

a ransom of furs. But the accidental discharge of a swivel disconcerted this just and liberal scheme of retaliating the wrongs of the guilty, upon people who might be innocent.

On the first alarm, those who were sitting on the rail dropped into the water like turtles, and others farther on board, leaped into the water with the haste of a startled frog.

One chief was taken, and his ransom fixed at twenty skins of sea otter. After he had paid it, he paddled ashore with the air of a madman, plotting mischief, or rather planning justice and revenge. One of the crew of another brig, seeing a canoe passing that held some men who were present at the attack on the other vessel, edged round a swivel loaded with spikes and musket balls, and discharged it with so true an aim, that few survived in the boat to tell the death of their comrades.

Our captain begged of another master a little girl seven years old, that he might restore her to her relations, who lived northward. The child had been but a week on board, when we remarked a woman in a canoe under the stern, making signals to her, for neither knew the other's language. At night, being on the watch, I heard a splash in the water, and then the sound of a paddle. I skulled after in the jolly boat, as fast as I could, but failed to overtake the canoe, which carried away our little captive.

This, with the loss of a whale boat, irritated the captain, who resolved to be indemnified for at least his expenses. Therefore, when accident rather than justice favored, he began to execute his plan, little dreaming to what it would lead.

A canoe from an inland tribe came alongside, manned with ten men, each armed with a musket, bow and arrow, and dagger. The chief came boldly on board, and