Men than them-
" selves, only for having the Misfortune
" to fall into their Hands, as I had al-
" ready experienced, and might find
" hereafter; but he would himself take
" care of me that night, in which would
" be my greatest Danger; because many
" of their People would soon get drunk
" with the good Liquors found in ~~my~~
" Ship."

This generous Declaration was very acceptable to me, and I then readily own'd my former acquaintance with him. Then he turned to Captain *Cocklyn*, and desired a Bowl of Punch might be made. Which being done, the Captain desired Mr. *Griffin* my Schoolfellow to show me the way to the great Cabbin, and he followed himself.

There was not in the Cabbin either Chair, or any thing else to sit upon; for they always kept a clear Ship ready for an Engagement: So a Carpet was spread on the Deck, upon which we sat down cross-legg'd. Captain *Cocklyn* drank my Health, desiring, "I would not be cast
 " down at my Misfortune, for one of
 " the Boat's Crew who had taken us had
 " told him, My Ship's Company in gene-
 " ral spoke well of me; and they had
 " Goods enough left in the Ships they
 " had taken to make a Man of me."
 Then he drank several other Healths, amongst which was that of the *Pretender*, by the name of King *James the Third*, and thereby I found they were doubly

doubly on the side of the Gallows, both as Traitors and Pirates.

It being by this time Midnight, my Schoolfellow desired the Captain, "To have a Hammock hung up for me to sleep in;" for it seems every one lay rough, as they called it, that is, on the Deck; the Captain himself not being allowed a Bed. This being granted, and soon after done, I took leave of the Captain, and got into the Hammock, tho' I could not sleep in my melancholy Circumstances. Moreover, the execrable Oaths and Blasphemies I heard among the Ship's Company, shock'd me to such a degree, that in Hell it self I thought there could not be worse; for tho' many Seafaring Men are given to swearing and taking God's Name in vain, yet I could not have imagined, human Nature could ever so far degenerate, as to talk in the manner those abandoned Wretches d'd.

After I was got into the Hammock, Mr. *Griffin*, according to his Promise, walked by me, with his broad Sword in his Hand, to protect me from Insects.

Some time after, it being about two a clock in the morning, the Pirate *Boatswain* (that attempted to kill me when taken) came on board very drunk, and being told I was in a Hammock, he came with his Cutlace near me. My generous Schoolfellow asked him what he wanted? he answered, " To slice my Liver, for I
" was a vile Dog, for ordering my Peo-
" ple to fire on their Boat; neither would
" I deliver my Watch when the *Quar-*
" *termaster* first demanded it." Upon hearing that, I told Mr. *Griffin*, " The
" last was false, for I had immediately
" sent it by a Messenger, who only asked,
" what a clock it was? supposing the
" Quarter-master expected it". Then *Griffin* bid the Boatswain keep his Distance, or else he would cleave his head asunder with his Broad Sword. Nevertheless, that bloody-minded Villain came on to kill me; but Mr. *Griffin* struck at him with his Sword, from which he had a narrow Escape, and then ran away: So I lay unmolested till day light. By that time the Fumes of the Liquor being gone
off

off by Sleep amongst most of the Pirates, Mr. *Griffin* complained to the Quarter-master and Company, of the cruel Intention of the Boatswain towards me; representing, "They ought to observe strictly that Maxim established amongst them, not to permit any ill usage to their Prisoners after Quarter given." At the hearing of this, many of them voted for his being whipp'd, tho' he was a great Favourite of several others. But tho' I wish'd him hang'd in my Mind, yet I thought it prudent to plead for him; saying, "I believed it was his being in Liquor that was the cause of his using me in that manner." So he received a general Order, not to give me the least Offence afterwards: Yet did that vile Wretch attempt once more to kill me, as shall be related in its due place.

I come now to relate, How Mr. *Simon Jones*, my first Mate, and ten of my Men entred with the Pirates. The Morning after we were taken, he came to me, and said, "His Circumstances were bad at home: Moreover, he had a Wife whom
" he

“ he could not love; and for these Rea-
“ sons he had entred with the Pirates, and
“ signed their Articles.” I was greatly
surprized at this Declaration, and told
him, “ I was very sorry to hear it, for I be-
“ liev’d he would repent when too late; and
“ as he had taken this Resolution rashly,
“ without communicating it to me, all
“ I could say now would be to no Pur-
“ pose; neither would it be proper for
“ me, for the future, to have any Dif-
“ course with him in private.” I saw
this poor Man afterwards despised by his
Brethren in Iniquity; and have since been
informed, he died a few Months after
they left the River *Sieraleon*. However,
I must do him the Justice to own, He
never shewed any Disrespect to me; and
the Men People he perswaded to enter with
him, remained very civil to me, and of
their own accord, always manned the
side for me, whenever I went on board
the ship they belonged to.

Several of these unhappy People soon
after repented, and desired me to intercede
for them, that they might be cleared
again;

again; for they durst not themselves mention it to the Quarter-master, it being death by their Articles: But it was too nice a matter for me to deal in; and therefore I refused them.

Some days after this, one of these poor Men, whose name was *Thomas Wilder*, discovered things to me, of which I only had a suspicion before. After cursing Mr. *Jones* for persuading him to enter with the Pirates, he said to me, “ That
“ several times in the Night-watch, before we came to *Sieraleon*, he had heard
“ him say, *That he hoped we should meet
“ with Pirates when we came to that River;*
“ which he then thought to be spoken
“ only in jest; but now he found it too
“ true”. As I seemed not to believe this, he called another of our People, who confirmed what he had told me. “ Then
“ I asked them the Reason why the
“ Chest of Arms was put out of the place
“ where it usually stood at the Steerage;
“ and where it was hid in the time we
“ were taken?” They answered, “ I
“ might remember, that the Morning
“ we

“ we made Land, I ordered the Steerage
 “ to be clean’d; to do which all the
 “ Chests there were carried between
 “ Decks; and after the Steerage was
 “ clean’d, all the Chests were brought
 “ back again in their places, except the
 “ Chest of Arms, which was left behind
 “ by the Mate’s Order: That when I
 “ called to the People in the Steerage to
 “ fire on the Pirate-boat, supposing Mr.
 “ *Jones* had delivered them Arms accor-
 “ ding to my Order, many of the Men
 “ would have broken the Chest open, but
 “ he prevented them, by declaring, *This*
 “ *was an opportunity he had wished for;*
 “ *and that if they fired a Musquet, they*
 “ *would be all cut to pieces.* And they
 further assured me, that to induce them
 to enter with the Pirates, he had declared
 to them, *That I had promised him to*
enter my self. Putting all this together,
 with what several of the Pirates told me
 afterwards, namely, *That he had been the*
chief occasion of their keeping my Ship, it
 was a wonder that I escaped so well, hav-
 ing such a base Wretch for my principal
 Officer.

But

But to resume the thread of my Story. As soon as the Fumes of the Liquor were gone out of the Pirates Heads, they all went on board the Prize, as they called my Ship, about eight a clock in the morning, it being the second day of *April*. Mr. *Jones*, who had been my first Mate, went with them; and he having confirmed them in their intention of keeping the Ship for their own use, all hands went to work to clear the Ship, by throwing over board Bales of Woollen Goods; Cases of *India* Goods; with many other things of great Value: So that before night they had destroyed between three and four thousand Pounds worth of the Cargoe. For they had little regard to these things, Money and Necessaries being what they chiefly wanted. The sight of this much grieved me, but I was obliged in prudence to be silent. For my Schoolfellow told me, I was still under the displeasure of many of them, on account of my ordering my People to fire on their Boat when they took me.

There

There were then residing at *Sieraleon*, several *Englishmen* who traded on their own accounts; And among the rest, one Captain *Henry Glynn*, who was since Governor for the Royal *African Company* at *Gambia*, and died there. This Gentleman was an honest generous Person, and of so much Integrity, that tho' he had suffered by the Pirates when they first landed, yet he would never accept of any Goods from them, which they had often press'd him to receive for his own use. This Conduct, with an engaging deportment, so gained him the Good-will of the Pirates, that they were ready to oblige him in whatever he requested. Captain *Glynn* and my self having formerly been acquainted, as soon as he heard of my being taken, he engaged Captain *Davis* and *Le Boose*, the Commanders of the two other Pirate Ships, who were then on Shore at his House, to come on board with him to see me. I was very agreeably surprized with his coming that Afternoon, and both the Pirate Captains that came with him saluted me civilly.

