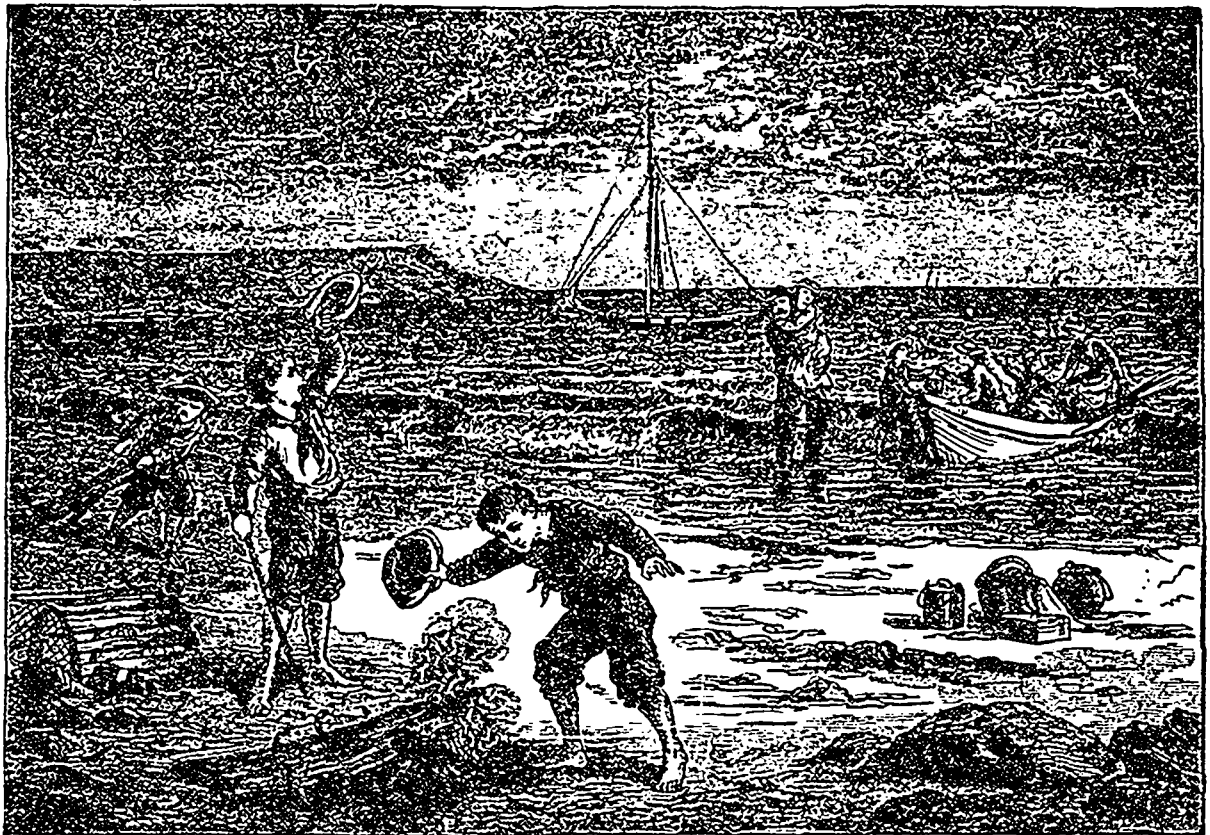


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A BEVY OF SCHOOL GIRLS IN CHARGE OF THE MASTER OF A YACHT.

NED DARROW;
OR,
THE YOUNG CASTAWAYS.
CHAPTER XXX.

SANDY FLAT.

THE place where Sandy Flat was located was half a day's journey by steamer down the coast, and the ensuing morning found Professor Ballentine, Mr. James, Ned, and the remainder of the school at the little village, near which lay the hundred-acre piece of land which constituted Ned's heritage.

The Professor selected a spot on the beach some distance from the town, and left some of the smaller boys in charge of the refreshments, allowing the older lads to visit at will the points of interest in the vicinity, and to report later in the day for dinner. The youngsters left behind at once entered into a barefoot race on the sand.

The occasion was destined to be a pleasant one, for a bevy of school girls, in charge of the master of a yacht, came to the beach shortly afterwards, and, being made completely at home by the young representatives of the Ridgeland grammar school, formed an agreeable addition to the picnic party.

At last, when the Professor, his brother, and Ned returned from a mysterious visit inland, the young ladies