we win, there will be all the more praise for ea of us. Do not wish for one man more."

The night was cold and rainy. The Frenc made great feasts and sang songs. They felt sur they were going to win. The English kept watc and said their prayers. The King knelt down i his tent and prayed:

"O God of battles, steel my soldiers' hearts Let no fear lay hold on them. Let them forge the number of their foes, lest their hearts shoul fail within them!"

The next day the King rose early and set h men in order. He put them in a place wit woods on each side, so that the French could no get round them. All fought on foot.

The archers were in front. To each of them he gave a pole with an iron point. They were t fix these into the ground before them. So they made a kind of hedge to keep off the horses o the French.

King Henry wore an iron suit and an iron cap or helmet. He had his gold crown over thi helmet and he rode on a gray pony. Before the fight began he rode up and down and spoke brave words to his men.

Then one of the King's friends threw his staf into the air. This was to tell the men to begin the fight. At once the archers began to shoot



KING HENRY MEETS THE PRINCESS OF FRANCE, WHOM HE MARRIED AND MADE QUEEN OF ENGLAND.

and the French rode up to try and beat the down.

But their horses wore iron armour, which was very heavy; and the ground was so muddy with the rain that they could not move very well. Many of them stuck fast, and the arrows fell among them as thick as hail.

Soon the English had shot all their arrows. Then they all came on and fought hand-to-hand. King Henry fought like a lion.

One man struck at the King's helmet with an axe. The blow did not hurt him, but a piece of his gold crown was cut away; and there was a great dint in his helmet.

The helmet with the dint in it can still be seen. It is kept in a great church in London.

When the fight was over many lay dead on the field. The French fought well, but the English fought better. And the army of King Henry won the battle.

Before long there was peace; and King Henry made the French Princess his wife and Queen of England.

THE QUEEN IN THE FOREST.

THERE was once a King of England who was known as Henry the Sixth. In his time there was much fighting in our land.

The King had a Queen whose name was Margaret, and a little son. In one great battle he was beaten, and with his wife and child he set out for Scotland.

On the way they were often in great danger. They had also very little to eat. One day they had only a small fish among them and a little bread for each.

Then they met an archer, and the Queen begged him for food. He gave her a small coin, which was all he had. The poor Queen said she would pay him back many times over as soon as she could.

After a time the King left her; and the Queen, with the little Prince, had to go with only one servant. Then a band of robbers came out of a wood, and took all her money and rich dresses from her.

One of these men drew his sword; and with his left hand he took hold of the Queen's hair. He was going to kill her. Just then he turned round and saw the others fighting over the Queen's goods.

He at once ran away to get his own share; and the Queen went on with her little son. She got on her servant's horse with the boy in her arms. Then they rode away as fast as they could, and never looked back.

At a later time the Queen came on foot to a forest, in which lived a band of robbers. One of these men met her and was going to kill her and her son.

But she told the man who she was, and said that the little boy by her side would one day be King of the land.

The man, rough as he was, at once began to feel pity for the poor lady. He fell on his knees before her, and asked her to forgive him. Then he said he would take the Prince away to a safe place.

The Queen at first did not wish him to do this, but at last she gave up her son to him. For she wished to go herself and find the King.

The robber kept his word like a true man. He took great care of the young Prince; and before long he took him to some of the King's friends. The Queen joined her husband, and after some time their little son was brought to them again.

OUR FIRST PRINTER.

We have a great many books in our homes and schools. They are very nicely printed, and most of them do not cost much money.

In past times there were very few books, and it took a great deal of money to buy one of them.



QUEEN MARGARET MEETS THE ROBBER IN THE FOREST AND BEGS OF HIM TO SPARE THE LIFE OF THE LITTLE PRINCE, HER SON.

Each was written by hand, and the men who made copies of a book were called copyists.

They took a long time over their work, and they also took great pains with it. They used ink of many colours; red, black, and blue. And sometimes they made little pictures in the books.

