

DECK'S AWASH

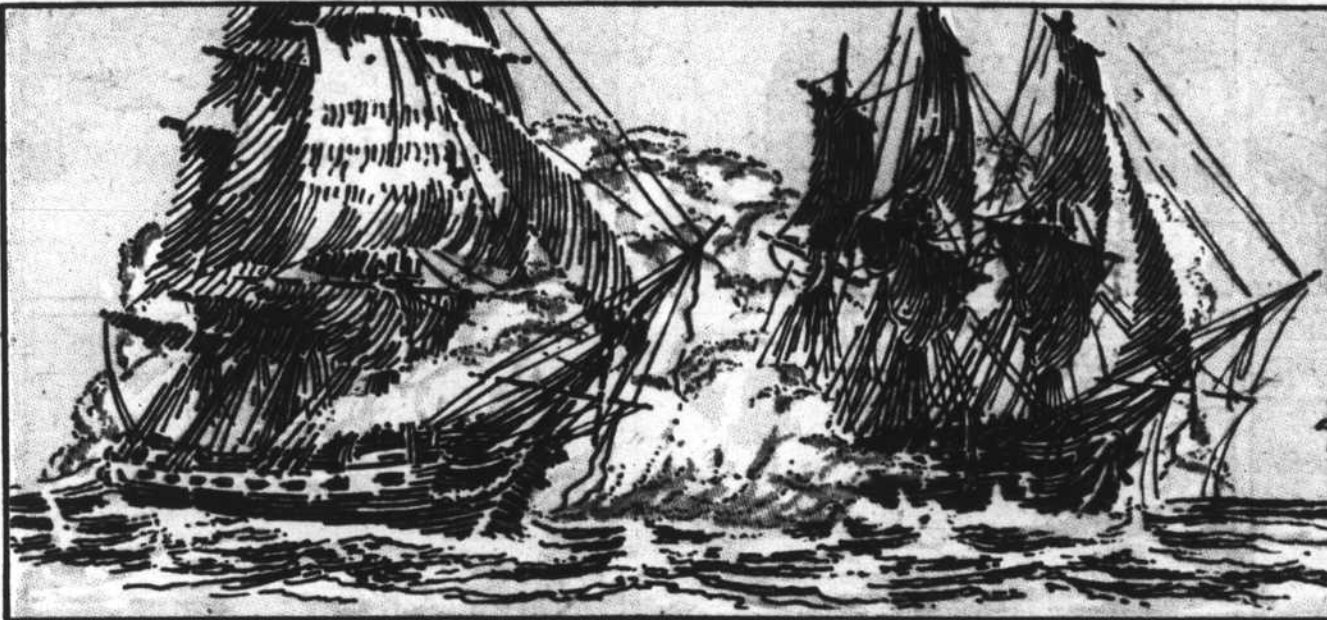
American Naval Heroes

by AUGUSTUS J. ROBINSON

PAUL JONES CONTINUED ON HIS CRUISE OF DESTRUCTION IN THE IRISH SEA. THE COUNTRYSIDE WAS ALARMED—SIGNAL FIRES WERE BURNING FROM THE HEADLANDS—AND MANY ENGLISH WARSHIPS WERE OUT SEARCHING THE SEAS FOR THE "RANGER" AND THE YANKEE PIRATE. LATE IN THE AFTERNOON OF APRIL 24, 1778, THE "RANGER" ENCOUNTERED THE "DRAKE" OFF THE HARBOR OF BELFAST, IRELAND.



IT WAS ONE HOUR BEFORE SUNSET WHEN THE "DRAKE" APPROACHED WITHIN PISTOL SHOT OF THE "RANGER"—CAPT. BURDON RAN UP THE ENGLISH FLAG AND HAILED—"WHAT SHIP IS THAT?" CAPT. JONES HOISTED THE STARS AND STRIPES AND REPLIED—"THE AMERICAN CONTINENTAL SHIP "RANGER"—WE ARE WAITING FOR YOU."



AS THE "RANGER" SWUNG ROUND SHE LET GO A BROADSIDE OF SOLID SHOT INTO THE HULL AND CROWDED DECK OF THE "DRAKE," THE HAIL OF IRON LEAVING DEATH AND DESTRUCTION IN ITS WAKE.

THE "DRAKE" QUICKLY RETURNED THE FIRE AS HER BROADSIDE ROARED OVER THE BAY.

FOR OVER AN HOUR THE DESPERATE NAVAL DUEL CONTINUED—WITH VICTORY FIRST WITH ONE SIDE AND THEN WITH THE OTHER.

JONES, STANDING EXPOSED ON THE QUARTER-DECK, URGED ON HIS MEN—WITH NO THOUGHT FOR HIS OWN SAFETY.

