

wers, who readily executed his commands. Pursued, they contrived, sharp at the knives used in the ship, y also employed their raw hides, of which and in fixing to each led shot of the small med most mischievous nging round the head, extremely expert, being en these things were in air scheme was perhaps committed upon Orellana's officers, and being ho was a brutal fellow, retence of disobedience, ck, and quite stupified inly increased his thirst wo he and his followers resolves in the following

many of the principal indulging in the freshness g manned with its companions, having prepared their trowsers and other me all together on the door of the great cabin. or their presumption, and ch Orellana spoke to his when four of them drew nd the chief and six re- wly quitting the quarter- s had taken possession of his hands hollow to his ry of the savages, said to g of sounds. This hideous e massacre; upon which and brandished their pre- chief, and the six who re- deck, fell immediately on the

the Spaniards with whom they were intermingled, and in a very short space laid forty of them at their feet, above twenty of whom were killed on the spot, and the rest disabled.

In the beginning of the tumult, many of the officers rushed into the great cabin, where they put out the lights and barricaded the door; while of the others, who had escaped the first fury of the Indians, some endeavoured to escape along the gangways to the fore-castle, where the Indians, placed there on purpose, stabbed the greater part of them as they attempted to pass, or forced them off the gangways into the waste of the ship, which was filled with live cattle. Some threw themselves voluntarily over the barricades into the waste, and thought themselves fortunate to lie concealed among the cattle; but the greatest part escaped up the main-shrouds, and took shelter in the tops and rigging of the ship. Although the Indians only attacked the quarter-deck, yet the watch in the fore-castle, finding their communication cut off, and terrified by a few of the wounded who had been able to force their passage, and not knowing either who were their enemies, or what were their numbers, they also gave all over for lost, and in great confusion ran up into the rigging of the fore-mast and boltsprit.

Thus these eleven Indians, with a resolution perhaps without example, possessed themselves almost in an instant of the quarter-deck of a ship mounting sixty-six guns, and manned by near five hundred hands, and even continued in peaceable possession of this part for some time. During a considerable space, the officers in the great cabin, among whom were Pizarro and Mindinuetta, the crew between decks, and those who had escaped into the tops and rigging, were merely anxious for their own safety, and were incapable of forming any project for suppressing the insurrection and recovering the possession of the ship. The yells of the Indians, the groans of the wounded, and the confused clamours of the crew, all heightened by the darkness of the night, had at first greatly magnified the danger, and filled them with imaginary terrors. The Spaniards were sensible of the dissatisfaction of their impressed hands, and were conscious of their barbarity to their prisoners, wherefore they concluded that the conspiracy was general, and considered their own destruction as infallible; insomuch, that some are said to have designed to leap into the sea, but were prevented by their companions,

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