

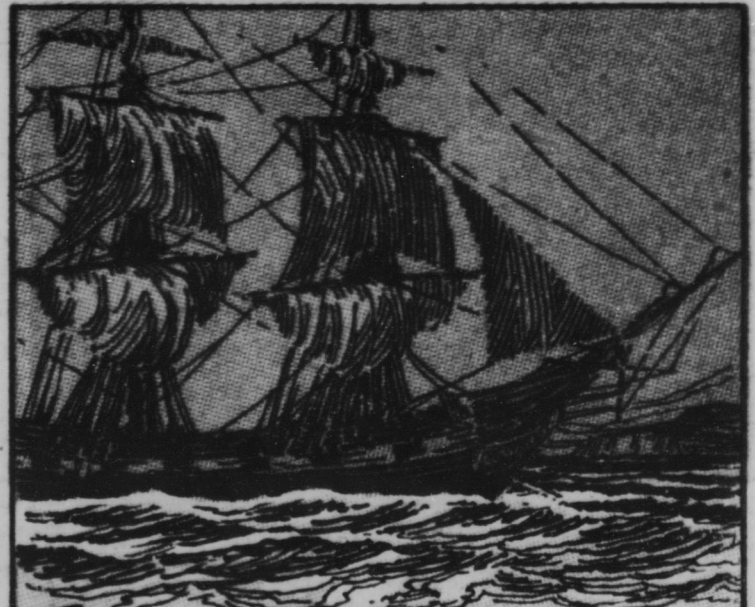
DECKS AWASH

American Naval Heroes
PAUL JONES Part 7

by AUGUSTUS J. ROBINSON

HE REPORTS THAT HAD REACHED CAPT. JONES OF BRITISH BARBARITY ALONG THE AMERICAN COAST—THE BURNING OF PORTLAND AND FALMOUTH, AND THE TRIBUTE LEVIED ON SEAPORT TOWNS—HAD AROUSED IN HIM A DETERMINATION TO STRIKE A RETALIATORY BLOW.

HE "RANGER" WAS IN THE VICINITY OF WHITEHAVEN WHERE JONES DECIDED HE WOULD AGAIN ATTEMPT TO DESTROY THE SHIPPING IN THAT PORT.



HE "RANGER" ANCHORED OFF THE BAR AND JONES SELECTED 30 MEN FOR THE LANDING PARTY. THEY WERE DIVIDED INTO TWO BOAT-LOADS, JONES COMMANDING ONE AND LT. WALLINGSFORD THE OTHER.



BEFORE DAYLIGHT AND WITH MUFFLED OARS, THE AMERICANS MADE FOR THE SHORE. WALLINGSFORD WAS SENT TO DESTROY SHIPPING AT THE NORTH, WHILE JONES LANDED CLOSE TO THE TOWN. IT IS SAID OVER 200 VESSELS, GREAT AND SMALL, LAY IN WHITEHAVEN HARBOR AT THAT TIME.



THE TOWN WAS GUARDED BY TWO PARTS OF 15 GUNS EACH. JONES AND HIS PARTY MADE FOR THE NEAREST ONE—THE SENTINELS WERE OVERPOWERED AND THE GARRISON LOCKED IN THE GUARD-HOUSE, THEN ALL THE GUNS WERE SPIKED. THE OTHER PORT WAS TAKEN IN LIKE MANNER.



WHEN JONES AND HIS MEN REACHED THE CLUSTER OF SHIPPING THEIR TORCHES WERE BURNED OUT AND USELESS. IT WAS JONES HIMSELF WHO RUSHED INTO A NEARBY HOUSE AND SNATCHED A FIRE-BRAND FROM THE FIREPLACE.



