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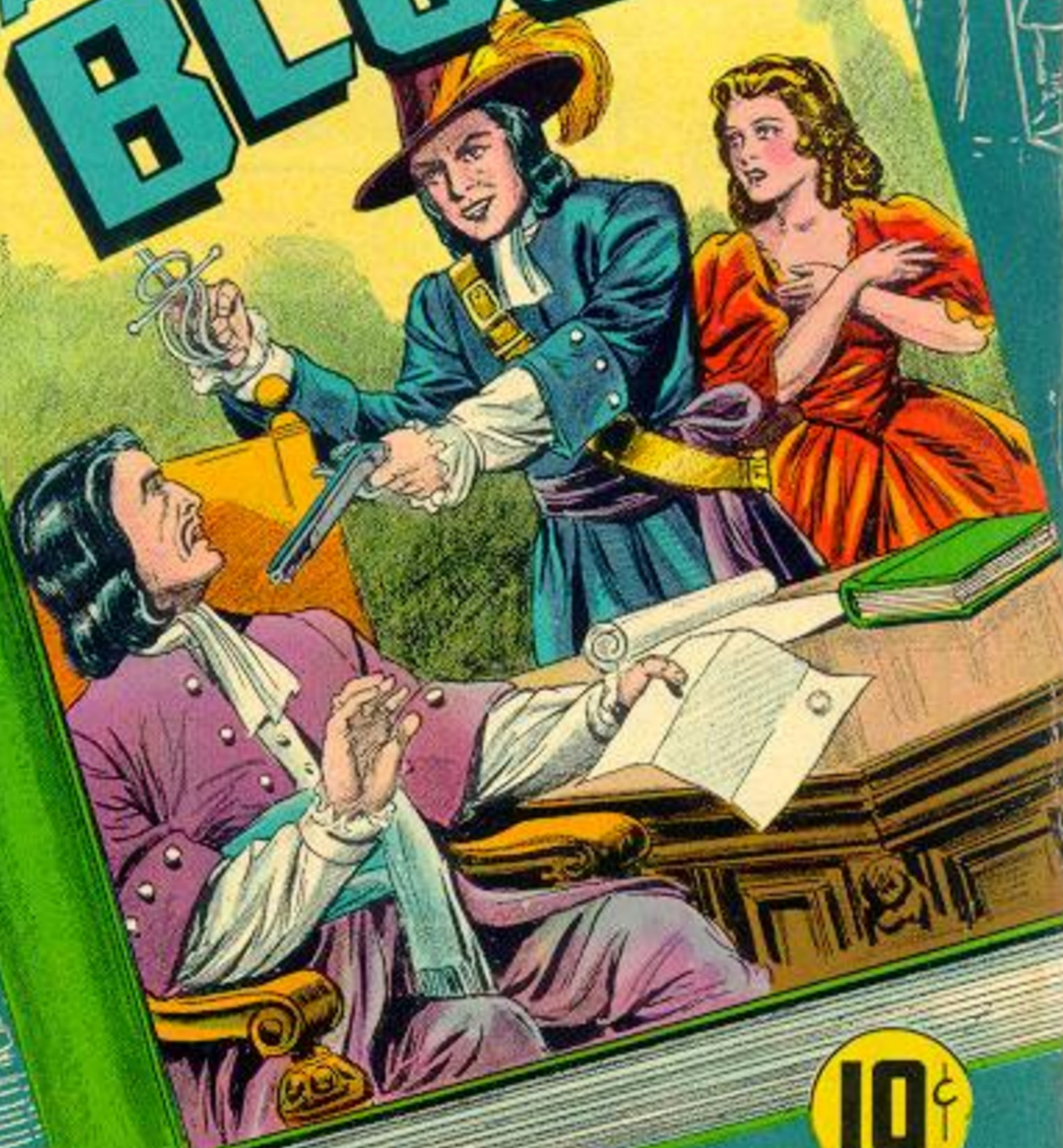
Illustrated

A TREASURY OF
CELEBRATED LITERATURE

No. 2

by RAPHAEL
SABATINI

**CAPTAIN
BLOOD**



10¢

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By FAMOUS AUTHORS ILLUSTRATED

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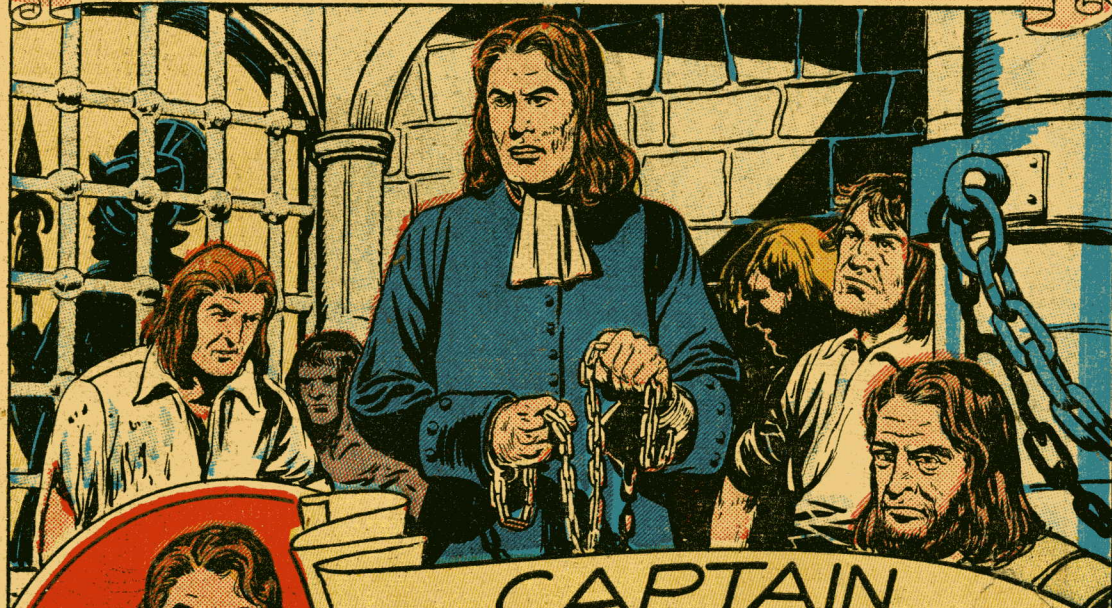
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CAPTAIN BLOOD — Pictorial version of **CAPTAIN BLOOD** adapted from the story **CAPTAIN BLOOD** by Raphael Thibault by special arrangement with Houghton Mifflin Co. Copyright 1924 by Houghton Mifflin Co.

FAST FICTION

WHEN JAMES II MOUNTED THE THRONE OF ENGLAND-- THE DUKE OF MONMOUTH LED A REBELLION AGAINST THE NEW MONARCH. MONMOUTH'S REBELLION WAS SMASHED BY THE KING'S ARMIES. AND JAMES II ARRESTED HUNDREDS OF ENGLISHMEN-- INNOCENT AND GUILTY ALIKE-- AND THREW THEM INTO TAUNTON PRISON.



CAPTAIN BLOOD

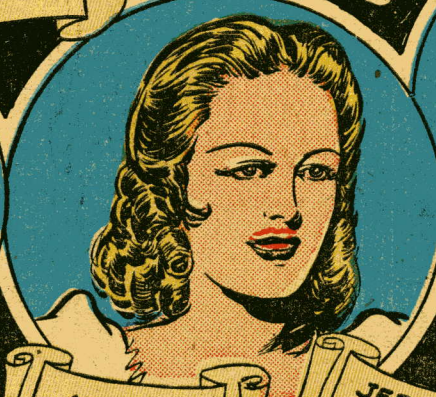
by RAPHAEL SABATINI

PPETER BLOOD... SOLDIER OF FORTUNE... DOCTOR... SURGEON... EXPERT SWORDSMAN. HE GAVE MEDICAL AID TO ONE OF MONMOUTH'S REBELS AND WAS HIMSELF ARRESTED AS A REBEL!

BBISHOP... BARBADOS PLANTER... LATER GOVERNOR.



DD'OGERON... FRENCH GOVERNOR OF TORTUGA.



AARABELLA... BISHOP'S NIECE.



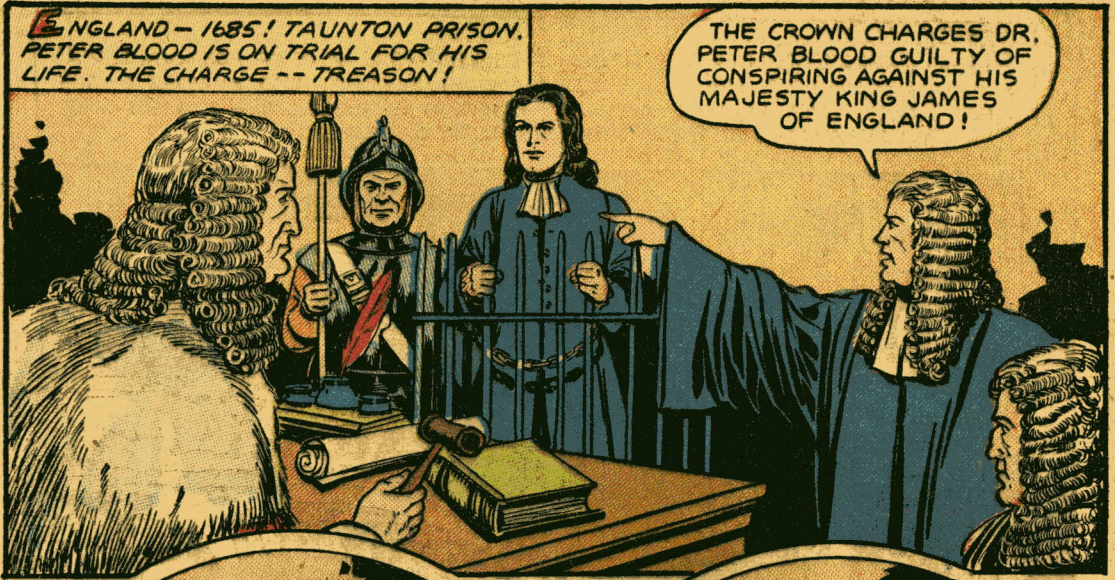
JJEREMY PITT... BLOOD'S FRIEND.

HICKNER

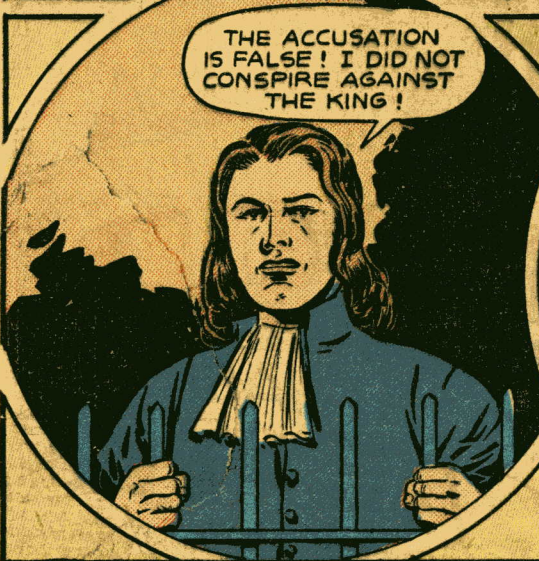
FAST FICTION

ENGLAND - 1685! TAUNTON PRISON. PETER BLOOD IS ON TRIAL FOR HIS LIFE. THE CHARGE -- TREASON!

THE CROWN CHARGES DR. PETER BLOOD GUILTY OF CONSPIRING AGAINST HIS MAJESTY KING JAMES OF ENGLAND!



THE ACCUSATION IS FALSE! I DID NOT CONSPIRE AGAINST THE KING!

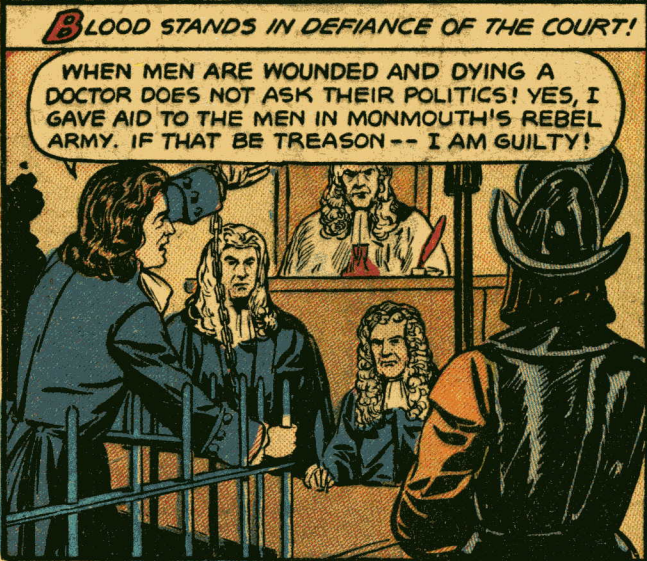


DR. BLOOD, DID YOU NOT GIVE MEDICAL HELP TO MONMOUTH'S ARMY IN THEIR REBELLION AGAINST THE KING? ANSWER YES OR NO!



BLOOD STANDS IN DEFIANCE OF THE COURT!

WHEN MEN ARE WOUNDED AND DYING A DOCTOR DOES NOT ASK THEIR POLITICS! YES, I GAVE AID TO THE MEN IN MONMOUTH'S REBEL ARMY. IF THAT BE TREASON -- I AM GUILTY!



DR. PETER BLOOD - I PRONOUNCE YOU GUILTY OF TREASON! AND SENTENCE YOU TO BE HANGED BY THE NECK UNTIL YOU ARE DEAD!



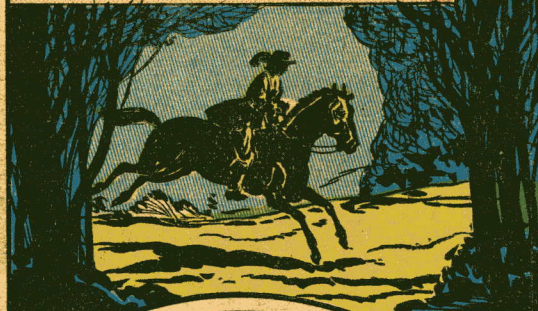
FAST FICTION

BLOOD SWEARS ETERNAL VENGEANCE ON KING JAMES.

MY CURSE UPON THE KING!

DON'T WASTE YOUR BREATH. YOU'LL NEED ALL YOU'VE GOT UP THERE IN THE MORNING!

AS BLOOD SITS IN HIS CELL WAITING TO BE EXECUTED, A ROYAL MESSENGER IS RIDING HARD FOR TAUNTON PRISON. IN THE SADDLE BAG-A ROYAL ORDER, BEARING THE SIGNATURE OF KING JAMES, AND ADDRESSED TO THE CHIEF JAILER.



YOU ARE UP EARLY THIS MORNING, JAILER.

I AM PREPARING FOR THE HANGINGS. YOU ARE JUST IN TIME TO WATCH MONMOUTH'S REBELS DANCE AT THE END OF A GALLOWS ROPE.



THE REBELS ARE NOT TO HANG!



BUT NO!

BUT YES! THE KING NEEDS MONEY. HE HAS ARRANGED FOR THE CONDEMNED REBELS TO BE SOLD AS PLANTATION SLAVES ON THE ISLAND OF BARBADOS! AT THE END OF TEN YEARS THEY WILL BE SET FREE!