Captain

Captain *Davis* told me, “ He knew me,” tho’ I never could recollect where I had seen him: and I found, he did not care to tell, where he had seen me.

Soon after this, *Captain Cocklyn* with his Quarter-master and others, came from the Prize on board their old Ship, to compliment *Captain Davis* and the rest that came with him. After the Compliments were over, *Captain Davis* generously said, “ He was ashamed to hear how I had “ been used by them. That they should “ remember, their Reasons for going a pi- “ rating were to revenge themselves on “ base Merchants, and cruel Commanders “ of Ships. That as for the Owner of “ the Prize, he had not his Fellow in “ *London* for Generosity and Goodness to “ poor Sailors, as he had formerly heard “ from others, and now from *Captain “ Glynn*: That as for my part, no one of “ my People, even those that had entered “ with them, gave me the least ill Cha- “ racter: But by their respect since shewn “ me, it was plain they loved me. That “ he indeed had heard the occasion of

Q

“ my

“ my ill usage, and of the ill-will some
“ still bore me, was, because I had or-
“ dered my People to defend the Ship:
“ Which he blamed them exceedingly
“ for; saying, If he had had the good
“ fortune to have taken me, and I had
“ defended my Ship against him, he
“ should have doubly valued me for it:
“ That as he was not in Partnership with
“ them, he would say no more at present;
“ but that he hoped they would now use
“ me kindly, and give me some Neces-
“ saries, with what remained undestroyed
“ of my private Adventure.” This was
by no means relished by this pack of Mis-
creants; for in their Hearts they hated
Captain *Davis*, because he kept his Ship’s
Company in good order, tho’ they were
almost double their Number; and being
a brave generous Man, they dreaded his
Repentment. However *Cocklyn*, and the
chief of his People putting a good face on
the matter, invited him and Captain
Glynn on board the Prize; and they two
desiring I might accompany them, it was
readily granted.

Soon

Soon after we were on board, we all went into the great Cabin, where we found nothing but Destruction. Two *Scrutores* I had there were broke to Pieces, and all the fine Goods and Necessaries in them were all gone. Moreover two large Chests that had Books in them were empty; and I was afterwards informed, they had been all thrown overboard; for one of the Pirates, upon opening them, swore, "There
" was Jaw-work enough (as he called it)
" to serve a Nation, and propos'd they
" might be cast into the Sea; for he
" feared, there might be some Books
" amongst them, that might breed Mis-
" chief enough; and prevent some of
" their Comrades from going on in their
" Voyage to Hell, whither they were all
" bound." Upon which the Books were all flung out of the Cabin-windows into the River.

After the Company were all sat down in the Cabin, they were treated with all sorts of Liquors, and other things, that had once been mine: By this means the chief Pirates being put into a good hu-

mour, my Friend captain *Glynn* took the opportunity of begging of the Quarter-master several Necessaries for me; Which being readily granted, they were tied up in Bundles, and Captain *Glynn* designed to take them on Shore with him to his House for me. But an unlucky accident happened, which made me lose them all again.

For some of Captain *Davis's* People coming on board at that time; one of them, a pert young fellow of eighteen, broke a Chest open to plunder it. The Quarter-master hearing of it, goes out of the Cabin, and asks the reason of his so doing; the young Man replied, "As they were all Pirates, he thought he did what was right." On that the Quarter master strikes at him with his broad Sword, but the young Man running away, escaped the Blow, and fled for protection into the great Cabin to his Master Captain *Davis*. The Quarter-master pursues him in a great Passion; and there not being room amongst so many of us, to make a stroke at him, he made a thrust with

with his Sword, and slit the Ball of one of the young Man's Thumbs, and slightly wounded at the same time Captain *Davis* on the back of one of his Hands. *Davis* upon that was all on Fire, and vowed Revenge, saying, "That tho' his Man had
"offended, he ought to have been first
"acquainted with it; for no other Person
"had a right to punish him in his Pre-
"fence;" and immediately goes on board his own Ship. Where telling the Story to his Ship's Company, they all resolved forthwith to revenge this great injury done to one of their Comrades, and the Indignity shown their Captain. Upon that they slip one of their Cables, and begun to heave on the other, in order to come and board *Cocklyn's* Ship, and destroy such a set of vile Fellows, as they called him and his Crew. When Captain *Davis* went from the Prize, *Cocklyn* soon followed, and went on board his own Ship, to get all things in a readiness to defend himself. Captain *Glynn* and myself only remained behind, and hoped quickly to have seen hot work between

them; but *Cocklyn* having consulted his People, and judging they should be no ways able to cope with Captain *Davis*, hastily came on board the ~~Prize~~ again, and desired Captain *Glynn* to go on board *Davis* with him, in order to make up matters. My Friend would have refused this unpleasant Office, if he durst; but on his not readily complying, *Cocklyn* grew enraged. I fearing the consequences, persuaded him to go: Which *Cocklyn* was so well pleased with, that he often spoke of it afterwards to my advantage.

By the time they came on board *Davis*, his Ship was just on *Cocklyn's* Anchor; and tho' Captain *Glynn* was a well-spoken ingenious Man, he found it very difficult to compromise the Matter: Which at last was done on these Terms; " That
 " Captain *Davis* and his Ship's Com-
 " pany, should have their share of Li-
 " quors and Necessaries on board the
 " Prize; and, That the Quarter-master,
 " who had wounded the young Man be-
 " longing to *Davis*, should before all
 " his Crew acknowledge his fault, and
 " ask Pardon for the same." Night

Night now approaching, Captain *Glynn* was obliged to go on Shore, without calling upon me for the Things he had begged, intending to come next day for them. Being thus left on board the Prize, with only three or four of the Pirates, amongst whom the bloody-minded Boatswain (formerly mentioned) was one; and there being no Boat along the side at that time, I resolved to stay where I was all night, and not hail their Pirate-Ship to send their Boat for me.

The Pirate-Carpenter was then lying on my Bed in the State-room; so I sat some time by my self in the Cabin, having a Candle by me on a Table. When he awoke, he civilly desired me to go and take some rest; saying, "He feared I had not had any since I was taken." I returned him thanks, saying, "I would sit up till eight a clock:" Whereupon he came and sat down by me on the Lockers, abaft in the Cabin.

The Boatswain came down soon after this, and being a little in Liquor, began to abuse me. On that the Carpenter told

Q 4

him,

him, "He was a base Villain," and turned him out of the Cabin. Soon after, a puff of Wind coming in at one of the Cabin Windows, put our Candle out; and the Carpenter and I rising up together, to blow the Candle in again, (but not being able to do it) we accidentally shifted places in the dark, he seating himself just over against the Cabin Door, where I sat before: And having no Tinder-box, we were at a great loss how to light the Candle again.

While we were considering how to do it, the Boatswain came into the Steerage, and finding the Candle out, began to swear and rant, saying, "I had put it out
"purposely, with design to go into the
"Powder-room undiscovered, and blow
"the Ship up." But the Carpenter called to him, and told him, "It was done by
"accident, and that I still sat by him on
"the Locker." So he came to the Cabin Door, and by the Star-light that came in at the Windows, perceived us sitting; but could not distinguish our Faces. Thinking I sat still in the Place where
he

he had seen me before, he presented a Pistol, and drew the Trigger, swearing, "At that instant, he would blow my *Brain* out." By good fortune the Pistol did not go off, but only flash'd in the Pan: By the Light of which the Carpenter observing that he should have been shot instead of me, it so provoked him, that he run in the dark to the Boatswain; and having wrenched the Pistol out of his hand, he beat him, with that and his Fist, to such a Degree, that he almost killed him.

The noise that was made in this Fray being heard on board the Pirate-ship that lay close to us, a Boat was sent from her; and they being informed of the Truth of the matter, the Officer that was in her, thought fit to carry away this wicked Villain, who had three times attempted to murder me.

