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The Adventures of Captain Kettle

By CUTCLIFFE HYNE

The Pilgrim Ship



Kettle was quite aware that by shipping pilgrims on the iron deck of the Saigon for transit across the Red Sea, he was transgressing the laws of several nations, especially those of Great Britain and her dependencies. But what else could the poor man do? Situated as he was, with such a tempting opportunity ready to his hand, he would have been less than human if he had neglected to take the bargain which was offered. And though the list of things that has been said against Capt. Owen Kettle is both black and long, I am not aware that anyone has alleged that the little sailor was all his many frailties.

Cortolvin came to the charthouse and plain words when the engines chose to break down two days out of Jeddah,

marched on board from the new Jeded on the mate's tally as a "nigger," whole fabric of the st along with some 34 dark-skinned fol- in the dancing heat. lowers of the prophet, and he had spent those two days upon an orthodox square of ragged carpet spread on the

ordinary muscular strength.

charthouse to report that the pilgrims so; and then lay still, and immediately eizing the Saigon so became a prey to flies innumerable; soon as ever the engines were once more put in running order. "They've themselves to look at him, pronounced the decent steamboat lines, where more put in running order. "They've themselves to look at him, pronounced more put in running order. "They've themselves to look at him, pronounced the decent steamboat lines, where the decent steamboat lines, where decent steamboat lines are decent steamboat lines, which is decent steamboat lines, where

sn't it?" said Kettle. the Hadji; "youll have to look out if even for minutes in circumstances such the dirty sack." you intend to remain master of this as those.

"I don't require any teaching of my business from passengers," said Kettle

"All right," said Cortolvin, "have it your own way. But I think you might decently grateful. I've risked my life by coming to give you news of what was in the wind. And you can't pretend that the information is not useful. You've a collie crew, who will be absolutely foolish if trouble comesthese Lascars always are that way. and two white mates to back you up,

and the five of you wouldn't have a chow. You've 340 fanatics to deal with. who are all fighting bred, and fighting wouldn't a bit object to die scrimmaging in such a cause. 'You know it's part of their creed

giaours, they go slick to paradise by Cortolvin had said. lightning express. That wily old camel driver of Mecca painted his hea- sword, suit this kind of cattle, and as most of upstairs whenever a decent opportunity against. "They'll be an ugly crowd to tackle;

I grant that." They are so, and don't you forget it. I might point out, captain, that, pera sound skin. They've all got profound fence were not so handy to their finrespect for me; I'm a very holy man." And as it is?"

Hadji Cortolvin shrugged his shoul-O. I chip in with you.'

Will you tell me why 'Cousinship of the skin I suppose. You're white by birth, and I believe I kept out of the sun for awhile and had what might happen. geveral Turlish baths. Of course I've living with men of color, and following his white drill coat. their ways and thinking their thoughts Funny isn't it? I come across you. I said to his tattered guest. don't know you from Adam. I can't "Nice cheroots," said say I particularly like what I've seen of you, and yet here am I, rounding on True Believers are a pretty tough my former mates and chipping in with crowd, aren't they? Theres' one Sou-

'May I ask your name?" said Kettle. "I believe, sir," he added with a bow, "that you are a gentleman." The Hadji laughed. "So far as I re-

collect, I was that once, captain. Sorry Richmond, in Yorkshire, before I was diot enough to go wandering off the Kettle. Cook's tourist routes into the middle of

'I'm Welsh myself," said Kettle, "but T've known men from Yorkshire, Shake hands, sir, please. Will you have a captain."

tasted a Christian drink for thirty misfortune, sir, in Chile. I disagreed weary months. And you've got a chatwell with my employer, who was a lady, meeting let down rather severely. "I doing very well," said he," "See that quickest and most effective way of seshot up before him.