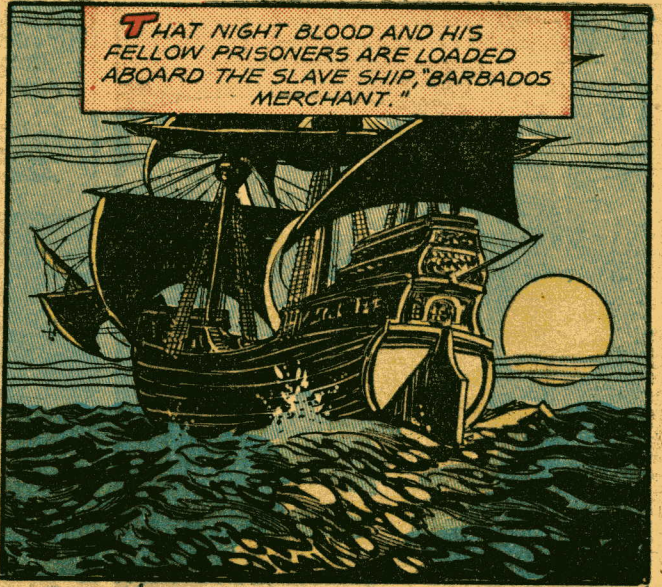
FAST FICTION

THE NEWS REACHES BLOOD AND HE REMEMBERS WHAT HE HAS HEARD OF THE LIVING HELL ENDURED BY WHITE SLAVES ON BARBADOS IN THE WEST INDIES.

MY DOUBLE CURSE UPON HIS MAJESTY, KING JAMES! BUT WHERE THERE IS LIFE— THERE IS HOPE.



THAT NIGHT BLOOD AND HIS FELLOW PRISONERS ARE LOADED ABOARD THE SLAVE SHIP, "BARBADOS MERCHANT."



IT AIN'T THE FANCIEST SHIP IN THE WORLD, BUT IT'LL SEEM LIKE HEAVEN AFTER YOU WORKED THOSE SUGAR FIELDS IN BARBADOS.



JEREMY PITT — A YOUNG LAD OF IT.



I'D RATHER DIE A FIELD SLAVE THAN LIVE YOUR DIRTY LIFE!

CAN'T YOU SEE HE'S ONLY A YOUNG LAD!

IN BARBADOS HE'LL GET WORSE THAN THAT FOR TALKING BACK. IN BARBADOS THEY'LL GIVE HIM FORTY LASHES WITH THE WHIP!

I'LL KILL THE MAN THAT WHIPS ME!

EASY, JEREMY OUR TIME WILL COME LATER!



3 MONTHS LATER THE SLAVE SHIP REACHES BARBADOS. BLOOD HAS WON FAME FOR HIS SKILLFUL MEDICAL TREATMENT OF HIS FELLOW SLAVES. AT LAST AS THE SHIP ENTERS THE BAY AT BARBADOS.

OUR VOYAGE HAS ENDED, BUT OUR LIFE OF SLAVERY IS JUST BEGINNING! I WONDER WHAT THE NEXT TEN YEARS WILL HOLD?



AS THE SLAVE SHIP DROPS ANCHOR, ARABELLA BISHOP AND HER UNCLE, COLONEL BISHOP, RICHEST AND MOST POWERFUL PLANTATION OWNER IN THE ISLANDS, WAIT AT THE DOCK WITH GOVERNOR STEED.

HOW MANY SLAVES WILL YOU BUY, UNCLE?



FAST FICTION

YOUNG JEREMY PITT IS BOUGHT BY COLONEL BISHOP.



GOVERNOR, I'LL GIVE TEN POUNDS FOR THAT LAD. HE'S GOT A GOOD STRONG BACK!

SOLD! -- JEREMY PITT TO COLONEL BISHOP!

BLOOD MOUNTS THE AUCTION BLOCK. HIS HANDSOME FEATURES CATCH THE EYE OF THE COLONEL'S NIECE, ARABELLA BISHOP.



UNCLE, THIS ONE HAS AN INTELLIGENT LOOK.

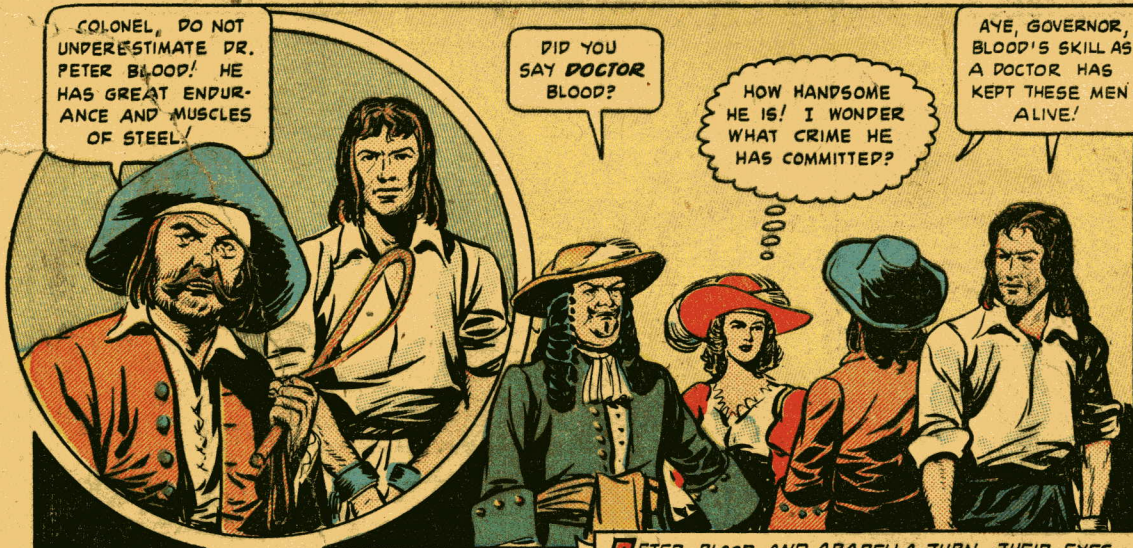
INTELLIGENCE, BAH! HE IS ALL SKIN AND BONES!

COLONEL, DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE DR. PETER BLOOD! HE HAS GREAT ENDURANCE AND MUSCLES OF STEEL!

DID YOU SAY DOCTOR BLOOD?

HOW HANDSOME HE IS! I WONDER WHAT CRIME HE HAS COMMITTED?

AYE, GOVERNOR, BLOOD'S SKILL AS A DOCTOR HAS KEPT THESE MEN ALIVE!



THE EVIL COLONEL BISHOP QUICKLY SEES THE ADVANTAGES OF BUYING DR. BLOOD!

PETER BLOOD AND ARABELLA TURN, THEIR EYES MEET. BLOOD KNOWS HE WILL SEE MORE OF THIS GIRL WHOSE UNCLE OWNS PETER BLOOD, BODY AND SOUL!

I WILL PAY TWENTY POUNDS FOR THIS DOCTOR, AND EXPECT HIM TO CURE THE SICK HELP ON MY PLANTATION.

MAYBE DOCTOR BLOOD CAN HELP MY GOUT!

SHE IS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRL I'VE EVER SEEN!



FAST FICTION

THREE MONTHS LATER... BLOOD HAS RISEN HIGH FOR A SLAVE. HIS SKILL HAS HELPED THE GOVERNOR'S GOVT. THE PLANTERS HAVE FOUND HIM A SOOTHING DOCTOR. COLONEL BISHOP HAS BEEN FORCED TO FREE HIM FROM FIELD WORK TO ALLOW FOR MEDICAL DUTIES.

YOU LOOK VERY PROSPEROUS, PETER.

YES, YOU WOULD HARDLY KNOW THAT I AM A SLAVE!



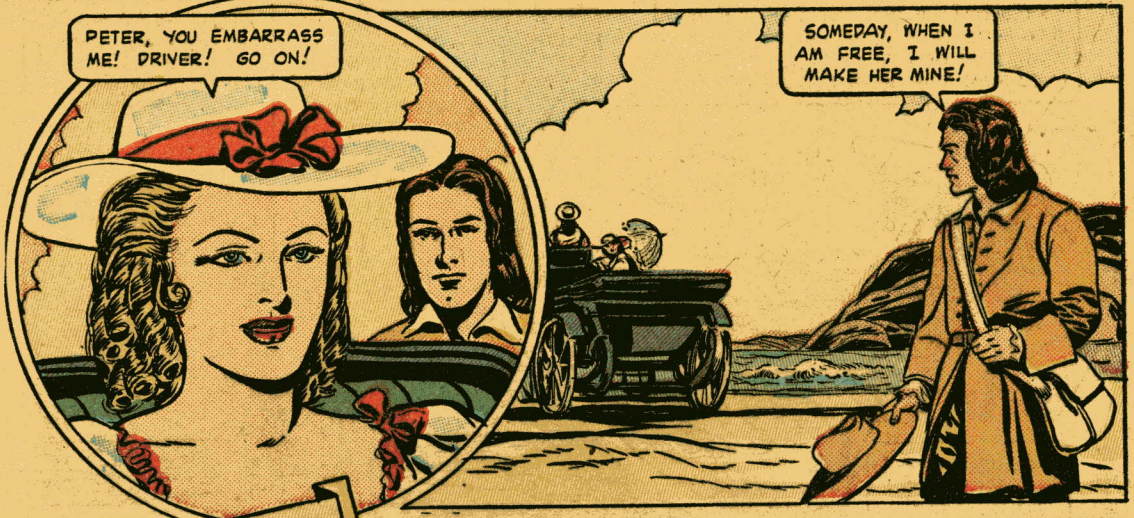
I DID NOT MEAN TO OFFEND YOU.

IT IS NOTHING, I CAN ONLY BE GRATEFUL TO THE WOMAN WHO BOUGHT ME. I AM FOREVER IN YOUR DEBT! I WILL NEVER FORGET YOU!



PETER, YOU EMBARRASS ME! DRIVER! GO ON!

SOMEDAY, WHEN I AM FREE, I WILL MAKE HER MINE!



AFTER ARABELLA DRIVES OFF, BLOOD IS SIGNALLED BY HIS YOUNG FRIEND JEREMY PITT AND DR. BRONSON, THE REGULAR BARADOS PHYSICIAN.

HISST! DR. BLOOD COME OVER HERE WHERE WE CAN SPEAK UNSEEN BY PRYING EYES!

WHY THE SECRECY, DR. BRONSON?

LISTEN CLOSELY, PETER BLOOD! I HAVE A PLAN FOR YOUR ESCAPE!



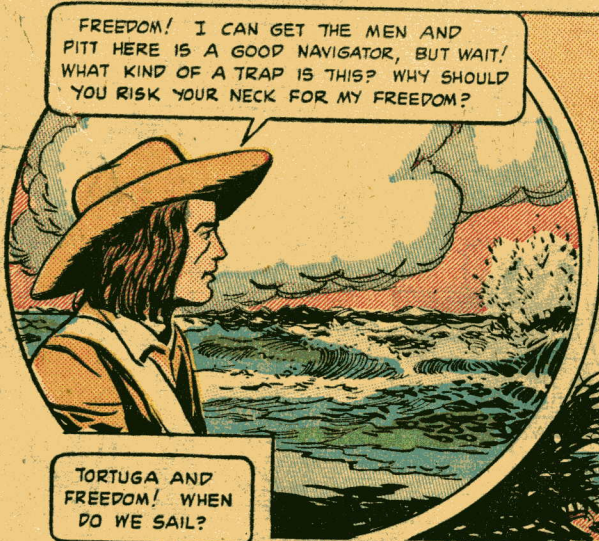
FAST FICTION



ESCAPE! FROM THIS ISLAND! THAT CAN BE DONE ONLY WITH A BOAT!



I HAVE A BOAT-- IF YOU HAVE THE MEN TO SAIL HER TO FREEDOM!



FREEDOM! I CAN GET THE MEN AND PITT HERE IS A GOOD NAVIGATOR, BUT WAIT! WHAT KIND OF A TRAP IS THIS? WHY SHOULD YOU RISK YOUR NECK FOR MY FREEDOM?

TORTUGA AND FREEDOM! WHEN DO WE SAIL?

HIS NECK ISN'T WORTH A SHILLING AS LONG AS YOU ARE AROUND, PETER!

BLOOD, I AM ALMOST BANKRUPT. MY PATIENTS CONSULT YOU. THEY NO LONGER COME TO ME. IF YOU STAY ON THIS ISLAND ANOTHER FORT-NIGHT, I'LL BE RUINED. THAT IS WHY I HAVE PROVISIONED A SMALL BOAT TO CARRY YOU TO FRENCH TORTUGA!



ROUND UP YOUR MEN AND MEET ME AT TWELVE AT THE SOUTH DOCK! YOU SAIL TONIGHT!

FAST FICTION

BUT AT NINE THAT NIGHT IN COLONEL BISHOP'S BARN...

A HUNDRED LASHES WILL TEACH YOU NOT TO LEAVE YOUR JOB IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DAY! YOU'RE NOT A TOURIST-- YOU'RE A SLAVE!

THE ESCAPE IS IN DANGER! PITT IS OUR NAVIGATOR! WE CANNOT SAIL WITHOUT HIM!

BLOOD TAKES A DESPERATE CHANCE ...

COLONEL BISHOP! YOU MUST NOT WHIP THAT BOY!

HOW DARE YOU SPEAK TO ME IN THAT VOICE!

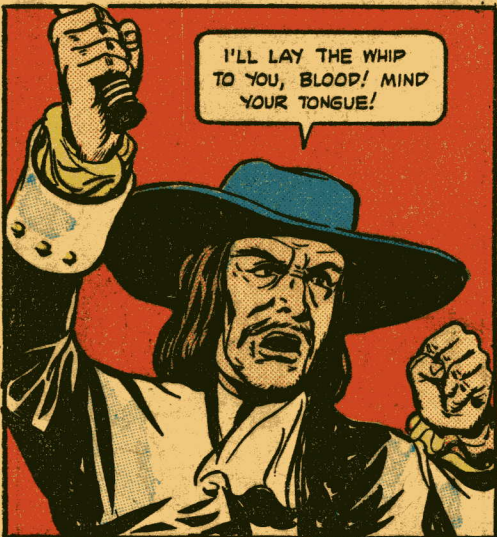


BLOOD PLAYS HIS TRUMP CARD!

COLONEL, THIS LAD IS VALUABLE PROPERTY HE WON'T BE ABLE TO WORK!



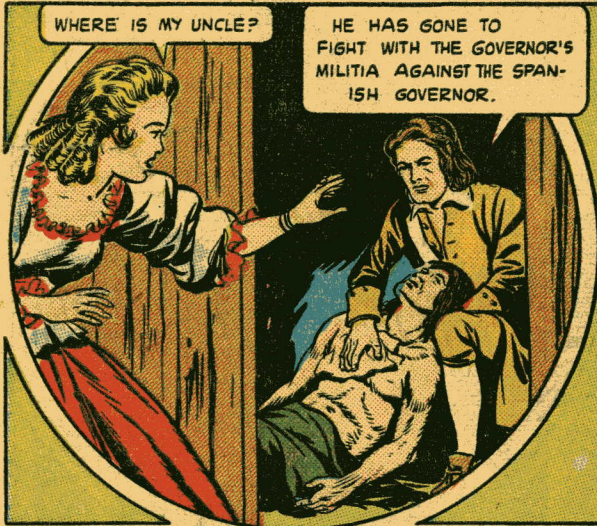
I'LL LAY THE WHIP TO YOU, BLOOD! MIND YOUR TONGUE!



AT THAT VERY MOMENT, A SPANISH WARSHIP IS ATTACKING BARBADOS!



FAST FICTION

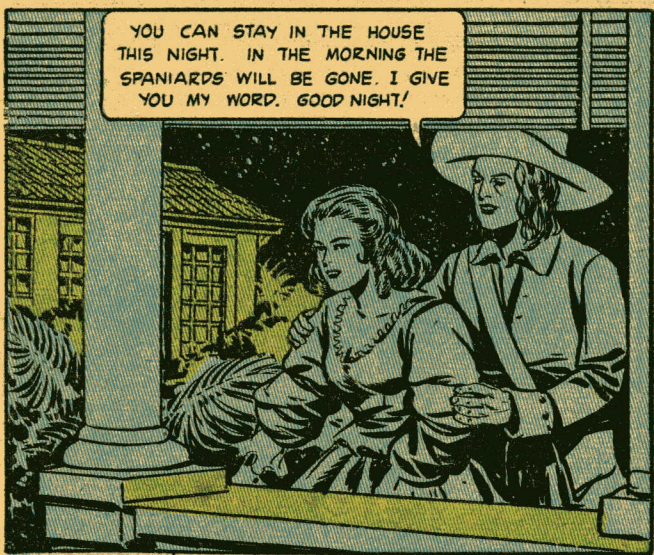


WHERE IS MY UNCLE?