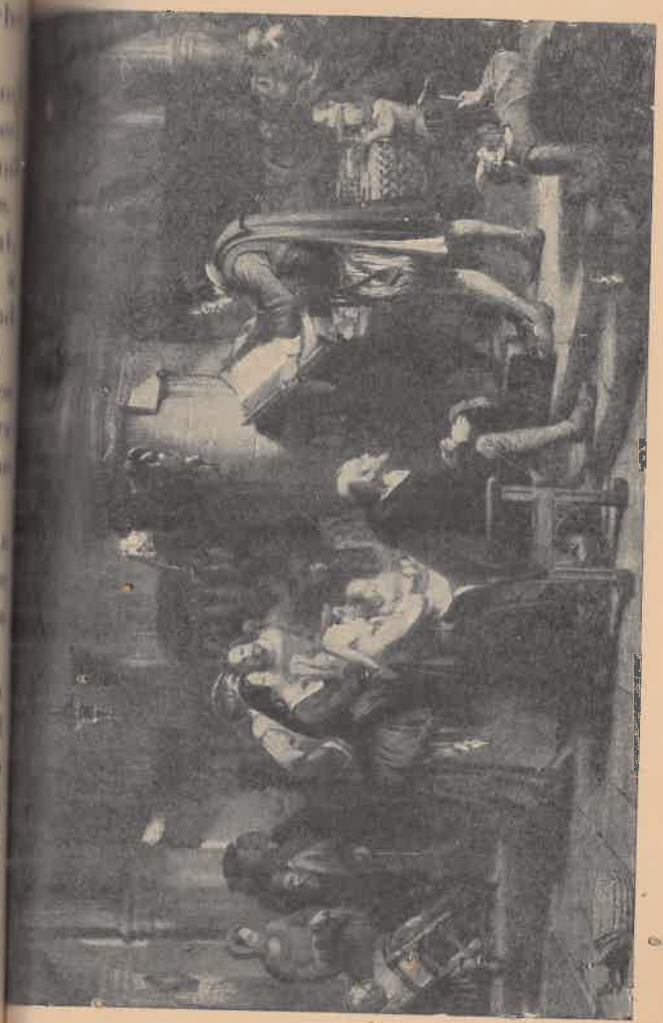
Then a certain man found out a way to print, and other men learnt how to do it. Copies of a book could now be made in a very short time, and people were full of wonder when they saw them.

The copyists were very angry. In some places they broke down the presses which the printers used. But they were set up again, and the printers went on with their work.

The first man to set up a press in England was William Caxton. He lived in London, and there began to print books. One of his first books was full of stories about heroes of the days of old.

In this book Caxton says: "In *writing* a book the pen is soon worn, the hand is soon tired, and begins to shake; the eyes grow dim through looking at the white paper. But in *printing* all this is changed. The book is begun in a day, and done before night comes on."

The King and his Queen and his little son used to come and watch the printer. They thought he was very quick and clever, and they asked many things about the work.



READING THE BIBLE WHICH WAS CHAINED TO A PILLAR IN THE UNDER PART OF THE GREAT CHURCH OF ST. PAUL IN LONDON.

Since that time we have got to know a gr deal more about printing. We can now do t work at a great speed, and if Caxton could s our printers at work he would be full of wonde

Soon after Caxton's time people began to pr copies of the Bible, and a copy was placed many of the churches all over the land.

Each Bible was fastened by a chain to a pill This was done lest anyone should take it awa Then a man would come and read parts of it the people, who could not read it for themselve

You can see a man doing this in the pictu on page 55. Before him is the great Bible wi its chain.

GOOD QUEEN BESS.

MANY years ago we had a Queen who was call Elizabeth. She was very brave and clever, a knew how to rule the land in the right way.

In her time the King of Spain sent a gr fleet of ships to England. He said he was goi to turn the Queen off her throne and be Ki himself.

But our Queen was not afraid. She had abo her many brave men who were good fighters a good sailors. And she knew they would all t their best to beat the Spanish ships.



THE NEWS IS BROUGHT TO THE PRINCESS ELIZABETH THAT SHE IS NOW TO BE QUEEN OF ENGLAND.

She got on her horse and rode to the place where her army was drawn up, ready to fight for their Queen. There she spoke to the men.

"I know," she said, "that I am only a weak woman. But I have the heart of a King, and of a King of England, too. No harm shall come to this dear land of ours. If need arises, I myself will take up arms. I myself will be your leader."

"God save the Queen!" cried the men, and there were loud cheers all down the line. Each man was ready to fight to the death for such a brave Queen.

Before long the great Spanish ships came sailing up the Channel. Then the English ships put out from their ports and fought with them.

Many of the Spanish ships were sunk or made useless. And at last a great storm arose, which drove the rest of them away. So our land was saved from the King of Spain.