After this I slept soundly, having been much fatigued; but I was awaked early in the Morning by a great number of Captain *Davis's* Crew, who came on board to take part of the Liquors and Necessaries, according

according to Agreement. It was very surprizing to see the Actions of these People. They and *Cocklyn's* Crew (for *Le Boose's* were not yet admitted) made such Waste and Destruction, that I am sure a numerous set of such Villains would in a short time, have ruined a great City. They hoisted upon Deck a great many half Hogsheads of *Claret*, and *French Brandy*; knock'd their Heads out, and dipp'd Canss and Bowls into them to drink out of: And in their Wantonnefs threw full Buckets of each sort upon one another. As soon as they had emptied what was on the Deck, they hoisted up more: And in the evening washed the Decks with what remained in the Casks. As to bottled Liquor of many sorts, they made such havock of it, that in a few days they had not one Bottle left: For they would not give themselves the trouble of drawing the Cork out, but nick'd the Bottles, as they called it, that is, struck their necks off with a Cutlace; by which means one in three was generally broke: Neither was there any Cask-liquor left in a short time, but a little *French Brandy*. As

As to Eatables, such as Cheese, Butter, Sugar, and many other things, they were as soon gone. For the Pirates being all in a drunken Fit, which held as long as ~~the~~ Liquor lasted, no care was taken by any one to prevent this Destruction: Which they repented of when too late.

As for my things, which the Quarter-master had given me at Captain Glynn's Request, and which were accordingly bundled up; a company of drunken Pirates coming into the Cabin, and stumbling over some Goods that lay on the Floor, they took them, with three of my Bundles, and threw them overboard; swearing, "They had like to have broken their Necks by those things lying in their way."

I had then but one Bundle left, in which was a black Suit of Cloaths, and other things which this Gang had spared. They being gone out of the Cabin, a Pirate, who was tolerably sober, came in soon after, and seeing my Bundle, said, "He would see what was in it;" which in prudence I did not oppose. He then

then took out my black Cloth Cloaths, a good Hat and Wig, and some other Things. Whereupon I told him, “ Captain Cocklyn’s Quarter-master had given them to me; and I hoped he would not deprive me of them; for they were of no service to him in so hot a Country, but would be of great use to me, as I should soon return to *England*.” I had hardly done speaking, when he lifted up his broad Sword, and gave me a Blow on the Shoulder with the flat side of it; whispering at the same time these Words in my Ear, “ I give you this Caution, never to dispute the Will of a Pirate: For, supposing I had cleft your Scull asunder for your Impudence, what would you have got by it but Destruction? Indeed you may flatter your self, I should have been put to death for killing a Prisoner in cold Blood; but assure your self my Friends would have brought me off on such an Occasion.” I gave him thanks for his Admonition, and soon after he put on the Clothes, which in less than half an hour after, I saw him take off

off and throw overboard. For some of the Pirates seeing him dress'd in that manner, had thrown several Buckets of Claret upon him. This Person's true name was *Francis Kennedy*. He was afterwards hang'd at *Execution-Dock*, but he told me at the time he put my Cloaths on, that his name was *Sun*; asking me, "If I did not know his Father, who was then Commander of a Ship that used the *Barbadoes Trade*; and that if ever the old Dog fell in his way, he would kill him." To which I answered, "I knew no such Person."

When night came on, I had nothing left of what had been bundled up, but a Hat and Wig. I must own, that whenever they plundered me, no Affront was offered to my Person; but several brought me Liquor, and Slices of Ham broiled, a Biscuit being my Plate; saying, "They pitied my Condition." The Hat and Wig I had left, being hung on Pins in the Cabin, a person half drunk came in about eight a clock at night, and put them on; telling me, "He was a great Merchant

“ Merchant on Shore, and that his name
 “ was *Hogbin* :” But supposing him to be a
 Pirate, I said little to him. * By this time
 there was a great Quietness in the Ship,
 most of the Pirates being dead drunk.
 After a little Conversation, as Mr. *Hogbin*
 was going out of the Cabin with my
 Hat and Wig on, he met *Cocklyn*’s Quar-
 master ; who knowing him not to be one
 of the Crew, asked him, “ How he came
 “ by the things he had on ?” To which the
 Fellow not returning a direct answer,
 the Quarter-master beat him very severely,
 for taking things he had no Right to :
 Then coming to me, he asked in a kind
 manner, “ How I had fared in the hurly
 “ burly of that Day ?” When I told him,
 “ I had lost all the Necessaries he had
 “ given me the Day before,” he express’d
 much concern, and said, “ He would
 “ take care the next day to recover what
 “ he could for me.” But he did not
 prove so good as his word.

The next day, which was the third
 since my being taken, *Le Boofe*’s Crew were
 permitted to come on board the Prize :

Where

Where they finished what was left of Liquors and Necessaries; acting in the same destructive manner as their vile Brethren in Iniquity had done before.

Being quite weary of such Company, and understanding, the three Pirate Captains were on Shore at my Friend Captain *Glynn's* House, I asked leave of the Quarter-master to go to them; which he readily granted. On this I got into a Canoe, and as we rowed towards the Shore, we had like to have been overfet, through the drunkenness of one of the Pirates that was with us. If Providence had not prevented this Accident, we should undoubtedly have all been lost; for the Tide ran very strong, and several voracious Sharks were then near us.

When I came to Captain *Glynn's*, he and the Pirate Captains received me in a very civil manner; and upon my telling them, "How I had lost all my Necessaries that had been given me;" the Captains promised, That the next day they would do what they could, to recover some of them again for me. Then I
4 begged

begged a Shirt of my Friend Captain *Glynn*; for I had been three days without shifting, which is very uneasy in so hot a Country, where people sweat so much.

Being greatly refresh'd with that clean Shirt, and having stayed all night with him, where I had more rest than I before had for a good while; next day I went on board, in company with the Pirate-Captains. Captain *Davis* desired *Cocklyn* to order all his People on the Quarter-deck, and made a Speech to them in my behalf; which they relishing better than that he had formerly made, It was resolved to give me the Ship they designed to leave, in order to go into the Prize, with the Remains of my Cargoe that was undestroyed. And there being a large quantity of Goods likewise remaining in several Prizes, they concluded to give me them also: Which, with my own, were worth several thousand Pounds. One of the leading Pirates proposed to the rest, " That they should take me along with them down the Coast of *Guinea*; where
" I might exchange the Goods for Gold:

“ And if in order to make a quick Sale,
“ I sold them at prime cost, I should get
“ Money enough by them: That, no
“ doubt, as they went down the Coast,
“ they should take some *French* and *Por-*
“ *tuguese* Vessels, and then they might
“ give me as many of their best Slaves,
“ as would fill the Ship: That then he
“ would advise me to go for the Island of
“ *St. Thomas* in the *West Indies*, a Free-
“ port belonging to the *Danes*, and sell
“ them there, with the Vessel: And af-
“ ter rewarding my People in a handsom
“ manner, I might return with a large
“ sum of Money to *London*, and bid the
“ Merchants defiance.”

This proposal was unanimously approved of by them: But it struck me with a sudden damp, apprehending it would be fatal to me. So I began to insinuate,
“ It would not be proper for me to ac-
“ cept of such a quantity of other Peo-
“ ples Goods, as they had so generously
“ voted for me:” And going on to give my reasons, I was immediately interrupted by several of the Pirates, who began

to be very angry, that I did not readily accept of what had been proposed, so much for my advantage, as they thought; for many of them were so ignorant, as to think their Gift would have been legal.

On this, Captain *Davis* said, “ I know
“ this Man, and can easily guess his
“ thoughts concerning this matter; for
“ he thinks, if he should act in the
“ manner you have proposed, he shall
“ ever after lose his Reputation. Now
“ I am for allowing every body to go to
“ the Devil in their own way; so desire
“ you will give him the remains of his
“ own Cargoe, with what is left of his
“ private Adventure, and let him do with
“ it what he thinks fitting.”

This was readily granted, and they advised me to take *Le Boofe's* Brigantine, which he had then just quitted, (having fitted one of the Prizes for a Pirate-ship for him and his Crew) and carry her along the side of my Ship, in order to save the Goods then left undestroyed in her; allowing me some of my own People to do it. By this means we saved a considerable

derable part of the Cargoe, but of my private Adventure not above thirty Pounds Sterling: for that chiefly consisting in Necessaries and Liquors, with fine Goods, was soon destroyed by them: One instance of which out of many I shall give. The Pirates took several Pieces of fine *Holland*, and opening them, spread them on the Deck; and being almost drunk, lay down on them: Then others came and threw Buckets of Claret upon them, which rousing them up, and the *Hollands* being thereby stained, they flung the Pieces overboard.

