

A WOMAN CRUSOE

She Was Cast Upon a Desert Island and Lived There For Four Years.

On the 26th day of October, A. D. 1871, the trading schooner Little King sailed out of the port of Singapore, bound for the Kinderon islands, to the north, and only one of her crew was ever again met with. For five years before the schooner had belonged to and been commanded by Captain Ezra Williams, an American from San Francisco. He traded between Singapore and Sumatra, Java, Borneo and the smaller islands of the Java sea, and in May, 1874, died at Singapore of fever. He had then been married for three years to an English woman, whose maiden name was Danforth, who had been a domestic in an English family in Singapore. She had accompanied him in all his voyages and had secured much experience and information. As she could not readily dispose of the schooner, she determined to continue in the business, acting as her own supercargo.

Mrs. Williams secured an Englishman named Parker as captain, another named Hope as mate, and with three Malays before the mast and a Chinese cook and with about \$7,000 in specie in the cabin she sailed away on her first voyage, and it was four years later before she was again heard of. The purpose of this narrative is to chronicle her adventures in the interim as I had them from her own lips.

While it was a bit queer to start on a voyage with a woman virtually in command of the craft, Mrs. Williams had nothing to fear from her crew. The officers were good navigators, and the men were willing, and all were anxious for a profitable voyage. She had no complaints to make until the islands had been reached. The group lies between the Malay peninsula and the island of Borneo, about 100 miles off the coast of the former and from 250 to 300 miles from Borneo. There are 19 islands in the group, covering a length of 120 miles by about 40 broad. There are only seven or eight which are inhabited, and at the time of which I write the people were a lawless set and a share of them out and out pirates.

The products were dried fish, sea-shells, cocoanuts, dyestuffs, various herbs and roots for medicinal purposes and several sorts of spices. The schooner had been there once before and made a profitable trip of it. She had clothing, powder, shoes, axes and a great variety of notions, and where none of these was wanted she paid cash.

On this trip the schooner worked to the northward and made her stop at the island of Quewang, being the third one from the northernmost island of the group. She met with a cordial reception and at once began bartering for and receiving cargo. She was anchored in a sheltered bay within 500 feet of the beach and had been there five days before anything occurred to arouse Mrs. Williams' suspicions that all was not right. She then observed that the entire crew were drinking deeply of a native liquor which the natives were supplying in a liberal manner and that some of the fellows were becoming impudently familiar.

When the captain was spoken to, he laughed at her idea of trouble and promised better things, but the drinking continued. On the afternoon of the seventh day several women came off in the canoes. One of them who could speak English pretty fairly was presented with some ornaments by Mrs. Williams, and in return she hinted to her that it was the intention of the natives to capture and loot the schooner that night. They had discovered that there was a large sum of money on board, and they had found the crew an easy one to handle. The native woman hadn't time or opportunity to say much, but no sooner had the crowd of natives left the schooner at dusk, as was their custom, than Mrs. Williams set out to sound the alarm. Imagine her feelings when she discovered that every single man on board, from captain to cook, was so much under the influence of liquor as to be unable to comprehend her words. She doused them with sea water and pounded them with belaying pins, but all to no purpose. The entire lot were stupidly drunk, just as the natives had planned for.

It was a perilous situation for the woman to be placed in. If the natives captured the schooner, they would murder every one of the crew as a natural sequence, and the first step toward capturing her had already been taken. The step she took showed sound judgment. The schooner's yawl was down, having been in almost hourly use. The native village was about 40 rods back from the beach, and as the schooner

swung to the ebb tide she presented her broadside to the village. When the yawl was pulled around to the port side, she was out of sight. Mrs. Williams' first act was to step the mast, her next to supply the craft with provisions and water. There were an unusual number of lights burning in the village, showing that something was on foot, but she had no fear of an attack until a later hour. The natives would wait until certain that all the people were helpless.

Mrs. Williams had determined to slip away from the doomed craft in the yawl, although she had no experience in the management of a small boat. After water and provisions she brought up all her money, which was in boxes she could handle. Not a penny of it was left behind. There were a rifle, revolver and double barreled shotgun belonging to her husband. These she took, together with powder, shot and fixed ammunition. Then she gathered up all her bedding and clothing, took three or four spare blankets, two suits of clothes belonging to the officers, and when these were in the boat she took pots, pans, dishes and cutlery and bundled up a lot of carpenter's tools, secured two axes, a lot of small rope, several pieces of canvas and, in brief, loaded the yawl with whatever was portable and handy, including the clock, compass, quadrant, sextant and a lamp and four gallons of oil. She worked for upward of two hours getting these things into the boat, and the last articles taken aboard were meat, flour, beans, tea and other provisions from the lazarette.