Queen Bess was very fond of dress; and in her time the rich people wore very gay clothes. Even the men wore suits of silk and velvet of many colours. And both men and women wore great ruffs round their necks like those in the picture.

The Queen often left London to pay visits in other parts of the land. The people were very glad to see her, and got up games and shows to

amuse her and her friends. There would be music and dancing, feasts, and fireworks.

The Queen loved to see her people happy, and she did all she could to get them to love her. "Nothing under the sun," she said once, "is so dear to me as the love of my people."

SIR FRANCIS DRAKE.

ONE of the brave sailors of good Queen Bess was Francis Drake. He went to sea very early, and he had many fights with the ships of the King of Spain.

He was the first English sailor who went round the world. When he set out he did not know he was going to do such a great thing. He meant to fight the Spanish sailors if he could meet with them.

He had to find out his way, and his ships were very small to go out on the stormy ocean. But, like his Queen, he had a brave heart and knew no fear.

He had five ships at the start; but before long there was only one. The others had been sunk or driven back. But Drake went on.

Soon he came to a port where there was a large Spanish ship. The men on board of her thought

that Drake's little ship must be one from Spain. So they ran up their flags, and got ready to make a feast for the visitor.

The little ship came sailing on. When it was quite close to the large one, the English sailors jumped from their own ship to the other.

The Spanish sailors could not trust their own eyes. Soon they were all bound with ropes, and Drake took their ship for himself. He found in it a great deal of gold, which was going to be taken to Spain.

On went Drake and soon came to a port where there were more men from Spain. Here he saw a lot of silver in a pile on the shore; a few men lay asleep beside it.

Drake went on shore and bound the men. Then he put the silver into his own ship and sailed away. So he went on fighting the Spanish and getting more gold and silver. Then he set out for home.

But he did not come back by the way that he had gone. He went on and on right round the world. He was away from home for three years.

The English people were very proud of him. He gave the Queen a great deal of the gold and silver, and she made him *Sir* Francis Drake.

One day, some time later, Drake and a few friends were playing at bowls on a green near the



QUEEN ELIZABETH ON HER WAY TO VISIT A GREAT NOBLEMAN IN THE NORTH OF ENGLAND, WITH ALL HER LORDS AND LADIES ROUND ABOUT HER.

sea. As they played, a man came running up to them.

He was out of breath with running; but as soon as he could speak he said that the Spanish ships were coming to our shores.

Drake's friends wished to stop the game and hurry to their ships. But he would not let them do so. "No, no!" he said. "We have time to finish our game and beat the Spanish ships, too."

This they did, and when the fight came on Drake had a great share in driving the Spanish ships away. When the fight was over, he wrote in a letter to a friend:

"They said that they would sink our ships and burn our homes. But they did not sink or take one ship, or even a small boat of ours; nor did they burn so much as one sheep-cote in the land."

SIR PHILIP SIDNEY.

Sir Philip Sidney lived at the same time as Drake. He was one of the Queen's best friends, and a man who was very gentle and kind. But if need arose, he could fight as well as any of the others.

The Queen sent him over the seas to fight for her, and during a battle he was hurt in the leg.

But he fought like a lion till at last he fell from his horse.

As he lay on the field, one of his friends brought him a cup of cold water to wet his dry lips.

Sidney looked up and was about to drink. Then he saw a poor man lying on the ground not far away. The poor fellow was looking with longing eyes at the cup of water.

So Sidney pushed the cup from his lips. Then he turned his face to the other, and said: "Take it, friend, thy need is greater than mine."

This brave soldier died not long afterwards. We always remember him as the man who could think of others even when in great pain himself.

WALTER RALEIGH.

Among the friends of good Queen Bess was a brave man called Walter Raleigh.

One day, it is said, the Queen and her ladies went out for a walk. By-and-by they came to a muddy part of the road. The Queen looked at the mud, then at her pretty shoes and gay dress.

At once Raleigh stepped before her and took off the fine cloak which he wore. Then he spread it over the dirty place in the path and made a low bow to the Queen.

The Queen was much pleased; and as she stepped across the cloak she gave the young man a very sweet smile.

Raleigh was a brave sailor and captain. He went many times across the western sea to find out what he could about strange lands. He met the Red Indians, and from them, it is said, he learnt how to smoke. Before his time the English people knew very little about tobacco.

One day Raleigh sat smoking at home, when his man-servant came into the room. The man, it is said, thought that his master was on fire; so he ran at once for some water, which he threw over him.

