

Robinson Crusoe



FATHER TUCK'S
NURSERY TALES
SERIES



obinson Crusoe.

ROBINSON CRUSOE had a desire to go to sea from the time that he was quite a boy, but his parents did not wish it, so the first opportunity he sailed away without saying anything to anybody, never thinking of the sorrow his kind Father and Mother would feel when he was not to be found. After a great many adventures, when he had been away a long time, he was wrecked on the Island of Juan Fernandez. The ship was driven on the rocks

in a storm, and everyone on board was drowned except Robinson himself, who was washed ashore by the waves just as night was coming on. In the morning he made a raft of pieces of wood, and went to the ship a good many times and collected all manner of things, not forgetting guns, pistols, powder, and tools of all kinds; he was also fortunate enough to save a dog and two cats which had been on board. When he had built his hut and put into it all the things he had saved from the wreck, and made himself a table and chair, as the clothes in





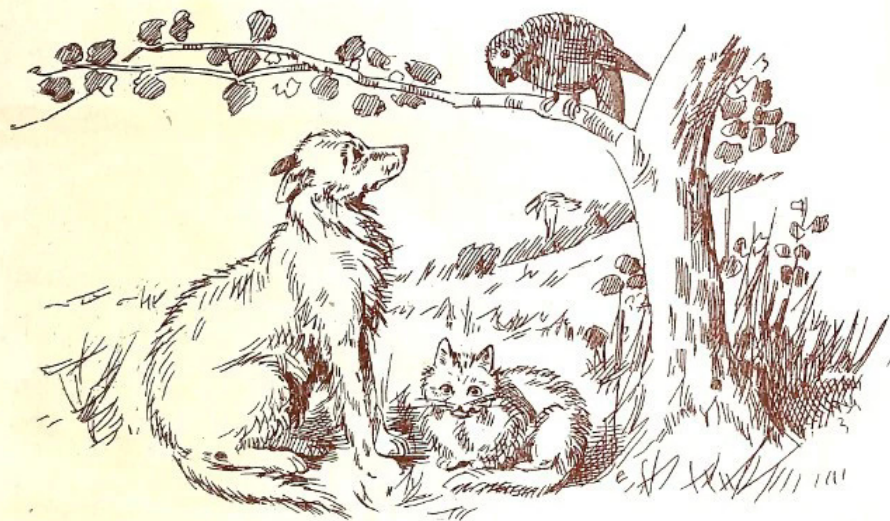
Crusoe on the Raft.

which he had been cast ashore were worn out, he killed some goats and made clothes of their skins, and an umbrella also. He next made a bow and arrows, and some spears and fishing-line, and practised using them till he became so skilful that he could kill goats and catch fish when he wanted them, and, on going one day to the other side of the island, he found some turtles, so he carried one home and cooked it. This was a great treat to him after having eaten only goat's flesh for so long. He next cut down some trees and made a fence with their trunks and branches all round his hut. Then he caught some goats when they were quite young, and tamed them; this he did by digging a pit into which they fell without being hurt, and then carrying them home to

his enclosure,
where they
soon became
quite tame.

He also





managed to catch a parrot and teach it to talk. One day he began building a boat, by means of which he hoped to visit other islands. He was on his way to work at this boat one morning when he saw the print of a naked foot on the sand. He was so much frightened that he ran back to his hut. Nothing, however, came of it, for no one appeared to whom the foot could belong. So after a time Robinson ventured out again, though he did not feel as safe as he had done before, and always kept a sharp look out about him. This continued for about two



Crusoe and his Pets.

years, and then one day he saw a number of savages on the beach, where there was a fire, and as there were several canoes drawn up close by, he supposed, as he afterwards knew to be the case, that they had come from another island, and his horror was much increased when he saw them actually kill one of two men who lay bound on the ground, and eat his body after cooking it at the fire. While they did this the other prisoner, a black boy, escaped and ran in the direction of the place where Robinson was hiding.

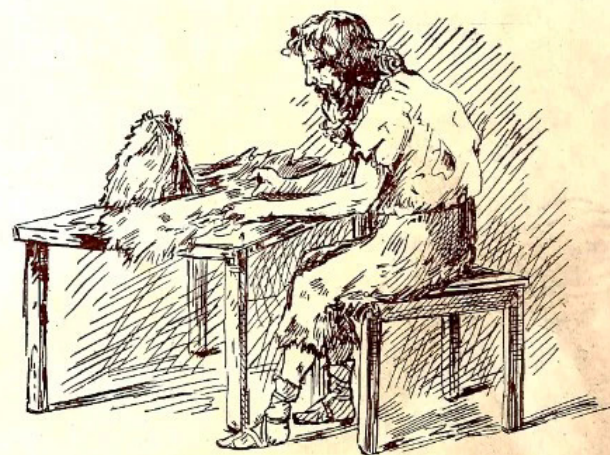


Some of the savages followed him, but

Robinson shot them, and the noise so terrified the rest

that they leapt into their canoes and paddled away.

Robinson gave the lad whom he had saved the name of



Friday, because it was on a Friday that he came. He soon became an affectionate servant to his master, and the two were very happy together. Then they set about building a large boat in which to make a voyage. This they accomplished in time, and loaded it with provisions, but whilst they were waiting for fine and calm weather in which to start, some canoes full of savages again visited the island, having with them a prisoner whom they were going to kill and eat. Robinson and Friday attacked them with the guns, and having killed a great number, beat the remainder



Crusoe saves Friday's Life.

into the sea. A few were able to get into their canoes and paddle away, but they were obliged to leave behind one canoe containing the prisoner, and him, Friday, to his great joy, recognised as his Father. Not very long afterwards Crusoe and Friday one day saw a boat-load of white men come up to the shore. Some of the white men were bound, and the others were treating them cruelly. After a while the prisoners sat down under a tree and



talked quietly while their captors slept in a thicket at some distance. Robinson, who was hiding behind the tree, then came forward and asked the poor men what was the matter. They had been brought on shore by the other sailors who had mutinied against the captain, and they were to be left on this island to die, so they said. With the



Robinson Crusoe to the Rescue.



aid of Crusoe and Friday the captain was enabled to regain his ship, and in gratitude he gave them a free passage to England. So Crusoe and Friday sailed away in the ship and landed in Spain, and then

with many adventures on their journey made

their way home to England. Robinson found, to his great sorrow, that his Father and Mother were both dead, and he could not now, as he wished, tell them of his grief and repentance for having disobeyed them. By-and-by he married, and after a time went on a voyage to visit the island where they had left some English sailors and Friday's Father. It had become quite a

Colony, and poor Friday rejoiced to see his Father once more. He, himself, poor fellow, was killed on the way home again, to the great distress of his master. Robinson Crusoe at last settled down in England, and tried to do as much good as possible to show he was truly repentant for the foolish and disobedient conduct of his youth, and he would often take his children on his knee and tell them of his wonderful adventures.

Helen Marion Burnside.



Wesley Dibble



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