

A Brave Coward.

By Robert Louis Stevenson.

CHAPTER I.

I was a great solitary when I was young. I made it my pride to keep aloof and suffice for my own entertainment, and I may say that I had neither friends nor acquaintances until I met that friend who became my wife and the mother of my children. With one man only I was on private terms. This was R. Northmour, Esq., of Garden Easter, in Scotland. We had met at college, and though there was not much liking between us nor even much intimacy, we were so much of a humor that we could associate with ease to both. Misanthropes we believed ourselves to be, but I have thought since that we were only sulky fellows. It was scarcely a companionship, but a co-existence in unsoberability. Northmour's exceptional violence of temper made it no easy affair for him to keep the peace with any one but me; and as he respected my silent ways and let me come and go as I pleased, I could tolerate his presence without concern. I think we called each other friends.

When Northmour took his degree, and I decided to leave the university without one, he invited me on a long visit to Graden Easter, and it was thus that I first became acquainted with the scene of my adventures. The mansion house of Graden stood in a bleak stretch of country some three miles from the shore of the German ocean. It was as large as a barracks, and as it had been built of a soft stone liable to consume in the eager air of the seaside, it was damp and draughty within and half ruinous without. It was impossible for two men to lodge with comfort in such a dwelling.

But there stood in the northern part of the estate, in a wilderness of links and blowing sandhills and between a plantation and the sea, a small pavilion or Belvedere of modern design, which was exactly suited to our wants, and in this hermitage, speaking little, reading much, and rarely associating except at meals, Northmour and I spent four tempestuous winter months. I might have stayed longer, but one March night there sprang up between us a dispute which rendered my departure necessary. Northmour spoke hotly, I remember, and I suppose I must have made some tart rejoinder.

He leaped from his chair and grappled me; I had to fight, without exaggeration, for my life and it was only with a great effort that I mastered him, for he was near as strong in body as myself and seemed filled with the devil. The next morning we met on our usual terms, but I judged it more delicate to withdraw, nor did he attempt to dissuade me.

It was nine years before I revisited the neighborhood. I traveled at that time with a tilt cart, a tent, and a cooking stove, tramping all day beside the wagon and at night, whenever it was possible, gyping in a cove of the hills or by the side of a wood. I believe I visited in this manner most of the wild and desolate regions both in England and Scotland, and as I had neither friends nor relations I was troubled with no correspondence, and had nothing in the nature of headquarters, unless it was the office of my solicitors, from whom I drew my income twice a year. It was a life in which I delighted, and I fully thought to have grown old upon the march and at last died in a ditch.

It was my whole business to find desolate corners where I could camp without the fear of interruption, and hence being in another part of the same shire I thought me suddenly of the Pavilion on the Links. No thoroughfare passed within three miles of it. The nearest town, and that was but a fisher village, was at a distance of six or seven.

The pavilion stood on an even space; a little behind it, the wood began in a hedge of elders huddled together by the wind; in front, a few tumbled sand hills stood between it and the sea. An outcropping of rock had formed a bastion for the sand, so that there was here a promontory in the coast line between two shallow bays; and just beyond the rocks, the rock again cropped out and formed an islet of small dimensions but strikingly designed.

The pavilion—it had been built by the last proprietor, Northmour's uncle, a silly and prodigal virtuoso—presented little signs of age. It was two stories in height, Italian in design, surrounded by a patch of garden in which nothing had prospered but a few coarse flowers, and looked, with its shuttered windows, not like a house that had been tenanted by man. Northmour was plainly from home; whether, as usual, sulking in the cabin of his yacht, or in one of his fitful and extravagant appearances in the world of society, I had, of course, no means of guessing.

I found a den, or small hollow, where there was a spring of pure water, and there, clearing away the brambles, I pitched the tent and made a fire to cook my supper. My horse I picketed farther in the wood where there was a patch of sward. The banks of the den not only concealed the light of my fire, but sheltered me from the wind, which was cold as well as high.