"We tre practising on them, was shown the quickest and most effective way of seshot up before him.
"We swear!" they oried the hung up in the draught of a port! and went off cruising in a boat by will not," said he, "say anything we don't go from bad to worse—which curing the hands and feet. Cool water, ye gods! Bismillah! But is good to be alive sometimes." at the Hadji's attire.

my wages. I guess, sir, I'm no good grimy knuckle. except in command; I can't take an

any good; and none of them would give me a ship the size of a rice mat. gested the sailor. "At last, when I was getting desperate and pretty near put to going to sea before the mast, a Cardiff man I once knew came to the lodgings and gave me a tip. He'd been master of a into the sunshine. country steamer; he'd been sacked (he didn't deny it) for drunkenness; he'd wife, captain. But—well, you see, I've The chief engineer came into the not drawn a sober breath for months, always been an Arabic scholar, and I charthouse and hitched up his grimy and didn't see any prospect of changing his habits; and there was the berth study dialects for a year or so. It wad of cotton waste. He looked mean-vacant, and I might have it for the ask-would be a pleasant change after the ingly at the whiskey bottle, but Kettle

The pay wasn't much; only 100 ru-pees a month and percentage on proguess I was past being very nice in my tastes just then. The owner was fat and oldish, and wore a thing on his head like a top hat turned upside down, and I will say I did not give him much politeness. But he knew his place; he sahib'd me quite respectfully; and he said he'd be honored if I'd take his steamer under my charge. 'She was all he'd got,' he said; 'he loved her like his life, and he'd not trust her to anyone except a pukka sahib.

"Of course he lied a good deal-all natives do that-and he fixed up our he'd a good deal, which is those Parsees' way. But I will say he was al-"I don't know about that," said Ket- ways most respectful, and in the mat-"I've faced some of the ugliest ter of victualling he really surprised crowds that have floated on the seas me. Why, he actually put Bass' ale "We cleared from Bombay in corn

me I'd have no trouble in getting a He waved his guest to a deck chair, cargo of dates and coffee to bring back. put this matter of illegality to him in placed a box of cheroots hospitably But the Jeddah merchants seemed to open on the chart table, and then he think different. I cut down freights to went outside the chart house and leant near vanishing point, but they wouldn't and the Saigon lolled helpless in the blazing Red Sea heat.

Cortolvin up to that time had not made himself remarked. He had outside its shelter the sun's rays fell gon might have swung there at moordah quay where the railway is, and like molten brass, and the metal work ings till the bottom rotted out of her, posed as an Arab of the Sahara who was hot enough to raise a blister. The

week, and two more of the coolies died rusted iron plating of the lower fore deck beneath their bare skins would wreck was not fitted for the trade. have grown hot enough to char them. She's small, she's iron decks, she's only When the pilgrims had mustered for Victualling, he had filed in with the water made it in any way to be enwater tanks. There'd be big penalties rest, and held out a brass lotah for dured. And as the water from alonghis, ration of water, and a tattered side came up to them as warm as tea, square of canvas for his dole of it did but little to refresh.

"It wasn't as if I'd got to go through "You do know your trade," said Cor-

tolvin. "The under side of it," said Kettle, with a sigh. "A man with luck like two of his nearest comrades bestirred mine has to. He never gets on with 'A holy war, or some such skittles, the press and heaved it into the oily corner owners, who you've got to make sea beneath. It is not good that the dividends for somehow and no ques-

man's tongue, and went ashere without from his forehead with the back of a denser-water must be dealt out in a Kettle. "It will strip the meat clean ged turban, after the manner of an "There's no accounting for taste,

captain. I'm the owner of acres, near with a raging dysentery. "Well, in Bombay I'd a regular nipgut time of it. I bummed round the
about my park and see the farms, and
live the life of a country gentleman,
in the butter of the later,

The Saigon carried a spar-deck amidships, and the pligrims were grouped
in two bodies forward and aft of this look at their punkah-coolies; but I'd just in the way you think you'd like. on the iron plating of the fore and main no papers to show that would do me But I tired of it." "Perhaps you have no wife, sir," sug-

> His guest gave a short laugh, his half-smoked cheroot savagely out

"You can take it from me that I've a thought I'd come out to the Hedjaz to pyjamas, and mopping his face with a milk and honey of a country life. I don't seem to have got killed, and I fits; and the owner was a Parsee. I'd think I've liked it on the whole. It's been exciting, and I know more about never been low enough down to sign on under a-black man before, but I ing now that poor Palmer's dead, if that's any satisfaction. If I chose to go stare out into the baking sunshine beyond the doorway. "O, yes, I've a

wife.' Captain Kettle did not quite follow all this, so he said politely and vaguely, "Well, of course you know your own affairs best, sir." Then he took a long and steady look at his guest. "You'll excuse me, sir, but your name seems familiar. I wonder if you'd got that beard and some of your hair off whether I should recognize you." "I fancy not."

