

TRIAL OF EDWARD AND MARGARET JORDAN 7

charged with *Murder, Piracy, and Robbery*, committed on the high seas.

The Registrar read the Allegation which contained six articles, viz.

The *First* charged, That *Edward Jordan*, late of Gaspé, in the Province of Lower Canada, Dealer, on the 13th day of September, in the 49th year of the King's reign, feloniously, wilfully, and of his malice aforethought, did kill and murder one *Thomas Heath*, a seaman belonging to the schooner *Three Sisters*, wherof *John Stairs* was then Master, with a Pistol, on board the said schooner, and on the high seas, where the Admiral or Admirals have power, authority, and jurisdiction; and that *Margaret Jordan*, the Wife of the said Edward Jordan was, then and there, aiding and assisting the said E. Jordan to commit the aforesaid murder.

The *second* article was the same as the first, except that it charged the murder to have been committed with an *axe*,

The *third* article charged the Prisoners, in the same manner as the first, with the murder of *Benjamin Matthews* a seaman belonging to the said schooner, with a *pistol*.

The *fourth* was the same as the preceding, except that it laid the murder to have been committed with an *axe*.

The *fifth* article charged that the prisoners, wickedly confederating with one *John Kelly*, to turn Pirates and Robbers, and to run away with the said schooner *Three Sisters*, under the command of one *John Stairs*, did in pursuance of the said confederacy, on or about the 10th day of September in the year aforesaid, embark at Gaspé, in the said schooner, as passengers, and being so embarked, did, on or about the 13th of September in the year aforesaid, *piratically and feloniously* take the command of the said schooner from the said *John Stairs*, against his will, and, having compelled him to leap into the sea, did, *piratically and feloniously*, run away with the said schooner and her cargo, against the will of their own use, against the statutes in that case made and provided.

The *sixth* article charged the prisoners, *generally* with having *piratically, and feloniously* stolen, taken, and run away with the said schooner and her cargo, against the will of the said *John Stairs*.

The Allegation being read, the Registrar was directed to issue an order to the Provost Marshall, to bring up the Bodies of Edward Jordan and Margaret Jordan; the order being delivered to the Provost Marshall, he returned, that he had the Prisoners ready in Court; He was then directed to place them at the Bar, which being done, they were arraigned by the Registrar upon the foregoing Allegations, to which they severally pleaded *Not Guilty*, and being asked when they would be ready for their trial, they named the following day.