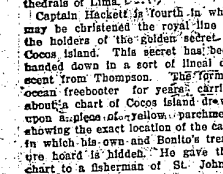


*The Romantic History of a  
Pirate Hoard on an Island  
in the Pacific*

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which was kept busy cruising up and down the coasts of Newfoundland a New Brunswick. On one of our voyages we took Keating with us. One stormy night as the old man sat at the table in the cabin over a glass of stiff grog, Mr. Hunt told us how to find the treasure. He began his story with an account of his first visit to Cocoes with Captain Bogue. "It was a hot day in June, he said, when he and Bogue landed. They struck off through the tropical jungles,

careers as a pirate. From Rio de Janeiro, he became a scourge and collected an immense amount of loot. When the Spanish government wanted to punish him, Bonito sailed around Cape Horn to fresh pastures in the Pacific.

The wealth of the churches in Spanish America is still considerable but in the early days of the last century the richness of the plateaus and mountains with which they were adorned was amazing. Bonito sacked

It marched on Callao, with the determination of capturing the rich hoard. In this crisis, the commandant of the fortress, seeing an English flag fluttering from the peak of the *Mary Dear*, bethought him that under the folds of the union Jack Lima's treasure would be safe. Captain Thompson gave his consent to the proposition. The treasure was soon stowed snugly under the *Mary Dear's* hatches, and four Peruvian soldiers were left on board to guard it.

Soon after Thompson had confessed his secret to Keating he died. His death aroused no suspicion at the time, but long afterwards in the light of events Keating was suspected of having murdered him. Keating took over Thompson's effects, including his map of Cocos Island. By Thompson's death, Keating became the sole possessor in all the world of the secret of the Cocos Island treasure. How Keating lifted the treasure on two voyages to the island already has been told.

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