Captain *Davis* likewise further obtained for me, that I might lye on board the *Two Friends* Captain *Elliot* of *Barbadoes*; whom they had taken and forced to be their Store Ship; and that I might go on Shore when I pleased, to my Friend Captain *Glynn's* house, on condition I should return whenever they sent for me.

And now, the Tide being turned, they were as kind to me, as they had been at first severe. So we got the Brigantine along the side of the Prize, and as Bale-

goods and Cafes came to hand, we got them into her; only now and then we loft some, by the ill-nature of two or three leading Pirates: For if we could not receive the Goods fo faft as they expected, with the few People I had of my own then with me, they would let them drop overboard.

The fame they did by a quantity of *Irish* Beef, the firft day after I was taken; for they defpifed it, having found fo much *English*, in the feveral Prizes they had met with in the River. This fight moved me to intreat Captain *Cocklyn* to give me the *Irish* Beef they were going to throw overboard; for the ufe of my poor People that had not entered with them. But I being then under the high Difpleafure of him and his Crew, he brutifhly replied, “ There is Horfe-beans enough in
“ the Prize to ferve you and your Peo-
“ ple fix Months.” To which I answered, “ It was coarfe diet.” But finding this put him into a paffion, I held my Tongue, and the Beef was all caft into the Sea.

In this place I think it proper to acquaint the Reader, What danger all the Prisoners were in by a false Report brought on board the Prize Ships that afternoon. For it was confidently averred by some Negroes, “ That one of their Crew was
“ murdered, by two Captains, whose
“ names were *Bennet* and *Thompson*, who
“ had been obliged to fly into the Woods
“ from the rage of the Pirates.” And they added, “ That these two Gentlemen
“ coming to the House of one Mr. *Jones*,
“ (who lived a great way up the River)
“ to seek for Provisions, they there met
“ with the person whom they had killed.” Upon this report the Pirates resolved to revenge themselves on us who were their prisoners: “ Which obliged me to argue
“ with them, and observe how great a
“ cruelty it would be, to punish us who
“ were wholly innocent, for the faults
“ of others.” Moreover I said, “ The
“ report might be false, it coming from
“ the Shore-Negroes; and I hoped at
“ least they would defer their resentment
“ against us, till they had a more certain

“account of the matter.” This calmed their Rage a little, when, to our great Joy, the Person that was reported to be killed, came on board soon after; and told his Comrades, that he had met with Captain *Bennet* and *Thompson* at Mr. *Jones's* House, who threatned him; from which the report arose that they had killed him; but that they had not otherwise misused him: So on this their Passion was entirely calmed.

As I have mentioned these two Captains, *Bennet* and *Thompson*, I shall give an account of their Misfortunes, which I had afterwards from their own Mouths. Captain *John Bennet*, being bound from *Antegoa* to the Coast of *Guinea*, was taken at *Cape de Verd* Islands by *Davis*. Who, after plundering him, restored him his Ship; and he went into the River *Siera-leon*, where Captain *Thompson* was arrived before him. Upon *Cocklyn* the Pirate's coming into the River, they carried their Ships a good way up, to a place called *Brent's-Island*, being the Settlement of the *Royal African Company*; where one Mr. *Plunket*

Plunket was Governour. Having got their Ships very near the Shore, they made a Battery thereon, and having landed Ammunition, resolved with their People to defend themselves to the utmost: thinking at that time they would remain faithful. *Le Boose* being arrived in his Brigantine, and hearing that several Ships were up the River, he resolved to have one of them for his use; so he went up to attack them, and they bravely defended themselves against him: But, soon after, *Cocklyn* coming with his Ship to the assistance of *Le Boose*, their People begun to falter; and these gallant Captains were, for saving their Lives, obliged, with Mr. *Plunket*, and several of their Officers, to fly into the Woods: Where, for many Weeks, they remained, having nothing to subsist on but Rice, with now and then some Oysters, which they got by night from the River side: neither durst they appear near the place where the Pirates were (as long as they remained there) for they had vowed to cut them to pieces, if ever they fell into their hands. Moreover, their Ships were

burnt, and *Le Boose* took for his own use, one Captain *Lamb's* Ship, which at that time lay farther up the River. I thought proper to relate this, in order to set the story in a better light, tho' it happen'd some Weeks before I was taken.

But now, to return to my Subject. I was relating, how we were employed in saving what Goods we could. This took us up four days; and I slept every night on board their *Tender* commanded by Captain *Elliot*, who was very kind to me, and had a great ascendant over the leading Pirates: so that he had seldom the Company of the common sort, having orders to drive them away, whenever they came on board him. And I have often been amazed, to hear and see what he has done to some of them when they were impudent; beating them, and saying, "He was sure he should see them hang'd in due time at *Execution-dock*." However, by this means we were generally very easy on board him, which was no little satisfaction to me in my Circumstances,

About

About this time the Quarter-master, who took me, fell sick of a Fever; which increasing, he sent to speak with me: And having desired all present, except my self to withdraw, he told me, “ That
“ at the time I was taken, he designed to
“ have killed me, when he presented the
“ Pistol to my breast; begging I would
“ forgive him for his cruel Intention:” Which I readily doing, he further said,
“ That he had been a most wicked
“ Wretch, having been guilty of all manner of abominable Crimes; and that now
“ believing he should die, his Conscience
“ sadly tormented him, fearing he should
“ be punished, as he deserved, in Hell-fire,
“ which so often in their vile discourse he
“ had made light of.” Upon hearing that, “ I exhorted him to sincere Repen-
“ tance; telling him, the Christian Religion assured us of God’s Mercies, if we
“ are truly penitent; and I instanced the
“ goodness of God to my self, in that he
“ was graciously pleased to preserve me,
“ the night I was taken, from being murdered by him and others; which great
“ Mercies

“ Mercies I believed were shown me,
“ because I put my Hope and Trust in
“ Almighty God; and exhorted him to
“ do the same.” But he replied, with a
sad countenance. “ O, Sir, my heart is
“ hardened; however, I will endeavour
“ to follow your good counsel”. As he
was going on, expressing his sorrow for
his former course of Life, some of the
Pirates broke in upon us, to ask him,
“ How he did?” So he called his Boy, and,
as a mark of his Good-will towards me,
ordered him to take the Key of his Chest,
and let me take out what Necessaries I
would. Accordingly I took that oppor-
tunity of providing my self with Shirts,
Stockings, and several other things. As
I was taking them out, a Pirate coming
from the Deck, and knowing nothing of
the Quarter-master’s order, called out
aloud; “ see how that Dog is thieving
“ there: He does it as cleverly as any
Rogue of us all.” But being told, “ It
“ was with the Quarter-master’s leave,”
he came and helped me to bundle the
things up, and I sent them on board the
Tender.

Tender. These were the first Necessaries which I could call my own, since my Misfortune.

The Quarter-master that evening falling into a Delirium, died before morning in terrible Agonies; cursing his Maker in so shocking a manner, that it made a great Impression on several new entered Men: and they afterwards came privately to me, begging, “ that I would advise
“ them how to get off from so vile a
“ Course of Life, which led them into
“ Destruction both of Body and Soul.
“ Some of them proposed to fly into the
“ Woods, and remain there till their
“ Ships were gone, if I would promise
“ to protect them afterwards; but this
“ being too nice a matter for me to
“ meddle with at that Juncture, I declined it; Exhorting them in general,
“ Not to be guilty of Murder, or any
“ other Cruelty to those they should
“ take. For if ever they should, by a
“ general consent, resolve to embrace
“ the King’s Pardon, it would be a great
“ Advantage to them, to have the unfor-
“ tunate

“fortunate People they had taken give them
“a good Character in that respect.”