In the lands of the Indians Raleigh hoped to find some rich mines of gold. He went many miles with his men, but he did not find them. But he found out a great deal about the Indians.

He often spoke with them; and he told them about the great and good Queen in his own land. They were never tired of hearing about her; and they asked many questions of Raleigh and his men.

One day Raleigh showed them a picture of the Queen. They thought it so fine that some of them knelt down on the ground before it. This was to show what great respect they had for the Queen of England.

When the Queen died, Raleigh was put into [illegible] by the new King, who did not like him. [illegible] a time he was set free. For he said he [illegible]ld go to the land of the Indians and find a [illegible] mine; then he would give the King a large [illegible]re of the gold.

This was the brave sailor's last visit to the [illegible] over the sea. He lost his son in a fight, and [illegible] not find any gold mine. When he came back [illegible] King gave orders to put him to death.

SIR RICHARD GRENVILLE.

[illegible]is is a story of another brave sailor of the time [illegible] good Queen Bess. His name was Sir Richard [illegible]nville, and his ship was called the *Revenge*.

Six English ships lay near an island far away [illegible]ross the sea, and the *Revenge* was one of them. [illegible]me of the men were sick, so they had been put [illegible]shore to get well.

Then there came across the water a small [illegible]glish boat. A man stood up in her and cried: "Spanish ships are coming! we have just seen [illegible]y-three!"

The English leader thought it was of no use to [illegible] to fight fifty-three ships with six. So he [illegible]led away with five of the ships. The *Revenge* [illegible]s left to take the sick men away.

Sir Richard set to work to have the ... brought on board. But before this was done ... great Spanish ships came in sight.

Some of the sailors wished to make all ha... away. But this Sir Richard would not ... them do.

Before him lay the great ships with their g... drawn up in two long lines. He meant to ... his little ship between them and fight his w... through them all!

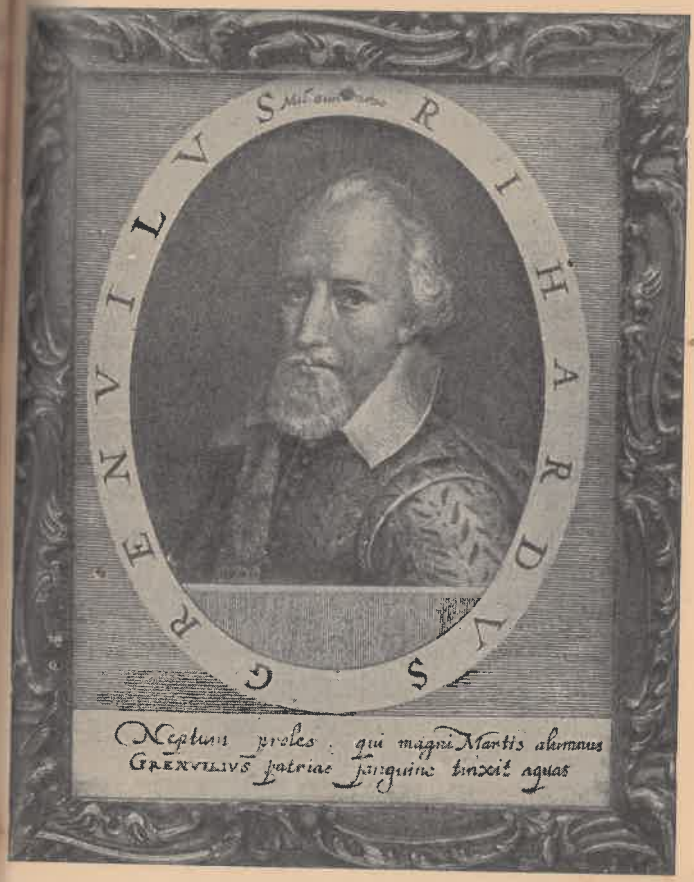
His men gave a cheer and went to their wo... Then the little *Revenge* moved on through ... way between the ships.

The men on the Spanish ships set up a ha... laugh. Then they closed round the little Engl... ship, and the great fight began.

The shot poured down upon the deck of t... *Revenge* from the high Spanish ships. Some ... them came quite close to her, and some of t... Spanish sailors jumped upon her deck.

But they were at once driven back. And t... guns of the *Revenge* sent shot after shot agai... the strong sides of the Spanish ships.