The life I was leading made me both hardy and frugal. I never drank but water, and rarely ate anything more costly than oatmeal; and I required so little sleep that, although I rose with the peep of day, I would often lie awake in the dark or stary watches of the night. Thus in Graden Sea Wood, although I fell thankfully asleep at 8 in the evening, I was awake again before 11 with a full possession of my facul-

ties, and no sense of drowsiness or fatigue.

I rose and sat by the fire, watching the trees and clouds tumultuously tossing and fleeing overhead, and harkening to the wind and rollers along the shore, till at length, growing weary of inaction, I quitted the den, and strolled toward the borders of the wood. A young moon, buried in mist, gave a faint illumination to my steps, and the light grew brighter as I walked forth into the links. At the same moment, the wind, smelling salt of the open ocean and carrying particles of sand, struck me with its full force, so that I had to bow my head.

When I raised it again to look about me, I was aware of a light in the pavilion. It was not stationary; but passed from one window to another, as though some one were reviewing the different apartments with a lamp or candle. I watched it for some seconds in great surprise. When I had arrived in the afternoon the house had been plainly deserted; now it was as plainly occupied. It was my first idea that a gang of thieves might have broken in and be now ransacking Northmour's cupboards, which were many and not ill supplied. But what should bring thieves to Graden Easter?

And, again, all the shutters had been thrown open, and it would have been more in the character of such gentry to close them. I dismissed the notion, and I fell back upon another. Northmour himself must have arrived, and was now airing and inspecting the pavilion. In the morning I would pay him a short visit.

But when the morning came I thought the situation so diverting that I forgot my shyness. Northmour was at my mercy; I arranged a good practical jest, though I knew well that my neighbor was not the man to jest with in security; and, chuckling beforehand over its success, took my place among the elders at the edge of the wood, whence I could command the door of the pavilion. The shutters were all once more closed, which I remember thinking odd; and the house, with its white walls and green venetians, looked spruce and habitable in the morning light. Hour after hour passed, and still no sign of Northmour.

My mind at once reverted to the original theory of thieves, and I blamed myself sharply for my last night's inaction. I examined all the windows on the lower story, but none of them had been tampered with; I tried the padlocks, but they were both secure. It thus became a problem, how the thieves if they were there, had managed to enter the house.

I followed what I supposed was their example, and, getting on the roof, tried the shutters of each room. Both were secure; but I was not to be beaten; and, with a little force, one of them flew open, grazing, as it did so, the back of my hand. I remember I put the wound to my mouth, and stood for perhaps half a minute licking it like a dog, and mechanically gazing behind me over the waste links and the sea; and, in that space of time, my eye made note of a large schooner yacht some miles to the northeast. Then I drew up the window and climbed in.

I went over the house, and nothing can express my mystification. There was no sign of disorder, but, on the contrary, the rooms were unusually clean and pleasant. I found fires, laid ready for lighting; three bedrooms prepared with a luxury quite foreign to Northmour's habits, and with water in the ewers and the beds turned down; a table set for three in the dining room; and an ample supply of cold meats, game and vegetables on the pantry shelves. There were guests expected, that was plain; but why guests, when Northmour hated society?

And, above all, why was the house thus stealthily prepared at dead of night? and why were the shutters closed and the doors padlocked?

I effaced all traces of my visit, and came forth from the window feeling sobered and concerned.

The schooner yacht was still in the same place, and it flashed for a moment through my mind that this might be the Red Earl bringing the owner of the pavilion and his guests. But the vessel's head was set the other way.

CHAPTER II.

I returned to the den to cook myself a meal, of which I stood in great need, as well as to care for my horse, whom I had somewhat neglected in the morning. From time to time I went down to the edge of the wood, but there was no change in the pavilion, and not a human creature was seen all day upon the links. The schooner in the offing was the one touch of life within my range of vision. She, apparently with no set object, stood off and on or lay to, hour after hour, but as the evening deepened, she drew steadily nearer. I became more convinced that she carried Northmour and his friends, and that they would probably come ashore after dark.