Having mentioned the King's Pardon, I shall here relate what I before omitted, with relation to his late Majesty's Proclamation, for a *Pardon to Pirates, that should surrender themselves at any of the British Plantations, by the first of July 1719.* This Proclamation I had on board, with a Declaration of War against *Spain.* The Quarter-master finding them amongst my Papers, and not being able to read, he brought them to me, the next day after I was taken, and “bid me read them
“aloud to all then present;” which I did: But there being Rewards offered in the Proclamation, to those that should take or destroy Pirates; so much for a Captain; and in proportion for the other Officers and common Pirates; this put them into such a Rage, that I began to apprehend my self in some Danger. But Captain *Cocklyn* ordering silence to be made, bid me read the other Paper, which was *The Declaration of War against Spain.* When I had read it, some of them said,
“They

“ They wished they had known it before
“ they left the *West Indies*.” From
thence I took occasion to observe to them,
“ That if they thought fit to embrace
“ his Majesty’s most gracious Pardon,
“ there was not only time enough for
“ them to return to the *West Indies*, (there
“ being still three Months to come of the
“ time limited in the Proclamation) but
“ now that War was declared against
“ *Spain*, they would have an opportunity
“ of enriching themselves in a legal way,
“ by going a privateering, which many
“ of them had privately done.” This
seemed to be relished by many: but several
old *Buccaneers*, who had been guilty
of Murder and other barbarous Crimes,
being no ways inclined to it, they used
the King’s Proclamation with great contempt,
and tore it in pieces. I thought
my self well off, that no Resentment or
ill-usage was shown me on this occasion.

Amongst the several Pirates, that came
to consult me, “ How they should get
“ off.” There was one *Ambrose Curtis*,
who was in a bad state of Health, and
generally

generally walked the Deck in a Silk Night-gown. This person finding me shy in answering his Questions, he told me, “ Tho’ I had forgot him, yet he
“ had not me; for he was eleven years
“ ago at Sea with my Father, who had
“ used him severely for being an unlucky
“ Boy: That I might remember, my
“ Father died in *Virginia*, and I com-
“ manded the Ship afterwards, and
“ brought her home to *England*; having
“ been very kind to him, except in one
“ thing, which was, That he having
“ confessed to me, he was a Servant, and
“ run away from his Master, I refused to
“ pay him his Wages, till he brought a
“ person who gave me Security that I
“ should not pay them twice; and then
“ he had his Wages to a farthing: Ad-
“ ding, “ he had told this to several lead-
“ ing Pirates, who had persuaded him to
“ revenge himself on me; but as I had
“ been kind to him, and in his Conscience
“ he believed I was in the right, to demand
“ Security when I paid him his Wages,
“ so he bore no ill-will to me on that

“ account; and when my necessaries came
“ to be sold at the Mast, he would buy
“ some of them for me;” in which he
proved as good as his word.

But as to his Questions about getting off,
I replied as I had done to others; “ Assur-
“ ing him, if ever it came to be in my
“ power to serve him, I would not spare
“ for Money nor Pains to do it:” But
this poor fellow died, before the Pirates
left *Sieraleon*.

I hope the Reader will pardon me for
mentioning several things, which are not
so coherent as I could wish; as also se-
veral little Incidents. The reason why I
mention them is, because I think they
display the true humours and ways of
these Miscreants.

Amongst my Adventure of Goods, I had
in a Box three second-hand embroidered
Coats. One day the three Pirate Cap-
tains, coming on board the Prize together,
enquired for them, saying, “ They under-
“ stood by my Book such Clothes were in
“ my Ship.” I told them, “ They were
“ in a Box under the bed place in the
“ State-

“ State-room. So they ordered them to
“ be taken out, and immediately put
“ them on.” But the longest Coat fall-
ling to *Cocklyn’s* share, who was a very
short Man, it almost reached as low as
his Ancles. This very much displeas-
ed him, and he would fain have changed
with *Le Boose*, or *Davis*: But they re-
fused, telling him, “ As they were going
“ on Shore amongst the *Negroe-Ladies*,
“ who did not know the white Mens
“ fashions, it was no matter. Moreover,
“ as his Coat was Scarlet embroidered
“ with Silver, they believed he would
“ have the preference of them, (whose
“ Coats were not so showy) in the opini-
“ on of their Mistresses.” This making
him easy, they all went on Shore to-
gether.

It is a Rule amongst the Pirates, not
to allow Women to be on board their
Ships, when in the Harbour. And if
they should take a Prize at Sea, that has
any Women on board, no one dares, on
pain of death, to force them against their
Inclinations. This being a good political
Rule

Rule to prevent disturbances amongst them, it is strictly observed. So now being in a Harbour, they went on Shore to the Negroe-women, who were very fond of their Company, for the sake of the great Presents they gave them. Nay, some white Men that lived there, did not scruple to lend their black Wives to the Pirates, purely on account of the great Rewards they gave.

The Pirate Captains having taken these Cloaths without leave from the Quarter-master, it gave great Offence to all the Crew; who alledg'd, " If they suffered " such things, the Captains would for " the future assume a Power, to take " whatever they liked for themselves." So, upon their returning on board next Morning, the Coats were taken from them, and put into the common Chest, to be sold at the Mast. And it having been reported, " That I had a hand in " advising the Captains to put on these " Coats," it gained me the ill-will in particular of one *Williams*, who was Quarter-master of *Le Boose's* Ship. He

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seeing me in the *Tender's Boat*, going on board a *French Ship* lately taken, where he then was, he swore, "That if I came there, he would cut me to pieces, for the advice I had given the Captains." But Captain *Elliot*, who was then in the Boat, whispered me, saying, "Don't be afraid of him, for it is his usual way of talking. But be sure call him Captain, as soon as you get on board." It seems this Villain had been Commander of a Pirate Sloop; who, with a Brigantine, two years before, took Captain *Laurence Prince* in the *Whidaw Galley* near *Jamaica*; and being now Quarter-master, which he did not like, he loved to have the Title of Captain given him. So when I came into the *French Ship*, I adressed my self to him, saying, "Captain *Williams*, pray hear me upon the Point you are so offended at." Upon that he gave me a slight Blow on the Shoulder, with the flat of his Cutlace, swearing at the same time, "he had not the heart to hurt me;" When I had told him how the affair had really happen'd, which he had
been

been so angry about, he gave me a Keg of Wine, and was my Friend ever after.

The *French* Ship just now mentioned, fell into their hands about a fortnight after I was taken by them, in this manner. It was not bound to *Sieraleon*, but having not had an Observation for several days, because the Sun was near their *Zenith*, they made land unexpectedly; and not knowing certainly whereabouts they were, but seeing several Ships in the River at an Anchor, they came boldly towards them.

I was then on board Captain *Cocklyn's* old Ship; for they had not quite fitted mine for their use, not having at that time any Guns mounted; so I saw the great fear and confusion that was amongst them. My Mate, who had entered with them, said, "He believed, by the Ship's coming in so boldly, it was the *Launceston* Man of War of forty Guns, whom we had left in *Holland*. For he had heard me say, she was to follow us to the Coast of *Guinea*."

Happy would it have been for us and many more, if it had been so. For had

that, or even a smaller Ship of twenty Guns, with the King's Commission, come in at that time, or any other, whilst I was in their hands, I am persuaded they would have easily destroyed them. For the new-entered-men had little Courage; and the far greater part both of old and new Pirates, were so much in drink, that there could have been no Order or Conduct amongst them in an Engagement. So that it would have been very easy to have subdued them, and prevented that terrible Destruction, which happened to above one hundred Sail of Ships, that fell afterwards into their Hands, in their going down the Coast of *Guinea*: Together with those Damages that happened a good while after in the *East Indies*, by some of this Gang; and the great Ravage made by *Roberts* (who rose out of *Davis's* Ashes) the second time, on the Coast of *Guinea*, till he was happily destroyed by *Sir Chaloner Ogle* in the *Swallow* Man of War. But the reason why no timely care was taken to prevent so great a Destruction, is not proper for me to mention in this place.

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As I had no business to be on board the Pirate Ship in time of Action, I asked Captain *Cocklyn's* leave to go on board their *Tender*, which he readily granted. Just as I was going, several of my People who had entered with him, said, "They would go along with me, for they had never seen a Gun fired in anger." *Cocklyn* hearing that, told them, "That now they should learn to smell Gunpowder, and caned them heartily.

So I went on board Captain *Elliot*, where I soon saw the *French Ship* taken. For coming so unexpectedly into the Pirates hands, they made no Resistance: And because the Captain did not strike on their first firing, they put a Rope about his Neck, and hoisted him up and down several times to the Main-yard-arm, till he was almost dead. Captain *Le Boofe* coming at that instant, luckily saved his Life: And highly resenting this their cruel usage to his Countryman, he protested, "he would remain no longer in Partnership with such barbarous Villains."

