THE

RENOWNED HISTORY

AND

ADVENTURES

OF

Robinson Crusoe



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Robinson Crusoe.

THE life of this surprising adventurer is replete with the most strange and wonderful events that ever appeared in history: we shall therefore be as particular as possible in reciting them. He was born of a good family in the city of York; where his father who was a native of Bremen, had settled, after having acquired a genteel fortune by merchandise; but having a natural desire for a sea-faring life, no entreaties could induce him to settle in business at home, according to his parents' request: however, they never could be prevailed upon to give their consent to his hazarding his life upon so dangerous and uncertain an element. When he found them quite obdurate, he formed a resolution of absenting himself from York without their leave. With this view he set off for Hull, where meeting with one of his school-fellows, who was going on board his father's ship, then bound for Petersburg, he directly communicated his desire of accompanying him, which was readily agreed to. In a few days they set sail, but our adventurer's first voyage proved a very unfortunate one, for they had not been

many days at sea before a violent tempest arose, and the ship's crew would inevitably have perished, had they not escaped in the long boat just before the vessel foundered upon a rock, and dashed to pieces before their eyes.



They landed at Yarmouth, where they were kindly received by the magistrates and the people of the town; every thing necessary for their immediate wants was provided, and money sufficient to carry them either to London or Hull.

Our hero had no desire to return home, but bent his steps towards the metropolis, where he contracted an acquaintance with the master of a ship, who had been on the coast of Guinea, and preparing for a second voyage, who having taken a liking to Crusoe, offered to take him along with him without any expense, and also to advance what money he might want, to purchase such things as are usually carried upon that coast to dispose of or exchange with the natives. This voyage made ample amends for the other, for he acquired the art of navigation, and found himself, at his return to England, master of £300 in specie, after having refunded the money which had been advanced by the master of the ship, who died soon after his arrival.

Having thus lost his friend, he resolved to venture on the same voyage once more; and, accordingly, embarked with the late



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master's mate, having first deposited £200 of his property in the hands of the widow of his late friend; but this was one of the most unhappy voyages that ever man made; for as they were steering between the Canary Islands and the African shore, they were taken by a Moorish rover of Sallee, after a desperate engagement, wherein there was a deal of blood spilt on both sides.



The captain of the rover kept our adventurer as his own prize; but the rest of the crew were sent to the emperor's court. The usage he experienced was not so dreadful as he at first apprehended, but the confinement was far from being agreeable to him, he therefore studied how to make his escape, and at last effected it in the following manner: the master of the long boat of the English ship, had a small state-room or cabin built in the middle of it, like a barge with a place behind it to steer; in this pleasure-boat he frequently went out a fishing, and as Robinson Crusoe was very dexterous in that art, he generally took him along with him One day be appointed to go out in this boat with

some Moors of distinction, and therefore sent a larger stock of provisions, than usual, and ordered Robinson to get ready some powder and shot, for they designed to have some diversion at fowling as well as fishing; but providence frustrated the scheme merely to effect our adventurer's deliverance, for they declined going, and the Moor ordered Robinson to go out with the boat and catch some fish, for his friends were to sup with him. A Negro slave and a boy were sent along with him to manage the vessel, the first of which was called Muly, and the latter Xury .-When they had got about a league out to sea, Crusoe took the advantage of the slave, and going behind him threw him into the sea. The poor fellow begged to



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be taken into the boat again, but Robinson positively refused, and pointed the muzzle of a fowling piece at him, telling him at the same time to swim ashore, or he would shoot him.

Finding all his entreaties in vain, he made for land as fast as possible, and being a good swimmer, he soon reached it. The boy he kept to assist him in managing the vessel, but first made him swear to be true to him. After sailing about some weeks in the course of which they were one day affrighted by two furious wild beasts, which made towards their barge as fast as they could, Xury was terrified to a very great degree, but his fear soon abated when Robinson took up his musket and shot one immediately dead ; the other then made towards them very fiercely, but Robinson showed so much skill and valour in levelling his piece a second time, that the monster instantly shared the same fate as its companion.

They continued steering their course they knew not where, till they were agreeably surprised by the sight of an European ship, which they hailed. The crew, as soon as they perceived them, thinking it was a boat belonging to some ship which had been lost, immediately shortened sail to let them come up. On coming near, they were asked what counthey were, in Portuguese, Spanish, and French, but Robinson understood none of them. At last a Scotch sailor on board asked him, when he directly answered he was an Englishman, who had been taken by a rover of Sallee, and had made his escape from slavery: they then readily took him and his boy Xury on board, with all his goods.