The sun went down and the stars came out ... over the summer sea. But the fight went on a... the Spanish ships were beaten back again a... again. Some of their ships were sunk, and othe... were not able to fight any longer.



SIR RICHARD GRENVILLE, THE BRAVE SAILOR OF THE TIME OF "GOOD QUEEN BESS."

In his little ship the *Revenge* he fought fifty-three ships of Spain.

The *Revenge*, too, was almost a wreck. But the brave captain's cry was still, "Fight on! Fight on!"

Morning came, and still the great ships lay in a ring about the little *Revenge*. She had, before the fight, a hundred men. Now she had about sixty, and half of these were badly hurt.

Yet Grenville would not give in. He could not win, but he knew how to die. So he told one of his men to sink the ship; he did not mean to be taken alive by the men of Spain.

But his own men would not hear of this. They had fought a good fight and they loved their lives. There was no shame, they said, if *one* gave in to *fifty-three*.

So they gave in, for Sir Richard was too much hurt to hold out against them. He was at once taken on board one of the Spanish ships.

The sailors were good to him, for they loved a brave man even if he was their foe. But he was so badly hurt that before long he lay dying.

"I have only done my duty," he said, "as a man is bound to do. With a glad spirit I, Sir Richard Grenville, die." Then he fell upon the deck and died.

HENRY HUDSON.

We have read a great deal about English sailors who were heroes in battle. Now let us learn a little about a brave sailor who was not a fighter.

His name was Henry Hudson. He sailed many times over the sea to the west of England. And he found out a great deal about the land which is called America.

His ships were small, and not like the great iron steamers of to-day. And in his day the seas were not so well known to us nor the lands across the seas. A man needed a brave heart to sail away into parts of the world of which nothing was known.

Besides this, Hudson went more than once into the icy seas of the North where the polar bear lives. His men feared to go to these cold lands, and thought they would be frozen to death.

But Hudson pushed on, and he found that in some parts of the lands in the North the cold was not so great as had been thought.

There was great danger to the small ships from the large blocks of ice called icebergs. They were so large that they could sink a ship with ease And if a ship got between two of them, it might be crushed to pieces.

Hudson also found it hard to get good men to

go with him. Those who went were not always ready to bear the cold and hunger as bravely as he.

Very often they would not obey their captain, and more than once they made him do as they wished instead of obeying his orders.

At one time Hudson sailed for the North, and found a bay where he made up his mind to stay for the winter. Then when spring came and the ice in the sea had melted he meant to push on again.

He had very little food for his men, but there were many sea birds, and some of these were caught, or shot; so that the winter was not as bad as they had thought it would be.

But Hudson's men began to murmur against him. And when the ice broke up they did a very cruel thing.

They put him with his son into a small boat, and sent it out to sea. It was never heard of again. Then the men took the ship back to England once more.

Brave men like Hudson have taught us about parts of the world far away. They have found new lands to which many of our people have gone to make new homes.

Men who do this kind of work are called explorers.



HENRY HUDSON SENT ADRIFT BY HIS CRUEL SAILORS.

(From the painting by the Hon. J. Collier, by kind permission of the artist.)

ROBERT BLAKE.

ANOTHER great English captain who fought th men of Spain was Robert Blake.

He was a soldier, and took part in many fight on land. Then the time came when some brav man was wanted to lead the English fleet. T the work was given to Blake, though he did no know much about fights on the sea.

Still, he was a brave man, and did not seem t know what fear was. He took his ships to sea and sailed away for Spain.

By-and-by he heard that there was a fleet o Spanish ships in a certain bay. Near the mouth of the bay was a fort, in which there were many great guns. These were ready to be fired at any ships which tried to come into the bay.

Round the sides of the bay there were six other forts with great guns. Besides this, the Spanish ships in the port had their guns pointed to the mouth. So it would take a bold man to enter that port.

There was also a Dutch ship in the port, and the captain of this ship heard that Blake was not far away. So he went to the Spanish captain and asked leave to go away.

"I am very sure," he said, "that Blake will soon be amongst you." "You may go if you



Robert Blake

wish," was the reply, "and let Blake come if he dare."

At this time Blake was getting ready to come into the port. He chose one of his ships called the *Speaker* to lead the way.

As soon as the captain had his orders, he sent his ship straight for the opening of the port. On it came over the water like a bird, and flew into the bay.

The forts fired upon it, and the shot fell all around it. But the *Speaker* came on, right among the Spanish ships, and her guns gave the answer to the fleet.