"Cortolvin," the little man mused, "I'm sure I've seen that name before

The Hadji laughed. "I'm afraid that neither I nor any of my people have into public notice, skipper; but we had a namesake some years back who was famous. A horse named Cortolvin won the Grand National in '67. That's what you'll have got in your mind."

Captain Kettle stiffened. "I beg your ness, "but I don't see you've earned a right to insult me. When I am at sea am what circumstances make me. When I am ashore in England, I would have you know I am a different person. I am a regular attender at chapel and a man who (outside business matters) tries to keep entirely straight. In England, sir, I take an interest in neither pocket-picking, horse racing nor sacrilege, and I have it on the word of a minister I sit under that there is very

strongly resent the imputation of being prise him much. He had met others of sober." the breed before. And he smoothed poured it slowly down its appointed nature of the Saigon's defences, but

"Don't you think," he said, "my fellow pilgrims will bear a little attention ticks." now, skipper?"

helmet and left the chart house. That's about the size of it," said dead should remain with the quick tions asked or else just up and take less sky, and boiled above the Saigon the second mate, and I'll look after the ben turned on from below. in insolent cruelty. The Red Sea heat "I'm a man," he added with a frown. grew, if anything, yet more dreadful, second engineer. And whilst the bearers carried him away, an old white-haired negro from sknow it, and keep me to it. But I desokoto stood upon his feet, swaying to spise myself all the time. It isn't in scorehed them to draw in a breath. the roll of the ship, and faced the heat- my nature, Mr. Cortolvin. Put me Drink, too, was scarce. The Hedaz is a have to do is to see they don't climb of it to sweep the ladder. In that bakblurred east with bowed head. Aloud ashore, give me a farm, and let me region almost waterless; the desert at up over the rail." witness that God was great; bend yellow gaiters and a large-pat- the back drains up all the moisture,

The spar-deck was officially reached from these lower levels by a couple of slender iron ladders, but it was not unscaleable to a fairly active But, captain, will you let me speak to "O, Lord, yes," he said, "I've a wife." climber. There was an alley-way pass-He paused a minute and then threw ing beneath the spar-deck, but this could easily be closed by the iron doors in the two bulk-heads, which fastened

inside with heavy, clamping screws. I Ignored his glance.

"Well, Mr. McTodd?" said he.

"I'm a' ready for the pagans, sir when ye're willing to gi' the worrd." "What are your engines like now?" "A wee bittee less fit for the scrapheap than they were a dozen hours home now, I could pose as no end of a back, but no' very much to boast of.' big boss in that line. The only thing is, Mr. McTodd spat out into the sunshine. I can't quite make up my mind to risk "They're the rottenist engines ever I tt. By God, yes," he added, with a fingered." said he, "and that's what I think of them. A man ought to have double my pay to be near them. They're just heart-breaking."

"You knew she wasn't the P. and O. when you signed on." "We're neither of us here, Capt. Kettle, because we were offered fatter

Kettle frowned. "I'll trouble you, Mr. McTodd, to attend to the matter in

You have those steam pipes sea of savage faces turned toward him: hand. ranged?"

"Both forrard and aft."
"Commanding both ladders?"
"Just like that."

been celebrated enough to have come ears. It's been vara exhausting work lower Egypt, and Egba who had servthat the niggers will begin to play up bary States, workers in metal from the minute we get under weigh, so you Sokoto, and weavers from Timbukhftu. see we know where we are and must They were not all holders of the title be ready for them. I shall want you of Hadji; for though by the Mahompardon, sir," he said, with acid polite and the second engineer on deck, of metan law every male must take the course, so you must arrange for one Mecca pilgrimage at least once in a of your crew to run the engines till lifetime, unless debarred by poverty we've got the business settled."

ily, "but he's got no notion of nursing lives amongst incessant wars not he'll drive them off their bedplates ous of all the lot. in a score of revolutions. Ye'd better let me keep the engine room myself associate with a momentary hush of captain. I'm a sick man, and I'm not surprise. He spoke to them in fluent fit for fighting with my throat as dry Arabic. as it is now.'

