

# DECKS AWASH

American Naval Heroes

by AUGUSTUS J. ROBINSON

THE FAMILY PLATE SEIZED BY THE CREW OF THE "RANGER" FROM THE CASTLE OF LORD SELKIRK WAS VALUED AT £500

Be it said to the credit of PAUL JONES

FEW WEEKS LATER WHEN THE BOOTY WAS PUT UP FOR SALE BY THE PRIZE-AGENTS, PAUL JONES HIMSELF BOUGHT THE PLATE AND RETURNED IT TO LORD SELKIRK.



AFTER HIS DESCENT UPON THE ISLE OF ST. MARY'S PAUL JONES CRUISED ALONG THE SCOTTISH COAST AND ON THE MORNING OF APRIL 24, 1778 THE "RANGER" MOVED TO IN THE BAY OFF BELFAST, IRELAND.

ONES WELL KNEW THAT THE "DRAKE" A FRIGATE OF 20 GUNS LAY AT ANCHOR IN THE HARBOR.



CAPT. BURDON OF THE "DRAKE" OBSERVED THE STRANGER IN THE BAY — AND HAVING HEARD OF THE DEPREDACTIONS OF THE "RANGER" — HE SENT OUT AN OFFICER IN A BOAT TO EXAMINE THE STRANGE CRAFT.



WHEN THE ENGLISH OFFICER CLIMBERED UP THE LADDER AND VAULTED THE TAFFRAIL TO THE DECK OF THE "RANGER" — HE WAS ASTONISHED TO SEE PAUL JONES AND HIS LIEUTENANTS IN FULL UNIFORM STANDING BEFORE HIM.



FROM HIS CAPTIVE JONES LEARNED THAT THE "DRAKE" HAD REINFORCED HER CREW PREPARATORY TO GOING OUT IN SEARCH OF THE "RANGER". CAPT. JONES NOTICED COLUMNS OF SMOKE RISING FROM THE HILLS — THE ENGLISH OFFICER SAID THAT THEY WERE ALARM FIRES.

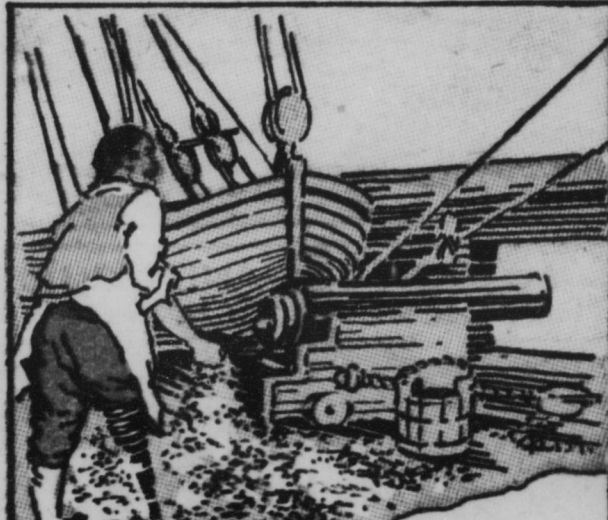


SOON THE ATTENTION WAS DIVERTED TO THE HARBOR — THE "DRAKE" SEEMED TO COME TO LIFE — THE BOATSWAIN'S WHISTLE AND THE TRAMP OF MEN AT THE CAPSTAN WAS FAINTLY HEARD OVER THE WATERS AS THE SAILS WERE SPREAD TO CATCH THE BREEZE.



JONES WAS DETERMINED TO HOLD HIS POSITION AND GIVE BATTLE TO THE ENGLISHMAN.

HE AT ONCE PREPARED THE SHIP FOR ACTION — GUNS WERE LOADED AND PRIMED — CUTLASSES AND PISTOLS WERE PASSED OUT TO THE MEN — AND POWDER-MONKEYS STRIPPED TO THE WAIST.



LEG-LEG JOE, THE COOK STREWED ASHES AND SAWDUST AROUND THE DECK — TO PREVENT THE MEN FROM SLIPPING AND TO HELP IN DECK FIGHTING — ALL HANDS PREPARED FOR THE BATTLE...

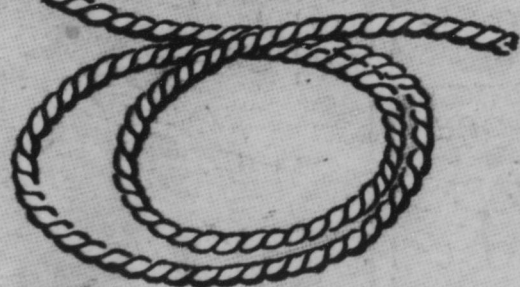


THE "DRAKE" MADE SLOW HEADWAY BEATING DOWN THE CHANNEL — WHILE THE MEN ON THE "RANGER" STOOD GRIM AND SILENT AT THEIR QUARTERS WAITING FOR THE FIGHT TO BEGIN.

TO BE CONTINUED

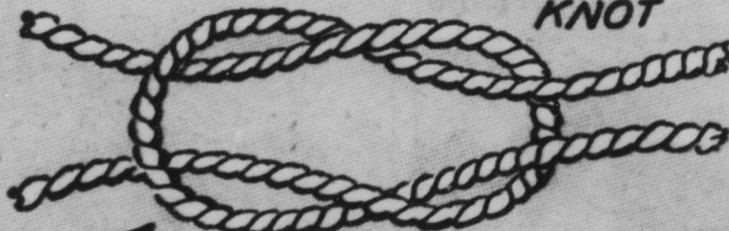
## SAILOR'S KNOTS

TO COIL DOWN A ROPE



Ropes are better preserved and kept free from kinks when they are coiled down. Right handed ropes should be coiled down clockwise or right handed. Left handed rope should be coiled down left handed.

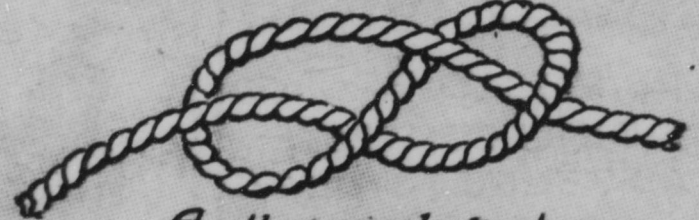
REEF KNOT



Is one of the simplest and best known of the common knots. When formed of two ropes of equal thickness it will hold firm under strain, will not jam, and is easy to undo.

When drawn taut the knot sets flat and the two ends lie close together.

FIGURE OF 8 KNOT



Another simple knot — It is often used on the end of a rope to prevent the rope from slipping through a block.