The night set in pitch dark. The wind came off the sea in squalls, like the firing of a battery of cannon; now and then there was a flaw of rain, and the surf rolled heavier with the rising tide. I was down at the observatory among the elders, when a light was run up to the masthead of the schooner, and showed she was closer in than when I had last seen her by the dying daylight. I concluded that this must be a signal to Northmour's associates on shore; and stepping forth into the

links, looked around me for something in response.

A small footpath ran along the margin of the wood, and formed the most direct communication between the pavilion and the mansion house; and, as I cast my eyes to that side, I saw a spark of light, not a quarter of a mile away, and rapidly approaching. From its uneven course it appeared to be the light of a lantern carried by a person who followed the windings of the path and was often staggered and taken aback by the more violent squalls. I concealed myself once more among the elders, and waited eagerly for the newcomer's advance. It proved to be a woman, and, as she passed within a few rods of my ambush, I was able to recognize the features. The deaf and silent old name, who had nursed Northmour in his childhood, was his associate in this underhand affair.

I followed her at a little distance, taking advantage of the innumerable heights and hollows, concealed by the darkness, and favored not only by the nurse's deafness, but the uproar of the wind and the surf. She entered the pavilion, and, going at once to the upper story, opened and set a light in one of the windows that looked toward the sea.

Immediately afterward the light at the schooner's masthead was run down and extinguished. Its purpose had been attained, and those on board were sure that they were expected. The old woman resumed her preparations. Although the other shutters remained closed, I could see a glimmer going to and fro about the house; and a rush of sparks from one chimney after another soon told me that the fires were being kindled.

Some time before 11, while the tide was still dangerously low, a boat's lantern appeared close in shore; and my attention being thus awakened I could perceive another still far to seaward violently tossed and sometimes hidden by the billows. The weather, which was getting dirtier, as the night went on and the perilous situation of the yacht on a lee shore, had probably driven them to attempt a landing at the earliest possible moment.

A little afterward four yachtsmen carrying a very heavy chest and guided by a fifth with a lantern passed close in front of me as I lay and were admitted to the pavilion by the nurse. They returned to the beach and passed me a third time with another chest larger but apparently not so heavy as the first. A third time they made the transit; and on this occasion one of the yachtsmen carried a leather portmanteau and the others a lady's trunk and carriage bag. My curiosity was sharply excited.

While I was thus reflecting a second lantern drew near me from the beach. It was carried by a yachtsman whom I had not yet seen and who was conducting two other persons to the pavilion. These two persons were unquestionably the guests for whom the house was made ready; and, straining eye and ear, I set myself to watch them as they passed.

One was an unusually tall man, in a traveling hat slouched over his eyes, and a highland cape closely buttoned and turned up so as to conceal his face. You could make out no more of him than that he was, as I have said, unusually tall, and walked feebly with a heavy stoop. By his side, and either clinging to him or giving him support—I could not make out which—was a young, tall and slender figure of a woman. She was extremely pale; but in the light of the lantern her face was marred by strong and changing shadows, that she might equally well have been as ugly as sin or as beautiful as I afterward found her to be.

One by one, or in groups, the seamen returned to the beach. The wind brought me the sound of a rough voice crying, "Shove off!" Then, after a pause, another lantern drew near. It was Northmour alone.

(To be continued.)

Old-Time Portraits.

Tudor Jenks contributes to the May St. Nicholas an article entitled "Three Boys in Armor," concerning three notable portraits by Velasquez and Van Dyck. Mr. Jenks says: Until two years after Queen Victoria was crowned there never had been a photograph of the human face. In 1839 the first such photograph was taken by Prof. John W. Draper of New York city. Before that date and until after 1750, those who wished portraits must pay an artist for a painting or drawing, and only a few could afford such a luxury. About 1759 silhouettes were in fashion, and some of you may not know that these black profiles were named after a French minister of finance. Because he was said to be stingy, it was considered a good joke to speak of cheap things as being a la Silhouette; and these black paper portraits being cheap, they received the minister's name. Since great artists charged very high prices, only the great and rich could be painted by the masters; and as their pictures were carefully preserved, the fine portraits of other days usually represent only the nobles and the wealthy, such as kings, queens, princes, generals, and great statesmen. It is natural, then, that the children whose faces have been made known to us by the distinguished painters should be little folks of high degree—or the sons and daughters of the artists, whose pictures were painted for nothing. These old time boys and girls are dressed in garments like those their parents wore, for special fashions for children's wear came at a later time.