You'll have to fight for your life inside

The engineer eyed the whisky and their design.

"I pity the nigger that comes to hand "I will be off and make up a bit of a grips with McTodd," said Kettle, when lips and blew it shrilly. surprise packet for them," said Kettle. the grimy man in the gray pajamas you please. You go to the after end them.' The sun climbed higher into the fleck- of the bridge deck with McTodd and forrard end with the old mate and the ond engineer unhitched his thumbs rush the ladder, McTodd will give them waste in each grimy hand and lifted

sparing ration, or a dozen hours may off their bones."

easily see a whole ship's company down

"I have lived amongst those men, or

them? Will you let me tell them that oil and surgical advice. scheme is known and prepared "There were none actually killed at Will you let me explain to them my end," said Cortolvin. their scheme is known and prepared

the beasts?" he said.

the beasts?" he said.

"I quite know that," said Cortolvin.

"and I am sorry to spoil a fight. But lit is their lives I am begging for."

"Very well," said Kettle, "you can fire away. I don't speak their bat, and live away. I don't speak their bat, and live away. I they should know from shall just run ashore a dozen miles.

pon I have to offer you. My own pistol pose you'll come back with me! is the only gun we have in the ship." the forward ladder. A newly-fitted uine Arab."
steam pipe, with the joints all greasy "I can im with white lead, lay on the deck planks,

mob from half the Mahommetan peo-ples of Northern Africa. There were lean Arab camel breeders of the desert, "And you've plenty of steam?"

jet black farmers from the Great Lakes and the upper Nile, Hausas from the escape this minute if ye'll use your Western Soudan, limp Fellaheen from "Well, Mr. Cortolvin here assures me merchants from the back of the Baror lameness, the journey may be done "I've a greaser down yonder who can by deputy. And these deputies, fierce, open the throttle," said McTodd gloom-truculent ruffians, who had lived their engines like these, and as like as travel, were perhaps the most danger-

The black men listened to their late Capt. Kettle poured out a liberal two livers of whiskey and handed it accordingly the said it was written that if they tried Cortolvin faced the situation with ready tact. That this truculent little "Now Mac," said he, "wet your neck, "Now Mac," said he, "wet your neck, the steamer, they should surely the steamer. The steamer of this nonsense. give them battle; and that a horrible ten minutes, and you'll do it better death awaited those who persisted in

The African can withstand most temporated by the discharge throw of the mornings he helped to throw overboard those of his fellow pilgrims who had died-during the night, it was plain to see that he was a fellow of more than the wastern some t be with you again in forty clock then the great black mass of them staring at the baking levels of the Red rushed for the iron ladder. Capt. Kettle clapped a whistle to his

> "Now, then, Mr. Cortolvin," he cried, Excuse me, sir, for two minutes, hal left the charthouse. "He's an ugly "away with you aft to help McTodd.

In answer to his whistle steam had When they try to from his waistbelt, took a lump ing air the steam did not condense rap-"I wish it could be avoided," said idly; it travelled three yards from the "That high-pressure nozzle of the pipe before it became God; and that of mortals, each man's straighter, sweeter-natured man be her tanks only half filled. She had to steam will scald some of them horri- even thinly visible, and it impinged depend upon her condenser, and this bly."

trans small And in the tropics, con- "It will do more than that," said ed horribly without being seen.

At first they did not flinch. upon the black naked bodies and burn-

At first they did not flinch. With a dreadful valor they faced the torment, and fought with each other to be first upon the rungs, and then when those In front would have held back, the mob behind pressed them irresistibly on-In a moment or so the first rank began to go down before that withering blast and then others trod on them and fell also, till the hill of The American custom of rounding off | ter," sang out a fine sonorous voice tised, he wrote for a bottle. A month | writhing black humanity grew to half

And in the meantime others of the pilgrims were trying to storm the keep the sacred planking inviolate.

these was without his scald-huddled in the negative retired. against the doors of the forecastle; and o'clock she returned again, declaring the grimy second engineer held the that her name had been distinctly belching steam pipe upward, so that a called, but was once more sent away. A gray pall hung between the Saigon and third time (it was nearly 12 o'clock).

late for me. Tell those animals to time by the name of Whiting. She chuck all their hardware over the side was certain the voice was near. Anseeship.

