

Treasure Island

金 银 岛

Robert Louis Stevenson

Syllabus designer: David Foulds

[注释] 张和龙

上海外语教育出版社

牛津大学出版社

图书在版编目 (CIP) 数据

上外—牛津英语分级读物. 第1级=Oxford Progressive English Reader / (美) 杰克·伦敦 (Jack London) 等著.
—上海: 上海外语教育出版社, 1998.3 (1999重印)
ISBN 7-81046-391-8

I. 上… II. 杰… III. 英语-语言读物, 文学
IV. H319.4: I

中国版本图书馆CIP数据核字 (1999) 第54458号

出版发行: 上海外语教育出版社
牛津大学出版社

(上海外国语大学内) 邮编: 200083

电话: 021-65425300 (总机), 65422031 (发行部)

电子邮箱: bookinfo@sflep.com.cn

网址: <http://www.sflep.com.cn> <http://www.sflep.com>

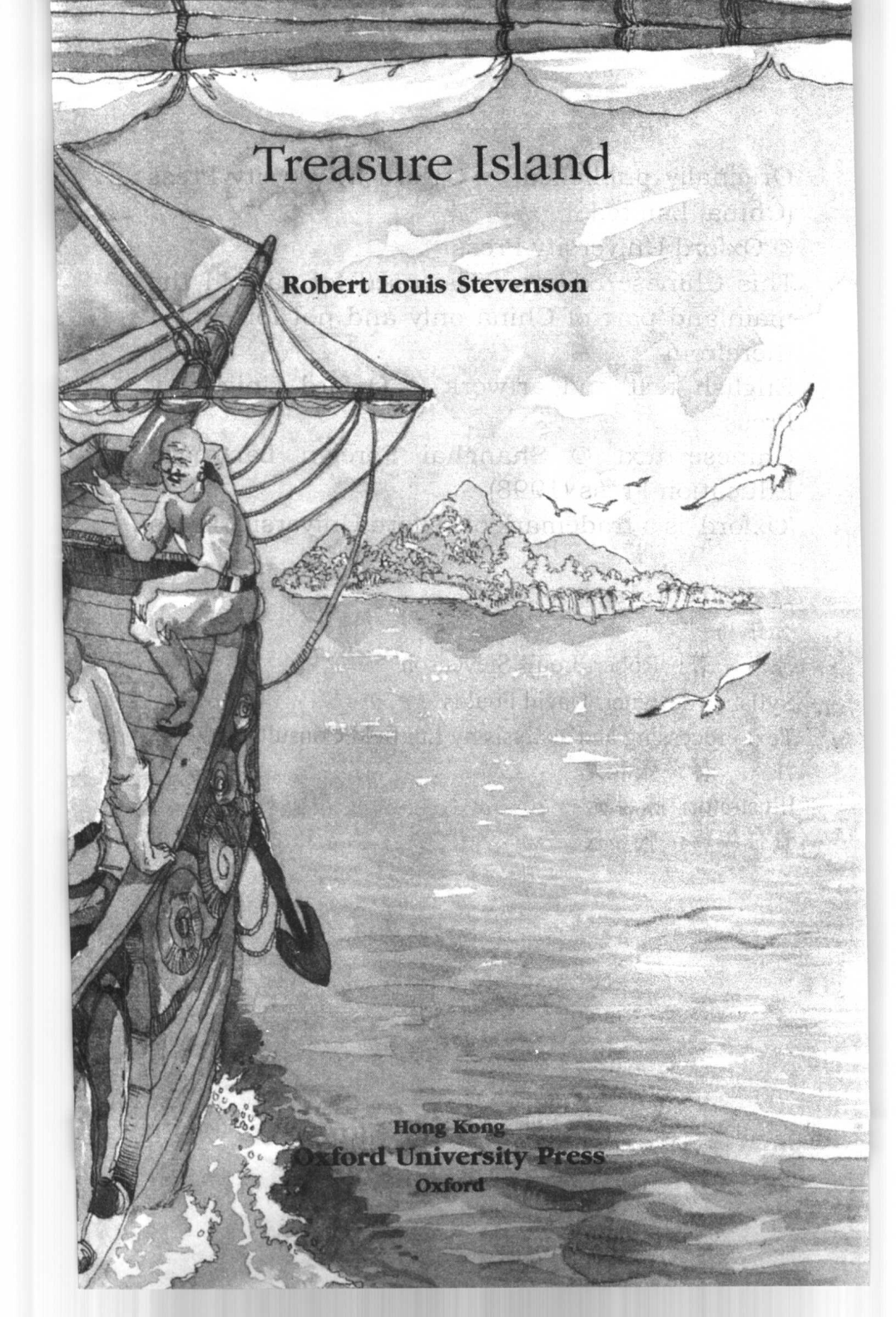
责任编辑: 张 宏

印刷: 常熟市印刷二厂
经销: 新华书店上海发行所
开本: 850×1092 1/32 印张 13.875 字数 340 千字
版次: 1998年3月第1版 2001年10月第7次印刷
印数: 10 000 册

书号: ISBN 7-81046-391-8 / G · 671
定价: 17.00 元

本版图书如有印装质量问题, 可向本社调换



A detailed black and white illustration of a pirate ship's deck. A man with a beard and a skull-and-crossbones on his shirt is perched on the railing, looking out at a distant, forested island. The ship's mast and rigging are visible on the left. The sea is choppy, and several seagulls are flying in the sky.

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Robert Louis Stevenson

Hong Kong

Oxford University Press

Oxford

Originally published by Oxford University Press
(China) Limited

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Press