An author is guilty of contributory negligence when he fails to inclose stamps for the return of his contribution.

Free lectures are often worth less than the cost of admission.

WAR REVENUE BILL.

SYNOPSIS OF SPECIAL TAX AFTER JULY 1.

Inheritances, Stock Deals and All Legal Transactions Will Contribute a Little—Beer, Tea, Express and Telegraph Are in the List—Other Tax Levies.

WASHINGTON, June 11.—The House passed the conference report on the war revenue bill by a vote of 154 to 107. A sensational feature of the debate was a clash between Mr. Swanson, of Virginia and Mr. Grosvenor, of Ohio, in which the latter accused the former of being unpatriotic because of his speech against the bill. Mr. Swanson replied by intimating that the Ohio member was intoxicated and would not have attacked him had he been sober.

The report adopted was by an almost strictly party vote, five Democrats voting for the measure and five Republicans against it. The main provisions of the bill are as follows:

Special Taxes From July 1.

First.—Bankers employing a capital not exceeding \$25,000, \$200 per annum, plus interest on \$25,000, for every additional \$10,000 of surplus included in capital. The amount of such annual tax is to be computed on the basis of the capital and surplus for the preceding fiscal year. Savings banks having no capital stock and whose business is confined to receiving deposits and loaning or investing the same for the benefit of their depositors, and which do no other business or banking, are not subject to this tax.

Second.—Brokers, \$50, but any person having paid the special tax as a bank shall not be required to pay the special tax as a broker.

Third.—Pawnbrokers, \$20.

Fourth.—Commercial brokers, \$50.

Fifth.—Real estate brokers, \$50.

Sixth.—Proprietors of theaters, museums and concert halls, in cities of more than 25,000 population, \$100.

This does not include halls rented or used occasionally for concerts or theatrical representations.

Seventh.—Circuses, \$100. No special tax paid in one state is to exempt exhibitions from the tax in another state, though but one special tax is to be imposed for exhibitions within any one state.

Eighth.—Proprietors or agents of all other public exhibitions or shows for money, not enumerated here, \$10.

Ninth.—Bowling alleys and billiard rooms, \$5 for each alley or table.

Insurance.

Life.—On each policy, for each \$100, 10 cents on the amount insured. Policies on the individual or weekly plan, at per cent of the amount of the first weekly premium (charged). Fraternal beneficiary societies and orders, farmers' purely local co-operative companies, employees' relief associations, operated on the lodge system or local co-operative plan, organized and conducted solely for the benefit of their members, and for the exclusive benefit of their members and not for profit, are exempted.

Insurance marine, inland, fire.—Each policy one-half of 1 per cent on each dollar. Co-operative and mutual fire and marine policies, organized and conducted solely for the benefit of their members, and for the exclusive benefit of their members and not for profit, are exempted.

Insurance casualty, fidelity and guarantee.—Each policy and each bond for the performance of the duties of any office or position or other obligation of the nature of indemnity, and each contract of surety, guaranteeing the validity of bonds or other obligations issued by any state, county, municipal or other public body, or guaranteeing titles to real estate or mercantile credits, executed or guaranteed by any surety company, upon the amount of premium charged, one-half of 1 per cent on each dollar.

Leases and Mortgages.

Lease, land or tenement, not exceeding one year, 25 cents; exceeding one year and not exceeding three years, 50 cents; exceeding three years, \$1. Manifest for customs house entry or clearance of cargo for a foreign port, if the registered tonnage of such ship, vessel or steamer exceeds 500 tons, \$1; exceeding 200 tons, 50 cents; and not exceeding 500 tons, \$1; exceeding 500 tons, \$2.

