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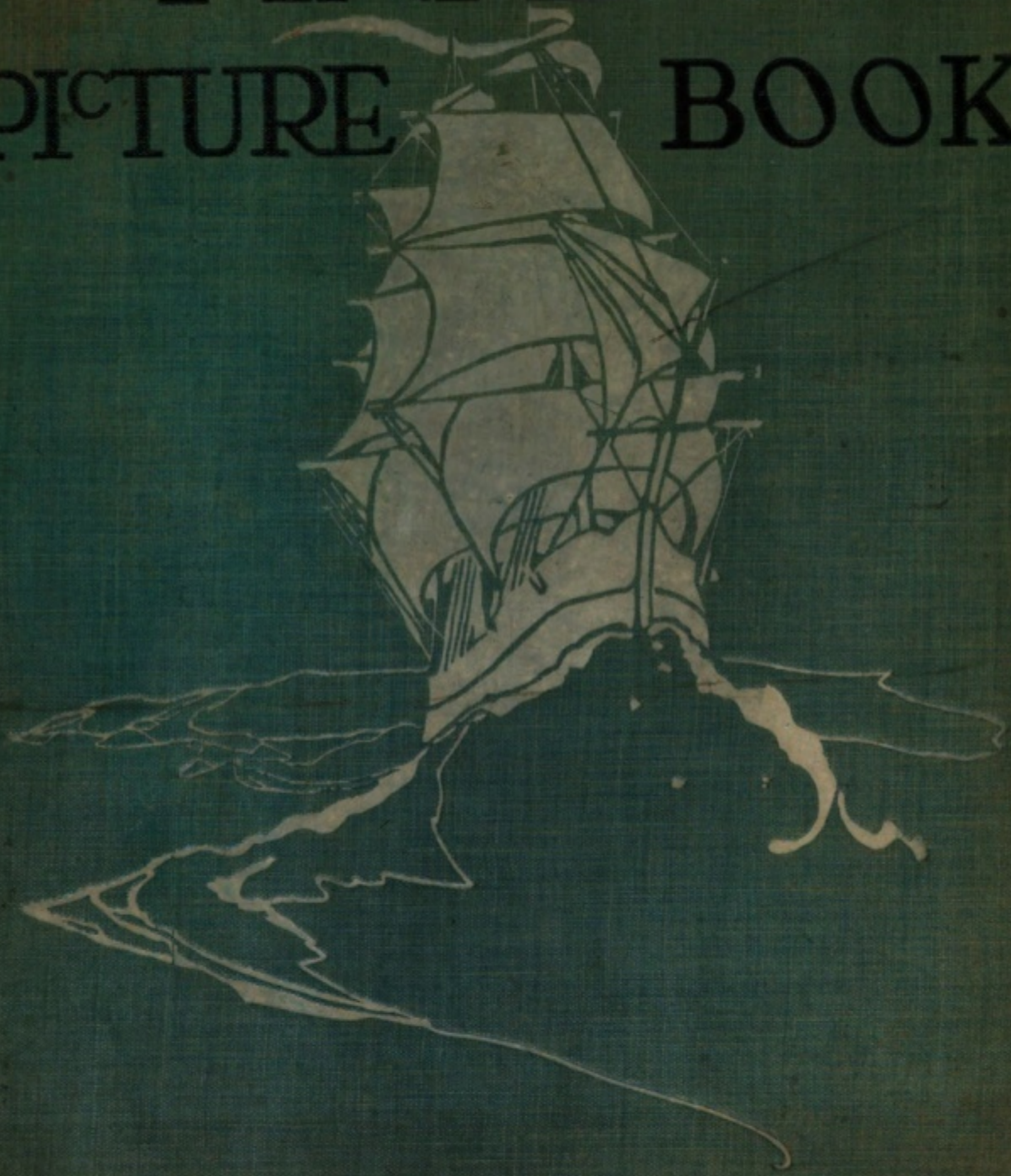
THE PINAFORE PICTURE BOOK