Chinese text © Shanghai Foreign Language
Education Press (1998)

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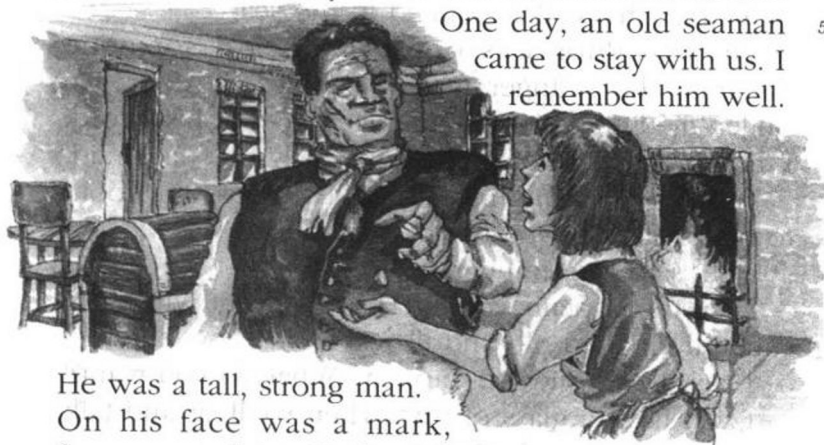


THE ADMIRAL BENBOW INN

The Captain

My name is Jim Hawkins. When I was a boy I lived with my mother and father in an inn called the Admiral Benbow. My father was the owner of the inn.

One day, an old seaman came to stay with us. I remember him well.



He was a tall, strong man.

On his face was a mark,

from a sword cut. He brought his sea chest with him.

This was a large wooden box. He kept it locked all the time. We called this rough old man 'the Captain'.

One morning the Captain spoke to me. He said he wanted me to watch for a seaman with one leg. As soon as I saw this man I had to tell the Captain. If I did this he would give me a silver coin every month.

In the winter a man did come. But not the man with a wooden leg.

This man looked very rough. He had only three fingers on his left hand. He carried a knife. I asked him what he wanted to drink. He said, 'Rum.'

Black Dog

I brought him some rum, and then he said, 'There is a man called "the Captain" staying here. I think he is my friend, Bill. Tell me, boy, is the Captain a tall, old
5 man, with a cut on his face?'

'Yes,' I said.

'Then he is Bill. Old Billy Bones. Is he in the house now?'