Robinson was so overjoyed at being taken up by this ship, that he offered up all his possessions to the captain; but he generously told him he would take nothing from him, but that all his effects should be delivered to him when they arrived at the Brazils, whither the ship was then bound. After a very good voyage they arrived in All Saints' Bay, where the captain recommended him to a planter, with whom he lived till he had learned the trade; but he first disposed of his effects to the captain who had acted in so friendly a manner to him; he also let him have the boy Xury, who was to have his freedom on condition of his turning Christian.-Being now fixed as a planter, and having in due time got tolerably rich, he might have lived in the happiest manner, if his desire for a sea-faring life had not again returned. Frequently talking among his fellow-merchants, he communicated to them the method of purchasing negroes on the coast of Guinea, and they, being pleased with the project, easily prevailed on him to make a voyage for that purpose; which voyage was a very unfortunate one, for a violent storm arose, and the ship struck on a sand. The men were obliged to escape the wreck by taking to the boat;



but unhappily it overset, and our adventurer was the only person that Providence pointed out to be saved: for when the boat overset, a wave carried him a vast way towards the shore, and having spent itself, went back, and left him upon the sand almost dry.

Being now destitute of every means of support, and in a desolate island, inhabited by wild beasts, he gave himself up for lost. All he had in the world was a knife, pipe, and a little tobacco in a box; this was all his provision : but the next day, the sea being very calm, he determined to swim to the wreck of the ship, to see if he could recover any thing that might be of service to him in his captivity. To complete his design, he stript his clothes, took the water, and soon got on board, when he found all the provisions dry .--He then proceeded to search every part of the ship; and having made a raft, amongst the things he had brought from



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lowered the carpenter's chest, and every thing he thought necessary on board it; and venturing upon it, he soon reached the land.

When he had deposited his property, he made a second voyage to the ship; and after that repeated his visits till he had removed everything of use or value: amongst the rest, two cats and a dog, which were his only companions for many years.

He then prozeeded to erect himself a hut or place to live in, which in time he completed: and having found there were goats and pigeons in the island, he used to subsist on the milk of the one and the flesh of the other: and sometimes would venture to shoot a young kid, the meat of which proved to be of very great service to him. As he was one day rummaging amongst the things he had brought from the ship, he found a bag with a few husks of corn in it; and happening to want it, shook it by the side of the tent. This, to his astonishment, produced ten or twelve ears of barley; which he taking care of, and sowing again in time, yielded many bushels of the same grain; so that when his bread grew short, he had another resource.

When he had been about a year in the island, he was taken ill, and recollecting that the Brazilians took no physic but to-

bacco, tried that medicine, and in time got better.

In this dreary situation did our unfortunate mariner pass a considerable number of years; during which he kept a just account how the time passed, by cutting notches on a post he set up for that pur-



pose, observed the Sabbath, and frequently returned God thanks for preserving his life.

By little and little he became quite resigned to his solitude, and had no desire to change his situation, for Providence was very kind to him, and prospered every thing he undertook.

In order to save his powder and shot, he contrived to ensuare some live goats of both sexes, from which he raised a considerable breed, and thereby stocked himself with provisions. He likewise in his walks found many choise fruit trees, such as melons, pomegranates, &c.

These served to heighten his happiness, and induced him to build a kind of bower near where they grew, where he frequently slept in the hottest part of the weather, it being more cool than his first habitation; it was there that he was so greatly surprised by his parrot which he had catched in the island, and which, one day he had laid down in a shade to sleep, awaked him,



called Robin, Robin Crusoe, where are you? Awaking dreadfully frightened at hearing his name called, he cast his eyes upon the bird, which immediately hopped to nim, and sat on his finger as it had been learnt.

In this situation, without the company of any living creature to convere with, he passed his time till the 23rd year of his captivity, when Providence thought proper to give him a companion, who was a savage of



a neighbouring island, but soon became tractable by our adventurer's counsel and direction.—The whole time he stayed in the island was 28 years, when an English ship happened to pass by that part of it where Robinson Crusoe's habitation was, the crew of whick having mutined, put their captain on shore, in order to leave him there, and take the vessel in their own hands; but our mariner being here, discovered their intentions, and with his faithful negro, whom he called Friday, having taken him on that day, killed some of the ringleaders, after a very desperate engagement, in which he proved himself a man of courage, a friend to the injured, and put an end to the conspiracy, but he would not have been able to effect this victory, had not the

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guns placed round his dwelling heen situated so advantageously as to do execution every time they were fired.

He then secured such as he thought most dangerous, and caused the rest to become subservient to their commander, who took him and his effects into the ship,

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and proceeded on their voyage to England, where they soon arrived and where our adventurer settled and lived a religious life, after all his misfortunes and hardships he had undergone.

His man Friday died op his passage, which was a grief to his master; for he proved himself a very faithful demestic, and wished for nothing so much as to live to see England, the place of his master's nativity.

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