Mortgage of real estate or personal property exceeding \$1,000 and not exceeding \$1,500, 25 cents; and on each \$500 in excess of \$1,500, 25 cents.

Passage ticket from a port in the United States to a foreign port if costing not exceeding \$20, 1 cent; costing more than \$20 and not exceeding \$50, 2 cents; costing more than \$50, 3 cents.

Proxy for voters and election officers of any incorporated company, except religious, charitable or literary societies or public ceremonies, 10 cents.

Proprietary Articles.

Medicinal proprietary articles and preparations.—Each every package, box, bottle, jar, pot or other inclosure, containing any salts, powders, tinctures, troches, syrups, cordials, bitters, anodynes, tonics, plasters, liniments, salves, ointments, pastes, drops, waters (except natural spring waters) and carbonated mineral waters, exceeding one cent, 1 cent; and all medicinal preparations, or compositions whatsoever, made and sold, or prepared for sale by any person, wherein the person making or preparing the same has or claims to have any private formula or an exclusive right, where such package, etc., does not exceed at the retail price 5 cents, 1/2 of 1 per cent; when the retail price is between 5 and 10 cents, 1/4 of 1 per cent; between 10 and 15 cents, 3/4 of 1 cent; between 15 and 25 cents, 1/2 of 1 cent; and for each additional 25 cents in value, 1/4 of 1 cent.

Perfumery and cosmetics and other similar articles used as applications to the hair, mouth, or skin or otherwise used where the package, box, bottle, etc., does not exceed at the retail price 5 cents, 1/4 of 1 cent; between 5 and 10 cents, 1/2 of 1 cent; between 10 and 25 cents, 3/4 of 1 cent; and for each additional 25 cents in value, 1/4 of 1 cent.

Sparking or other wines, when bottled for sale upon each bottle containing one pint or less, 1 cent; more than 1 pint, 2 cents. The same rate is to be assessed when the article in this schedule is sold.

Oil and Sugar Trusts.

Petroleum and sugar refiners.—Every person, firm, corporation or company carrying on or doing business of refining petroleum or refining sugar or owning or controlling any pipe lines for transporting oil or other products whose gross receipts or proceeds exceed \$250,000, is made subject to pay annually a special excise tax equivalent to one-quarter of 1 per cent on the gross amount of all receipts in excess of that sum. Returns to be made monthly. The penalty is \$100 for each month in default. A stamp tax of 1 cent is to be collected on every entry sold in a palace and parlor car, and on every berth sold in a sleeping car, the stamp to be affixed to the ticket and paid by the company issuing it.

Inheritance Tax.

A tax on inheritance and legacies exceeding \$100 or personal property is provided as follows:

On sums between \$10,000 and \$25,000:

First.—On benefits to the lineal issue or lineal ancestors, brother or sister of the deceased, at the rate of 5c for \$100.

Second.—To the descendant of a brother or sister at the rate of \$1.50 per \$100.

Third.—To the brother or sister of the father or mother, or a descendant of a brother or sister of a father or mother, at the rate of \$3 for every \$100.

Fourth.—To the brother or sister of the grandfather or grandmother or a descendant of the brother or sister of the grandfather or grandmother, \$4 for every \$100.

Fifth.—To those of any other degree of collateral relationship or strangers in blood, or a body politic or corporate, at the rate of \$5 for every \$100.

All legacies or property passing by will or by the laws of any state or territory, to husband or wife, are exempted from tax or duty. On sums ranging between \$25,000 and \$100,000, the rate of tax are to be multiplied by one and one-half; on those ranging from \$100,000 to \$500,000, the

rates are to be multiplied by two; on those ranging from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000, the rates are to be multiplied by two and one-half; and on those above \$1,000,000, the rates are to be multiplied by three.

The tax is made a lien upon the property mortgaged and it is required that the tax shall be satisfied before the mortgage is paid.

Certificates of Indebtedness.