Several sandbags, shape dto repression many sausages."

or I'll cook the whole lot of them like noved at this frequent disturbance, my mother told her to go hack to her had Cortolvin lifted up his voice in sono- and not to come again.

at Mahdism about a year back, and set er, 'I put the tube down his throat and of a London Board of Guardians. Then a sandbag, made to the rough wit shall cast your weapons into the lying on a rocky ledge on a great preplaced on the scaffold flap. Taylor those others of you who do not on this dragging himself along. was told the weight, the noose was pro- instant disarm shall taste again of the seemed to startle my mother, but she perly adjusted, the requisite drop ar scorching breath of Eblis."

> again with differently-weighted bags.
>
> The other part of the hangman's "It would be a weariness to guard in which my brother, Mr. Hudson, Mr. One of the heartiest laughs I ever The other part of the hangman's training, the pinioning of a condemned you." Cortolvin went on. "Swear by Haddow, remember at a public meeting was the prisoner, was even more realistic. For the bear dof the prophet to make no killed, Mr. Whymper and two other the time being stalwart warders posed further attempt against this ship, or

officer reporting. "The mutiny is ended, sir," he said.

their sort, for two solid years, and many of them have shown me kindnesses."

Capt. Kettle swung himself lightly on to the upper bridge and telegraphed "Full speed ahead" to the engine room; "You should have thought of that, sir, before you came to me here in the and the Saigon gathered way. Sullen and trembling, the pilgrims began to "I did think of it, but I couldn't be tend their hurts, and presently McTodd

what they will have to face if they "I dropped four," said Kettle, "I had to. It was either me or them. And my Capt. Kettle frowned. "You will understand that I am not frightened at let him be. We'd a tight time here We'd a tight time here

who it lasted."
"It will require a good lump of back-

it's as well they should know from shall just run ashore a dozen miles someone what they have to look forward to. Here's a life-preserver which beach in my boats, and let them get yop may find useful. It's the only wea- into Kosseir as best they can. I sup-

"I suppose so. Anyway, I can't go on The pair of them went outside the charthouse and walked to the head of

"I can imagine," said Kettle drily, "they'd give you a lovely time, if they and the second engineer stood beside it had you to themselves for five minwith thumbs in his waist strap. On the deck below the pilgrims no longer squatted on their carpets, but stood about the Kaaba. But I owe you sometogether in knots and talked excitedly. thing, sir, and I shall be happy to go Cortolvin clapped his hands, and the out of my way to serve you. I will drop you at Suakim, or at Aden, or at There were representatives in that Perim, where I am going to coal, whichever you please.'

"But if this affair gets into the newspapers, inquiries will be made, you'll very possibly find yourself in an ugly hole.

"It won't get in the newspapers," said Kettle, thoughtfully, "The toiling down yonder in that a'ful heat." ed on the British police force at Lagos, can't tell, my officers daren't for their own sakes, and you leave me to see my coolies don't. Newspapers," he repeated dreamily: "queer the hint should have come like that." "What hint? What are you talking

"I remembered then where I'd seen your name, sir. It was in the Times of

India's general news column."
"What was said?" "Well, sir, I suppose you'd better be told. But you must hold up for a hard-Will you come into the charthouse for a minute, and have a

No: get along, man, get along. "I think it was about your wife, sig-Does she hunt?"

"All the season 'Then it will be her. I remember now it said Richmond in Yorkshiire, and the name was Mrs. W. H. Cortelvin. She's broken her neck, sir.' Cortolvin clutched at the white rail of the bridge. 'My God!" he cried, "dead! Julia dead! Is that all, captain?" "It was only a two-line paragraph. You'll please understand he

sea which were slipping past the Saigon's rusty flanks. back again and stood at Kettle's side. looking down at the pilgrims anointing

amongst these people. This is how I sum the situation. It was written that my wife should die whilst I was away. It was written also that I should live. God ordered it all. God is great.