Then Blake came in with the rest of his ships, and soon they began to fire upon the forts. Before long nearly all the Spanish guns were silent, for there were no men to fire them.

The English ships now turned to leave the harbour, but the wind was against them. But before long the wind changed, and they sailed proudly from the bay.

Not long after, Blake set out for home. He was very sick, and as he lay in his cabin he longed to see his English home once more.

But he was never to see it again. For as his ship sailed up the Channel he died.

CAPTAIN COOK.

ANOTHER brave sailor who went far across the sea was James Cook.

When he was very young he went to work on a farm not far from his home; for his father had no money to send him to school.

But when the day's work was over the farmer's wife taught him to read; and after a time his father was able to send him to school for a short time.

Then he was sent to help a man who kept a grocer's shop. At night he slept under the counter. Cook did not like the life of the shop. He had made up his mind to be a sailor.

So one morning he walked to the port of Whitby, which was not far away. There he found a man who took him on board his ship, for he thought the boy looked strong and steady.

This ship used to go to London with coals. Cook went many times to London and back again, and he tried to learn all he could about ships and how to sail them.

When he grew up he joined the navy, and for many years he served on a man-of-war. He worked hard and learned all he could, and in time he was made an officer.

Then he was sent out by the King far away

to the South Seas. He found out a great deal about the land called New Zealand, and many islands not far from it.

The people of these places were blacks, and more than once they fought with Cook's men. But in time they found that Cook did not wish to do them any harm.

So they brought him fresh fruit and fish, and they were very glad to have nails and glass beads in return. Money would have been of no use to them.

Cook also went to the land which we now call Australia, of which you may have heard. Here he found other black people, and learnt a great deal about their ways. He went to many places where no white men had ever been before. He had no fear of the blacks, though some of them fought with his men.

He came back home, and after a while went out on a third voyage. When he got to a certain island, one of the small boats on his ship was stolen by the black people.

Cook went on shore to ask the chief to come on board his ship. He meant to keep him there until the boat was given back to him. But the wife of the chief guessed what he was going to do, and she begged the man not to go.

Then Cook turned to go back to his boat which



CAPTAIN COOK ON ONE OF HIS VOYAGES.

His ship is drawing near to the land which is now called New Zealand.

lay near the shore. As he was going one of the blacks spoke roughly to him, and Cook fired at him.

His men now began to fire from the boat. Then the blacks ran at Cook. One of them stabbed him in the back. A second struck him a heavy blow on the head. Soon he fell to the ground and lay dead.

So the life of the brave sailor was ended. He found out many things which are very useful for us to know. And he led the way to lands where many of our people have found new homes.

GEORGE STEPHENSON.

Every boy and girl has seen a railway-engine. The sight of one ought to make us think of George Stephenson. For he made the first engine which ran well on rails.

When he was a boy he was very poor. His father worked at a coal-pit and made very small wages. There was no money to send George to school; so the boy grew up, and could not read nor write.

At first he spent his time in taking care of his brothers and sisters. Near his home was a railway on which ran the coal trucks from the pit; they were drawn by horses. George had to

see that the little ones did not get in the way of the trucks.

Then, after a time, he went to work as a cow-boy; and his wages were twopence a day. In his spare time he used to get clay and make toy engines like those at the pit. Or he would go for long walks in the woods to see his friends, the birds.

Next he was sent to help a farmer. Now he made fourpence a day, and he thought he was quite a man. After that he went to work at the pit.

The boy was as happy as a king when he was near the engine. Before long he knew the name and use of each part of it.

Now he had money of his own. So he went to a night school to learn to read and write, though he was, of course, quite grown up. He learnt all he could about engines. And after trying again and again he built one that would run on rails; it could also draw trucks after it.

Then he made the first railway. At first people were afraid to go by rail from place to place. They thought the engine might blow up or that it might run off the rails.

But in time they got over their fear. And now there are railways all over the land and in many far-away lands too.

LORD NELSON.

NELSON was one of the bravest sailors the world has ever seen. He lived and died for England, and we can truly call him a hero.

When he was a little boy he stayed for a time at his grandmother's farm. Here he made friends with the cow-boy, and he went out with him to look after the cows.

One day he was out for a very long time. Dinner-time came, but still he did not come back. It was thought that gipsies must have stolen the boy.

Some of the men on the farm set out to look for him. They went about for a long time, and at last he was found by the side of a brook.