It was about 10 o'clock when Mrs. Williams took her seat in the yawl and cast off from the schooner, and the tide at once drifted her out of the bay to the north. The only thing of consequence she had forgotten was a chart of the Java sea, which she could have put her hand on at a minute's notice, and it was the want of this which made her a Crusoe for several years.

As the yawl went to sea after its own fashion, Mrs. Williams lost the points of the compass at once. Indeed, had she kept them in mind it would have been of no benefit just then, as she had not studied the chart and could not have told which way to steer to reach another group or the mainland. She heard nothing whatever from the natives, but several years later it was ascertained that they did not board the schooner until midnight. The men, all of whom were still drunk and asleep, were stripped and tossed overboard to drown, and then the absence of the woman and her money was discovered. Five or six native craft were at once sent in pursuit, while the people who remained looted the schooner of everything of value to them and then towed her out to deep water and scuttled her to hide the evidences of their crime.

After drifting three or four miles out to sea the yawl got a light breeze, and after a few trials the woman learned how to manage the sail and lay a course. She had no idea which way she was heading, but ran off before the breeze and kept going all night and until midafternoon the next day. She must have passed the island of Upung in the early morning, but so far to the westward that she could not see it. The wind, hauling at midforenoon, altered her course by several points, and the northernmost island of the group, named Poillo, was thus brought in line. The island is seven miles long by three in width at its widest part and well wooded and watered.

The woman landed on the east side at the mouth of a creek which forms a snug little harbor. She was convinced that this was one of the islands of the Kinderon group, but she did not know that it was the most northerly one. By consulting the compass she got the cardinal points; but, not having studied the chart, she could not say in what direction any other land lay. She had seen the sails of two traders that morning, but as they were native craft she had every wish to avoid them. The boats which were sent in pursuit of her must have taken another course, as she saw nothing of them.

When Mrs. Williams landed on the island, she had no idea of stopping there for more than a day or two or until she could decide on some plan. She had scarcely gone ashore when a gale came up which lasted about 30 hours, during which the yawl was so damaged that she must undergo repairs. She unloaded her goods on the shore, covered them from the weather and then set out to explore the island, pretty well satisfied that it was inhabited and hoping, if it was, that her money might secure assistance. Before night she was satisfied that she was all alone, and she made a shelter out of the blankets and slept the night away as peacefully as if in her cabin on the schooner. Next day she exchanged her apparel for a man's suit and began the erection of a hut. In

a grove about 200 feet from the beach she erected a shelter 10 by 20 feet which withstood the storms of almost four years. While the sides consisted of canvas and poles, the roof was thatched with a long grass which she found on the island in abundance.

It took the woman about a week to construct her hut and move her stores into it, and this had scarcely been done when her boat, owing to carelessness on her part, was carried off by the sea, and she now realized that she was a prisoner until such time as the crew of some trading vessel might land and discover her. After her house was completed she made a more thorough exploration of her island home. There were parrots and other birds, snakes of a harmless variety, Borneo rats and a drove of about 300 Java pigs, which are about the size of the American peccary, but are wild instead of fierce.

The woman had clothing to last her five or six years, but the provisions she had brought from the schooner would not supply her needs more than a few months. While hoping and expecting to be taken off almost any day, she wisely prepared for a long stay. She had fish hooks and lines in her outfit, and with fish from the sea, meat from the woods and bananas and wild fruits from the groves she had a variety and a plenty. Six months after she landed a native craft put in about a mile from her hut; but, creeping through the woods, she saw that all were Malays and so savage in appearance that she did not dare make herself known. Seven months later a second craft sent men ashore to fill two water casks, but she was also afraid of these. She lived very quietly from that time until nearly two years after her landing, having remarkably good health all the time, but naturally lonely and cast down at times.

One afternoon as she was in the forest, about half a mile from home, having her shotgun with her, a Borneo sailor suddenly confronted her. He was entirely alone, and whether he had been marooned or cast away she never learned. As she was dressed in a man's suit he naturally took her for a man, but his first movement was a hostile one. He advanced upon the woman with a club in his hand and uttering shouts of menace, and to save her own life she was compelled to shoot him.

Now and then, all through her stay, trading vessels were sighted in the offing, and sometimes a craft known to be manned by Englishmen, but signals made to the latter by means of smoke were never heeded. Her main hope was that the loss of the schooner would in some way reach her friends at Singapore and that a searching party might be sent out to her rescue.