I told him that the Captain was out.

10 'Where?' he said. I pointed to the sea.

The inn door was open. We heard someone coming. The stranger waited behind the door. He pulled me behind it with him. He took out his sword. I thought he was going to kill me with it. I was afraid.

15 The Captain came in. He walked across the room to his breakfast. He did not see us.

'Bill,' said the stranger.

Then the Captain saw us. His face went white. He suddenly looked old and ill.

20 'Black Dog!' said the Captain. 'What do you want?'

'I will have a glass of rum. Then we'll sit and talk like old friends,' said the stranger.

I brought them their rum, and went out of the room.

25

The fight

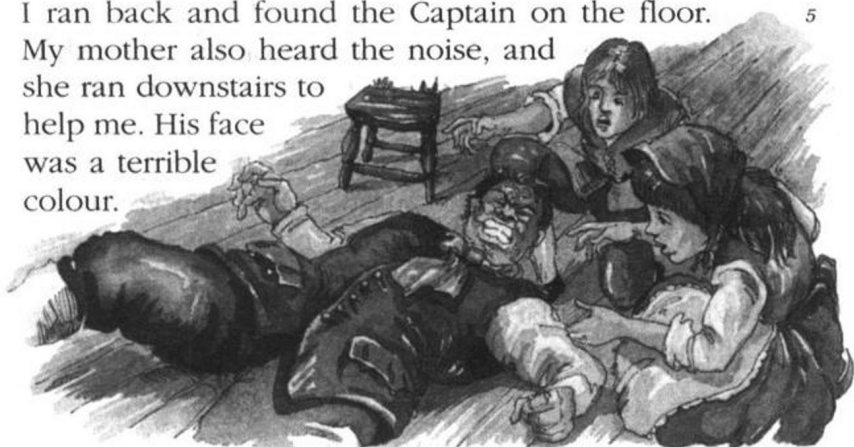
Suddenly, there was shouting and other noises. The chair and the table fell over. Then I heard a cry of pain. I saw Black Dog run away. On Black Dog's left arm there was a lot of blood.

30 'Jim,' the Captain said, 'bring me rum.' He looked very weak.

'Are you hurt?' I asked.

'Rum,' he said again. 'I must go away from here. Rum, rum.'

I ran out to find the rum. Then I heard a loud fall. I ran back and found the Captain on the floor. My mother also heard the noise, and she ran downstairs to help me. His face was a terrible colour.



Doctor Livesey was at the inn. He had come to visit my father who was very ill. 'Oh, doctor,' we said, 'what shall we do? Where is the Captain hurt?'

'Hurt!' said the doctor, 'He is not hurt. He just drinks too much rum. He's drunk!' The Captain tried to sit up. 'Where is Black Dog?' he shouted.

'There is no Black Dog here,' said the doctor. 'You have been drinking rum. Come, now, try to walk. I will help you to your bed.'

The black mark

At twelve o'clock I went to the Captain's room. I took him a cold drink and some medicine. He was on his bed. He looked weak, but excited.

'Did that doctor say how long I must stay in bed?' he asked.

'One week,' I said.

'No,' he shouted, 'a week! I can't do that. They will soon give me the black mark. Did you see that seaman today, Jim?'

'Black Dog?' I asked.

5 'Yes, Black Dog,' he said. 'He is bad but the seamen with him are worse. We all worked on the same ship once. Flint was the captain. I was the first mate. I was Flint's friend.

10 'They want my old wooden box. If they give me the black mark before I can go away, then you must go to that doctor. Tell him to bring many men here. They will have to fight those seamen.'

'What is the black mark, Captain?' I asked.

'It means something bad will happen, Jim.'

15

The blind beggar

Soon after that my father died. A few days later, at three o'clock in the afternoon, I was standing at the inn door. I was thinking about my father.

20 I saw someone coming slowly along the road. He was blind. He used a stick to help him find his way. He looked old and weak. He wore a big, old coat. He was ugly. He called out, 'Will any friend tell a poor blind man where he is?'