LED BY JONES, THE AMERICANS BOARDED A LARGE MERCHANTMAN AND QUICKLY STARTED FIRES IN THE HOLD AND ON DECK. JONES SEIZED A MUSKET AND BROKE OPEN A BARREL OF TAR. OLD CANVAS, SEA CHESTS, BOXES AND SPARS WERE TOSSED ON THE FIRE, AND BEFORE LONG, THE FLAMES WERE LEAPING INTO THE RIGGING. WHEN THE GREAT SHIP WAS BLAZING LIKE A HUGE TORCH, JONES AND HIS MEN WITHDREW.



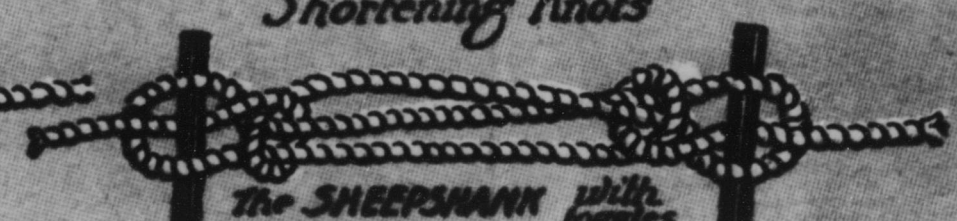
THE PEOPLE OF THE TOWN RUSHED IN CROWDS TO THE WHARF. JONES STOOD BETWEEN THEM AND THE BURNING SHIP, AND, WITH PISTOL IN HAND ORDERED THEM TO STAND BACK, WHICH THEY DID—A REMARKABLE INSTANCE OF THE POWER OF ONE RESOLUTE MAN OVER A MOB. WHEN HE ENTERED HIS BOAT AND ROWED AWAY—LEAVING BEHIND HIM A BLAZING HULK AND AN ENRAGED PEOPLE.

SAILOR'S KNOTS

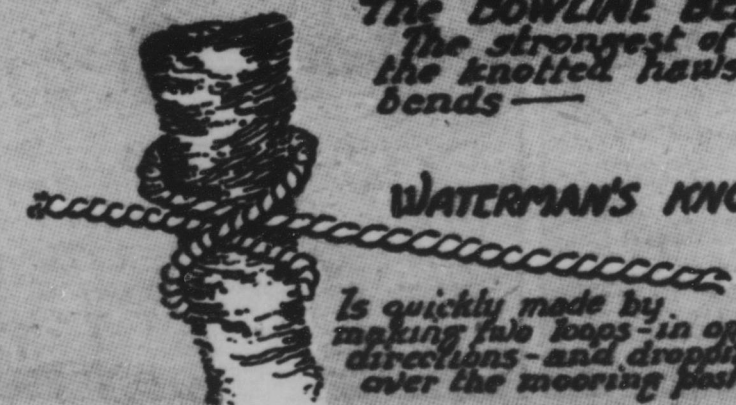
Shortening Knots



The DOWLINE BEND
The strongest of all bends—

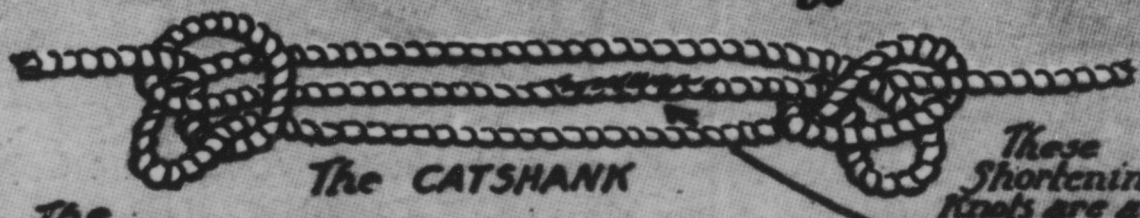


The SHEEPSHANK with toggles



WATERMAN'S KNOT

Is quickly made by making two loops—in opposite directions—and dropping them over the mooring post.



The DOGSHANK

The CATSHANK

These Shortening Knots are also used for taking the strain off a damaged part of a rope.