One day, when she had been on the island four years lacking about 50 days, the British survey ship Sahib, then engaged in resurveying the group, dropped anchor off the mouth of the creek and sent a party ashore to explore the interior. I had the honor not only to head this party, but to be the first man to see and to speak to Mrs. Williams. We found her in excellent health, although tanned and roughened by exposure to the weather. When she had donned her own proper apparel and had time to tidy up, no one could find fault with her appearance.

After a few days we sailed for Singapore, where Mrs. Williams was safely landed, and a few weeks later a man-of-war was dispatched to the island where the schooner had been seized. Natives were found who gave all the particulars, and the result was that eight men were brought aboard, tried, convicted and swung up at the yardarm, while three more were shot while trying to escape from the island.

Wordy Coleridge.

Coleridge's verbosity is illustrated by himself in a letter among the Blackwood correspondence. While in the company of his friend and faithful host, Dr. Gilman, he had a fainting fit. His first words on recovering from it were: "What a mystery we are! What a problem is presented in the strange contrast between the imperishability of our thoughts and the perishable, fugacious nature of our consciousness!" Then he heard his friend say, "Thank heaven, it is not apoplexy!" Conceive a man's pouring out this stream of words—and such long ones—on recovering from a fit!

On the Bench.

"Your friends call you 'judge,' do they not?" asked the lawyer, frowning heavily at the witness.
"Yes, sir," the witness replied.
"No particular reason for calling you that, is there?"
"Well, sir, you may not believe it, but before I came to this state I held an honorable and responsible position on the bench for 18 years."
"Where?"
"In a shoemaker's shop, sir."—Exchange.

LABOR OF LUNATICS.

Useful Work Performed by Inmates of Insane Asylums.

To find a land where lunatics are successful artisans, tillers of the soil and builders of railways one needs to travel no farther than to Willard, in Seneca county, N. Y. In the Willard State Hospital for the Insane the inmates make their own clothing and shoes, manufacture brooms and tinware and perform much of the ordinary labor of the institution. They work the farm of 1,200 acres which is connected with the institution and raise all the food necessary for the hundreds of patients there, besides putting up enough canned fruit to supply all the other state insane asylums. But the greatest work performed by the patients at Willard was the building of the railroad which connects it with the Lehigh Valley road, six miles distant. Nearly all of the actual work in the building of this railway was done by the lunatics and done well. This idea of giving to the inmates of the institution steady work, and as much of it as possible outdoors, has had a beneficial effect upon them.

In the Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane the inmates do some creditable work in modeling in clay, producing pottery and busts of really good workmanship and artistic design. In Great Britain and some other European countries a system of reasonable work for the inmates of insane asylums has been introduced with excellent results.

The first institution for the treatment of insanity as a disease was established in this country through the efforts of Benjamin Franklin in 1751. England had no such institution until 41 years later, and France followed 43 years later. Great changes have been made in the treatment of the insane in the last 50 years. Half a century ago 40 per cent of the patients were under physical restraint. Now it is said that there are only about 1 per cent so restrained.—New York Press.

East Indian Superstitions.

Hare's Blood useful for young infant. When young one attacked with ague, the blood and some mother's milk mixed together and given to drink to the infant the sickness will go.

Black monkey is useful for magic. The monkey will be killed on Sunday. Drink a little blood, take off the skin and make to cap. The magic could not touch that man.

Peacock's leg useful for deaf man. It may be boiled with oil, and when any person could not hear the sound the oil will be dropped a little into the ear, and man will be cured.

Owl useful for a woman. This will be killed on Monday. Take out both eyes. The left will be burned and the right as well. Keep the dust of the right, throw some of the dust on a woman's garments, and she will love you, and when you want to be clear of her throw dust of left eye, and she will leave off by pronouncing some magic words.—Oriental Sporting Magazine.

The Turk and His Beard.

The Turks esteem the beard as the most noble ornament of the male sex and consider it more infamous for any one to have his beard cut off than to be publicly whipped, pilloried or branded with a red-hot iron. Almost any orthodox Turk would prefer being put to death rather than have his beard removed from his face. In that country to pull or irreverently handle the beard is an insult which can only be avenged by taking the life of the person who is rash enough to commit such a crime or for the Turk to lose his own in making the attempt to call the offender to account. Turkish wives kiss their husbands' beards and children their father's as often as they come for the customary salute.

Hands In Repose.

One of the most common signs of want of good breeding is a sort of uncomfortable consciousness of the hands, an obvious ignorance of what to do with them and a painful awkwardness in their adjustment. The hands of a gentleman seem perfectly at home without being occupied. They are habituated to elegant repose, or if they spontaneously move it is attractively.

