

A LUCKY SHOT.

Sometime since, when I was a young fellow of six-and-twenty, I was mate of a West Indian trading regularly to Nevis and St. Kitts.

We were on our homeward passage when the incident I am about to describe took place. I must premise that we had four passengers, two gentlemen and two ladies; the latter the wife and daughter of a planter, by name Carmichael.

We were twenty-one days out from Chatham, and notwithstanding that our old bark was by no means a fast one, we had made good progress, and was as near as possible in mid-ocean.

It was the end of July, and the weather had been of the most glorious description, and very hot; but, after the sultry heat of the tropics, we did not feel oppressive.

But Neph did not hear, or else paid no attention, and swam slowly on. "Give away, my lad! Scout is right; I can see their fins. Pull, my bonnies, pull!"

"Here, Neph! Neph!" cried Julia, excitedly. "Neph! Neph!" shrieked Julia. "Come back, come back!"

"Well done, my bonnie! Hurrah! Hurrah! We shall beat them yet!" I shouted. At that moment a puff of smoke burst from the ship's side.

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"What's that they are saying about sharks?" asked Mrs. Carmichael. "The captain is saying that there are plenty of them in these latitudes," I replied.

"How beautiful the old ship looks!" remarked Julia. "I never saw her to such advantage before."

"Neph! Neph!" shrieked Julia. "Come back, come back!" The dog evidently heard her, for he turned and began to swim back.

"Pull, my lads, pull for your lives!" I shouted, "or it will be all up with poor Neph." At this moment, the dog, seeing we were rapidly approaching him, relaxed his efforts.

"Well done, my bonnie! Hurrah! Hurrah! We shall beat them yet!" I shouted. At that moment a puff of smoke burst from the ship's side.

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Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including names like H. H. Thomson and J. J. Mersereau.