HE HAS GONE TO FIGHT WITH THE GOVERNOR'S MILITIA AGAINST THE SPANISH GOVERNOR.

THE SPANISH WILL COME HERE AND KILL US ALL!

EASY, MADAM. I HAVE FOUGHT AGAINST THE SPANISH AND KNOW THEM WELL. THEY WILL NOT LEAVE THE TOWN TONIGHT. THERE'S TOO MUCH TO STEAL AND BURN. YOU'RE SAFE 'TIL MORNING.



YOU CAN STAY IN THE HOUSE THIS NIGHT. IN THE MORNING THE SPANIARDS WILL BE GONE. I GIVE YOU MY WORD. GOOD NIGHT!



THE CURSED SPANIARDS HAVE WRECKED OUR CHANCES FOR ESCAPE!

NO, PITT, OUR CHANCES ARE 100% IMPROVED. WE WILL BE ON OUR WAY TO FREEDOM BY SUN-UP!

FAST FICTION

BLOOD CALLS THE MEN TOGETHER FOR A DESPERATE VENTURE.

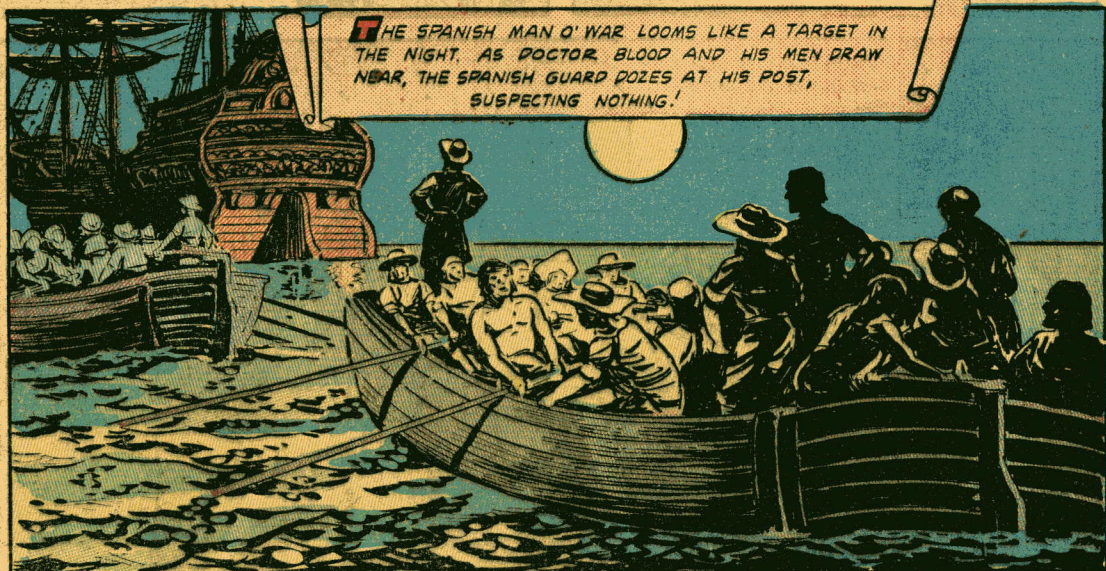
ESCAPE IS DANGEROUS AND NEVER EASY! BUT WE CAN BE FREE MEN SAILING THE SPANISH MAIN BY THIS TIME TOMORROW! ARE YOU WITH ME?

LED BY DOCTOR BLOOD, THE UNARMED SLAVES SLIP THROUGH THE NOW DESERTED STREETS OF BARBADOS. THE ENGLISH HAVE RETREATED INTO THE HILLS, AND THE SPANISH SLEEP, EXHAUSTED BY BATTLE!

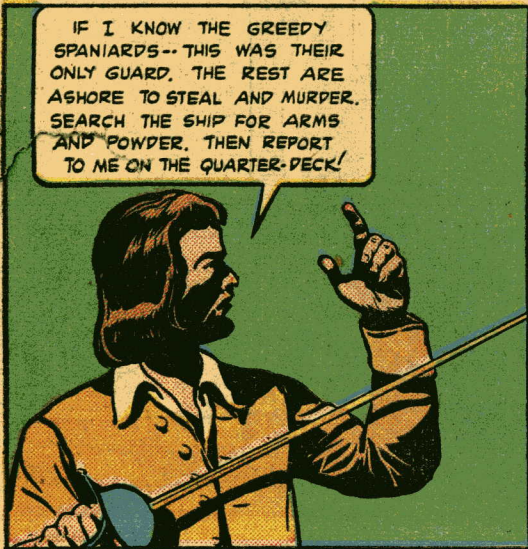
WE HAVE NO ARMS. ONLY OUR RAW NERVE. OUR FIRST TASK IS TO SLIP THROUGH THE TOWN UNSEEN BY SPANISH OR ENGLISH AND MEET ON THE WATERFRONT.

THAT'S OUR PRIZE-- "THE CINCO LLAGAS", THE FASTEST SHIP THAT SAILS THE SPANISH MAIN. SHE'S READY AND WAITING TO CARRY US TO FREEDOM!

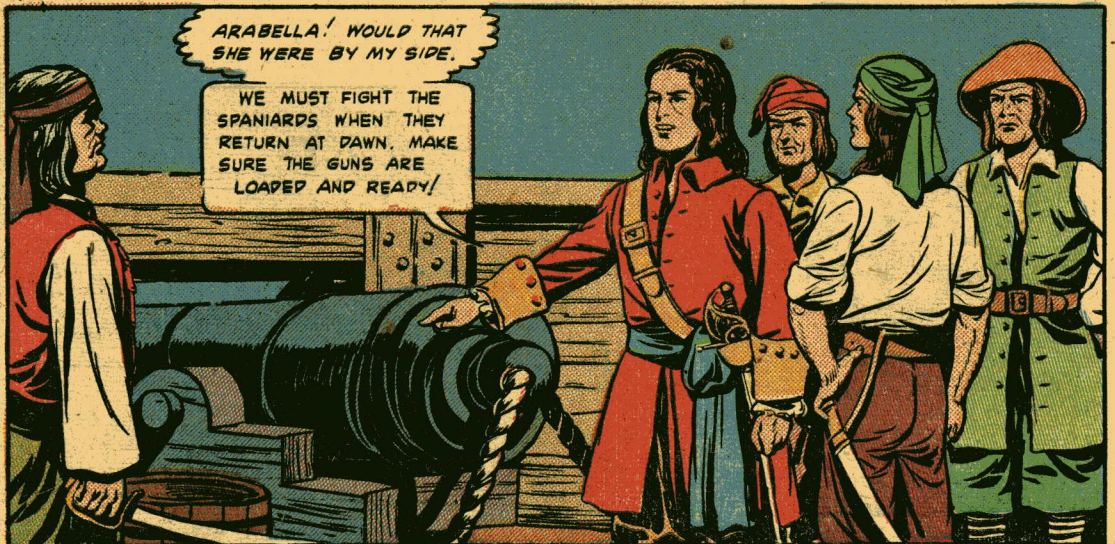
THE SPANISH MAN O' WAR LOOMS LIKE A TARGET IN THE NIGHT. AS DOCTOR BLOOD AND HIS MEN DRAW NEAR, THE SPANISH GUARD DOZES AT HIS POST, SUSPECTING NOTHING!



FAST FICTION



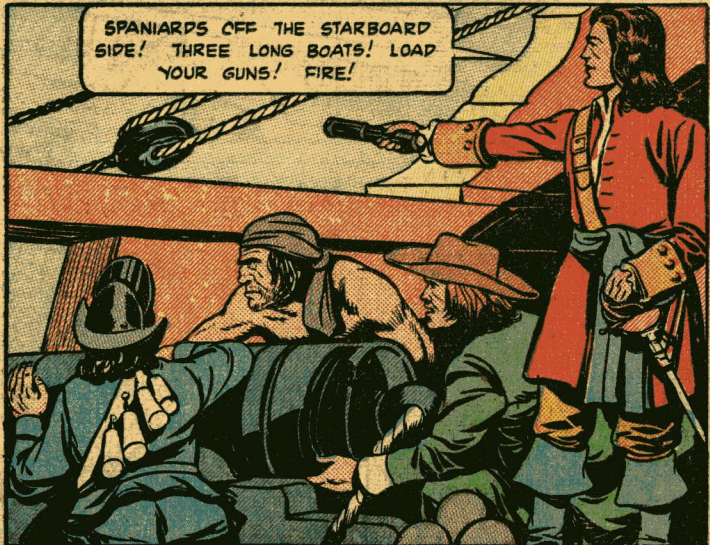
IF I KNOW THE GREEDY SPANIARDS-- THIS WAS THEIR ONLY GUARD. THE REST ARE ASHORE TO STEAL AND MURDER. SEARCH THE SHIP FOR ARMS AND POWDER. THEN REPORT TO ME ON THE QUARTER-DECK!



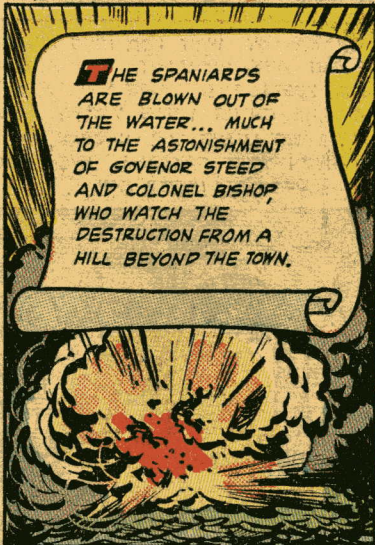
FAST FICTION



THE SPANIARDS IN THE TOWN RETURN TO THE WARSHIP.



SPANIARDS OFF THE STARBOARD SIDE! THREE LONG BOATS! LOAD YOUR GUNS! FIRE!



THE SPANIARDS ARE BLOWN OUT OF THE WATER... MUCH TO THE ASTONISHMENT OF GOVERNOR STEED AND COLONEL BISHOP, WHO WATCH THE DESTRUCTION FROM A HILL BEYOND THE TOWN.



AMAZING! I WILL RAISE A FLAG OF TRUCE AND GO DOWN TO THE BAY AND INVESTIGATE!



A SMALL BOAT APPROACHES WITH COLONEL BISHOP AND TWO OFFICERS.

GOOD! WE HAVE A SCORE TO SETTLE WITH THAT SLAVE DEALER! LET'S GIVE HIM A HANDSOME WELCOME!

FAST FICTION

BLOOD! IT WAS YOU THEN! I SHALL WRITE OF THIS TO HIS MAJESTY KING JAMES... AND MAYHAP HE WILL GO EASY ON YOUR SENTENCES!

WELCOME ABOARD, COLONEL. YOU ARE AMONG FRIENDS -- OLD FRIENDS OF YOU ALL!

THE GENEROSITY OF KING JAMES IS WELL-KNOWN! HA!

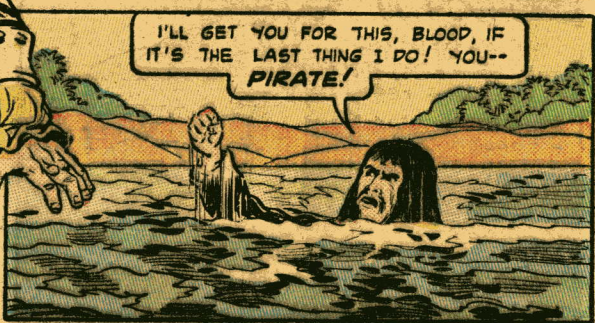


WE CANNOT WAIT FOR KING JAMES! MY MEN ARE IMPATIENT. YOU ARE HERE AS A HOSTAGE BECAUSE YOUR MEN WILL NOT FIRE ON US WHILE YOU'RE ABOARD. BUT AS WE LEAVE THE HARBOR, YOU WILL BE GIVEN YOUR FREEDOM. EVEN NOW WE ARE UNDER SAIL...

AS THE WARSHIP CLEARS THE HARBOR, BLOOD MAKES COLONEL BISHOP WALK THE PLANK:



I'LL GET YOU FOR THIS, BLOOD, IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO! YOU-- PIRATE!



FAST FICTION

WELCOME TO TORTUGA, CAPTAIN BLOOD. I HAVE HEARD WHAT YOU DID AT BARBADOS. YOU ARE A BRAVE FIGHTER. WE CAN DO BUSINESS AND MAKE MILLIONS.

GOVERNOR, ARE YOU SUGGESTING THAT I BECOME A PIRATE?

CAPTAIN BLOOD SET HIS COURSE FOR THE FRENCH PORT OF TORTUGA, WHERE THE EASY-GOING GOVERNOR, MONSIEUR D'OGERON, WELCOMED MEN AND SHIPS OF ALL NATIONS, LOANED THEM MONEY, FURNISHED THEM WITH GUNS AND TOOK A SHARE OF WHATEVER LOOT THEY FOUND ON THE HIGH SEAS... WITH "NO QUESTIONS ASKED".

PIRATE IS AN UGLY WORD. LOOK AT IT THIS WAY. YOU HAVE A FINE SHIP AND A CREW OF BRAVE MEN. ENROLL IN MY SERVICE AND I WILL GIVE YOU A COMMISSION. MAKE YOUR ACTIONS LEGAL. AFTER SIX MONTHS WITH ME YOU WILL HAVE A FORTUNE AND CAN RETIRE AS A GENTLEMAN.

BLOOD THINKS OF ARABELLA. WITH WEALTH... PERHAPS HE COULD BUY HIS FREEDOM AND WIN HER HAND.

HOW SHALL I ENTER YOUR SHIP?

GOVERNOR, YOU MAY CALL MY SHIP "THE ARABELLA."

IS IT AGREED? ONE FIFTH OF ALL YOU TAKE IS MINE. THE REST BELONGS TO YOU AND YOUR CREW.

IT IS AGREED.

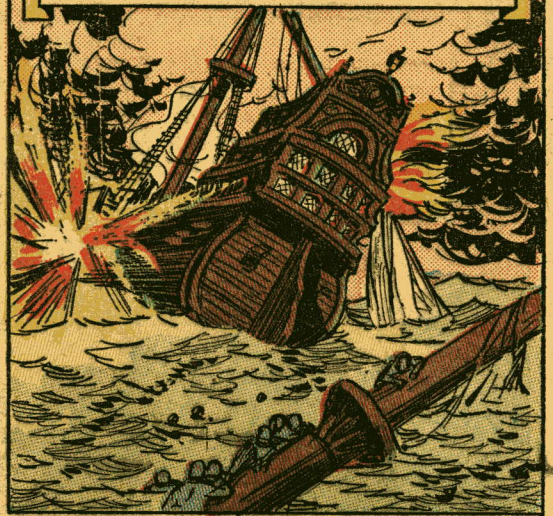


FAST FICTION

CHRISTMAS DAY, 1687, CAPTAIN BLOOD SAILS TO MAKE HIS FORTUNE IN THE GOOD SHIP "ARABELLA".

WITH A LITTLE LUCK WE'LL BE BACK IN SIX MONTHS. OUR FORTUNES MADE!

CAPTAIN BLOOD SAILS THE SPANISH MAIN!



GOLDEN PIECES OF EIGHT... RUBIES... PEARLS... SPICE... SILKS... AND EMERALDS FILL THE ARABELLA...

BACK AT BARBADOS, COLONEL BISHOP HEARS OF BLOOD'S DARING DEEDS!

BLOOD HAS SUNK 23 SPANISH TREASURE SHIPS IN THREE MONTHS!

HE HAS NAMED HIS SHIP "THE ARABELLA".