Some of Queen Elizabeth's courtiers made playing with the sword-hilt an accomplishment, and the most efficient weapon of the Spanish toquette is her fan.

Pure Water.

Comparatively few persons have ever seen absolutely pure water. Even rainwater, which is the nearest common approximation to it, is far from reaching the absolute standard, and though it is good for washing, not many persons would care to drink it. Spring water is popularly supposed to be pure, but it always contains more or less of earthy or saline substances. Indeed the value of most springs is due to this fact.



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NOTICE!

The undersigned having qualified as Administrator of the estate of Aquilla Narron, deceased, all persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same to me duly verified on or before the 29th day of April, 1902, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery and all persons indebted to said estate will make immediate payment.

This 20th day of April, 1901. CLAUDE L. NARRON, Administrator.

JNO. A. NARRON, Attorney. Apr 20—6w-pd.

NOTICE.

The undersigned having qualified as Administrator on the estate of Patsy Jones, deceased, all persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same to me duly verified on or before the 19th day of April, 1902, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery and all persons indebted to said estate will make immediate payment.

This 15th day of April, 1901. W. F. GERALD, Administrator.

Apr 19—pd.

NOTICE!

The undersigned having qualified as administrator on the estate of C. R. Pearce, deceased, all persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same to me duly verified on or before the 19th day of May, 1902, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery and all persons indebted to said estate will make immediate payment.

This 7th day of May, 1901. D. H. WALLACE, Administrator.

May 10—6wp.

NOTICE OF INCORPORATION.

NORTH CAROLINA. Johnston County. Notice is hereby given that the Secretary of State on the 8th day of April 1901 issued a certificate of incorporation to W. M. Sanders, W. L. Woodall and others under the name and for the purpose, etc., as follows:

1. Name: Smithfield Improvement Co.
2. Place of business: Smithfield, N. C.
3. Purpose: To erect hotel and buy and sell real estate.
4. Existence: Sixty years.
5. Capital stock: \$50,000 to commence when \$5,000 is subscribed.
6. Value per share: \$100.

W. S. STEVENS, C. S. C.

NOTICE!

The undersigned having qualified as executor on the estate of George B. Bridges, deceased, all persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same to me duly verified on or before the 17th day of May, 1902, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery and all persons indebted to said estate will make immediate payment.

This 15th day of May, 1901. ANDERSON GOWER, Ex.

P. O. Lemay, N. C. M 17—6w.

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(Condensed Schedule.)

TRAINS GOING SOUTH.

| Dated January 13, 1901. | No. 87 daily | No. 85 daily | No. 83 daily | No. 81 daily | No. 79 daily |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Lv Weldon | A M 11:50 | P M 8:58 | A M 7:00 | P M 4:00 | P M 2:00 |
| Ar Rocky Mt. | 1:00 | 9:52 | 7:10 | 4:10 | 2:10 |
| Lv Tarboro | 12:21 | 9:00 | 7:30 | 4:20 | 2:30 |
| Lv Rocky Mt. | 1:05 | 10:02 | 8:37 | 5:15 | 12:52 |
| Lv Wilson | 1:50 | 10:40 | 9:15 | 5:57 | 2:40 |
| Lv Selma | 2:55 | 11:18 | 9:50 | 6:30 | 3:10 |
| Lv Fayetteville | 4:30 | 12:35 | 10:55 | 7:15 | 3:40 |
| Ar Florence | 7:25 | 2:40 | 11:30 | 7:45 | 4:10 |
| Ar Goldsboro | 8:00 | 3:10 | 12:00 | 8:15 | 4:40 |
| Lv Magnolia | 8:45 | 3:55 | 12:45 | 8:55 | 5:10 |
| Ar Wilmington | 9:30 | 4:40 | 1:30 | 9:30 | 6:00 |

TRAINS GOING NORTH.