'You are at the Admiral Benbow inn,' I said.

25 'I hear a voice, a young voice,' he said. 'Will you give me your hand and lead me in?'

I gave my hand to this terrible blind person.

30 He held my hand very hard. I was afraid and tried to pull away. The blind man looked weak, but he was very strong. He pulled me closer.

'Now, boy,' he said, 'take me to Billy Bones, or I'll break your arm.' I was very afraid. We went into the

living room. I knew the Captain was sitting there, drinking rum. The blind man held me close to him with his strong arm.

The Captain dies

The poor Captain looked round and saw us. He 5
looked frightened. He tried to stand up.

'Bill,' said the blind beggar, 'I can't see you, but I can hear everything. Give me your right hand.'

I saw the blind man put something into the Captain's hand. 10

'And now that is done,' said the blind man. He went out of the inn. He moved quickly. I could hear the tap, tap, tapping of his stick.

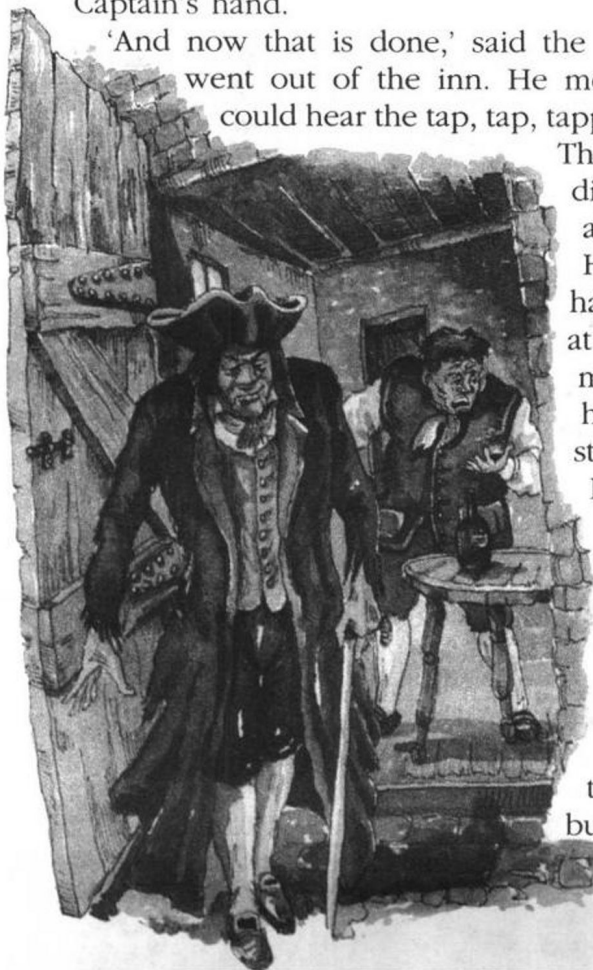
The Captain and I did not move for a few seconds. 15

He opened his hand. He looked at what the blind man had given him. Then he stood up quickly. 20

He put his hand on his throat.

He made a strange noise, and then fell on the floor. 25

I called my mother and ran to the Captain, but he was dead. 30

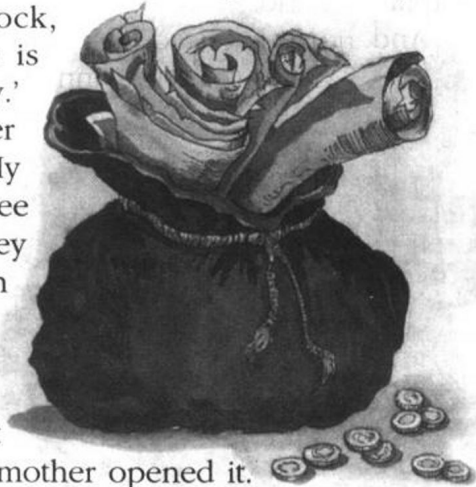


THE WOODEN BOX

The Captain's chest

Mother came in. We were both very afraid. I knelt down. On the floor, close to the Captain's hand, there was a piece of paper. It was black on one side. I
5 knew that this was the black mark. On the paper were these words: 'Ten o'clock, tonight.' 'The Captain had until ten o'clock, mother,' I said. 'It is just six o'clock now.'