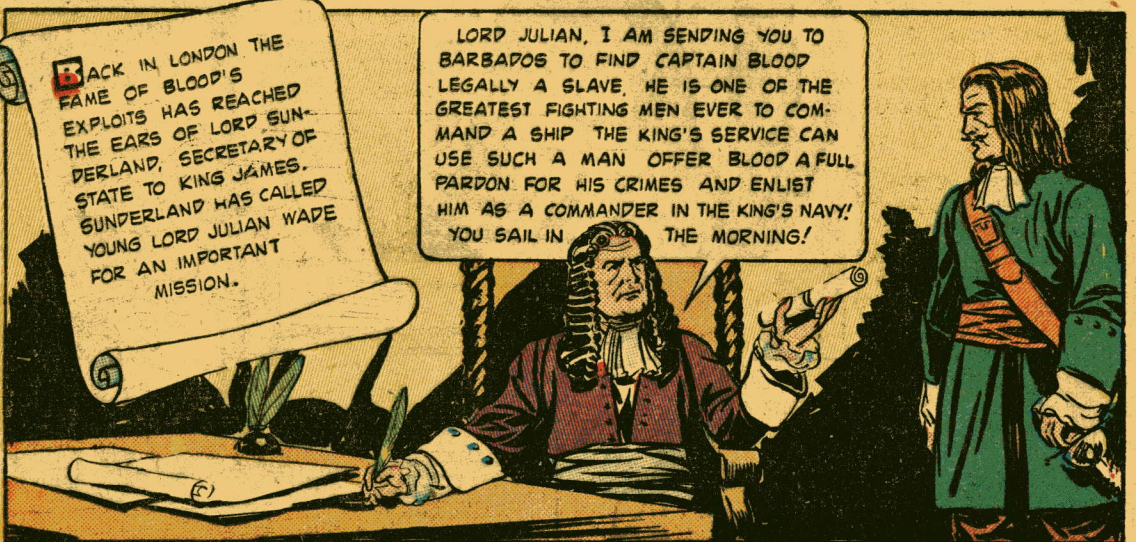
THE RUBY IS AS BIG AS A PIGEON'S EGG!

AYE, THREE MORE MONTHS OF LOOT LIKE THIS AND WE WILL ALL BE WEALTHY AS KINGS.



BACK IN LONDON THE FAME OF BLOOD'S EXPLOITS HAS REACHED THE EARS OF LORD SUNDERLAND, SECRETARY OF STATE TO KING JAMES. SUNDERLAND HAS CALLED YOUNG LORD JULIAN WADE FOR AN IMPORTANT MISSION.

LORD JULIAN, I AM SENDING YOU TO BARBADOS TO FIND CAPTAIN BLOOD LEGALLY A SLAVE. HE IS ONE OF THE GREATEST FIGHTING MEN EVER TO COMMAND A SHIP THE KING'S SERVICE CAN USE SUCH A MAN OFFER BLOOD A FULL PARDON FOR HIS CRIMES AND ENLIST HIM AS A COMMANDER IN THE KING'S NAVY! YOU SAIL IN THE MORNING!



FAST FICTION

AFTER THREE MONTHS AT SEA, ON THE DAY LORD JULIAN WADE LEAVES ENGLAND WITH A FULL PARDON FROM THE KING, BLOOD RETURNS TO TORTUGA WITH THE TREASURES FROM HIS FIRST CRUISE.

CONGRATULATIONS, BLOOD. WHERE ARE YOU BOUND NEXT?

WE TAKE THE SPANISH PORT OF MARACAYBO!



MARACAYBO! YOU ARE CRAZY! FOUR SPANISH WARSHIPS STAND GUARD OFF MARACAYBO. THEY WILL BOTTLE YOU UP INSIDE THE HARBOR AND WHEN YOU TRY TO COME OUT, THEY WILL DESTROY YOU!

I AM TAKING TWO SHIPS "THE ARABELLA" AND THE "ELIZABETH".

THE SPANISH FLEET LEFT MARACAYBO. YESTERDAY. THEY KNEW I WAS RETURNING HERE, AND THEY DONOT EXPECT ME TO PUT TO SEA AGAIN FOR AT LEAST ANOTHER MONTH. THAT IS WHERE I WILL FOOL THEM.

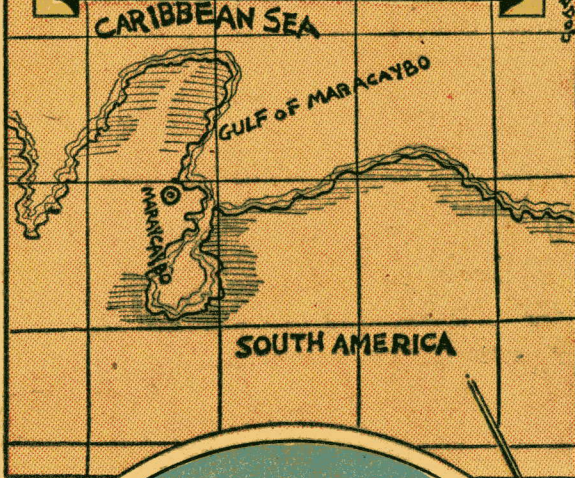


MY MEN ARE LAYING ABOARD GUNPOWDER. "THE ARABELLA" AND THE "ELIZABETH" SAIL AT DAWN FOR MARACAYBO!



FAST FICTION

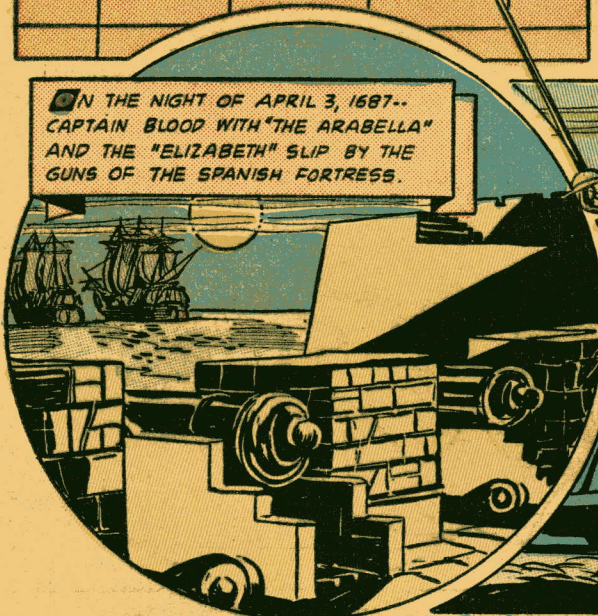
MARACAYBO, COLONY OF SPAIN... RICHEST GOLD PORT ON THE SPANISH MAIN. MARACAYBO HARBOR... DEFENDED ONLY BY THE FORTRESS, THE SPANISH SQUADRON HAS SAILED AWAY.



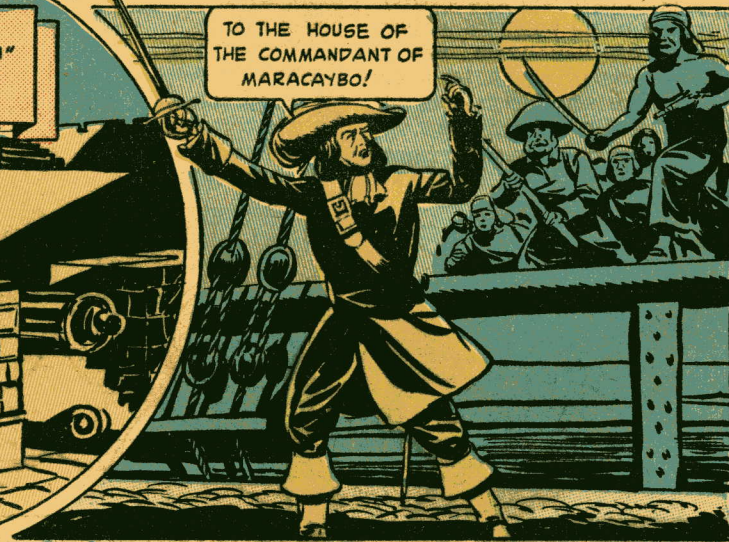
THERE SHE IS-- MARACAYBO! FIVE LEAGUES OFF THE LARBOARD BOW! TURN ABOUT AND WE'LL LAY OFF HERE 'TIL NIGHTFALL!



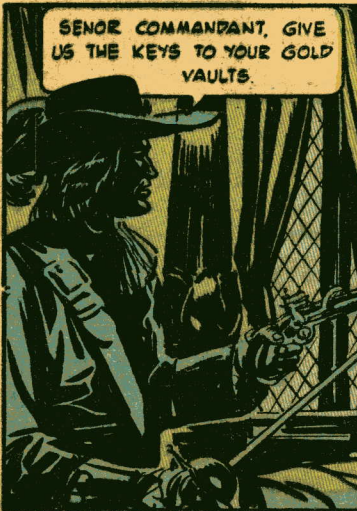
ON THE NIGHT OF APRIL 3, 1687-- CAPTAIN BLOOD WITH "THE ARABELLA" AND THE "ELIZABETH" SLIP BY THE GUNS OF THE SPANISH FORTRESS.



TO THE HOUSE OF THE COMMANDANT OF MARACAYBO!



SEÑOR COMMANDANT, GIVE US THE KEYS TO YOUR GOLD VAULTS.



I WILL GIVE YOU NOTHING, BLOOD. YOU HAVE SAILED INTO A TRAP! YOU HAVE POSSESSION OF MARACAYBO --BUT WARSHIPS FROM THE SPANISH FLEET HAVE CLOSED OFF THE HARBOR!

BUT I THOUGHT--



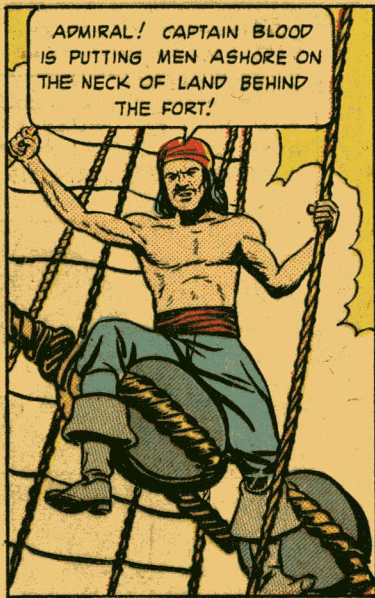
YOU THOUGHT THE SPANISH FLEET HAD SAILED OFF! WELL, SO THEY DID. BUT TWO WARSHIPS PLANNED TO TURN AROUND AND COME BACK. THEY FIRE NOW AT THE MOUTH OF THE HARBOR. TOMORROW THE TWO OTHER SHIPS WILL JOIN THEM... BLOOD-- YOU HAVE BEEN TRAPPED!

FAST FICTION

MORNING... OUT IN THE HARBOR ON THE SPANISH FLAGSHIP "SALVADOR," DON MIGUEL ESPINOSA, THE SPANISH ADMIRAL, CONFIDENTLY WAITS TO CLOSE THE TRAP.

I HAVE BLOOD WHERE I WANT HIM... WHATEVER TACTICS HE TRIES, MY TWO SHIPS WILL HOLD HIM UNTIL THE BALANCE OF MY SQUADRON ARRIVES.

ADMIRAL! CAPTAIN BLOOD IS PUTTING MEN ASHORE ON THE NECK OF LAND BEHIND THE FORT!

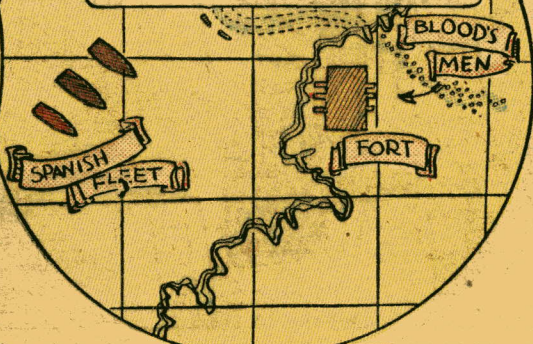


DIEGO, WHAT A CLEVER RASCAL THIS BLOOD IS. HE PLANS TO SNEAK UP ON THE FORT AND CAPTURE IT FROM BEHIND.

I DO NOT UNDERSTAND.



SEE, DIEGO... BLOOD WISHES TO CAPTURE THE FORT. HE BELIEVES THAT IF HE CAN CONTROL THE GREAT GUNS, HE CAN POINT THEM AT US AND KEEP US AT A DISTANCE, WHILE HIS TWO SHIPS SAIL THROUGH THE HARBOR.



WILL NOT THE GUNS OF THE FORT DESTROY HIS MEN IF THEY ATTACK BY LAND?

NOT AS THE GUNS POINT NOW. AS WITH ALL SEA FORTS, THE GREAT GUNS POINT TO THE SEA. THE REAR IS UNDEFENDED. IT IS THAT UNDEFENDED REAR WHERE BLOOD WILL STRIKE AND THAT IS WHERE I WILL FOOL HIM.



WE DO NOT HAVE MORE GUNS TO REINFORCE THE FORT.

WE DO NOT NEED MORE GUNS. WE WILL TURN ALL THE GREAT GUNS TOWARD THE LANDSIDE. WHEN BLOOD'S MEN APPEAR, WE WILL BLOW THEM RIGHT OUT OF THE JUNGLE. MY SHIPS WILL DEFEND THE SEA PASSAGE.



FAST FICTION

MEANWHILE, AT THE DOCK AT MARACAYBO-- CAPTAIN BLOOD'S MEN LOAD THE ELIZABETH WITH GUN POWDER.

PITT! WHAT NEWS FROM OUR SPIES?

SUCCESS! ESPINOSA HAS FALLEN FOR YOUR TRICK. HIS MEN ARE TURNING THE HARBOR FORT GUNS INLAND... AWAY FROM THE SEA!

GOOD! THE ELIZABETH IS LOADED WITH POWDER-- ALL SET TO EXPLODE ESPINOSA'S WARSHIP. HOW MANY MEN DOES THE ADMIRAL THINK WE HAVE LANDED BEHIND THE FORT?

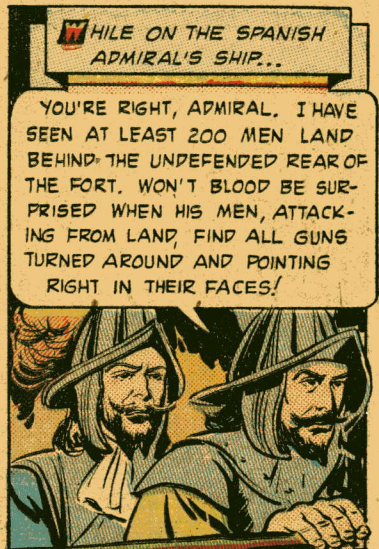


THE ADMIRAL PROBABLY THINKS HE SAW AT LEAST 200. I WENT THROUGH THE MOTIONS OF LANDING THE SAME FIVE MEN BEHIND THE FORT AT LEAST FORTY TIMES.

EACH TIME FIVE OF US PRETENDED TO LAND. THEN WE'D SCOOT AROUND THE BEACH AND SWIM OUT TO THE BOAT AS IT WAS GOING BACK... SNEAK ABOARD... AND HIDE ON THE BOTTOM. THE SPANISH COULDN'T SEE THE TRICK AT THAT DISTANCE. THEY THOUGHT THE BOAT CAME BACK EMPTY AND WENT OUT WITH FIVE NEW MEN EACH TIME!

WHILE ON THE SPANISH ADMIRAL'S SHIP...

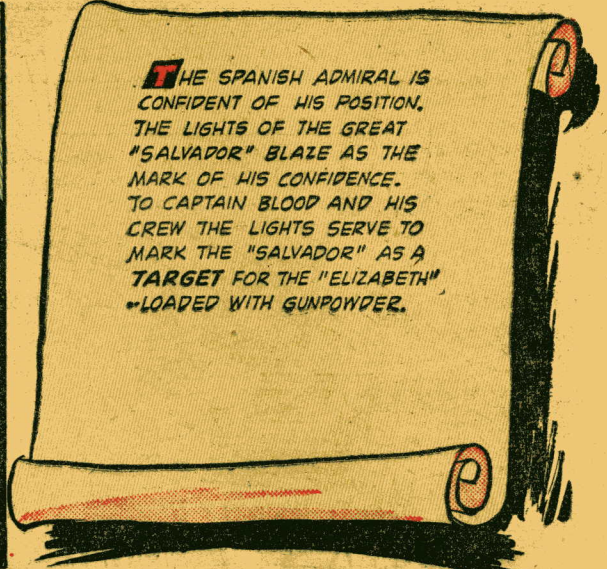
YOU'RE RIGHT, ADMIRAL. I HAVE SEEN AT LEAST 200 MEN LAND BEHIND THE UNDEFENDED REAR OF THE FORT. WON'T BLOOD BE SURPRISED WHEN HIS MEN, ATTACKING FROM LAND, FIND ALL GUNS TURNED AROUND AND POINTING RIGHT IN THEIR FACES!



