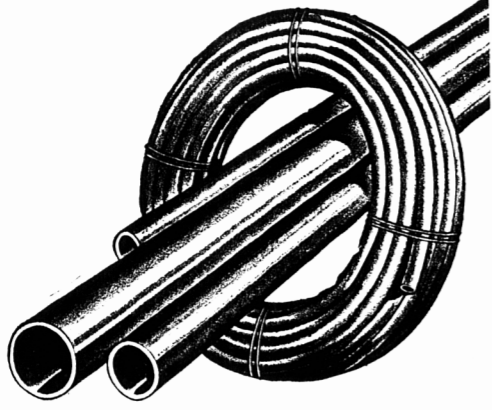


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**Exit Tony Blount**  
 by Sydney Parkman  
 CHAPTER X  
 Continued

"Specialized nothin!" the captain interrupted, with a short laugh. "It's a job that anyone could take on if it comes to that. I could do it on my head! If it's rest you're needin' you'll get it there all right! All you'll have to do is to keep an eye on a couple of hundred Kanakas — an' you could do that in a hammock. Old Porson hadn't any more brains than a rabbit, an' he held the job down for fifteen years. What's more, he drank like a fish, too!"

"No, I do not think you need feel any apprehension on that account," the doctor concurred, thoughtfully. "I gather it is something of a surety, and I am only surprised that so young a man as yourself should have been appointed there."

Thurlow shrugged helplessly. "I wish I knew that myself," he said. "You can't think how utterly confusing it is to know absolutely nothing about one's self. And it isn't even as though there'll be anyone there to tell me. I don't suppose that trader ever heard of me."

"No, I guess not," the captain agreed. "But he ought to be able to help you in other ways. He looked a bit of a hard case to me, but he was pretty thick with old Porson, and he ought to be able to put you wise about how to run things. An' there's another thing, too. He's somewhere about your size, an' I daresay he'll fix you up with a comb, seeing you ain't got any. I dunno what else you lost aboard the Matwail, but you best be able to file a claim on her owners for it when your memory comes back. You must have had quite a bit in one way and another, for you'd have known you couldn't get anything but trade goods there. What I can't understand is how you come to bring that warrant away with you and nothin' else. I s'pose you had it in your pocket at the time an' things happened with such a hell of a rush you never had a chance to pick up anything else."

"I suppose so," Thurlow assented.

"It was fortunate that you had even that," the doctor observed. "Without it we would have no clue to your identity at all. Upon the whole, it was probably the most valuable thing you could have brought away had you been given the choice."

"That's true," the captain agreed. "If it hadn't been for that we'd have took you straight up to Suva, an' by the time they'd sorted things out an' settled who you was, it would have been another six weeks before Arafai got her new Resident."

CHAPTER XI

The look-out padded aft on bare feet, and thrusting his head through the open saloon skylight, announced shrilly, "Land ho, Cap'n!"

The three white men were grouped round the saloon table, which was still littered with the dismal remains of the midday

meal. Thurlow and the doctor occupied one of the settees which flanked the table on either side, while the captain reclined ungracefully upon the other.

Having disposed of an enormous quantity of a kind of stew which he called "lobocouse," he had been holding forth upon the comparative luxury of life at sea in these decadent days as compared with the Spartan treatment he had experienced in his youth; while the other two listened sleepily, only faintly interested, and wholly drowsy with repletion and the heat of the saloon.

At the Kupanger's sudden halt, Captain Bowker jerked himself upright, dropping his pipe from his mouth. Then glared up at the man's dark face showing against the intense blue of the sky.

"What's eatin' you?" he bawled, irately. "What's the idea of comin' an' yellin' your head off like that?"

The Kupanger withdrew hastily, abashed by the storm he had innocently provoked and the captain picked up his pipe, growling curses at having been thus rudely interrupted in a favourite theme.

To be continued

**Dorothy Dix's Column**  
 Continued from page 2

ing up a friendship into a romantic dream, then being very indignant when the poor boy, who only wanted companionship, finds him self as the second party to a romance in which he has no interest. This is particularly true of very young girls. Learning to accept friendship—as such will save many a heartbreak.

DEAR MISS DIX: I'm 17 and my problem is a boy a year older. Before I met him he was going steady with another girl. Lately, he and I have been seeing each other quite regularly and I like him very much. The other night he said it would be better if he stopped coming around, since he still cares for the other girl, who is now engaged to someone else. I told him I was perfectly willing to continue seeing him as long as I know where I stand, and he said that, under those circumstances, he would like to continue dating me. Was I right in my decision, or am I just playing "second fiddle?"

J. J.

ANSWER: Since you like the boy so much, it is probably worth the gamble that you can make him forget the other girl—whom he's bound to forget in time—and woo you on the rebound. Don't ever scorn the fact that you catch a man as he recovers from a former heart interest—sound, happy marriages are the results of many bouncing loves.

Miss Nissen cannot reply personally to readers but will answer problems of general interest through this column.

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"The Store For Girls"

**ELLEN'S DIARY**  
 Continued from page 2

ing the Mayflowers; unfolding the leaves of the dogwood by roadside; plumping the lilac buds and altogether upholding her laurels as "the most remarkable April in years!" And the breezes that pipe the sunshine to the farmhands?

"The high sweet winds of April Are pipin' up the glen, And all the birds that went away, Are comin' home again. Back to old lotts and barns they knew, Flying in, gally, two by two. The high sweet winds of April Have laughter in their theme, The mirth of tiny growing things, The magic of a dream, Blowing the cobwebs from the brain. And giving peace and joy again." Until Monday — — Diary — — Good-night . . . .

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