10 The Captain never paid for his room. My mother wanted to see if he had any money in the old wooden
15 box. We found the key, then we went upstairs to his little bedroom. The chest was still there. My mother opened it.



20 At the bottom of the chest we found a cloth bag. Inside were papers, and some gold coins.

Mother began counting the money. We had counted half the money when I heard a noise. The blind man was coming back. He hit the inn door with
25 his stick. He tried to open it, but it was locked. Then it was quiet for a long time. A few minutes later we heard the tapping of his stick again. He was walking away.

Then we heard the noise of people coming down the hill. My mother was very frightened. We knew we had to run.

‘I’ll take this money,’ mother said, jumping up.

‘And I’ll take this,’ I said. I picked up the papers 5
in the cloth bag.

We went downstairs, opened the door and began to run.

Thieves

I wanted to know what was happening. I hid behind 10
a small tree, and from there I could see the inn.

Seven or eight men were running towards the inn. The blind man was coming along behind them.

‘Break open the door,’ he shouted.

Some of them went into the house. Two men 15
stayed on the road with the beggar. A voice called from the room upstairs.

‘Pew, they were here before us. Someone has opened the chest.’

‘Is it there?’ the blind man, Pew, shouted. 20

‘Some money is here,’ said the man.

‘I don’t want the money, I want that map.’

‘We can’t find it.’

Then Pew called to the man downstairs, ‘Has Bill got it in his pockets?’ 25

‘No, there is nothing here.’

‘The people who own the inn must have it. That boy, he has taken everything,’ said Pew. ‘Look for them. Find them.’

Suddenly there was the sound of someone calling 30
from the hill. Then I heard horses. The seamen came out and began to run away.

In half a minute only one man was left. It was Pew. He walked along the road, tapping his stick and calling to his friends. He shouted and ran when he heard the horses, but he fell down. Quickly, he got
5 up again, but he was not fast enough. A horse ran over him.

The men on the horses stopped because of Pew. Pew was dead. 'I must go and tell Dr Livesey about this,' one of the men said.

10 'Can I come?' I asked. I wanted to show the doctor the papers I had taken from the Captain's wooden box.

At Squire Trelawney's house

We rode quickly all the way. Dr Livesey was not at
15 home. He had gone to visit Squire Trelawney, so we went to the squire's house.

When we arrived, one of the squire's servants led us through a long hall. We went into a big room with a lot of books in it. Dr Livesey and the squire were
20 sitting there by the fire.

The squire was a big man. He had an honest face. 'Come in, Mr Dance,' the squire said to the man.

'Good evening, Mr Dance,' said the doctor. 'And good evening to you, Jim, my friend. Good to see
25 you.'

Mr Dance told the squire and the doctor his story. The two gentlemen listened and looked at each other. They were surprised and interested.

'Mr Dance,' said the squire. 'You are a very brave
30 man. And you are a brave boy, too, Jim.'

Mr Dance left. The doctor said to me, 'Jim, do you have the papers they were looking for?'

'Here they are, sir,' I said. I gave him the cloth bag.

'Do you know who Flint was?' asked the doctor.

'Of course,' said the squire. 'He and his seamen were very evil men. They attacked many ships. They killed many people and stole much treasure. Flint was the worst pirate ever.'

'So you think he had some money, then?' the doctor asked.

'Money,' shouted the squire, 'Of course he did. All pirates have money.'