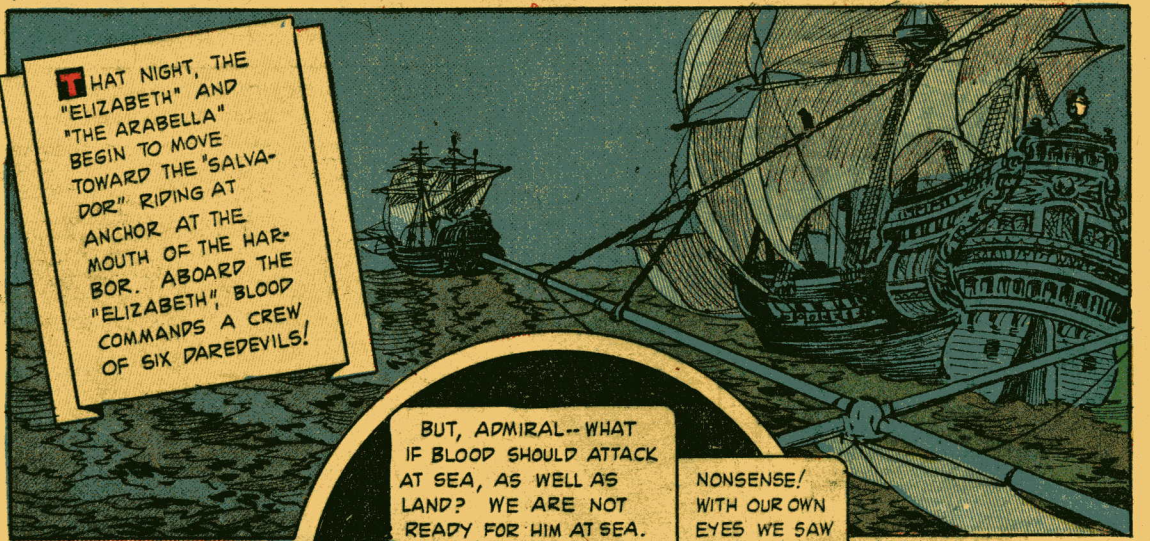
FAST FICTION



WE ATTACK TONIGHT!...
BY SEA!



THE SPANISH ADMIRAL IS CONFIDENT OF HIS POSITION. THE LIGHTS OF THE GREAT "SALVADOR" BLAZE AS THE MARK OF HIS CONFIDENCE. TO CAPTAIN BLOOD AND HIS CREW THE LIGHTS SERVE TO MARK THE "SALVADOR" AS A TARGET FOR THE "ELIZABETH" --LOADED WITH GUNPOWDER.



THAT NIGHT, THE "ELIZABETH" AND "THE ARABELLA" BEGIN TO MOVE TOWARD THE "SALVADOR" RIDING AT ANCHOR AT THE MOUTH OF THE HARBOR. ABOARD THE "ELIZABETH", BLOOD COMMANDS A CREW OF SIX DAREDEVILS!

BUT, ADMIRAL-- WHAT IF BLOOD SHOULD ATTACK AT SEA, AS WELL AS LAND? WE ARE NOT READY FOR HIM AT SEA.

NONSENSE! WITH OUR OWN EYES WE SAW HIM LAND 200

YOU ARE VERY CLEVER, ADMIRAL! YOU FIGURED OUT BLOOD'S PLAN TO ATTACK THE FORT!

MEN ASHORE BEHIND THE FORT. BLOOD DOES NOT HAVE ENOUGH MEN TO ATTACK ON LAND AND SEA.



THANK YOU, DIEGO. AT ANY MOMENT I EXPECT A REPORT TELLING ME THAT THE ATTACK HAS BEGUN!

THE SPANISH GUNNERS IN THE FORT WAIT FOR THE ATTACK BY LAND. BEHIND THEIR BACKS -- BLOOD'S SHIPS SAIL PAST THE FORT, WITH THE POWDER-PACKED "ELIZABETH" HEADING STRAIGHT FOR THE "SALVADOR"...



FAST FICTION

ABOARD THE "ELIZABETH," CAPTAIN BLOOD AND HIS SIX COMPANIONS LIGHT THEIR TORCHES.

WE'RE HEADED STRAIGHT FOR THE "SALVADOR". WE'LL SOON BE SEEN. USE YOUR TORCHES TO LIGHT THE FUSES TO THE POWDER BARRELS. THEN DIVE OVERBOARD. THIS SHIP IS LOADED WITH GUNPOWDER AND SET TO EXPLODE LIKE A BOMB! SWIM FAST AND "THE ARABELLA" WILL PICK YOU UP!

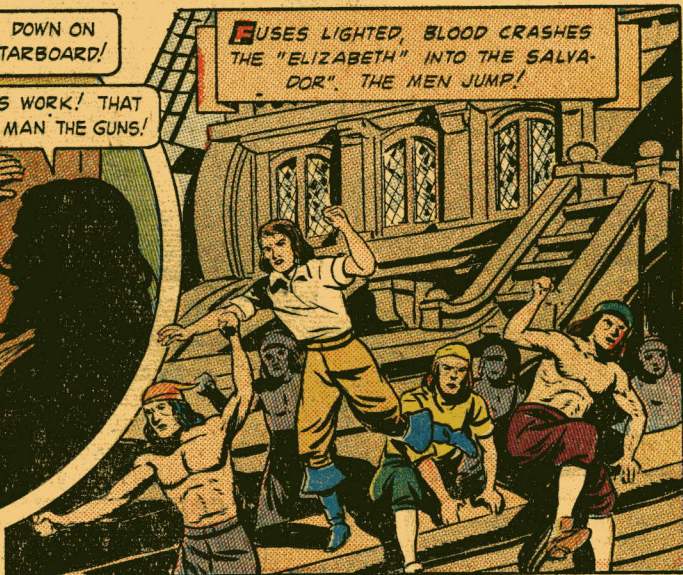


ABOARD THE "SALVADOR"...

A SHIP BEARS DOWN ON US FROM THE STARBOARD!

BLOOD'S WORK! THAT DEVIL! MAN THE GUNS!

FUSES LIGHTED, BLOOD CRASHES THE "ELIZABETH" INTO THE "SALVADOR". THE MEN JUMP!



A GOOD TRICK WELL DONE! NOW LET'S GO BEFORE THE REST OF THE SPANISH SQUADRON RETURNS. ADIOS, ADMIRAL ESPINOSA!



AFTER CROSSING THE ATLANTIC, LORD JULIAN PUT IN FOR FRESH WATER AT PORT ROYAL WHERE HE MET ARABELLA BISHOP VISITING FRIENDS. LORD JULIAN OFFERED TO CARRY HER TO HER UNCLE'S HOME AT BARBADOS. ON THE WAY, LORD JULIAN'S SHIP WAS CAPTURED AND SUNK BY THE SPANISH SHIPS, "MILAGROSA" AND "HIDALGA", NOW RETURNING TO MARACAYBO.



GALLANTRY WILL WIN THROUGH -- EVEN AGAINST OVERWHELMING ODDS!

I HAVE A LITTLE AMUSEMENT FOR YOU. WE FIGHT THE FAMOUS ENGLISH PIRATE-- CAPTAIN BLOOD! WE WILL WIN, BECAUSE WE HAVE TWO SHIPS AND HE HAS BUT ONE!

A PRETTY SPEECH, SENORITA ARABELLA. BUT COME-- SEE FOR YOURSELF! CAPTAIN BLOOD IS SAILING STRAIGHT TO HIS DOOM -- STRAIGHT TO THE YARDARM AND THE ROPE THAT HAVE BEEN SO LONG WAITING FOR HIM! MEANWHILE, MY MEN SHALL RELEASE YOU TWO.



FAST FICTION

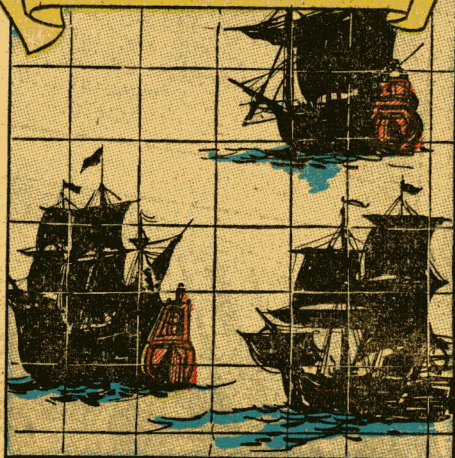
ABOARD "THE ARABELLA", BLOOD AND HIS CREW SPOT THE SPANIARDS.

IT LOOKS BAD, PETER. THE SPANIARDS WILL SINK US UNLESS WE TURN AND RUN FOR IT!

CAPTAIN BLOOD RUNS FROM NO SPANIARD!

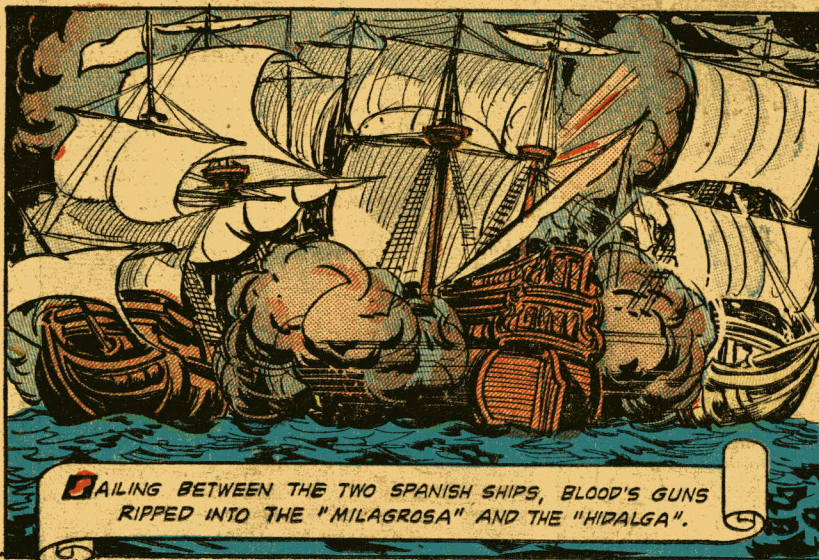
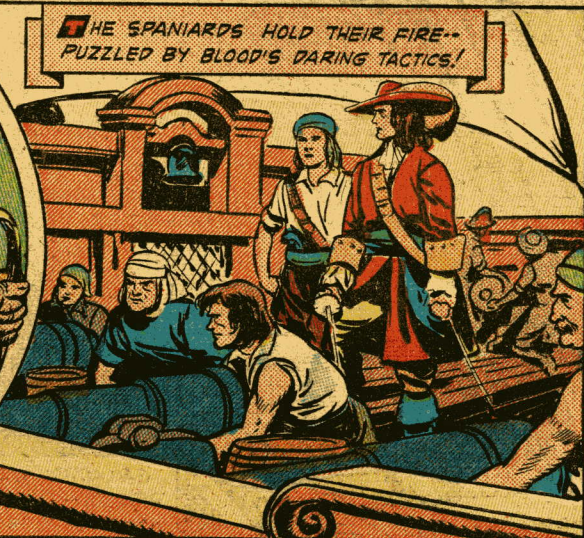


EACH PASSING SECOND BRINGS "THE ARABELLA" CLOSER TO THE DEADLY GUNS OF THE "MILAGROSA" AND "HIDALGA"...



THE SPANIARDS HOLD THEIR FIRE-- PUZZLED BY BLOOD'S DARING TACTICS!

I AM GOING TO ATTACK!



SAILING BETWEEN THE TWO SPANISH SHIPS, BLOOD'S GUNS RIPPED INTO THE "MILAGROSA" AND THE "HIDALGA".

COWARDS! FOOLS! BACK TO YOUR GUNS!



FAST FICTION

SUDDENLY THE SPANISH CAPTAIN REALIZES THAT TOO LONG HAS HE HELD HIS FIRE! IF HIS SHIPS FIRE NOW, THEY WILL FIRE ACROSS INTO EACH OTHER!

WAIT! WE WILL DESTROY EACH OTHER WITH OUR OWN GUNS! HOLD YOUR FIRE!

PETER BLOOD IS DEFEATING THEM!

HE HAS DISABLED THEIR SHIPS. BUT NOW HE MUST COME ABOARD AND FIGHT IT OUT WITH COLD STEEL!



FAST FICTION

3 BLOOD LEADS HIS MEN ABOARD THE "MILAGROSA" TO FINISH OFF THE SPANIARDS.



I SEEK THE SPANISH CAPTAIN!

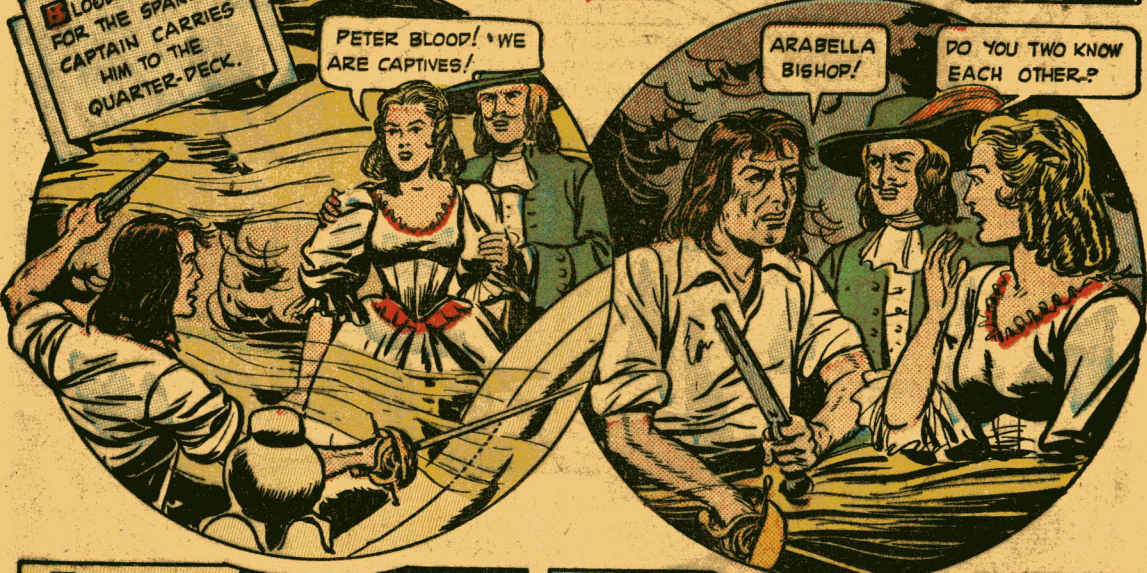


5 BLOOD'S SEARCH FOR THE SPANISH CAPTAIN CARRIES HIM TO THE QUARTER-DECK.

PETER BLOOD! WE ARE CAPTIVES!

ARABELLA BISHOP!