“Ians.” So, to pacify him, they left the *Frenchmen* with the Ship in his care; and after the Cargoe was destroyed, they cut the Ship’s Masts by the board, and run her on Shore, for she was very old, and not fit for their purpose.

After the affair of the *French* Ship was over, I was employed for several days, in landing out of the Brigantine the Goods that had been given me, out of my own Ship’s Cargoe, and carrying them to my Friend Captain *Glynn*’s House; in which both he and I worked very hard. For my own People that did not enter with the Pirates, were mostly obliged to work on board the Prize, in fitting her for them; and the Natives who served Captain *Glynn* at his House, were grown so insolent by the large quantity of Goods given them by the Pirates, that they would do nothing but what they pleased. However, at last, with much trouble we got them housed.

By this time, which was about the 20th of *April*, the Ship they had taken from me was compleatly fitted, and the

next day was appointed to name her, to which Ceremony I was invited. When I came on board, the Pirate Captains told me, "It was not out of Disrespect they had sent for me, but to partake of the good Cheer provided on this occasion:" So they desired I would be chearful, and go with them into the great Cabin. When I came there, Bumpers of Punch were put into our Hands, and on Captain *Cocklyn's* saying aloud, *God bless the Windham Galley*, we drank our Liquor, broke the Glasses, and the Guns fired.

The Ship being Galley-built, with only two flush Decks, the Cover of the Scuttle of the Powder-room was in the great Cabin, and happened at that time to be open. One of the aftermost Guns blowing at the Touch-hole, set fire to some Cartouch-boxes, that had Cartridges in them for small Arms, the Shot and Fire of which flew about us, and made a great smother. When it was over, Captain *Davis* observed, there had been great Danger to us from the Scuttle's being open; there being under, in a Room,

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above

above twenty thousand weight of Gunpowder. Cocklyn replied, " He wished
 " it had taken fire, for it would have
 " been a noble blast, to have gone to
 " Hell with.

Then all going upon Deck, three Prizes that remained undestroyed, were ordered to be burned; upon hearing that, I privately represented to Captain *Davis*,
 " How hard it would be upon us who
 " were Prisoners, to remain in that Country, without Necessaries, and without
 " Food to subsist on: Besides, there was
 " no manner of Prospect of our getting
 " away quickly: That to the many Obligations I owed him, I hoped he would
 " add one more, and, by his Interest, at
 " least save one of the Vessels, for us
 " to return to *England* in: That as he
 " had several times hinted to me, how
 " much he disliked that course of Life,
 " hoping he should have an opportunity
 " of leaving it in a short time; so I wished
 " he would put it in my power, to report to his Advantage, the good deed
 " I then requested of him; for, in my
 " Opinion,

“ Opinion, next to Murder and Cruelty,
 “ he often practised by Pirates, nothing
 “ could make them more odious to the
 “ World, than their destroying, out of
 “ mere Wantonness, so many Ships and
 “ Cargoes, as had been done by *Cocklyn* and
 “ *Le Boofe’s* Crews; in which I knew he
 “ had no hand: And if he would be pleased
 “ to procure my entire Liberty, at the
 “ same time that he pleaded for one of
 “ the Vessels for us, it would be a double
 “ Obligation on me to Gratitude, in case
 “ it ever fell in my power to serve him.”

This he readily promised, and by his
 Management the Ships were saved from
 being burned, and they made a Bonfire
 only of the old *Rising Sun*, being the Ship
 they had quitted for mine: And now ob-
 taining, through Captain *Davis’s* means,
 my intire Liberty, I went on Shore to my
 friend Captain *Glynn’s* House again.

Two days after this Captain *Elliot* sent
 his Boat for me, desiring I would forth-
 with come on board his Ship, because he
 wanted very much to speak with me. I
 had too many obligations to this Gentle-
 man

man to refuse going, (tho' I had a sort of an aversion.) Upon coming on board, he privately represented to me, " That I
" knew he had been obliged against his
" will by the Pirates, to receive into his
" Ship a great quantity of other People's
" Goods; for which he might hereafter
" be called to an account; therefore he
" desired I would give him a Certificate,
" testifying the Truth of it." Knowing
this to be true, I readily complied; for
he was a very honest Man, as appeared
soon after. For the Pirates compelling
him to go out of the River with them, as
their *Tender*, he took the first opportu-
nity of getting from them, which he
did in a Tornado, or sudden Gust of Wind,
that arose in the Night; and having the
good fortune to succeed in his attempt, he
made a good Voyage for his Owners,
with Slaves to *Barbadoes*; where he fell
sick and died.

While I was in his Ship, the three Pi-
rate Captains called along the side. Not
expecting to see me there, they seemed
very glad of it, and invited me to go and
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sup with them on board Captain *Davis*. This I declined, being desirous of going on Shore to Captain *Glynn's*. But Captain *Davis* insisting on it, I thought it prudent to comply; that I might not lose that Gentleman's Good-will, who had been so kind to me.

After we had been some time on board his Ship, Supper was brought up about eight a clock in the Evening; and the Musick was ordered to play, amongst which was a Trumpeter, that had been forced to enter out of one of the Prizes. About the middle of Supper, we heard upon Deck an outcry of Fire, and instantly a Person came to us, and said, "The Main-hatch-way was all in a Flame;" so we all went upon Deck.

At that time, besides the Pirates Ship's Crew, who were mostly drunk, there was on board at least fifty Prisoners; and several Boats along the side, into which many People jumped, and put off. I being then on the Quarter-deck, with the Captains, observed this to them; but they all in confusion said, "We know
" not

“ not what to do in the matter:” Upon that I told them, “ If the sober People “ were allowed to go away with the “ Boats, no one would endeavour to save “ the Ship; and we that were left should “ be lost, (for the other Ships were above “ a Mile from us, and the Tide of Flood “ then run so strong, that their Boats could “ not row against it to save us;) So I proposed to them, “ to fire the Quarter- “ deck Guns at the Boats that had just put “ off, to oblige them to come on board “ again;” which being instantly done, it so frightned the People in them, that they forthwith came back; and all that were able, and not drunk, lent their helping hand to put out the Fire; which by this time was come to a great head in the Ship’s hold.

After this I went down into the Steerage, where I saw one *Goulding*, who was Gunner’s Mate, and a brisk active Fellow, put his head up the After-hatchway, calling for Blankets and Water; “ which if not brought immediately, (he “ said) the Bulk-head of the Powder- “ room

"room would be fired, and the Ship soon blown up." Observing the Stupidity of the People about me, who stood looking on one another, I caught up several Blankets and Rugs which lay scattered about, and flung them to him, and so did others by my example. Then I run out of the Steerage upon Deck, where meeting with some People that were sober, I got them to go over the side, and draw up Buckets of Water; And others handing them to *Goulding*, who had by this time placed the Blankets and Rugs against the Bulk-head of the Powder-Room, he flung this Water on them, and thereby prevented the Flames from catching the Powder, and consequently from blowing up the Ship, which must otherwise have happened: For there was then on board at least *thirty thousand* pounds of Gunpowder, which had been taken out of several Prizes, it being a Commodity much in request amongst the *Negroes*.

There was still great Confusion amongst us, occasioned by the darkness of the Night,

Night, and the many drunken People, who were not sensible of the great Danger we were in: Moreover, the People in the Hold gave us as yet no Hopes of their getting the Mastery of thê Fire. So I went again on the Quarter-deck, and considered with my self, if the fire could not be conquered, as I could not swim, I should have no chance of being saved: and even those that could, would, I knew, be exposed to be torn to pieces by voracious Sharks, which abound in that River: So I took one of the Quarter-deck Gratings, and lowered it by a Rope over the Ship's-side, designing to get on that, if I should be forced to quit the Ship. For tho' the Boats had been once obliged to come back, yet it being a dark Night, some People, unperceived, had slipped again away with them, and were quite gone away.