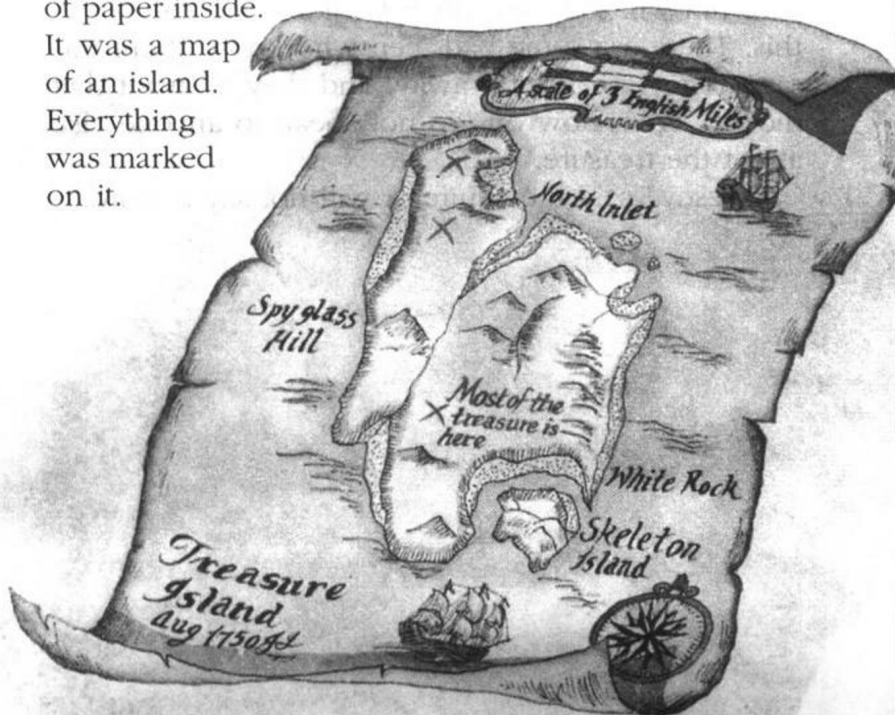
'Well,' said the doctor, 'this cloth bag has something important in it. It will tell us where to find Flint's money.'

The Captain's papers

The doctor opened the bag. He found a large piece of paper inside.

It was a map of an island.

Everything was marked on it.



The names of the hills and the harbours. The island was nine miles long, and five miles wide. There were two good harbours and a hill in the centre called 'Spy-glass Hill'. The most important things were three
5 red crosses. Two of them were on the north of the island. The other one was in the south-west. Beside it someone had written in red ink: 'Most of the treasure is here.'

'Livesey,' said the squire. 'We must look for this
10 treasure. Tomorrow I will go to Bristol. In three weeks' time we will have the best ship in England and the best sailors, too. Jim can come. He will be cabin-boy. You, Livesey, will be the ship's doctor, and I will be the admiral. Three of my servants, Redruth,
15 Joyce and Hunter, will come with us. It will be easy to find the treasure. And we'll all be rich.'

'Squire,' said the doctor, 'I'll go with you, and I'm sure Jim will too. But, do not tell anyone else about this. There are some bad men who know about this
20 map. They are not far away, and they all want that money. From now on, do not speak to anyone else about the treasure.'

'Livesey,' said the squire, 'I will not say a word.'

I GO TO BRISTOL

The Hispaniola

We waited many weeks. Then, one day, a letter arrived. It was to Dr Livesey and Redruth. Doctor Livesey was away in London. Redruth could not read, 5
so I opened the letter and read it for him. This is what the letter said:

*Old Anchor Inn,
Bristol, March 1, 17—*

Dear Dr Livesey, 10
I have bought a ship. She is in the harbour and ready to go to sea. She is a good ship, but not very large. Her name is the Hispaniola.

Everyone here was most interested when I said we were going to look for treasure. 15

‘Redruth,’ I said, ‘the doctor will not like that. The squire has told people about the treasure.’ I read more of the letter:

*At first, no-one would join the crew of our ship. I wanted twenty sailors, to help fight 20
pirates. Then, one day, I was lucky. I met a man who was once a sailor, but now he has a small inn. He said he knew all the sailors in Bristol. This man helped me find twenty men. Most of 25
them are very ugly, but they all look strong and brave.*