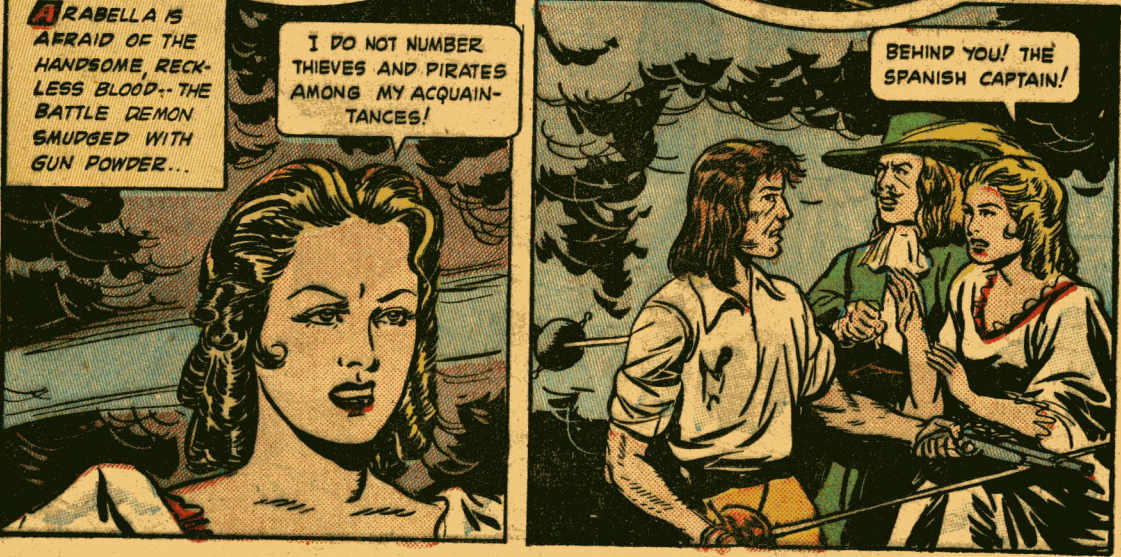
DO YOU TWO KNOW EACH OTHER?



4 ARABELLA IS AFRAID OF THE HANDSOME, RECKLESS BLOOD--THE BATTLE DEMON SMUDGED WITH GUN POWDER...

I DO NOT NUMBER THIEVES AND PIRATES AMONG MY ACQUAINTANCES!

BEHIND YOU! THE SPANISH CAPTAIN!



FAST FICTION

NOT TOO FAR AWAY-- ON THE FLAGSHIP OF THE BARBADOS FLEET-- CAPTAIN BLOOD'S OLD ENEMY, COLONEL BISHOP... NOW GOVERNOR OF BARBADOS...

I HOPE YOU FIND THIS CRUISE TO YOUR LIKING, GOVERNOR.

WHAT I WOULD LIKE MOST, ADMIRAL, WOULD BE FOR US TO CAPTURE THAT RASCAL-- CAPTAIN BLOOD!

SAIL HO! SMOKE ON THE HORIZON!

THE BARBADOS FLEET HAS COME ACROSS THE BATTLE BETWEEN BLOOD AND THE SPANIARDS!

GOVERNOR BISHOP PLANS HIS REVENGE.

WHAT SHIP, ADMIRAL?

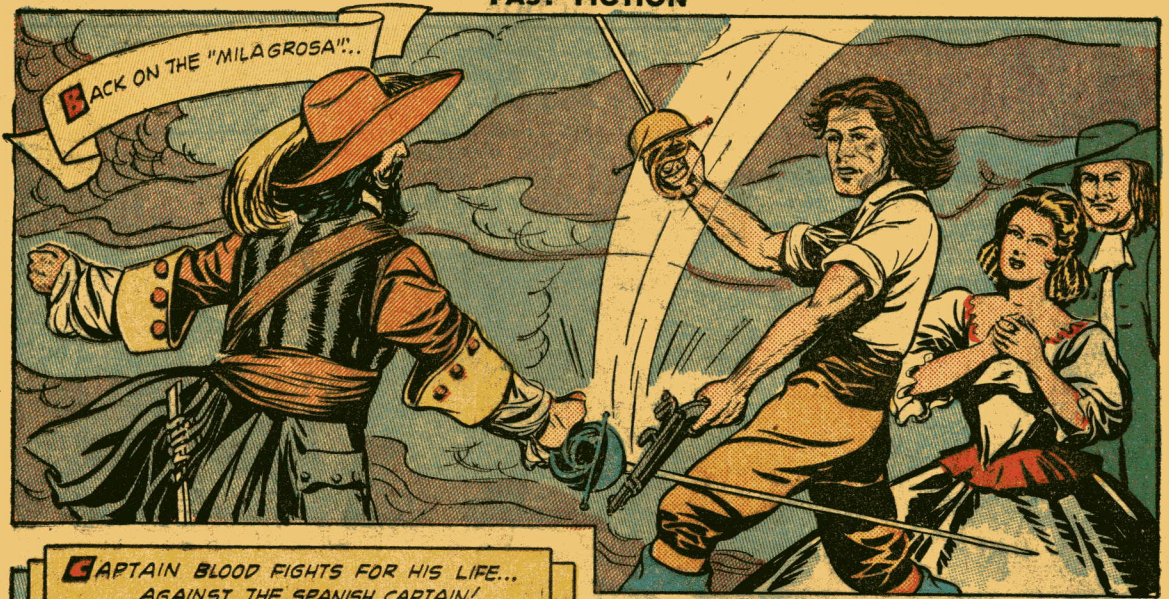
IT WOULD SEEM TO BE THE PIRATE SHIP "ARABELLA" ... AND OTHERS!

ADMIRAL -- CAN WE CAPTURE CAPTAIN BLOOD?

YES! WE HAVE EIGHT SHIPS IN THIS BARBADOS FLEET. WE WILL SURROUND HIM. HE CANNOT ESCAPE!



FAST FICTION



CAPTAIN BLOOD FIGHTS FOR HIS LIFE...
AGAINST THE SPANISH CAPTAIN!

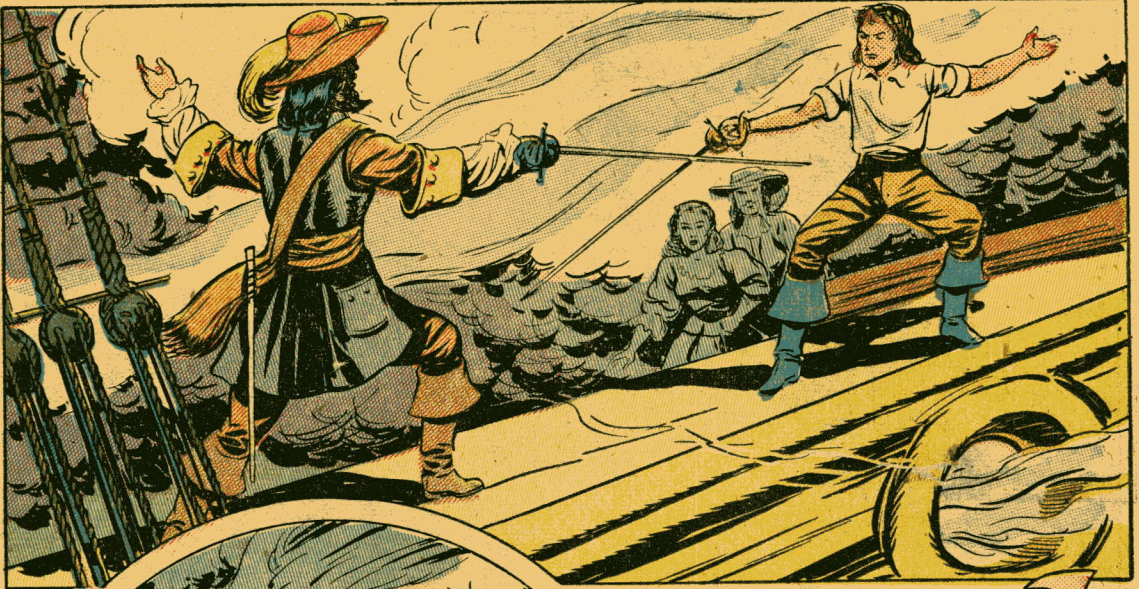


THE SPANIARD
CATCHES THE
RIGGING AND
PULLS HIMSELF
UPON THE RAIL.

I AM TOO
QUICK FOR
YOU!

TWO CAN PLAY
THAT CAT'S GAME!

FAST FICTION



I HOPE YOU CAN SWIM, BLOOD!

THE SPANIARD TRIPS BLOOD!



TRY THIS FOR SIZE!

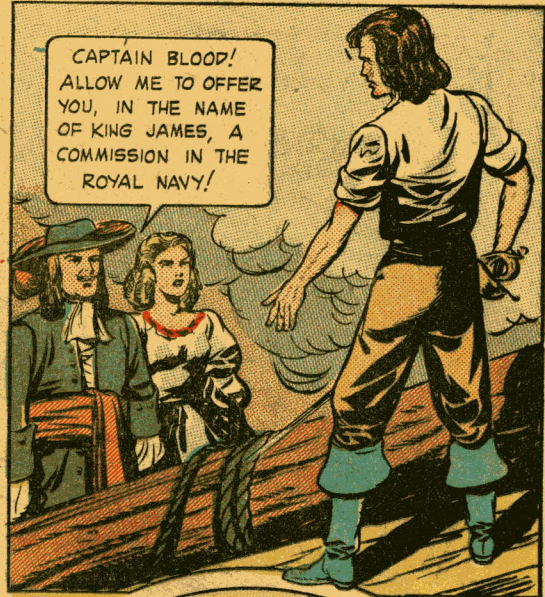
BLOOD CROUCHES, TENSE... READY... THEN RUNS THE CAPTAIN THROUGH!

FAST FICTION



THE SPANISH CAPTAIN SINKS BENEATH THE WAVES.

ADIOS, CAPTAIN!



CAPTAIN BLOOD! ALLOW ME TO OFFER YOU, IN THE NAME OF KING JAMES, A COMMISSION IN THE ROYAL NAVY!



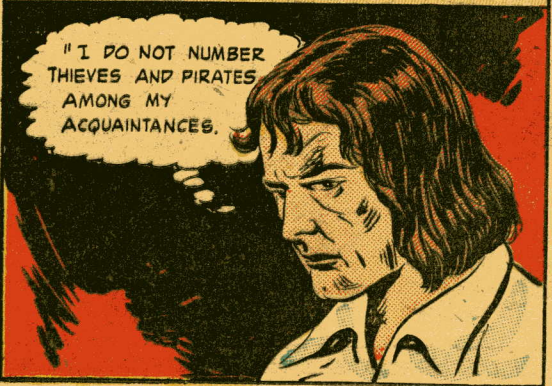
WHAT? PETER BLOOD IN KING JAMES' NAVY? WHO ARE YOU, ANYWAY?

LORD JULIAN EXPLAINS THAT HE HAS BEEN SENT BY LORD SUNDERLAND, THE KING'S MINISTER.



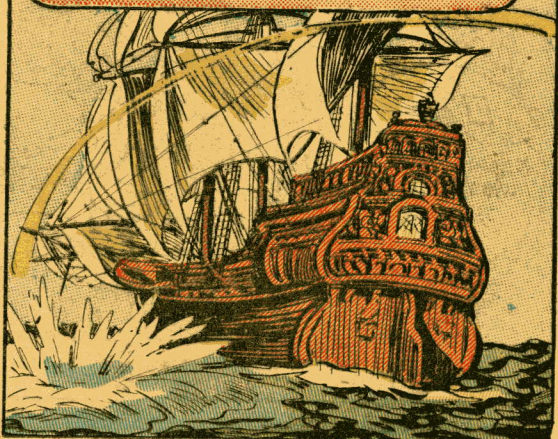
TAKE THE KING'S COMMISSION, BLOOD. YOU CAN KEEP YOUR WEALTH... AND QUIT THIS LIFE OF PIRACY.

ALL THESE MONTHS BLOOD HAS RISKED HIS LIFE IN HOPES THAT SOMEDAY HE MIGHT RETURN WITH A PARDON TO BARBADOS AND CLAIM IN MARRIAGE THE HAND OF ARABELLA BISHOP. NOW HE KNOWS THIS CANNOT BE. HE REMEMBERS HER WORDS...



"I DO NOT NUMBER THIEVES AND PIRATES AMONG MY ACQUAINTANCES."

A CANNONADE RINGS OUT BEFORE BLOOD CAN REPLY. BISHOP'S BARBADOS SQUADRON HAS BEGUN THE ATTACK!



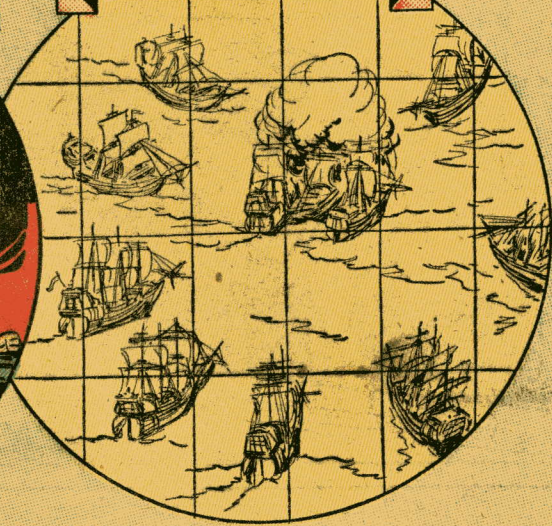
FAST FICTION

ABOARD THE FLAGSHIP OF THE BARBADOS SQUADRON, GOVERNOR BISHOP GRINS ... THINKING OF HIS REVENGE!



BLOOD CAN'T ESCAPE! HE'S COMPLETELY SURROUNDED!

BLOOD IS RINGED IN. THE ODDS ARE EIGHT TO ONE!



PETER-- THE ENGLISH ATTACK! DO WE FIGHT FROM HERE OR THE "ARABELLA"?



BLOOD HAS LOST HIS WILL TO FIGHT. ARABELLA'S REBUFF HAS BROKEN HIS SPIRIT!



WE WILL NOT FIGHT! RUN UP THE WHITE FLAG. WE WILL SURRENDER...

PITT CANNOT BELIEVE HIS EARS...

PETER, THAT'S BISHOP'S BARBADOS SQUADRON OUT THERE. BISHOP WILL HAVE YOU HANGING FOR DEAD WITHIN THE HOUR!



BLOOD WILL NOT CHANGE THE ORDER TO SURRENDER!



ARABELLA NO LONGER CARES FOR ME-- I DO NOT CARE IF THEY DO HANG ME.

FAST FICTION



PETER, IF YOU DO NOT CARE FOR YOUR OWN LIFE, THINK OF YOUR MEN. IF YOU DO NOT FIGHT, THE MEN WILL HANG!



CAPTAIN BLOOD, ACCEPT MY OFFER OF A COMMISSION IN THE ROYAL NAVY... THAT WILL SAVE YOUR MEN, AND YOURSELF.



WHAT DO YOU WANT?

WE WILL NOT SURRENDER!



GIVE US THE GIRL, BLOOD -- THEN WE WON'T HAVE TO SURRENDER!

HOLD ARABELLA BISHOP HOSTAGE! HER UNCLE WILL BE FORCED TO LET US GO TO SAVE HER LIFE!

IF I HOLD ARABELLA HOSTAGE, I WILL LOSE HER FOREVER. THERE IS ONLY ONE THING I CAN DO.

FAST FICTION

BLOOD MAKES HIS DECISION.

LORD JULIAN, IF YOU SWEAR YOUR OFFER WILL PROTECT MY MEN AGAINST GOVERNOR BISHOP, I ACCEPT YOUR COMMISSION.

I GIVE YOU MY WORD YOUR MEN WILL GO FREE. THEY CAN SERVE WITH YOU IN THE ROYAL NAVY... OR RETURN TO TORTUGA.



ARABELLA IS AMAZED AT THE GENTLEMANLY CONDUCT OF THE BATTLE-TORN ADVENTURER WHOM SHE HAD CALLED A PIRATE AND A THIEF.

DID I JUDGE HIM TOO HARSHLY?



PITT, EXPLAIN MY ACTION TO THE MEN. RUN UP A WHITE FLAG OF SURRENDER AND WATCH FOR GOVERNOR BISHOP'S BOAT. I AM SURE HE WILL COME IN PERSON!



ARABELLA IS SORRY FOR HER BAD TREATMENT OF BLOOD.

PETER, YOU HAVE ACTED WISELY IN SAVING YOURSELF.



FTUNG BY ARABELLA'S SUGGESTION THAT HE HAD ACTED TO SAVE HIMSELF, BLOOD LOSES HIS TEMPER!

IT WAS NOT FOR MYSELF THAT I SURRENDERED-- IT WAS FOR THE SAKE OF MY MEN... AND YOURSELF!... FINE THANKS I GET!



GOVERNOR BISHOP IS COMING ABOARD!



FAST FICTION



SO WE MEET AGAIN!