He was sitting down on the bank and did not know how to get across. The men took him to the farm, and his grandmother was very glad to see him.

"You must be very hungry," she said. "I wonder that fear did not drive you home." "Fear, grandma," said the little boy, "I never saw fear. What is it like?"

When Nelson grew up he was sent to sea. His ship sailed away to the Far North. There the sea is frozen over a great part of each year.

One night the boy left the ship with a young



ONE OF NELSON'S GREAT SEA-FIGHTS.
In the distance a French ship is blowing up. When Nelson saw this, he sent boats to pick up those French sailors who were yet alive.

friend. A fog was coming on, and the two boys set out over the ice after a white bear.

Before long the captain of the ship missed the boys, and he was much afraid that some harm might come to them. Night came on, but still there was no sign of the two boys.

Next morning the fog went away, and the men on the ship could now see the boys. They were a long way off on the ice, and not far from them was a great white bear.

The captain fired a gun; this was to tell the boys to come back to the ship at once. But Nelson wished to fight the bear. "Do let me give it one blow with my gun," he said, "and we shall have it."

But a second gun was now fired from the ship. The bear hearing the noise ran away in a fright. Then the two boys went back to the ship.

There the captain was very angry with them. He told them that they must always obey orders. The boys looked very sad and sorry, but said nothing.

Then the captain said to Nelson, "Why did you wish to hunt the bear?" "Sir," he said, "I wanted the skin to take home to my father."

In after years Nelson was in many sea-fights with the French; and he always showed that he did not know what fear was.



A YOUNG OFFICER OF THE NAVY COMING HOME AFTER ONE OF THE GREAT SEA-FIGHTS WITH THE FRENCH.

In one fight he lost one of his arms; in another one of his eyes was so much hurt that he lost the sight of it. He was made an officer, and given charge of a great fleet of ships.

His last fight took place near the coast of Spain. Here he fought the ships of France and Spain at the same time. Before the fight began Nelson sent word to his sailors, "England expects every man will do his duty."

The men did their duty well and won the fight. But the brave Nelson was shot in the back. And not long after he died in the cabin of his ship.

His last words were: "Thank God, I have done my duty."

JAMES WATT.

Most of us know a little about the uses of steam. It drives our big ships across the sea; it sends our engines along the rails at a great speed; and it works machines in our factories, where all kinds of things are made.

We have often seen steam coming from the spout of the kettle. We know that it is white like a cloud; and that it will scald if we hold our hands in it.

Besides, it is very strong; see how it can lift up the lid of the kettle. If you were to tie down



JAMES WATT AND THE TEA-KETTLE.

From the picture by Marcus Stone, R.A., by kind permission of Messrs. H. Graves and Co., Ltd.)

the lid and stop up the spout of the kettle, the steam would burst it when the water boiled.

Men did not always know how to make steam work for them. It was a long time before they found out how to make it drive their machines.

One of the men who found out a great deal about it was James Watt. In his time there were steam machines in use, but they did not work very well. Watt found out how to make a machine which could be worked well by steam.

He was born in a town in Scotland called Greenock. As a boy he was very weak, and could not play with other boys and girls. So he stayed much at home, where his mother taught him to read and write and draw.

He often went to his father's carpenters' shop to watch the men at their work. He was very much pleased when they let him use some of their tools.

The men were very kind to him, and helped him to make all kinds of things. He grew to be very clever with his hands, and the men became quite proud of him.

James Watt had an aunt who thought that the boy was very lazy. One day he was sitting near the tea-table, and she said to him:

"James Watt, I never saw such an idle boy as you are. Take a book or do something useful.

For the last hour you have done nothing but hold a spoon in the steam of the tea-kettle. What good can it do to count the drops of water as they fall?"

It did, indeed, seem an idle thing to do. But it may have been that the boy's mind was busy with thoughts of the power of steam.

When he grew up he set to work on his steam-engine. It was by no means easy to make, and Watt often thought that all his work was going to be of no use.

But he would not give in. "My whole heart," he said, "is set on this machine. I can think of nothing else, and I mean to make it work."

After much hard work the engine was made. It could do the work of many men; and it was soon used in works all over the land.

THE IRON DUKE.

THIS was the name given to a brave general who fought many great battles for his country. His real title was the Duke of Wellington, and he lived at the same time as Nelson.

We have had many fights with Spain, as you have read. But at one time the Iron Duke took his men to fight on the side of Spain.