

OUR BOYS

AND GIRLS

JOAN and CAPTAIN JONAS

HOW the Family Whale Proved Serviceable in Time of Need

BY ACTON ARCHER

JOAN was sitting in the stern of a boat fishing for scallops on the coast of Maine. She hoped that she would get one because they were such rare and valuable things. Great heads and wide mouths, they made her feel shivery, but the boys had teased her with being afraid of them and she wanted to show them that she wasn't catching one all by herself.

Joan was so occupied in her fishing that she did not notice that the tide had raised the boat from the sand and was floating away. She did not notice either that a fog bank had been creeping in from the sea, covering up everything as it came. So before she knew what was happening she was drifting in the fog on the water. She was looking at all was in the water excepting the damp gray fog and a little patch of water around the boat.

She drifted a good while longer than she had expected—and she was beginning to grow anxious when the bow of the boat struck on the rocks and she was a beach and large boulders through the fog. She got out of the boat, which was what the boat was called, and ran up the beach. The dogs immediately started barking again.

Joan did not think she knew that particular island, which had trees and grass on it and was very rocky. She climbed over the top of it and was pleased to find that on the other side the sea was still blue brightly. There was a little meadow there and a red faced man with a white beard was busy raking up grass-papers. He wore a blue sailor suit with broad buttons and he was very friendly. As soon as he had a heap of grass-papers he took a shovel and dug them to a little hole which had pushed its head up on the beach and lay there with its mouth open.

"There!" said the sailor finally, with a sigh of satisfaction. "That will be enough for today. Come along!"

Joan followed him across a rocky point of the island, on the other side of which she saw a very small, neat ship lying at anchor. They got into a boat and rowed out to it. The boat followed them and lay rolling on the water a fair distance away, lazily flapping its tail.

"He's asleep," remarked the sailor, and they went toward the boat.

"Is he yours?" Joan asked.

"Well, not exactly that," the sailor replied. "He's a friend of the family. It's quite a large family, you know."

"Is it?" said Joan.

"Yes, quite a large family—that is, for now," replied the sailor. "My name is Captain Jonas, and the Jonas family, as you say, is well known. I wouldn't like to tell you how many years we've been acquainted with that whale or how we first happened to meet him."

"Why not?" Joan asked.

"I didn't expect you to ask that," Captain Jonas said at last, "but I don't know that I mind telling you the real reason. It's because it's a secret."

"Why do you keep him?" Joan inquired.

"Oh, the family has always taken care of him and I suppose he expects it," replied Captain Jonas. "He's a heavy sleeper, but isn't he a beauty? I don't know of any other family that has such a whale, do you?"

"I don't think I do," said Joan. "To tell the truth, I had never seen a whale before in my life, but somehow she did not seem to like to admit it."

Just then a quick ringing, like telephone bells, sounded from all over the ship.

"What is that?" Joan asked, rather frightened at the suddenness of the sound.

"I thought you'd be alarmed," Captain Jonas replied with a chuckle, "and you ought to be, too, for those are alarm clocks."

"But why are they ringing in the day time?" asked Joan.

"To wake up the crew," said Captain Jonas. "We must have some one to sail the ship, and they've been asleep ever since last week Thursday."

With much rapping, the crew in a few minutes appeared on the deck. It included twelve men, who were all very fierce looking. They had long black hair, which was braided behind, thick black beards and gold rings in their ears. They carried a good many pistols and knives in their belts.

"They look like pirates," Joan whispered.

"Captain Jonas nodded his head and said, "That's just what they are," he said. "I found them on a raft. Did you ever see four pirates?"

All the men stood in a row, looking savagely at Captain Jonas, with their

right hands on the handles of their knives. "Do you think they're quite safe?" Joan asked.

"Oh, yes, they're safe enough," Captain Jonas replied. "There's nobody here to hurt them."

"I mean do you think we're quite safe with them?" Joan explained.

"That's a very different thing," Captain Jonas said.

"Now, my lady," said Captain Jonas, "let me tell you the story of the ship. We must be going."

Joan was so much absorbed in what the sailors were saying that she did not think until the sails had been spread and the ship was actually moving that they might be anxious about her at home, especially if the voyage should happen to be a long one. She spoke about this to Captain Jonas.

"I'm glad you mentioned it," he said. "We must attend to it at once. Run down into the cabin and write them a note. Tell them you'll be home to supper."

Joan wanted to ask him how he was going to send the letter, but he seemed to be in such a hurry that she did not like to stop just then. So she wrote the note.

She ran up on deck and gave the note to Captain Jonas. He had a glass globe in his hand and in this was swimming about a quantity of small red fish and also some greenish ones.

"What are those for?" asked Joan.

"They're for the postage," said Captain Jonas.

He drew a silver whistle out of his pocket and blew hard upon it. Instantly a large white seagull, which had been flying about with many others, came swooping toward them and perched on the railing. The Captain tied the letter around its neck and then offered it the globe of fishes. "Two red and one green," he said. The seagull put in its beak and after selecting and swallowing them, spread its wings and was off.