HOW DIFFERENT FROM WHEN I WAS SLAVE AND YOU WERE MASTER, BISHOP



I AM STILL MASTER! WITHIN THE HOUR YOU AND YOUR PIRATE GANGS WILL SWING BY YOUR NECKS FROM YONDER YARDARM!



SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU, BISHOP-- BUT I AM AN OFFICER IN THE ROYAL NAVY!

WHAT? BY WHOSE ORDER?



BY ORDER OF HIS MAJESTY KING JAMES!

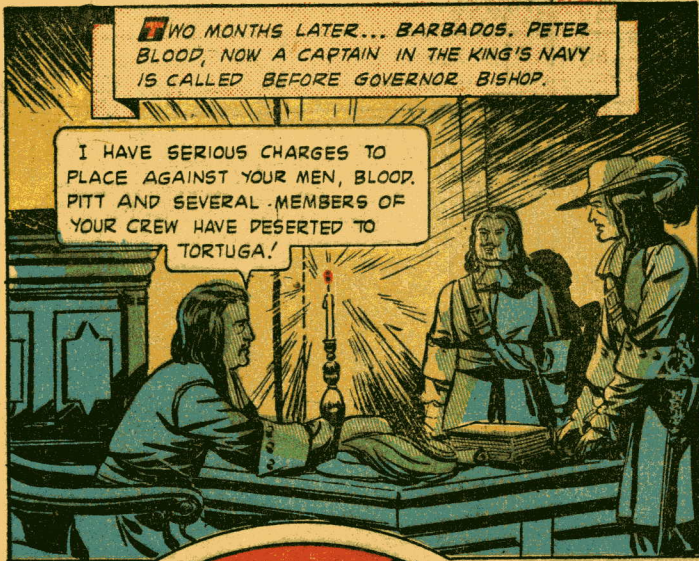
ARABELLA, ARE YOU AWARE OF THIS?



BLOOD, YOU SCOUNDREL! WHAT TRICK IS THIS?

NO TRICK, GOVERNOR. BLOOD IS A HERO. UNLESS YOU WANT TO OFFEND THE KING, YOU HAD BETTER GET USED TO THE IDEA!

FAST FICTION

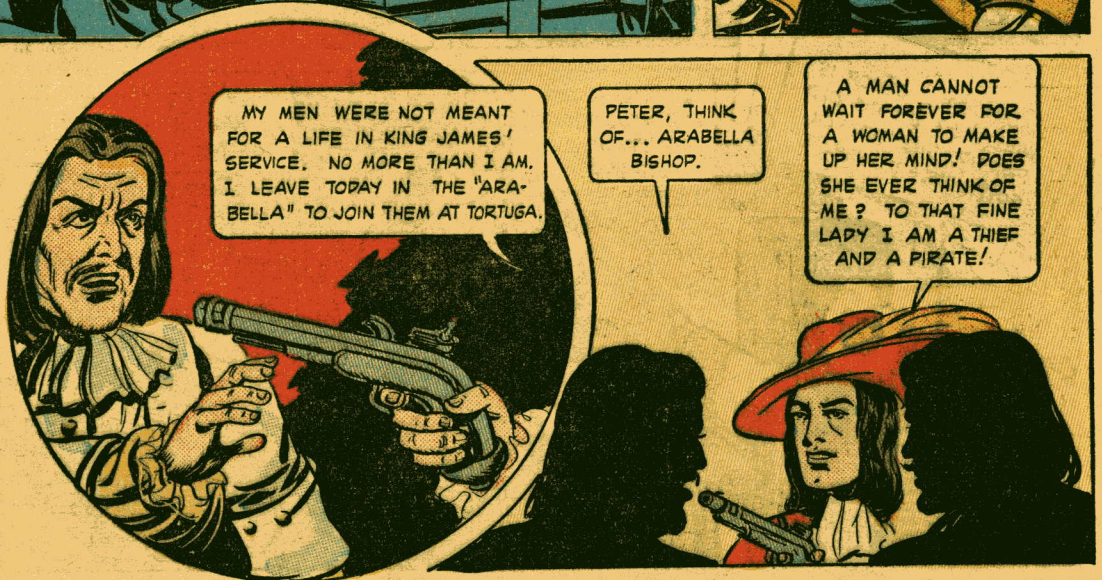


TWO MONTHS LATER... BARBADOS. PETER BLOOD, NOW A CAPTAIN IN THE KING'S NAVY IS CALLED BEFORE GOVERNOR BISHOP.

I HAVE SERIOUS CHARGES TO PLACE AGAINST YOUR MEN, BLOOD. PITT AND SEVERAL MEMBERS OF YOUR CREW HAVE DESERTED TO TORTUGA!



THE MEN DID NOT DESERT. I TOLD THEM TO GO!



MY MEN WERE NOT MEANT FOR A LIFE IN KING JAMES' SERVICE. NO MORE THAN I AM. I LEAVE TODAY IN THE "ARABELLA" TO JOIN THEM AT TORTUGA.

PETER, THINK OF... ARABELLA BISHOP.

A MAN CANNOT WAIT FOREVER FOR A WOMAN TO MAKE UP HER MIND! DOES SHE EVER THINK OF ME? TO THAT FINE LADY I AM A THIEF AND A PIRATE!



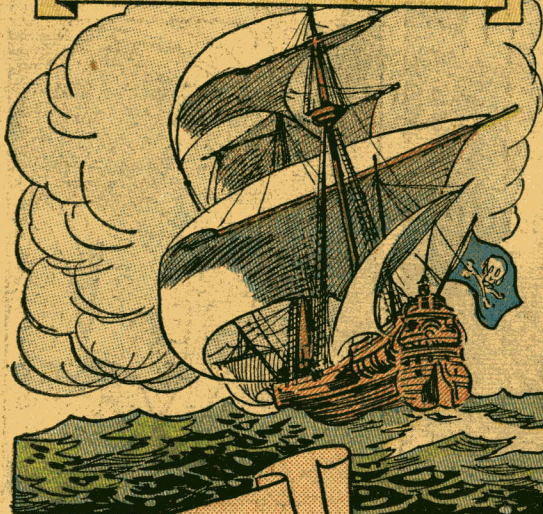
YOU'LL NEVER GET OUT OF BARBADOS HARBOR ALIVE!



I'LL GET OUT, GOVERNOR-- BECAUSE I'M TAKING YOU WITH ME. LORD JULIAN, WARN THE GUNNERS TO HOLD THEIR FIRE UNTIL THE "ARABELLA" IS CLEAR OF THE HARBOR!

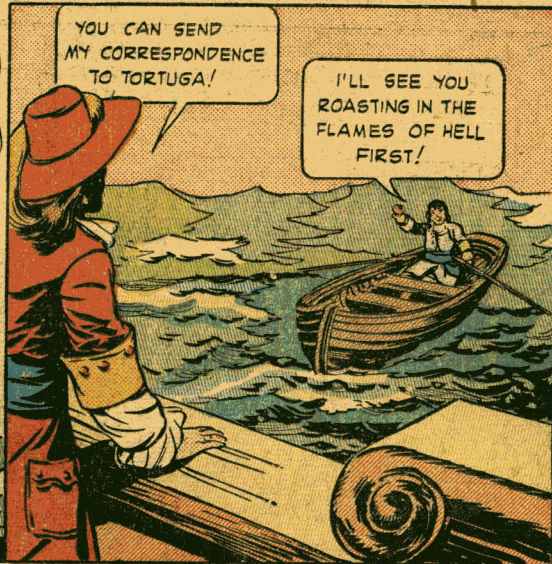
FAST FICTION

THE "ARABELLA" MOVES OUT TO SEA...



YOU CAN SEND MY CORRESPONDENCE TO TORTUGA!

I'LL SEE YOU ROASTING IN THE FLAMES OF HELL FIRST!



TORTUGA... BLOOD IS WELCOMED BY HIS OLD FRIEND, THE FRENCH GOVERNOR - D'OGERON!

I HAVE A JOB FOR YOU. FRANCE AND SPAIN ARE AT WAR.

THEY ARE ALWAYS AT WAR IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD.



THIS IS OFFICIAL WAR... NOT PIRATE RAIDS. BARON DE RIVAROL IS COMING TO TORTUGA WITH A FRENCH SQUADRON.

THERE WILL BE MUCH TREASURE CAPTURED BY THE BARON. HE COULD USE A GOOD MAN LIKE YOU!

TELL ME MORE. I WILL JOIN THE BARON.



FAST FICTION



BARON DE RIVAROL, ADMIRAL OF THE FRENCH SQUADRON...VAIN... VICIOUS... AND GREEDY!

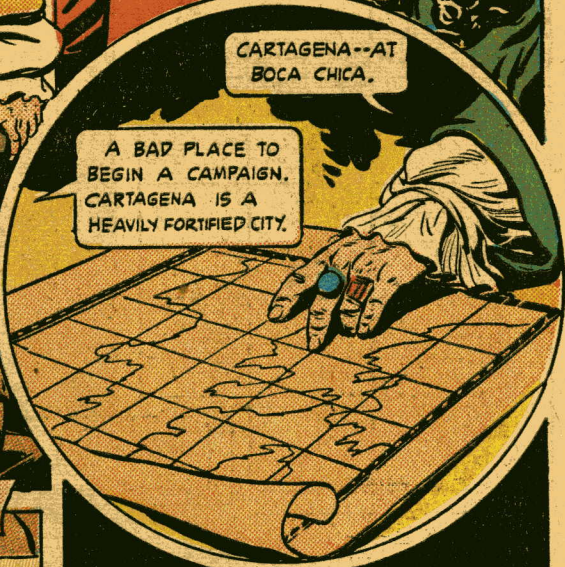
CAPTAIN BLOOD... WHEN YOU ARE IN MY CABIN, STAND AT ATTENTION! I AM IN COMMAND!

BLOOD REFUSES TO STAND. HE DOES NOT LIKE THE LOOK OF THE BARON.



VERY WELL-- KEEP YOUR SEAT. I WILL TEACH YOU RESPECT IN GOOD TIME. NOW WE DISCUSS THE FIRST MISSION.

WHERE DO YOU INTEND TO STRIKE?



CARTAGENA--AT BOCA CHICA.

A BAD PLACE TO BEGIN A CAMPAIGN. CARTAGENA IS A HEAVILY FORTIFIED CITY.

BLOOD IS STUNG BY THE BARON'S INSULT.

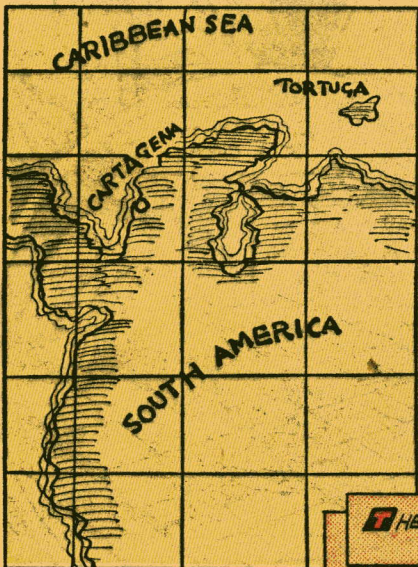


WHAT'S WRONG? HAVE YOU LOST YOUR NERVE?



I AM AFRAID OF NO MAN! WHEN DO WE SAIL?

FAST FICTION



7 NIGHTS LATER, THE FRENCH SQUADRON RIDES OFF THE SHORE OF CARTAGENA.



THE BARON STINGS BLOOD WITH ANOTHER INSULT!

THE SURF IS TOO ROUGH. I KNOW PALAMOS BEACH. THE BOATS WILL BREAK UP. MY MEN WILL BE LOST. PLEASE CONSIDER.

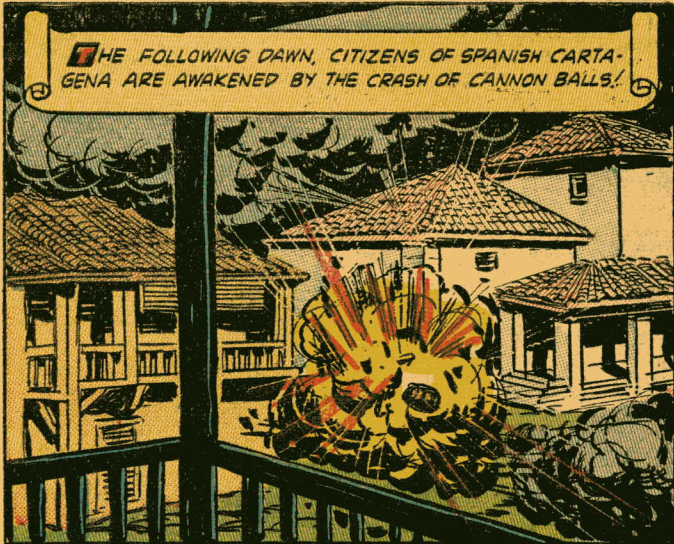
YOU WANT YOUR SHARE OF THE TREASURE, BUT YOU DO NOT WANT YOUR SHARE OF THE FIGHTING!

I WILL DO MY SHARE-- AND MORE. SEE THAT YOU ARE READY WITH THE TREASURE!



FAST FICTION

THE FOLLOWING DAWN, CITIZENS OF SPANISH CARTAGENA ARE AWAKENED BY THE CRASH OF CANNON BALLS!



IS IT THE FRENCH SQUADRON THAT ATTACKS?

ALL I SEE ARE TWO SHIPS, SUCH DARING TACTICS! THE DEVIL HIMSELF MUST BE ABOARD!



CUT HER HARD TO STARBOARD! NOW FIRE!

BLOOD AND PITT, COMMANDING THE "ARABELLA" AND "CLEO" ATTACK CARTAGENA SINGLE-HANDEDLY.



RUN FOR YOUR LIVES! INTO THE HILLS!

FLEE! IT MUST BE THE DEVIL HIMSELF!

ABANDON THE CITY!



PREPARE TO LAND ON THE DOCKS! WE'LL HAVE CARTAGENA BEFORE THE BARON FINISHES SIPPING HIS BREAKFAST COFFEE!



FAST FICTION

CARTAGENA HAS FALLEN TO BLOOD. THE BARON HAS COME ASHORE TO INSPECT THE TREASURE.

YOU DISOBEYED MY ORDERS. BUT THE TREASURE MAKES ME FORGET MY ANGER. WE WILL DIVIDE THE TREASURE IN MY CABIN. HAVE IT BROUGHT ABOARD MY SHIP.



IT IS MY CUSTOM TO DIVIDE THE TREASURE BEFORE THE EYES OF THE MEN WHO FOUGHT TO WIN IT

I GIVE THE ORDERS HERE! THE TREASURE WILL BE BROUGHT TO MY CABIN!



MORNING... THE FRENCH SQUADRON IS GONE!

THE BARON HAS RUN OFF IN THE NIGHT WITH OUR SHARE OF THE TREASURE! CALL ALL HANDS ON DECK! WE'LL LEAVE THE "CLEO" HERE AND TAKE AFTER THE BARON IN THE "ARABELLA"-- WITH A DOUBLE CREW OF FIGHTING MEN ABOARD! I'LL TRACK THAT FRENCH SWINE THROUGH ALL THE SEVEN SEAS!

THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT THE BARON'S SEAMEN TOILED, CARRYING THE TREASURE OF CARTAGENA ABOARD THE BARON'S WARSHIP.



FAST FICTION

AT SEA, ONE DAY LATER, BLOOD PICKS UP A BOAT-LOAD OF ENGLISH SURVIVORS.

OUR SHIPS WERE SUNK BY THE FRENCH SQUADRON UNDER BARON DE RIVAROL.

WE SANK TWO OF HIS-- BUT IT WAS OF NO USE.



I AM LORD WILLOUGHBY, NEW GOVERNOR GENERAL OF THE WEST INDIAN ISLANDS. THIS IS ADMIRAL VAN DER KUYLEN, WE ARE BOTH LOYAL SUBJECTS OF HIS MAJESTY KING WILLIAM OF ENGLAND!



KING WILLIAM? WHAT HAPPENED TO KING JAMES? DID THEY FINALLY KICK THE SCOUNDREL OUT?