The secretary of the treasury is authorized to borrow from time to time at a rate of interest not exceeding 3 per cent such sums as in his judgment may be necessary to meet public expenditures and to issue certificates of indebtedness in denominations of \$50 or some multiple of that sum; each certificate is made payable at such time not exceeding one year from the date of its issue as the secretary of the treasury may prescribe; provided that the amount of such certificates outstanding shall at no time exceed \$100,000,000.

Tax on Tobacco Dealers.

Dealers in leaf tobacco whose annual sales do not exceed 50,000 pounds, each, \$5. Those whose annual sales exceed 50,000 and not 100,000 pounds, \$12; and if their annual sales exceed 100,000 pounds, \$22.

Dealers in other tobacco whose annual sales exceed 50,000 pounds, \$12.

Those selling their own products at the place of manufacture are exempted from this tax.

Manufacturers of tobacco whose annual sales do not exceed 50,000 pounds, \$5. Manufacturers whose sales exceed 50,000 and not 100,000 pounds, \$12. Manufacturers whose sales exceed 100,000 pounds, \$22.

Manufacturers whose sales exceed 100,000 pounds, \$22.

Tax on Telegraph Messages.

Section 13 provides for a tax stamp on telegraph messages, and exempts messages of officers and employees of the government on official business and also the messages of telegraph and railroad companies over their own lines.

Section 23 makes it a misdemeanor to evade the plans of schedule B, relative to drugs, medicines, perfumery, etc., punishable by a fine of not to exceed \$500 or imprisonment not to exceed six months, or both.

Uncompounded medicines, or those having been put up and sold at retail as prescriptions, are not included in the taxable articles, leaving it to apply particularly to proprietary articles.

Section 24 adds the tax on proprietary articles to the duty on them, requiring the affixing of the internal revenue stamp before withdrawal for consumption.

Board of Trade Operations.

Upon each sale, or agreement to sell, any property or merchandise at any exchange or board of trade, or other similar place, either for present or future delivery, for each \$100 in value of said sale or agreement of sale or agreement to sell, 1 cent, and for each additional \$100 or fraction thereof, in excess of \$100, 1 cent; provided that on every sale or agreement to sell, or agreement to sell, there shall be made and delivered by the seller to the buyer a bill, memorandum of such sale, to which there shall be affixed a lawful stamp or stamps in value equal to the amount of tax on such sale.

Bank check, draft or certificate of deposit not drawing interest, or order for the payment of any sum of money drawn upon or issued by any bank, trust company, or any person or persons, companies or corporations, 2 cents.

Express or Freight.

It is made the duty of every railroad or steamship company, carrier, express company, or corporation or person whose occupation is to act as such to issue the shipper or consignee a bill of lading, manifesto or other evidence of receipt and forwarding for each shipment received, whether in bulk or in boxes, packages, bundles, or not so inclosed or included, and there is to be attached and cancelled to each of said bills of lading, etc., a stamp of the value of 1 cent. Provided that bills of lading shall be received on quantities or packages of newspapers when inclosed in one general bundle at the time of shipment. Penalty, \$50.

A tax of 1 cent is imposed for every telegraph message, except those authorized on account of the existing war (such proceeds when received to be expended only for the purpose of meeting such war expenditures) the sum of \$100,000,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary, and to prepare and issue therefor coupon or registered bonds of the United States in denominations of \$20 or some multiple of that sum, redeemable in coin at the pleasure of the United States after ten years from the date of their issue, and payable twenty years from such date and bearing interest, payable quarterly in coin, at the rate of 3 per cent per annum. The bonds are to be first offered at par as a popular loan.

The Bond Provision.

The secretary of the treasury is authorized to borrow on the credit of the United States from time to time as the proceeds may be required, to defray expenditures authorized on account of the existing war (such proceeds when received to be expended only for the purpose of meeting such war expenditures) the sum of \$100,000,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary, and to prepare and issue therefor coupon or registered bonds of the United States in denominations of \$20 or some multiple of that sum, redeemable in coin at the pleasure of the United States after ten years from the date of their issue, and payable twenty years from such date and bearing interest, payable quarterly in coin, at the rate of 3 per cent per annum. The bonds are to be first offered at par as a popular loan.

