

LIFE AND ADVENTURES OF

Robinson Crusoe.



Robinson Crusoe was born of a respectable family in York, where his father, a native of Bremen, had settled; having by merchandise obtained a fortune. Robinson had early wandering thoughts, and could not be prevailed on to settle in business; but was desirous of going to sea, which gave his parents much trouble: he hardened himself in his undutiful course, his

BANBURY :

PRINTED BY J. G. RUSHER.

mother much indulged him, and both parents persuaded him to remain in that business, by which they had become rich. He was one day at Hull with one of his companions, who was going to sea in his father's ship, and was easily persuaded to accompany him on a voyage, bound for London, on the first of September, 1651, without his father's knowledge. When out of the Umber, the sea ran mountains high, and Crusoe was sadly sick and sorry for his imprudence and disobedience. The waves appeared ready to swallow him, and he vowed that if it should please God to spare his life this voyage he would return to his father and mother, and live with them.

When his sickness wore off,
He was jeer'd by the crew so ;
Till a storm did arise,
Then in prayer was Crusoe.

Robinson at length became a Guinea trader, and bought enough gold-dust sufficient to realise £200; he was at length taken prisoner, near the Canary Islands, by pirates, when he was taken to Sallee, by the Moors.

He was ta'en by a pirate,
 In slavery too, so
 Zury pushed off the ship's boat,
 And escaped with Crusoe.

Crusoe was a good fisherman, so the Emperor sent him in a boat, with provisions, and nets to catch fish, and powder and shot and guns for shooting wild fowl, for the Emperor and his friends.

Robinson contrived on this occasion to put a quantity of food and water and other articles in the cabin, that, if he should escape, with his assistant Zury, they might be useful to them.

A Moor was soon desired to swim ashore, and the escape was effected.

A large lion was swimming towards the boat, when Crusoe shot him, and he swam back wounded to the shore, where they dare not land, because of the noise of wild beasts, which came to drink of the water and wash in the stream. During the day time we filled our jars with water, killed hares and other animals we could find for food. We also killed a large lion, and a leopard, their skins were useful to sleep upon. We prevailed on some naked savages to supply us with food and water, and at length were taken on board a Portuguese vessel, and used most kindly. The captain purchased the boat and skins, and we sailed to the Brazils. I lived with the owner of a sugar plantation, and learned the art of making sugar; I planted tobacco and sugar canes, and prevailed on the captain on his next voyage to purchase in



England tools, cloths, stuffs, and other articles. I also purchased two slaves and a servant, and grew richer every year. Some merchants and myself fitted up a vessel for the purchase of slaves on the coast of Guinea, in which a violent hurricane drove us beyond our knowledge, the ship struck upon a sand, and the sea broke over her: we took the ship's boat, which capsized, and I alone, was, after many perilous

attempts to save myself, washed ashore on a steep rock, whence I had great difficulty to ascend, or escape ; when I heartily thanked God for my deliverance. I found a spring of clear water to allay my parching thirst, and climbed a tree for my repose. The ship during the night had been driven near the rock from which I made my escape. I swam to the ship and satisfied my hunger with provisions, made a raft with spars of wood, and landed what provisions or goods were in the ship, seamen's and carpenters' chests, nails, clothes, guns, pistols, powder, shot, swords, and other articles. I found no wild beasts to devour me, so built a hut in the hollow side of a rock, like the entrance of a cave, and piled the chests around, to secure me from the weather, and attacks from without, inclosing about a 100 yards in breadth



and 200 yards descending to the sea, and ascended by a ladder from my abode. Many goats and wild pigeons were on the island, which I shot for food. Here I landed 30th of September, 1659, and had no other companion than two cats and a dog, I found in the ship. An earthquake sadly damaged my building and cave in the rock. I shook out an old bag of rubbish by the side of my cabin (containing pro-

bably a few seeds), and some time after the rainy season was surprised at seeing a few blades of corn springing up : by preserving the produce of which for future seed, I was years afterwards enabled to supply myself with bread. I was ill, and, during my illness, found a Bible in a seaman's chest, a very pleasant help in trouble, a source of peace and comfort.