YES! JAMES IS GONE! AND WE HAVE BEEN SENT HERE BY KING WILLIAM TO REPLACE GOVERNOR BISHOP.

JAMES FLED TO FRANCE. NOW FRANCE IS AT WAR WITH ENGLAND. THAT'S WHY THE BARON SANK OUR SHIPS!



BLOOD LISTENS AS IN A DREAM... THE NEWS IS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE!

UNDER KING WILLIAM'S RULE, I AM INNOCENT. WITH JAMES OUT, I CAN GO HOME TO ENGLAND A FREE MAN!



BLOOD'S DREAM IS BROKEN...

A SAIL ON THE HORIZON! A FRENCH MAN O' WAR! THE BARON RETURNS!



FAST FICTION



THE BARON COMES IN FOR THE FIGHT!



THE "ARABELLA" SENDS A BROADSIDE CRASHING INTO THE FRENCH.



FRENCH GUNS HIT A POWDER MAGAZINE ON THE "ARABELLA"!



THE "ARABELLA" IS SLOWLY SINKING.

HOOK ON TO THE FRENCHMAN, LADS! SHE'LL HOLD US UP!



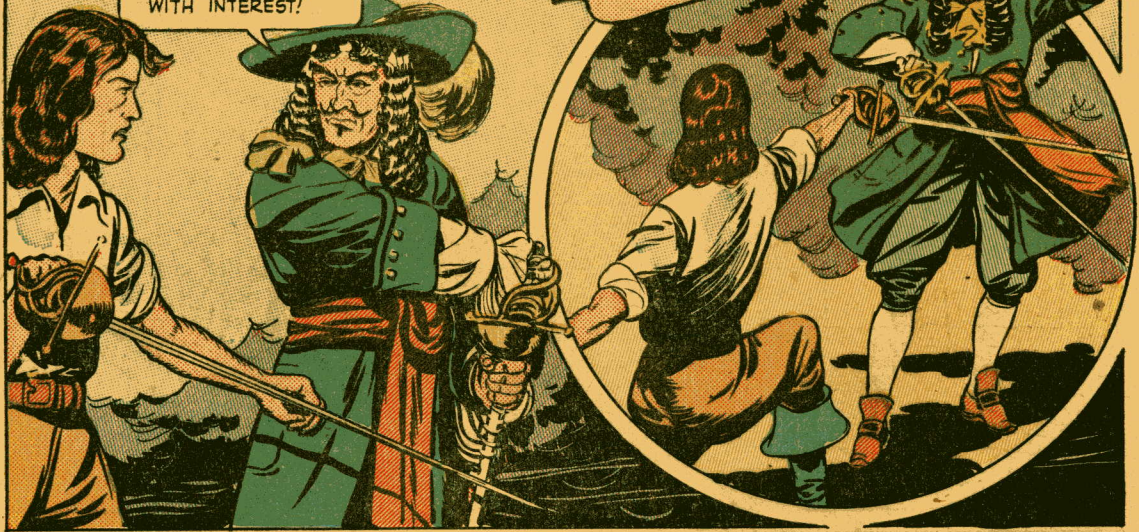
BLOOD'S STRATEGY! HE HAS "ARABELLA" LASHED TO THE FRENCH WARSHIP.. THUS KEEPING THE "ARABELLA" FROM SINKING!

FAST FICTION

FACE TO FACE WITH THE BARON

SO YOU HAVE COME FOR YOUR SHARE! I WILL PAY YOU OFF WITH INTEREST!

THE COOL-HEADED BLOOD - LIKE A SURGEON - CARVES THE BARON.



A FINAL DEADLY THRUST DISPATCHES THE BARON!

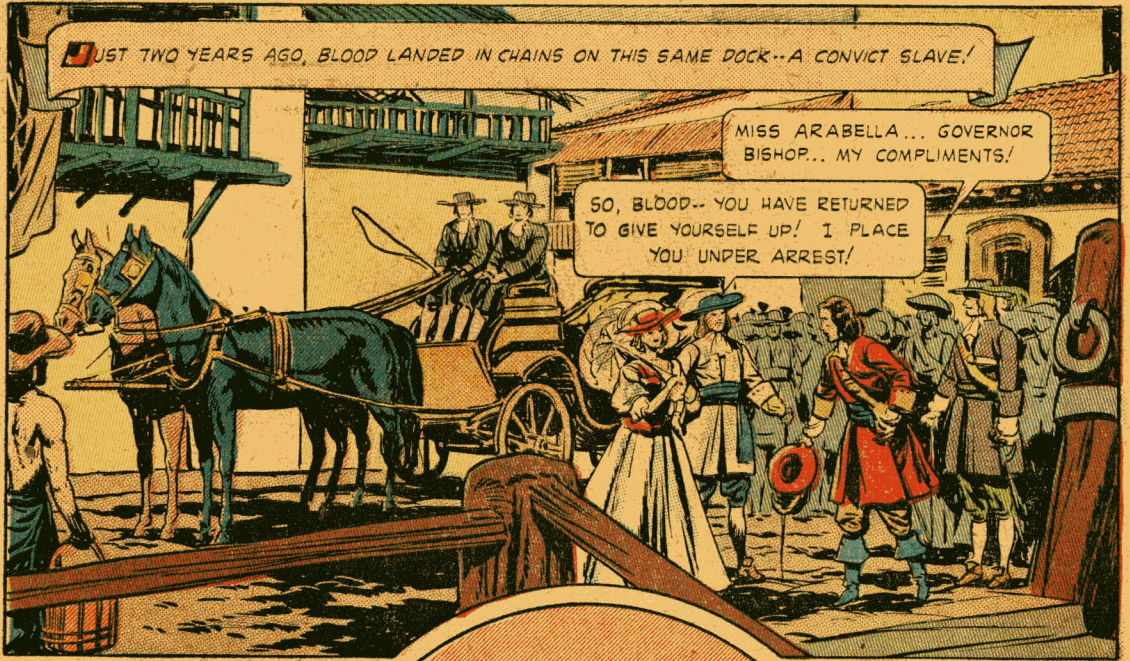
ADIEU, BARON!



CONGRATULATIONS! NOW LET US SAIL FOR BARBADOS! THERE'S A FINE SURPRISE WAITING FOR YOU IN BARBADOS, CAPTAIN BLOOD!



FAST FICTION



JUST TWO YEARS AGO, BLOOD LANDED IN CHAINS ON THIS SAME DOCK--A CONVICT SLAVE!

MISS ARABELLA... GOVERNOR BISHOP... MY COMPLIMENTS!

SO, BLOOD-- YOU HAVE RETURNED TO GIVE YOURSELF UP! I PLACE YOU UNDER ARREST!



LORD WILLOUGHBY, NEW GOVERNOR GENERAL UNPER KING WILLIAM OF ENGLAND!

IT MEANS THAT KING JAMES IS OUT... AND SO ARE YOU, BISHOP! AND NOW I GIVE YOU THE NEW GOVERNOR OF BARBADOS... GOVERNOR PETER BLOOD!

I PLACE YOU UNDER ARREST, BISHOP!

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? WHO ARE YOU?



OH, PETER-- I HAVE MISJUDGED YOU SO. WILL YOU EVER FORGIVE ME?

YOU HAVE BEEN MY INSPIRATION, ARABELLA. LET US THINK ONLY OF THE FUTURE AND THE HAPPINESS THAT LIES BEFORE US!

AND SO IT WAS THAT PETER BLOOD WHO HAD LANDED AT BARBADOS TWO YEARS BEFORE -- IN CHAINS, CONVICT AND SLAVE -- DESPITE ADVERSITY, WON HIS FREEDOM AND THE WOMAN HE LOVED!

HCK-

DUKE OF MONMOUTH

The Duke of Monmouth was an "accident" of history. A man of great talent, but unfortunate birth. His father was a King of England, Charles II, but his mother was not a Queen. The Duke of Monmouth was the son of one Lucy Walters, the mistress of King Charles II.

Charles was very fond of young Monmouth, and he lavished affection on him. He was made Captain General of the King's forces, and later, Commander-in-Chief. But there was one thing that Charles II would not do. The monarch would not recognize Monmouth as his legal son.

When Charles II fell ill, the question arose: who will be the next king? When it became apparent that Charles would be succeeded by his brother James, the enemies of James and Charles rallied around Monmouth. And shortly after James II had mounted the English throne, Monmouth struck!

In May, 1685 Monmouth landed in the west of England, stronghold of the enemies of James II. He had only 82 followers, but he soon acquired 1500 armed men who helped him to seize Axminster and enter Taunton. Revolution blazed in the western counties!

Parliament declared Monmouth a traitor! A price of 5,000 pounds was placed on his head. Payment would be made on delivery—dead or alive!

The King's troops were despatched to the west! On July 5th, Monmouth's army was completely smashed! Three days later the Duke was captured. And on July 15th he was put to death! But he did not die

in vain! The brutal treatment of Monmouth's followers after his execution, created a feeling against James II which eventually helped to remove him from the throne.

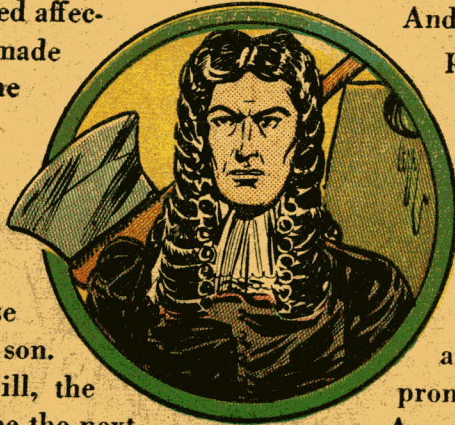
The trials of the rebels has been described as a mockery of justice. Judge Jeffreys sent 320 men to their deaths. And untold hundreds were shipped off to the West Indies, and there sold into slavery.

Scores of prisoners were forced to plead guilty, and few cases received any sort of a proper hearing. The executioners worked day and night as Judge Jeffreys pronounced the death sentences.

As a reward for the bloody manner in which he had handled the trials of the revolutionaries, Judge Jeffreys was rewarded by James II with the title of Lord Chancellor of England. At this act, the people of England recoiled, for remember, that although the majority of them were not in sympathy with Monmouth, they believed in fair trials and justice for all.

History has rewarded Judge Jeffreys by making his name a byword for infamy. And his high-handed actions constituted one more black mark against King James II, who occupied the throne a scant three years before the people of England sent him packing off into exile.

It was Monmouth's ambition to become King. But in the action which cost his life, he served the English people well. The rebellion of the ill-fated Duke revealed the fact that King James II was unfit to rule.



JAMES II

James II, who put down the Monmouth Rebellion, was a member of the royal Stuart family, whose adventures have dotted with blood the pages of English history!

James was the son of the notorious Charles I, and when Charles was toppled from the throne of England and relieved of his head as the price of being a bad king, James was shipped off to Europe, where he lived for a number of years and served in the French and Spanish armies.

For many years the Stuart family was not welcome in England, but after much scheming James' brother, Charles, returned to London and was crowned Charles II. James followed and as brother of the King he was appointed Lord High Admiral and Warden of the Cinque Ports.

When Charles II died, brother James became King James II and that was the beginning of the end. Among the difficulties was the Monmouth Rebellion. Despite differences with James the English people stood by the King when Monmouth struck. But the savage trials of which Sabatini writes in "Captain Blood" turned popular opinion against James. The man in the street had small sympathy for Monmouth, but in true English tradition, he believed in justice for all. And the Monmouth Rebels saw very little justice at the Bloody Assizes.

The popular feeling against King James II, coupled with the general unrest because of other actions of his, snowballed into a cry for revolution. And though it may sound unbelievable, Mary, the daughter of

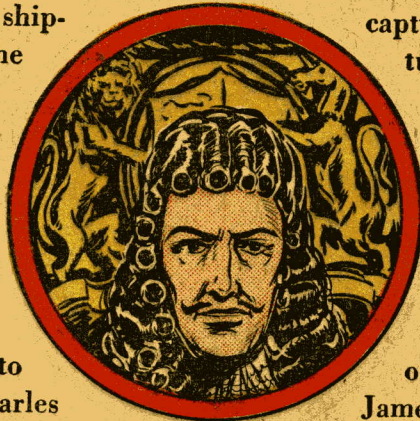
King James II and her husband, William of Orange, ruler of the Netherlands, were invited to come to England and rule as King and Queen.

When the new rulers landed on English soil, James II, deserted by his friends, tried to escape to France. But the once-royal leader of England was captured by fishermen and returned in disgrace to London as their prisoner.

And now, with William and Mary seated on the throne and James in prison, the English people were faced with a problem. They had a pair of Kings! Charles I, father of James II, had been beheaded for his royal follies, and after his execution many people had felt sorry for the Stuart family because of the cruel punishment which Charles I had suffered at the hands of the English people.

The newly crowned King, William of Orange, was determined that there would be no repetition of this sympathy, that James II would not become a hero after being executed. And so it was decided that the ex-King would not lose his head after all. The crafty William arranged for James to make an easy escape from his prison. And James, glad thus to recover his freedom, took off for France, where he died in 1701.

James II reigned as King of England for only three years, from 1685 to 1688. He might have ruled until his death. But he was a poor politician. He was not clever managing his throne, and this failing cost him his Crown.



RAFAEL SABATINI

Rafael Sabatini, world-famous author of "Captain Blood" has led a life nearly as romantic as that of one of his red-blooded adventure-loving heroes!

Sabatini was born in Italy, but his adventures and travels have carried him around the world. Tall, with reddish hair, flashing hazel eyes, and the handsome features of one of his own heroic, fictional captains, Sabatini in his youth was a daring ski champion in the Swiss Alps. During the First World War the versatile author was a distinguished member of the Military Intelligence Department of the British War Office.

Few people know the Italian town of Jesi where Rafael Sabatini was born in 1875. But in the long ago days of the Middle Ages when damsels were wooed by knights in Florentine armour and hot-blooded young gallants settled their differences at flashing swordpoint, the town of Jesi was afire with romance and intrigue. A magnificent cathedral was built by medieval artisans, palaces were erected by proud noblemen, and a great wall was put up around the town to ward off a possible attack. It was amid these surroundings that young Sabatini spent his youth.

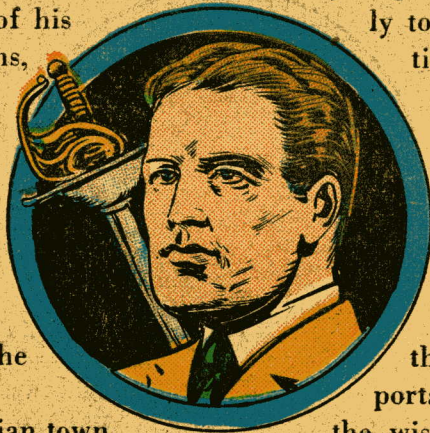
Three centuries had passed. The silken banners of the noblemen had long since crumbled. The palaces were empty and grass grew in the chinks of the town wall. But the youthful and imaginative Sabatini was fascinated by the martial history and legends of this once great, but now forgotten Italian town. In the gathering dusk of evening perhaps the lad sometimes fan-

cieed that he heard the distant halloos of galloping horsemen, and the clash of steel on steel as imaginary enemies charged the dusty palaces.

The ghosts of the long-dead past fired young Sabatini's mind with the romance of history. When he entered school the young man devoted himself diligently to the study of history. Sabatini had learned six languages by the time he was eighteen in order that he might better study the histories of the peoples of the world. The historical novels which Rafael Sabatini has given the world have shown the importance of his background and the wisdom of his many years of intensive study.

In forty-five years as an author, Rafael Sabatini has turned out over thirty-five historical novels. Each book has achieved success. Because of the years which he spent in study Sabatini does not visit the modern background of his novels. He prefers to remember them as they exist on the pages of history. Before writing "Captain Blood" Sabatini did not travel to Barbados, Tortuga, and the Spanish Main, because he did not wish to blur his mental picture of the heroic days of yesteryear with modern impressions of automobiles and airplanes.

Now in his seventy-fourth year, Rafael Sabatini lives in London, a British citizen. His career offers encouragement to every person who desires a career doing that thing which interests him most! Rafael Sabatini loved history, and out of that he achieved fame and fortune.



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