Capt. Kettle gripped his hand in sympathy. "I'm sorry for you, sir," lieve me, I am truly sorry. If you think a bit of poetry about the occasion would help you at all, just say so, and I'll do it. I'm in the mood for poetry now. All things put together, been through a pretty heavy time during these last few hours."

Thankss, Skipper, thanks," said Cortolvin. "I know you mean well. And now if you don't mind I'll leave you. I think I'd like to be alone for a bit." "You do, sir. Go and lie down on my bunk. I'll have you a beautiful elegy written by the time you're back on

deck again. It will comfort you. (Copyright by Cutcliffe Hyne). MYSTERIES OF COINCIDENCE.

Remarkable Story in Connection With Death of Lord Francis Douglas. I do not pretend (says Lady Florence

Dixie) to account for the following inwas a very little child, my second What was going on at the after end brother (Lord Francis Douglas). of the Saigon they could not tell. From barely 18 years of age, was killed in the behind them came the roar of the first unsuccessful ascent of the Matterfighting Hauha, and the savage war born. The accident tok place on July cries of the desert, as they rose up 14th, my mother's birthday. That night from before their faces. But in its my mother and myself were in London, first flush the fight was too close for passing through it en route for home. Several executions took place the any man's thoughts to wander from We stayed there one night to break his own immediate adversaries.

It seemed, however, that the battle pected back early to take part in fes-Easily the smartest platform retort land, on the scaffold which has been was over first in the after part of the tivities arranged in Scotland for the I remember as that of a candidate to the scene of the final exit of numerous steamer, and whether this was because coming of age of my eldest brother. the attack there was less heartful, or Queensberry. My mother and myself "I wudd'n vote for one o yeur color. The executioner was Alec Taylor, the more terrible, cannot now be known. Went to bed early. There was no apeven if you was the Archangel Ga-newly- appointed common hangman, The question was debated much after-prehension about my brother in Switz-

name of "Bengy," whereas my brother Metaphors are apt to get very mixed thoroughly learn the technique of his writing about the iron decks; below came in and asked my mother if she she came back assuring my mother "Now, sir," said Kettle, "kindly trans- that a voice had called her, and each mother told her to go back to her bed, cipice, terribly wounded. tried to soothe the maid, and got her

and Croz, the guide, were months. And you've got a chating up in the draught of a port!
water, ye gods! Bismillah! But
good to be alive sometimes."

water ye gods! Bismillah! But
good to be alive sometimes."

water ye gods! Bismillah! But
good to be alive sometimes."

water ye gods! Bismillah! But
good to be alive sometimes."

water ye gods! Bismillah! But
good to be alive sometimes."

water ye gods! Bismillah! But
good to be alive sometimes."

water ye gods! Bismillah! But
good to be alive sometimes."

water ye gods! Bismillah! But
and put me in Colombo. I got from
the is young, and naturally foolish!"

once whose wife suffered from freckles.

Seeing a freckle-removing lotion adver
water ye gods! Bismillah!

"We swear!" they cried.

"We swear!" they cried.

"We swear!" they cried.

In appearance Taylor is a typical
sometimes we don't go from bad to worse—which
to sagainst our opponent except this, that
there to Bombay as second mate of a
tramp but I couldn't stand the old
the is young, and naturally foolish!"

once whose wife suffered from freckles.

Seeing a freckle-removing lotion adver
with my employer, who was a lady,
will not," said he, "say anything
to we don't go from bad to worse—which
In appearance Taylor is a typical
sometimes."

The it is written that you keep
on indelible reminiscence of my childseaman, broad-shouldered, muscular,
of medium height, and endowed with
much gerial in
the don't go from bad to worse—which
in appearance Taylor is a typical
water of the heads and feet.

The it is written that you keep
on indelible reminiscence of my childwater of the heads and feet.

The it is written that you keep
on indelible reminiscence of my childwater of the heads and feet.

The it is written that you keep
on indelible reminiscence of my childwater of the heads and feet.