Whilst I stood musing with my self on the Quarter-deck, I heard a loud shout upon the Main-deck, with a Huzza, "*For a brave blast to go to Hell with,*" which was repeated several times. This

not

not only much surprized me, but also many of the new entered Pirates; who were struck with a Pannick Fright, believing the Ship was just blowing up; so that several of them came running on the Quarter-deck, and accidentally threw me down, it being very dark. As soon as I got upon my Legs again, I heard these poor wretches say, in a lamentable Voice, one to another; " Oh! that we could be
" so foolish as to enter into this vile course
" of Life! The Ship will be immediately
" blown up, and we shall suffer for our
" Villanies in Hell Fire." So that when the old harden'd Rogues on the Main-deck, wish'd for a blast to go to Hell with, the other poor wretches were at the same time under the greatest Conster-nation at the thoughts of it.

The Apprehension of the Ship's being just ready to blow up, was so universal, that above fifty People got on the Bolt-sprit, and Sprit-sail-yard, thinking they should have there a better chance for their Lives: But they much deceived themselves, for had so great a quantity of
Powder

Powder as was at that time on board, been fired, it would have blown them up to Atoms.

There was one *Taylor*, Master of this Pirate Ship, as brisk and couragious a Man as ever I saw; (who afterwards commanded the *Cassandra*, an *English East India* Ship, and carried her to *New Spain*, where he and his Crew separated.) This Person, with fifteen more, spared no pains to extinguish the Fire in the Hold; and tho' they were scalded in a sad manner by the Flames, yet they never shrunk till it was conquered; which was not till near ten a clock at night, when they came upon Deck, declaring the Danger was over: So the Surgeons were called to dress their burns. This was joyful News to us all on Deck, for we little expected to escape.

I shall now relate how this Fire happened, from which our Deliverance was almost miraculous. About half an hour after eight a clock in the evening, a Negroe Man went into the Hold, to pump some Rum out of a Cask; and imprudently

dently holding his Candle too near the Bung-hole, a Spark fell into the Hog-head, and set the Rum on fire. This immediately fired another Cask of the same Liquor, whose Bung had been, through carelessness, left open: And both the Heads of the Hogheads immediately flying out, with a report equal to that of a small Cannon, the fire run about the Hold. There were twenty Casks of Rum, with as many Barrels of Pitch and Tar, very near the place where the Rum lay that was fired; yet it pleased God none of these took fire, otherwise it would have been impossible for us to escape.

After this was over, I was obliged to stay on board till Morning, all the Boats being run away with. In that time *Golding*, the Gunner's Mate, told the Pirate's Crew several things to my Advantage: "How I had handed the Blankets
" to him, and ordered Water to be thrown
" on them; which saved the Bulk-head,
" where the Powder lay, from being fired,
" and consequently the Ship from being
" blown up." So now I was more than

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ever in their favour: For several of them desired me to come on board the *Windham* Galley, the day Things were sold there at the Mast, and then they would be kind to me. Likewise Captain *Davis* press'd me to come, asking me, "Whether the Gold Watch that was taken from me was a good one?" To which I answering, "It was very good, at that time." He then said, "He would buy it for his own use at any rate."

While he and I were talking thus, one of the Mates came half drunk, on the Quarter-deck, saying to him; "I propose in behalf of the Ship's Company, that this Man shall be obliged to go down the Coast of *Guinea* with us; for I am told we cannot have a better Pilot." This was a great surprize to me; but my generous Friend *Davis* soon put me out of pain. For he told him, "They wanted no Pilot:" and the fellow still insisting on my going, Captain *Davis* caned him off the Quarter-deck, and I heard no more of it: For soon after I went on Shore to my Friend Captain *Glynn's* House.

Two days after this, a small Vessel came into the River, and was taken by them: It was called the *Dispatch* Captain *Wilson*, belonging to the *Royal African Company*. Mr. *Simon Jones*, formerly my first Mate, who had entered with the Pirates, (as I have before related) told them, on this occasion, "That he had once commanded a Ship, which was hired and freighted by the *African Company*; and that he had been very unjustly used by them; so he desired the *Dispatch* might be burned, that he might be revenged of them." This being immediately consented to, and forthwith ordered to be executed, one *John Stubbs*, a witty brisk fellow, stood up, and desired to be heard first; saying, "Pray, Gentlemen, hold a little, and I will prove to you, if this Ship is burnt, you will thereby greatly serve the *Company's* Interest." This drawing every one's attention, they bid him go on: Then he said, "The Vessel has been out these two years on her Voyage, being old and crazy, and almost eaten to
T 2 " pieces

“ pieces by the Worms; besides, her
 “ Stores are worth little; and as to her
 “ Cargoe, it consists only of a little Red-
 “ wood and *Melegette-pepper*; so if she
 “ should be burned, the Company will
 “ lose little; but the poor People that
 “ now belong to her, and have been so
 “ long a Voyage, will lose all their Wa-
 “ ges, which, I am sure, is three times
 “ the Value of the Vessel, and of her
 “ trifling Cargoe; so that the Company
 “ will be highly obliged to you for de-
 “ stroying her.” The rest of the Crew
 being convinced by these Reasons, the
 Vessel was spared, and delivered again to
 Captain *Wilson* and his People, who af-
 terwards came safe to *England* in it.

The 29th of *April*, such of the Pirates
 as were my Friends, sent me word on
 Shore, “ That the Sale of Necessaries
 “ was to begin that day in the afternoon,
 “ in the *Windham-Galley*, Captain *Cock-*
 “ *lyn.*” So I went on board in a large
Cannoe, belonging to two Men that lived
 ashore, who went at the same time with
 me. At the Sale, several of the Pirates
 bought

bought many Necessaries that had been mine, and gave them to me. Likewise, Mr. *James Griffin*, my Schoolfellow, was so civil as to beg from those that were not so kind to me, as he hoped they would have been. The two white Men that went with me in the Canoe, minded their own business so well, that they got several great Bundles of Clothes and Goods, which they put into the Canoe with mine.

By this time several Pirates being half drunk with Brandy, looked over the side, and seeing so many Bundles in the Canoe, which they supposed to be all mine, they swore, "I was insatiable, and that it would be a good deed to throw them overboard." This my kind Schoolfellow hearing, he came and told me of it; advising me, to go immediately on Shore; which I accordingly did; and it proved very happy for me. For soon after my Watch was put up to sale, and many bidding for it, some of them out of Spite to Captain *Davis*, it was run up to one hundred Pounds, which he paid down. One of the Pirates being greatly

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vexed

vexed at it, said, " He believed the
" Cases of the Watch were not good
" Gold;" and calling for a Touch-stone,
he tried them on it. The Touch looking
of a *copperish* Colour, (as indeed all Gold-
cases of Watches do on the touch, by
reason of the quantity of Alloy put in to
harden them) this pretence served the
turn of this Villain; who thereupon ex-
claimed against me, saying, " I was a
" greater Rogue than any of them, who
" openly professed Piracy; since I was so
" sly, as to bring a base Metal Watch, and
" endeavour to put it off for a gold one."

This Speech procured me the Anger
of many, who knew no better; they be-
lieving every word of what he said to be
true. And tho' Captain *Davis* laugh'd at
it, yet several swore, " If I had not been
" gone on Shore, they would have whip-
" ped me:" And as their Drunkenness in-
creased, they talked of sending for me to
be punished for so great a Villany, as
they called it. But my Schoolfellow
apprehending they would really offer me
some Violence, was so kind as to send me
word

word of what had pass'd, by a white Man living on Shore, who was then on board; advising me to go into the Woods, for they should sail quickly out of the River.

The next morning early, which was the last day of *April*, as I was just going to follow his advice, I was agreeably surprized with the arrival of one Mr. *James Bleau*, my Surgeon, whom they designed to take by force with them. This honest Man had been very much cast down at it, and had often desired me to intercede for his liberty. Accordingly I had done it, representing, "That he grieved himself
" so much, that if he did not die quickly,
" yet he would be of no use to them:" But this had no effect. However, at last, a fortunate accident cleared him, when he least expected it; for that very evening, after I was come on Shore, the Surgeon of the *French Ship* entered with them; whereupon they gave Mr. *Bleau* his Liberty the next morning.

Mr. *Bleau* brought us the agreeable News, that the three Pirate Ships, with their *Tender*, were under sail, going out

of the River. This gave us all on Shore the highest Satisfaction; for I had been then in their hands a Month, and many others much longer. Mr. *Bleau*, whom I have here mentioned, lives now at *Woodford-Row* on *Epping-Forest*, where he follows his Business.