"He's a special delivery," said the Captain.

Joan watched the bird and saw that he did not stop with the others, but went past them, straight away into the distance. "That's just what they are," he said. "I found them on a raft. Did you ever see four pirates?"

"They'll get it before luncheon," said Captain Jonas. "Now, suppose we have some tea?"

"Where are we going?" asked Joan.



"Now We're Safe!" Cried the Captain, Standing Up in the Boat

"To my brother, Captain Albert Jonas," the Captain replied. "I must get a fresh supply of ice cream for the crew. Pirates love ice cream, you know."

Joan could not help being uncomfortable about the pirates, they looked so fierce. "Do they ever mind?" she asked.

"My stars, yes," Captain Jonas replied. "In fact, I think they're going to mutiny now. Look at 'em!"

Joan turned and saw the crew coming down from below deck in single file, and heading toward them in bare feet. Each

sailor carried two very large pistols, one in each hand, and a large knife in his mouth, holding it crosswise as a dog holds a bone. Their eyes rolled wildly.

"Yes," Captain Jonas remarked, calmly sipping his tea as he observed them, "they're going to mutiny. What a nuisance!"

Joan was much upset by the sight of "It's very hard to lose one's ship like this at my age, especially when one has been as considerate of one's crew as I have been," he complained.

Tears ran down his cheeks, and, as his clumsy head of the whale appeared, and wiped them away with his handkerchief. Looking back at the ship she could see that the crew sympathized with them, for

The boiling and bubbling grew stronger and upon a stream of water rose into the air like a fountain. "It's a waterpost!" Joan thought. But in this she was mistaken, for in a moment more the great clumsy head of the whale appeared, and she saw that he had been blowing the water up through the blow hole in his forehead.

"Now we're safe!" cried the captain, standing up in the boat and raising a "V" of his arms. Joan watched while the whale backed gently toward them and the captain tied the end of the rope around his tail. As soon as the whale felt that the knot was tight he set off at a great rate through the water, dragging the boat after him.

"Where are we going now?" Joan asked.

"Well, I wouldn't just like to say," the captain replied. "He has his plans, I suppose, and I don't like to interfere with him when he's on duty."

At the pace they were making it did not take them a great while to reach land. Joan was surprised to find that the whale had brought them back to the very same island where she had first seen the captain sitting on the grass-papers. As soon as he came to the island the whale stopped and the captain untied the rope.

"It's nearly six o'clock," the captain said, examining a small alarm clock which he carried in the pocket of his coat. "I think I might as well row you home."

"Thank you," said Joan. "That will be very kind."

As they passed around the island they saw the captain's ship anchored in precisely the same place where it had been before. There was no sign of the pirates.

"Why, there's the ship!" Joan exclaimed.

"Yes," the captain replied, nodding his head. "I thought they'd come back. They were homesick, you know. Pirates rarely get seasick, but they get terribly homesick if you don't look out."

They reached the shore in time to see the boy's birthday cake at the stake. It was Kingston, Joan's brother, they were burning. Joan rushed him, after saying good night to the captain, who rowed hastily away back to the island. All the boys were anxious when they heard what Joan had been doing, and they made her tell them the whole story twice and the part about the mutiny three times. Then they said that they didn't believe a word of it.

This offended Joan and she carried Kingston off to supper. They had hot waffles with maple syrup.

Furniture for Miss Paper Doll's living room will appear in next Sunday's page for boys and girls.

DINING ROOM FURNITURE for MISS PAPER DOLL

THE furniture for the dining room in Miss Paper Doll's apartment is being published today. This is the second set of furniture for the paper doll's apartment which has been published. Two weeks ago the boys and girls were told how to make a paper doll's apartment from a box. The apartment, made of a box twenty-four inches long by fourteen inches wide, is divided by one lengthwise partition and two crosswise ones into six rooms of equal size. There is no roof to the apartment and one of the long sides is taken off, so that it is easy to arrange the rooms. If you fail to make the apartment before, you may make it today, and so be able to put the rest of the furniture, which will be published later, in the proper rooms. The walls of the different rooms are colored with water color paints or crayons or papered in light neutral tints of gray, tan and ivory such as will look well with any other colors. Doors are cut from one room to another and there is a window cut in each room.