Colony or Silver Bullion.

Following is the provision in regard to the colony of silver bullion:

The secretary of the treasury is authorized to issue into circulation standard silver bullion, as rapidly as the public interests may require, to an amount, however, of not less than 1,500,000 ounces in each month, all of the silver bullion now in the treasury, pursuant to the provisions of the act approved July 11, 1890, entitled "an act directing the purchase of silver bullion and the issue of treasury notes thereon, and for other purposes," and said dollars, when so coined, shall be used in the same manner and for the purposes named in said act.

A Tax on Mixed Flour.

A substitute was adopted for the Senate provision for a tax on mixed flour, but the material was never reported. The substitute requires that persons engaged in making, packing or repacking mixed flour shall pay a special tax at the rate of \$12 per annum, and the amount granted is to be expended in accordance with the provisions of section 2242 and 2256 of the revised statutes, the fines and penalties to be the same as imposed in those sections. They are required to mark each package as mixed flour, and to put up one or more original packages. In addition to the annual license a tax of 4 cents per barrel is levied upon all mixed flour stored in any warehouse or for removal for sale. The same rate is proportionately levied on half barrels and smaller packages.

There shall be levied, collected and paid upon every barrel imported from foreign countries a duty of 10 cents per pound.

The changes regarding tea make the duty operative on the 1st of July, 1917, as it passed the Senate.

THEY CANNOT LEAVE CADIZ.

The Navy Department Informed That Spain's Fleet Is Dismantled.

WASHINGTON, June 11.—The navy department has received authentic advices from agents in Cadiz that the Spanish fleet at that place was absolutely helpless and could not possibly leave the harbor.

Authentic reports state that the ships have been dismantled and that much of the machinery has been removed. The vessels are in no condition for sea service and would be helpless outside the harbor.

W. B. Hearst Sues Pulitzer.

NEW YORK, June 11.—Papers were served yesterday on Dumont Clark, president of the American Exchange National bank and vice president of the Press Publishing company, which publishes the New York World, in a suit for libel in which W. B. Hearst of the New York Journal asks for \$500,000 damages. The cause of the action was a dispatch printed in the New York World Wednesday under this headline: "Zeal by Theft in News-gathering Thwarted at Port Tampa."

DISTANCE IS NO BAR

MURDERER DISCOVERED IN WILDS OF AFRICA.

Had Fled to His Native Clan—But Even There the White Man Who Knew Him and His Crime, Came Upon the Negro.

THE name of Sebree is as well known and as distinguished in Missouri as that of Benton. Long before the war the Sebrees were looked up in Jefferson and Howard counties as men of brain and brawn. Old Judge John Sebree lived many years in Jefferson City, and filled a number of prominent positions. Judge Sebree's sons followed in the footsteps of their father, adding fame and glory to the old name in the arena of politics, in public life, and in the navy of this country. For Capt. Uriel Sebree, a distinguished naval officer, had charge of the Greeley relief expedition, when the United States sent daring men out after the Arctic explorer, whose life had been despaired of. Capt. Sebree has had an adventurous career. He has been all over the world, and likes to entertain his friends with narrations of interesting and hazardous adventures, but the strangest of them all happened way back in the '70s, when the captain was a rising lieutenant. He was coasting with his vessel along Western Africa and cast anchor one day at a small village for the purpose



"WHO IS YOU, ANYHOW?"

of securing a supply of fresh water and vegetables. He hired a dozen natives to bring the supplies on board, and noticed among them one who spoke the English language quite well, although he wore the customary breech-clout and garb of the African savage. Capt. Sebree asked him where he was born.

"In the United States, sir," answered he with good old Southern twang.

"In what part of the states were you born?" queried the captain.

"In Missouri."

By that time Capt. Sebree had become thoroughly interested.

"Tell me what county in Missouri you