I shall now inform the Reader, what became of my kind Schoolfellow *Griffin*, and my generous Friend *Davis*. The first took an opportunity of getting out of the hands of the Pirates, by taking away a Boat from the Stern of the Ship he was in, when off the Road of *Annaboe*, on the Coast of *Guinea*. He was driven on Shore there, unperceived in the night time; and from thence went to *Cape Coast Castle*, belonging to the Royal *African Company*; from which place he went Passenger to *Barbadoes*, in an *English Ship*; where he was taken with a violent Fever and died.

As to *Davis*, having discovered, a few days after they left the River *Sierraleon*, a Conspiracy, to deprive him of his Command, which was carried on by one *Taylor*,

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lor, that was Master of the Ship under him, he timely prevented it: But he and some others left their Ship, and went on board the *Windam* Galley, Captain *Cocklyn*, by whom he found *Taylor* had been set on to displace him. This causing him to leave their Partnership, he took a few days after one Captain *Plumb* in the *Princess* of *London*, whose second Mate *Roberts*, so famous afterwards for his Villanies, entered with him; and *Davis's* Crew, after plundering the Ship, restored her to Captain *Plumb* again. After this, Captain *Davis* went for the Island *Princess*, belonging to the *Portuguese*, which lies in the Bay of *Guinea*. Here the Pirates gave out, "They were a King's Ship;" but the People soon discovered what they were by their lavishness, in purchasing fresh Provisions with Goods; but the Governour winked at it, on account of the great Gains he, and others of the chief of his People made by them. But at last some putting him in mind, "That if this Affair should come to the King of *Portugal's* ear, it might prove his

“ his ruin;” he plotted how to destroy *Davis* and his Crew, in order to colour over what he had so basely permitted, in allowing them a free trade, after discovering they were Pirates.

Captain *Davis* being one day on Shore with the Governor, he told him, “ They “ designed to sail from the Island in three “ days, and that he would come, and take “ his leave of him the day before.” Accordingly he went on a Sunday morning, taking with him his first Surgeon, the Trumpeter, and some others, besides the Boat’s Crew. At their coming into the Governor’s House, they saw no body to receive them; so they went on, till they came into a long Gallery fronting the Street. Here the Governor’s *Major Domino* presently came to them, saying, “ His “ Master was at his Country-House, but “ he had sent a Messenger to him, when “ they saw Captain *Davis* coming on “ Shore; and no doubt he would soon “ be in Town.” But the Surgeon observing, that many People had got together in the Street, with Arms in their hands,

hands, he said to his Captain, "I am sure we shall see no Governor to day," and advised him immediately to go away. So *Davis* and the Surgeon went out of the House; whereupon the *Major-Domo* called to the People in the Street, to fire at them. The Surgeon and two more were kill'd on the Spot, and the Trumpeter was wounded in the Arm, who seeing two *Capuchin* Friars (from whom I had this Account at the *Island Princess*) fled to them. One of them took him in his Arms to save him, but a *Portuguese* came, and shot him dead without any regard to the Frier's Protection. Captain *Davis*, tho' he had four Shots in divers parts of his Body, yet continued running towards the Boat: But being closely pursued, a fifth Shot made him fall, and the *Portuguese* being amazed at his great Strength and Courage, cut his Throat, that they might be sure of him.

The Boat's Crew hearing the firing, put off in good time at some distance from the Shore; and seeing the *Portuguese* advancing to fire at them, they rowed
on

on board their Ship; where relating what had happened, as they supposed, to their Captain, and to the rest left on Shore, it set the Pirates all in a flame; and they directly chose *Roberts* for their Commander, vowing a severe revenge on the *Portuguese*.

The Water was so shallow, that they could not get their Ship near the Town; so they prepared a Raft, on which they mounted several pieces of Cannon, with which they fired at the place: But the Inhabitants having quitted it, and all the Houses being of Timber, they did little damage to the Town. Neither durst they land to burn the Place, for fear of the great Number of People, whom they perceived in the Bushes with small Arms: So, they returned to their Ship, and the next day sailed out of the Harbour.

Thus fell Captain *Davis*, who (allowing for the Course of Life he had been unhappily engaged in) was a most generous humane Person. And thus *Roberts* arose, who proved the reverse of him, and did afterwards a great deal of mischief in the *West Indies*, and on the Coast

Coast of *Guinea*; till he and his Crew were happily suppress'd by Sir *Chaloner Ogle*, in the *Swallow* Man of War, and in the Engagement, *Roberts*, and several of his People were killed. But as there is *An Account of the Pirates* published, in which the principal Actions of *Roberts* are related, I shall say nothing more of him here; but go on to relate what is not mentioned in the aforesaid Book.

As soon as it was commonly known, that the Pirates were sail'd from *Sierraleon*, Captain *Bennet* and *Thompson*, with several others that had been obliged to keep in the Woods, as I have formerly related, came to Captain *Glynn's* House. There we all consulted about preparing the *Bristol Snow*, which the Pirates had spared at my Intreaty, so as to make it fit for us to return to *England* in. There was with us one Captain *David Creichton*, in the *Elizabeth* of *London*, laden with dying Wood; whom the Pirates had taken not long before me. Him they plundered, and would have destroyed, but by the Interest of Mr. *James Griffin*, who had been chief
Mate

Mate with the Captain's Brother, the Ship was spared. In this Ship Captain *Creighton* took as many People as he possibly could, in order to spare our Provisions, and sailed a few days after the Pirates left the River *Sierraleon*, for *London*: We that were left behind, sent notice by him to our Owners of the great Misfortunes that had befallen us.

Then applying our selves to fit the *Bristol-Snow*, whom a worthy Person, one Captain *John Morris*, commanded, we found we should be in very great want of Provisions, considering how many poor People desired to go home with us. Upon that Captain *Glynn* sent a small Sloop belonging to him, to fetch Provisions from the River *Sherberow*, where the destroying Pirates had not been. From thence she returned in a few days, with a good quantity; and one Captain *Nisbet* having found under his Ship's Ballast in the Hold, several Casks of Beef; which had not come to the knowledge of the Pirates (otherwise it would no doubt have been destroyed, as most part of his Cargoe was)

he was so kind as to spare me as much of this Beef as he possibly could; and I drew a Bill, on my Owner for the value of it.

Moreover, we found in the *French* Ship that had been taken, and afterwards run on Shore by the Pirates, a large quantity of good Biscuit, so that now we were sufficiently provided in all respects.

Lastly, knowing that large quantities of Goods had been given by the Pirates, to all the white Men residing on Shore upon their own accounts, we all went in a Body to demand them. Messieurs *Mead* and *Pearce*, who were in Partnership, very readily and honourably delivered up all they were possessed of: But others did not follow their Example; for they only shewed us what Goods they thought proper, of which I allowed them one third part for salvage.

So I shipp'd what I had recovered from them, with the other Goods the Pirates had given me formerly out of Captain *Morris's* Vessel; and then we embarked in her, being above sixty Passengers, besides six Masters of Ships, whose Vessels had been destroyed,

destroyed, or fitted for the use of the Pirates. We left the River *Sierraleon* the 10th day of *May*, and, after a tedious Passage, occasioned by the Ship's bad sailing, we came safe to *Bristol*, the first of *August* 1719.

On my landing at the Key, Mr. *Casamajor*, Merchant of that City, came to me, and delivered me a Letter from my Owner, the late *Humphrey Morrice* Esq; who had received mine by Captain *Creighton*, with the account of my Misfortune, a few days before we arrived at *Bristol*. Mr. *Morrice*, in his Letter, was pleased to comfort me under so severe a Trial, as I had undergone, assuring me, “ He would immediately
 “ give me the Command of another Ship;
 “ (which accordingly he most generously
 “ did soon after) and that he had ordered
 “ Mr. *Casamajor*, his Correspondent, to
 “ supply me with Money, to distribute
 “ amongst my poor Sailors, who had re-
 “ turned with me to *Bristol*; in order to
 “ enable them to go to their several Ha-
 “ bitations,” which was in several Parts of *England*.

Laus DEO.



I have perus'd & resolv'd account
of Guinea and find it to be