After recovery, I went further from my habitation, and found some fine savannas, melons, grapes, cocoa, orange and citron trees, and limes ; much of the fruit I put into my cot : I caught a young parrot, and taught it to speak ; and found some hares, goats, pigeons, and turtles.

A tamed goat became one of my companions ; my corn fields required much watching, to defend it from the hares and the birds, in which my dog



was of great service. I had difficulty in getting in my harvest. After this, I burned my clay-made articles, earthen pipkins, &c., and could dress my dinner tolerably well. My next harvest yielded 20 bushels of barley and 20 of rice. I made a rough boat out of a large tree, which I could not take to the sea; afterwards a smaller one, with which I had better success, or rather worse, for in it I was taken by the current farther

than I intended, and, but for the change of wind and current, might have been lost. I often visited my boat, and one day at noon was surprised at the print of a man's naked foot, larger than my own, on the shore, on the sand! I seemed thunderstruck — listened — looked — could hear or see nothing! I doubled my fortifications, loaded my muskets, planted new stakes, did every thing to add to my security, and put my goats in a new enclosure, in the middle of a wood.

I afterwards saw the shore spread with various parts of bodies, and the apparent remains of human sacrifice. Several parties of savages came after this. A ship was wrecked, and I went in my boat to examine the vessel, and took two^d chests, containing money, liquor, &c. Five canoes of savages came to the island, and I saw 30 dancing round a fire, and two poor



wretches dragged within the circle, one was knocked down, but the other ran swiftly towards me; three men pursued him, and I shot one of them, and knocked the other down with my gun, and beckoned to the pursued man to stop: this happened to be my man Friday, who afterwards lived with me as a faithful companion and servant for years. I taught him to speak to me, which was a comfort I had not enjoyed

for a long period. Friday became a good Christian and wished Crusoe to go to his country to teach vile mans to be good, sober, tame mans ; to know God, and lead a new life. After Robinson had been 27 years upon the island, he one morning sent Friday to the shore to look for a turtle, who ran back to say 21 savages and 3 prisoners had arrived in three canoes ! I gave Friday two fowling pieces, and loaded four muskets and two pistols, with my sword at my side, and Friday took the hatchet. I went up the hill, resolved to kill them, and ordered Friday to keep close and be silent, and do as I told him. I entered the wood, and bade Friday bring me word what they were doing ; he informed me they were round the fire, devouring one of the prisoners, and that a bearded man lay bound on the ground, whom they would



kill next. As the savages were loosing the next man to murder him, we both fired, and killed three and wounded five; we again fired, and killed two; the others ran screaming about in terror. We then unbound their prisoner, gave him a sword and pistol, which he used violently against his enemies; Friday killed two, and but four escaped to sea in a canoe. In getting into one of their canoes to pursue them, Friday

discovered his father at the bottom, tied hand and foot ! their joy was excessive we gave him food and water, and with the other released prisoner, who was a Spaniard, I had an apparent kingdom, with three dutiful subjects. Some time after this an English ship anchored near the island, the crew of which had mutinied and bound the officers, and intended to leave them on the island at the return of the tide. The officers sat under a tree, near Crusoe, and the men regaled themselves at a distance they were soon asleep, when Crusoe and Friday approached the officers and tendered their assistance. Each officer and the Crusoites were soon armed and killed those the captain said were the most incorrigible, and the other craved for mercy ; those left in the ship were thankful to save their lives by submission, and the Captain tol



me the ship was my own, for his deliverance from death. Those whom the Captain could not again trust in the ship were put ashore, and Crusoe instructed them and his two subjects as to their living and defence.

Crusoe and his man Friday set sail with the Captain and such of his crew as he could depend on, arrived in England, and found two sisters and two of Crusoe's brother's children living; the

Captain presented him with £200. After this, Crusoe sailed to the Brazils, and recovered much of his property and plantations, and returned to England very rich. He sailed to his beloved island in a ship he had given to his nephew, and took many useful articles for the inhabitants, divided the island among them, and recommended religion and good fellowship as their guide.

After many perils and mishaps, in their passage to China, Siberia, Muscovy, and other places, they arrived at London on the 11th of January, 1705, in Crusoe's 72nd year of his age, when he retired to an estate in the country, and lived some years in peace, in the true worship of God, who had protected and delivered him out of all his troubles.

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