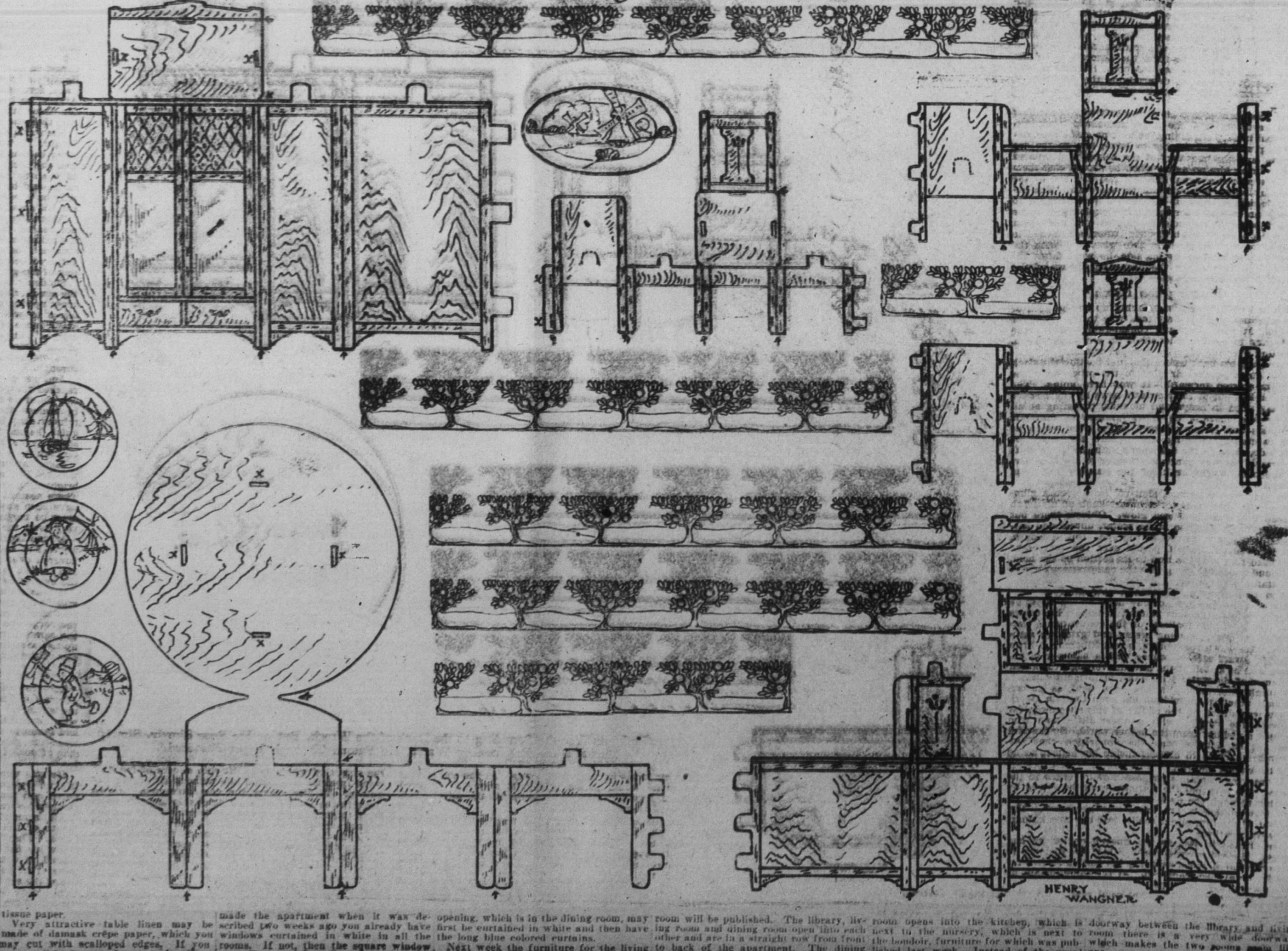
In making today's furniture first color all the furniture in the tones that you wish before cutting any of the pieces out. You may use water color or crayon to do the coloring. The furniture may be made the color of any of the wood tones—maple, beech, oak or walnut—and the plates, which are to decorate the walls may be colored blue and white. You may also put some color on the frieze if you like. This frieze, which is the long decorated strip that you see, is to be put around the top of the wall of the dining room.

After you have finished coloring the entire dining room set, cut out the pieces roughly and paste all but the plates and the frieze on stiff letter paper. The frieze and the plates are not to be stiffened, as they may be more easily pasted if they are not stiff. After each piece of furniture has been pasted on the letter paper and is quite dry cut out each piece of furniture carefully with the shears except the little slits, which will be more easily cut with a knife. Cut in on dotted lines and fold at arrow heads. Cut out slits at points marked X and insert tabs and paste them down. You must be very careful not to use too much mucilage, as it will spread and spoil the looks of the furniture.

You have now made the furniture and it is ready to place in the paper doll's dining room. After it is in place you may decide where the plates will look best and paste them in their places.

The floor of the bedroom may be colored around the edges a dark wood color. The center may be colored to represent a rug, either square or oval, or you may make a paper rug of two rooms of paper braided in a checked pattern.

If you select blue for the color of your dining room you may make the rug blue and white, the plates blue and you may make long blue curtains for the windows and portieres for the door of crepe or



HENRY WANGNER

made the apartment when it was decorated. Very attractive table linen may be made of damask crepe paper, which you may cut with scalloped edges. If you made the apartment when it was decorated, which is in the dining room, may room will be published. The library, living room opens into the kitchen, which is doorway between the library and living room and dining room open into each other and are in a straight row from front to back of the apartment. The dining table last week. Instead of the usual one,