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CONFESSIONS OF GIBBS THE PIRATE.

The criminal who [illegible] was [illegible] of William Rhodes [illegible] of robbery on [illegible] was [illegible] with [illegible] and [illegible] and carried to [illegible] Gibbs was [illegible] Mr. Hopson, [illegible] Mr. Merritt [illegible] Question.—Charles Gibbs, [illegible] Mr. Hopson. [illegible] Answer.—I have.

Question.—Now, are you going to tell me the truth, or is it to cause me, and make me write a long story that will not amount to any thing?

Answer.—I shall tell nothing but the truth, and it is only on condition that you will swear not to divulge any thing I may say, even when I am on trial, and at the time after, if I should be clear.

My reply was, (says Mr. Hopson,) that I could not take my oath, but that I would give him my word that it should be kept a secret according to his request.

Under this promise he stated as follows:—That he commenced piracy in the year 1816, in the schooner, Sans Souci, belonging to the Island of Margarita, and that since that time, has been in several other vessels engaged in the same business. That many of his comrades are now living in the United States, but whose names he never would mention. That they had taken from vessels large sums of money, and various articles of merchandise. He said he thought he had been concerned in robbing some eighteen vessels, and on reflection, could mention many of the names. He then gave the names of the following vessels.

Brig Lion, of Liverpool, [illegible] goods, crew destroyed, vessel burnt.

Brig (name forgotten) of New York, from the Spanish Main; took money from her. Crew destroyed, vessel burnt.

Brig Belvidere, of Boston, taken in the Gulf of Mexico; vessel destroyed.

Two French Brigs, in the Gulf of Mexico; money taken, crew and vessels destroyed.

Ship Providence, of Providence; took from her 18,000 dollars. Succeeded in persuading Lafoumont (said he consented to pass as an honest man) to go in her as supercargo.

Ship William, of [illegible] from her money. Vessel and crew destroyed.

Brigs Dove, of Bremen; took from her [illegible] vessel and crew destroyed.

Brigs Lucina, of London; took from her large quantity of dry goods. Vessel and crew destroyed.

Genoese brig, name unknown; took from her a large quantity of plate, some silver, [illegible] gold, and from vessels in their passage home.

A French brig, name unknown; vessel and crew destroyed.

The William Penn, of New York; broke in hatches and let her go.

Ship Earl of Mansfield, of London; took from her dry goods and money. Vessel and crew destroyed.

[illegible]

[illegible] Gibbs for [illegible] a vessel of war, at [illegible] Question.—Do you know any thing of the fate of the Merchant Brig Hope, of Boston, Captain Hopkins, which left Havana for Boston, in the year 1821? Answer.—I do not know any thing of the fate of the Hope, but I know that the Merchant Brig Hope, of Boston, was taken by the Patriots, and recaptured at the same time by the Enterprize. This is decidedly the last time I ever spoke to Gibbs in the confession made to Justice Hopson, of the Merchant Brig Hope, of Boston, and Brig Lucina, of Liverpool.

Question.—Charles Gibbs, my name is Mr. Hopson. I understand from Mr. Merritt you wished to see me. He told me something of a story, and [illegible] I understand you wish to make a full confession of your transactions, which you would not make to any other person?

Answer.—I have.

Question.—Now, are you going to tell me the truth, or is it to cause me, and make me write a long story that will not amount to any thing?

Answer.—I shall tell nothing but the truth, and it is only on condition that you will swear not to divulge any thing I may say, even when I am on trial, and at the time after, if I should be clear.

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