

The Girl of the Golden Gate

in the middle for him and this is what Paul Lavelle read:

" At sea aboard the bark *Daphne*, March 31, 191—.

" In the presence of death and without the solicitation or the knowledge of any person hereinafter named I, Daniel McGovern, sometimes called Driscoll, and other names unknown to me, say: I was quartermaster aboard the steamship *Yakutat* which was wrecked on the California Coast in the month of March—the 15th—190—, through and by the carelessness of her first officer, William Graham, then acting as captain in the place of her dead commander. I joined the ship at Skagway. The shipping records there will show under what name. On the day preceding the wreck and when we were within thirty-six hours of our destination we encountered a dense fog in which the ship remained up to the time she struck. The fog closed in about 10 o'clock at night shortly after I took the wheel. Paul Lavelle, second officer of the *Yakutat* and ranking next in command to William Graham, was on the bridge. About fifteen minutes afterward Graham came on the bridge. I heard Mr. Lavelle tell a steward to call Graham from the saloon. Lavelle said: ' We are standing in too near the land. There is a bad current along here.' Graham said: ' I've had enough of this talk from you. Hold your course. I'm in command here.' He left the bridge. The next night when I went on