The it is written that you keep
on indelible reminiscence of my child

Discussing the eternal fiscal problem suffered badly from freckles. She used bridge deck, at other points, but on one bottle of your lotion. All freckles the port side, the gray-headed old man fighting baresark with an ax, and to starboard, Capt. Kettle, with pistol and cident, but only know and vouch for knuckleduster, battled like wildcats to the fact that it took place.

and the subjects "hanged" in set form ward without coming to a decision. erland. But, anyway, by the time Capt. Ket- About 10.30 p.m. the door of our bedtle's adversaries had ceased to rage room opened and my mother's maid It is, of course, essential that the against him. Cortolvin was free to appeared. Her name was Emily Whitcome and stand by his side as interpre- ing, but we both called her by the pet ter.

dread sentence of the law should first upon the public platform. Said a gruesome profession to insure that them the survivors—and scarcely one of had called her, and on being replied to In pursuance of this policy, Taylor, the sun.

ent men of different weights, were sup-

semblance and weight of a man, was sea. It is written, moreover, that

ranged for, and the lever pulled. This A stream of weapons leapt up to go back to bed. experiment was performed again and through the air and fell into the A few days later

guides escaping. Of the four killed. Mr. Hudson's, Mr. Haddow's,

But Cortolvin would not change his dirt and squalor just then. He had worn it too long to be affected by it; "and," said he, "I don't want to advertise the fact that I'm an Englishman just at present. If my dear friends down yonder on the lower deck knew it, they'd not wait for the engines to be

repaired. They'd fuzzle up just like gunpowler, there and then, and the bargain so that I'd little to win and bargain so that I'd little to win and pulled into tassels before we'd time to Lefore this, and they thought they were going to have it all their own way, but "We cleared from Bombay in o they found that when it came to shoot- and cottons and earthenware, conanything more or less than human in ing that I could keep my end up very signed to Jeddah, and the owner told

was glorying in the newly-acquired air was motionless and stagnant, and green turban of a Hadji; he was nick-ed on the mate's tally as a "niger," whole fabric of the steamer shimmered was sickly, too; I lost whole fabric of the steamer shimmered was sickly, too; I lost whole fabric of the steamer shimmered was sickly, too; I lost whole fabric of the steamer shimmered was sickly, too; I lost whole fabric of the steamer shimmered was sickly, too; I lost whole fabric of the steamer shimmered was sickly, too; I lost whole fabric of the steamer shimmered was sickly, too; I lost whole fabric of the steamer shimmered was sickly, too; I lost whole fabric of the steamer shimmered was sickly, too; I lost whole fabric of the steamer shimmered was sickly, too; I lost whole fabric of the steamer shimmered was sickly whole shimmered was

teamed rice. You could count his The African can withstand most temdan, was contorted with heat apoplexy; He came to Capt. Kettle in the breathed stertorously for a minute or

> and that Mahomet was the prophet of tern coat, and there wouldn't be a and the Saigon had left Jeddah with Cortolvin sadly. fate was writ hig upon his forehead tween here and heaven. And then the rest of the pilgrim's bent their foreheads to the torturing deck |

plates, and made profession of the faith Capt. Kettle from his stand against You've just your two white engineers the rail of the bridge deck pitied the heathen, and thought with a complacent sigh of a certain obscure chapel in South Shields; but at the same time he could not avoid being impressed by the heathen's constancy. They might die. but they forbore to curse God in doing sight into the workings of fatalism

just the sort of dandy place to grip of his fist; and as a fighting force hours during the day are entitled to them have a beast of a time on this gan to realize that they could make a if they are prepared to sit a couple of during the voyage, but Kettle had omitted to disarm them through sheer maching at a bye-election made a great contempt for what they could do. anally speaking, I'd been a lot safer if they chose to fight among themselves, point of the fact that he was glad his I'd stayed down on the lower fore deck that was their own concern; it never side "had got in the first blow." yonder, and held my tongue. They'd even occurred to him as they came off have got you to an absolute certainty Jeddah quay, noisy and odorous, that I if they'd ambushed you as was in- they would dare to contend against his knew it meant something. "I say," tended, and I could have kept out of imperial will; but now he sincerely he insisted, "it is a good thing to get in

knowing him well, I honestly believe along and tell us why." that the little ruffian has never yet feared man that was born of woman; but the safety of the Saigon was a matter just then very near to his expected.) A farmer went up to a

He went back again inside the chart-

"Do you like the cheroots, sir?" he "wonder how many I'll smoke. Those this tube down his throat."

