

Law isn't meant for sailors of the merchant service, except when they mutiny or refuse duty.'

"The next question,' continued Greenwood, 'is how to circumvent the swab. How the deuce did he know we preferred Scotch whiskey?'

"That is very easily understood,' I replied. 'Don't you remember we were talking at dinner-time about Jamaica rum, and we both agreed we should like it much better if they served out Scotch whiskey aboard ships.'

"Yes, I remember,' said my friend, and it was he that started the topic—with the purpose, of course, of finding out what our preference was. Come, let us go down stairs—I have a plan, but am not sure if it is workable.'

"I suggested we should leave the house at once: but this Greenwood would not hear of. He said he was going to try to beat the rascal at his own game.

"We went down into the parlor, laughing and talking in a careless manner, so as not to arouse any suspicion in case we were watched. The servant met us in the hall, again saying the 'missus' desired us to make ourselves at home. 'The Boss will not be in for about half an hour, but you will find plenty of papers and magazines, in case you care to read.'

"There was a lamp burning in the room, and piles of illustrated papers and magazines placed on the table. A large sideboard stood in one corner covered with glasses, and further embellished with some trumpery-looking plated ware.

"Giving me a significant look, Greenwood lounged carelessly round the room, talking loudly about the different pictures and ornaments, till he reached the sideboard. The doors were locked, but the key was there, and a burglar never turned a key more cautiously and cleverly than did my chum at that moment. Without the slightest noise he opened the door, and while talking (rather too loudly, I

thought) about a sea view on the wall near him, pointed triumphantly to the two decanters exposed to view.

"The next instant he had changed their positions, and was quietly shutting the doors.

"Put the shanghai medicine in the left-hand corner,' he whispered. 'We'll give the confounded crimp a dose of his own stuff, and I hope he will enjoy the headache he will have in the morning. When he is well-loaded, we will clear out.'

"As nothing more was to be done, according to this plan, till our worthy landlord arrived, we lighted our pipes and looked over some of the papers.

"I am not at all sure that I enjoyed this adventure, for I was quite new to such phases of a sailor's life; but my friend smoked and read as unconcernedly as though we were berthed in the most respectable house in the Dominion of Canada.

"Presently we heard the front door open, and very soon Mr. Flanagan entered the room, accompanied by a villainous-looking fellow, such as would be hard to find outside a seaport town. This worthy was introduced to us as his brother-in-law, Mr. Morrison. The fellow shook hands with us with great warmth, and began questioning us about our life on the lakes.

"Both men had evidently had a good deal to drink, but were not by any means incapacitated. After a little while Flanagan arose and said he would tell the women to go to bed: 'and then,' said he with a half-drunk-en grin, 'we'll mix our night-caps.' He soon returned, carrying a small jug of hot water; and while the door was open, I heard a noise as of two slipshod women ascending the stairs.

"Now, b'yes, what will ye have?' asked Flanagan, as he opened the sideboard.

"I should prefer Scotch whiskey,' announced Greenwood; 'but if that is not convenient, I can take something else.'

"If it is all the same, I would