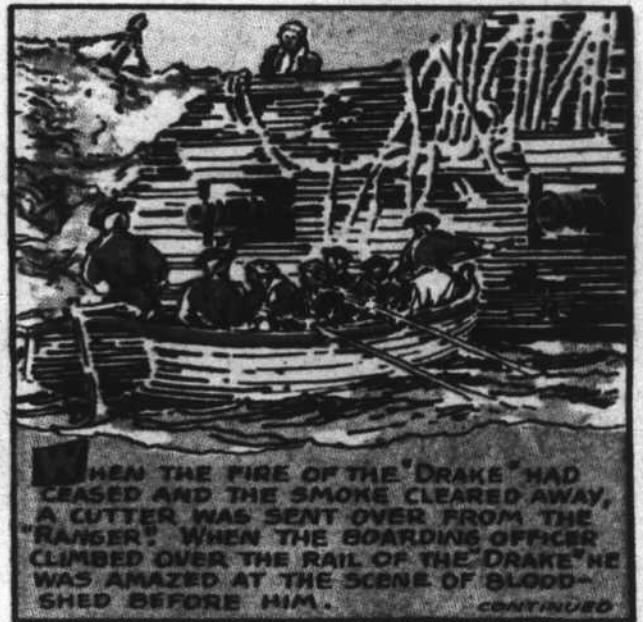


THE BATTLE RAGED FOR OVER AN HOUR, AS THE YANKEE GUNNERS DID TERRIBLE EXECUTION.

THE "DRAKE'S" FLAG WAS SHOT AWAY—HER CAPTAIN AND LIEUTENANT WERE MORTALLY WOUNDED.

THE SAILS WERE SHOT TO RIBBONS—THE MAIN MAST SPRUNG—AND THE FORE AND MAIN TOPSAIL-YARDS SHOT IN TWO.

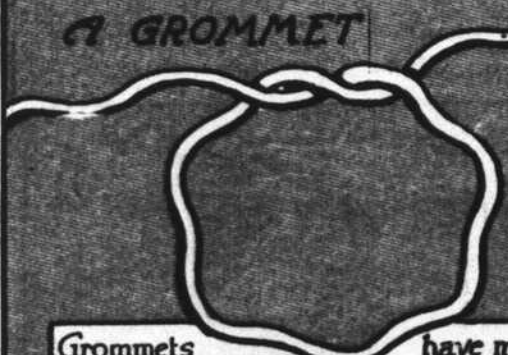
IN THE "RANGER" LITTLE DAMAGE WAS DONE—LT. WALLINGFORD AND ONE SEAMAN WERE KILLED, AND SIX OTHERS WOUNDED.



WHEN THE FIRE OF THE "DRAKE" HAD CEASED AND THE SMOKE CLEARED AWAY, A CUTTER WAS SENT OVER FROM THE "RANGER." WHEN THE BOARDING OFFICER CLIMBED OVER THE RAIL OF THE "DRAKE" HE WAS AMAZED AT THE SCENE OF BLOODSHED BEFORE HIM.

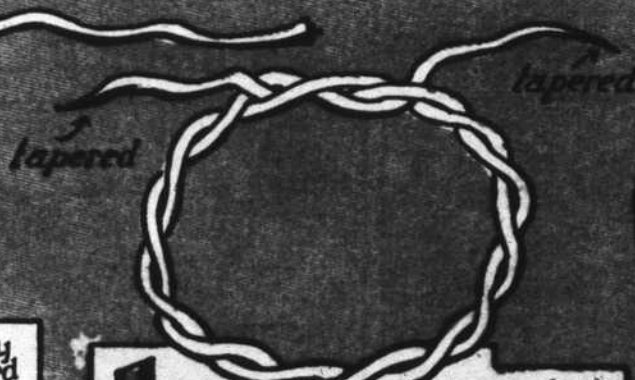
SAILOR'S KNOTS

A GROMMET

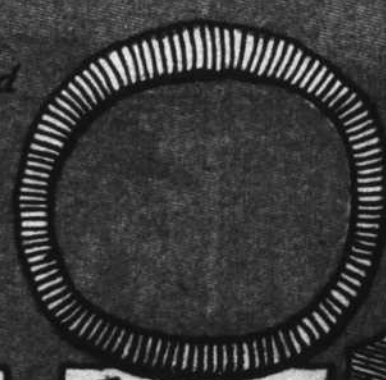


Grommets have many uses aboard ship—they are used for chafe pads, block stops, handles for sea chests, etc.

Cut out a good size piece of single strand rope—then cross the ends to form a ring the size wanted—



Lay up one end—twisting it in the lay of the strand until it meets the outer end—make an overhand knot, then push the ends through the strands as in a long splice.



If wanted to look neat it may be parcelled and served.

As handles on a sea chest.