"that you ever went in for this pil-

'Hard wasn't the word for it," said out, Captain. I haven't the shipmaster with a sigh. "I met

must have been prety hard pushed,

"The Hadji swept the perspiration was small. And in the tropics, con-

that if they peg out whilst fighting which made him think more of what story" is becoming increasingly popular, says an English writer. Working Every man amongst the pilgrims had sword, or spear, or mace, or rifle within men who have done their eight or ten -with fatalism to back them--he be- look for a little brightness and humor ugly company to manoeuvre st. A regulation of the pilgrim hours at a political meeting. As a rule, trade requires that all weapons shall however, the English speaker works be taken from this class of passengers his story in rather laboriously. For If meeting at a bye-election made a great

the actual throat-cutting and preserved wished that the means of serious of the first blow." This he reteated so often that I whispered to him, sotto I do not say that he was afraid, for, voce: - 'Quite right. Quite right. Get

"Getting in the first blow," he continued, "reminds me of a story" (as I should turn out to be white also if I heart, and he had forebodings as to vet's house to ask what he was to do about his horse, which had been a snuff-colored hide on me now, and house, sat himself upon the sofa, and taken very ill. 'Give him this powder,' speaker at a meeting at Ipswich I was house, sat himself upon the sofa, and in orduring this last two years I've been ran a finger round inside the collar of said the vet. An hour after the farmer came up again and said that he couldn't get the horse to take the powsaid Cortolvin; der. 'Oh,' said the vet, 'I forgot. Put'

"Within half an hour, the farmer you on the clear knowledge that I shall danese fellow in a darfur suit of mail. came running up to the vet's in a Gladstone." probably be killed during the next few Did you notice him He's been a big shocking state of excitement, and livid "You complain of the way your war sheik in his day. He helped to with fear. 'What's up now with the Board of Guardians conduct their busi- plied for Taylor's practice. He was in- rous Arabic. war sheik in his day. He helped to smash up Hicks Pasha's army, and commanded a thousand men at the storming of Khartoum; but he got sick as I told you?" 'Yes,' said the farmout to perform the Hadj. When it laid the powder in it, but the horse "Shure, down in County Kerry, long be-I haven't a card on me, but my name's comes to fighting, you'll see that man had the first blow!" Chuckling to fere th' meetin's come to a close, the "He shal have my first shot," said himself, long after the laughter had clerk is dhrinkin' the ink and signin' th' "It surprises me," said Cortolvin, "Always a good things to get in the subsided, my chairman again insisted. cheques with whisky!"

grimage carrying business at all. You first blow." DIFFERENT MAN'S POCKET.

I once heard a benevolent old gentle- other day when a speaker was ridiculman acting as chairman of a political ing the idea of scal reform. "We tre practising on them, was shown the A forest of trembling black

and the omission gave him an in- each section of a speech with "a from the rear, 'fer yeu be 'old' and na- after he was able to write to the lotion- the height of the iron ladder. terally foolish!"

HUMOR OF THE HUSTINGS.

a speaker said: ing to take them off certain others. since!" So it's only taking money out of one pocket and putting it into another." "Very likely," shouted a voice from

the meeting, "but the two pockets don't belong to the same man!"

NOT ON THE REGISTER. whom one of his audience had yelled: notorious criminals.

"If I were the Archangel Gabriel," quietly replied the candidate, "I greatly fear, my friend, that you wouldn't official who has to carry out the last be on the register!"

addressing:—"I am all for compromise der. Therefore, each new hangman, immediately after his appointment, goes day than sink the ship!" "Mr. Glad- through a realistic course of training. stone had better look out," said a fu- under the guidance of experienced pririous orator in the Home Rule days. son officials who have assisted at many late for me. "The eyes of 'vox populi' are on Mr. executions, is now serving his appren-

FROM BAD TO WORSE.

vendor as follows:-"Dear sir, my wife "Mr. Chamberlain is going to put have disappeared, but she has been taxes on certain things, but he is go- suffering from strong convulsions ever

LEARNING TO BE A HANGMAN.

Britain's New Executioner Has Re-

and Warders.

other day at Pentonville Prison, Eng-

were lay figures of cloth and sand.

ticeship.

hearsed With Sandbags