| Dated July 22, 1899. | No. 75 daily | No. 73 daily | No. 71 daily | No. 69 daily | No. 67 daily |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Lv Florence | A M 9:30 | P M 7:45 | A M 6:00 | P M 4:15 | P M 2:30 |
| Lv Fayetteville | 12:15 | 9:30 | 7:45 | 6:00 | 4:15 |
| Lv Selma | 1:50 | 10:15 | 8:30 | 6:45 | 5:00 |
| Ar Wilson | 2:45 | 11:10 | 9:25 | 7:40 | 5:55 |
| Lv Wilmington | 3:30 | 12:00 | 10:15 | 8:30 | 6:45 |
| Lv Magnolia | 4:15 | 12:45 | 11:00 | 9:15 | 7:30 |
| Lv Goldsboro | 5:00 | 1:30 | 11:45 | 10:00 | 8:15 |
| Lv Rocky Mt. | 6:00 | 2:30 | 12:45 | 11:00 | 9:15 |
| Lv Tarboro | 7:00 | 3:30 | 1:45 | 12:00 | 10:15 |
| Lv Fayetteville | 8:00 | 4:30 | 2:45 | 1:00 | 11:15 |
| Lv Selma | 9:00 | 5:30 | 3:45 | 2:00 | 12:15 |
| Ar Rocky Mt. | 10:00 | 6:30 | 4:45 | 3:00 | 1:15 |
| Lv Tarboro | 11:00 | 7:30 | 5:45 | 4:00 | 2:15 |
| Lv Fayetteville | 12:00 | 8:30 | 6:45 | 5:00 | 3:15 |
| Lv Selma | 1:00 | 9:30 | 7:45 | 6:00 | 4:15 |
| Lv Wilmington | 2:00 | 10:30 | 8:45 | 7:00 | 5:15 |
| Lv Magnolia | 3:00 | 11:30 | 9:45 | 8:00 | 6:15 |
| Lv Goldsboro | 4:00 | 12:30 | 10:45 | 9:00 | 7:15 |

Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, Yadkin Division Main Line. Train leaves Wilmington 9:00 a. m., arrives Fayetteville 12:05 p. m., leaves Fayetteville 12:25 p. m., arrives Sanford 1:45 p. m., returning leave Sanford 3:05 p. m., arrive Fayetteville 4:25 p. m., leave Fayetteville 4:30 p. m., arrives Wilmington 9:25 p. m.

Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, Beaufortville Branch.—Train leaves Beaufortville 8:06 a. m., Maxton 9:16 a. m., Hope Mills 10:26 a. m., Parkton 10:41 a. m., Hope Mills 10:56 a. m., arrives Fayetteville 11:10. Returning leaves Fayetteville 4:45 p. m., Hope Mills 5:00 p. m., Park Springs 5:43 p. m., Maxton 6:16 p. m., arrives Beaufortville 7:15 p. m.

Connections at Fayetteville with train No. 75, at Maxton with the Carolina Central Railroad, at Red Springs with the Red Springs and Bowmore railroad, at Sanford with the Seaboard Air Line and Southern Railway, at Gulf with the Durham and Charlotte Railroad.

Train on the Scotland Neck Branch Road leaves Weldon 9:35 p. m., Halifax 4:17 p. m., arrives Scotland Neck 6:08 p. m., Greenville 6:57 p. m., Kinston 7:55 p. m., returning leaves Kinston 7:00 a. m., Greenville 8:22 a. m., arriving Halifax at 11:18 a. m., Weldon 11:33 a. m., daily except Sunday.

Trains on Washington Branch leaves Washington 8:10 a. m. and 2:30 p. m., arrives Parmele 9:20 a. m. and 4:30 p. m., returning leave Parmele 9:25 a. m. and 5:30 p. m., arrive Washington 11:00 a. m. and 7:00 p. m. daily except Sunday.

Train leaves Tarboro daily except Sunday at 5:30 p. m., Sunday 4:15 p. m., arrives Plymouth 7:40 p. m., 6:10 p. m., returning leaves Plymouth daily except Sunday, 7:50 a. m. and Sunday 9:00 a. m., arrives Tarboro 10:10 a. m., 11:00 a. m.

Train on Midland, N. C., Branch leaves Goldsboro daily except Sunday 5:00 a. m., arrive Smithfield 6:10 a. m., returning leave Smithfield 7:00 a. m., arrive Goldsboro 8:25 a. m.

Trains on Nashville Branch leave Rocky Mount at 9:30 a. m., 3:40 p. m., arrive Nashville 10:30 a. m., 4:05 p. m., Spring Hope 11:00 a. m., 4:25 p. m., returning leave Spring Hope 11:25 a. m., 4:55 p. m., Nashville 11:45 a. m., 5:25 p. m., arrive at Rocky Mount 12:25 a. m., 6 p. m., daily ex. Sunday.

Train on Clinton Branch leaves Warsaw for Clinton daily except Sunday 11:40 a. m. and 4:42 p. m., returning leaves Clinton at 6:45 a. m. and 2:50 p. m.

Train No. 75 makes close connection at Weldon for all points North daily. All rail via Richmond.

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