Since the astonishing adventure which we have just related, there has been no mention whatever made of the Free-booters properly so called; although, as remarked in a former chapter (ch. x), that appellation has been given to the banditti who infested the West Indies,—absolute vagabonds, who formed no permanent corporations and had no ships in their own possession. The profession of Corsairs, or rather of Pirates or Sea-robbers, was too attractive to bold sailors and men of corrupt morals, for other associations (after the dissolution of the grand society) not to be formed,—which were only temporary indeed, and less numerous; but which, taking the Free-booters for their model, carried on, though on a small scale, the same business; and assumed their name as a means of exciting greater terror.—Neither the peace of Nimeguen, nor that of Utrecht, which was of still more importance, and at length restored peace to Europe, which had been distubed by a long war, could put an end to the piracies of these robbers. Even after the first twenty years of the eighteenth century, small bodies of Pirates, chiefly English, embarked with the view of scouring the seas on their own account, and of bringing to a close expeditions, the consequences of which were indeed of little moment, but in the execution of which an infinite degree of boldness was absolutely necessary. Either by the force of habit, or by mistake, these Pirates were denominated Free-booters, notwithstanding there was a vast difference between them and the original *Brethren of the Coast.*

The following are the names of their most celebrated commanders that have been preserved : *Misson, Bowen, Kidd, Avery, Teach, Murtel, England, Vane, Bonet, Rackam, Davis, Anstis, Roberts, Worley, Lowther, Evans, Philips, Low, Spriggs,* and *Smith.* A concise history of their exploits, courageous and glorious, if glory can be the concomitant of robbery, has been collected into a volume, in which each has a