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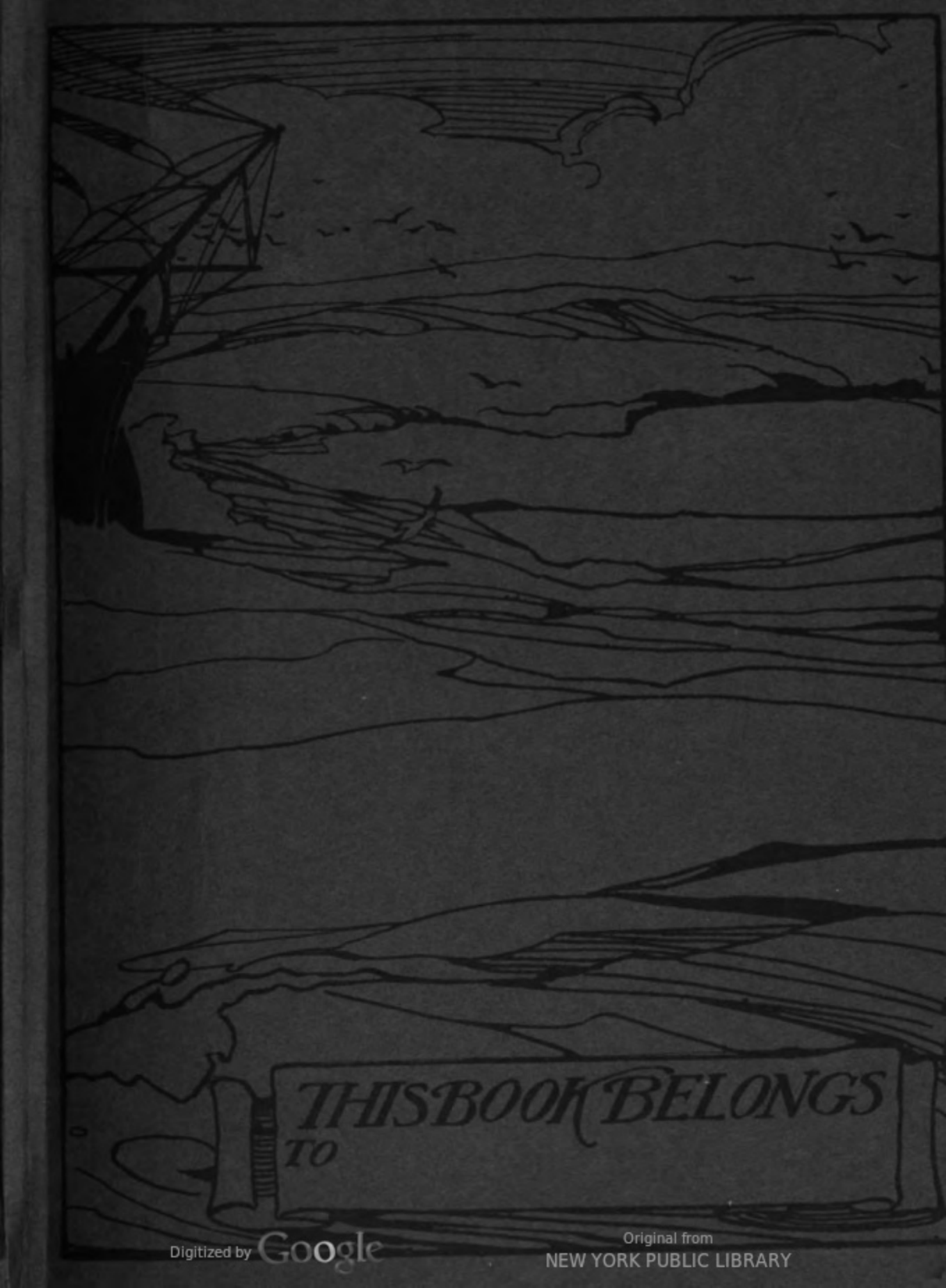

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The Pinafore Picture Book

The Story of

H.M.S. PINAFORE

Told

By

SIR W. S. GILBERT

AND

Illustrated by

Alice B. Woodward

LONDON

George Bell & Sons

1908

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GREAT BRITAIN is (at present) the most powerful maritime country in the world; she possesses a magnificent Fleet, superb officers and splendid seamen, and one and all are actuated by an intense desire to maintain their country's reputation in its highest glory.

One of the finest and most perfectly manned ships in that magnificent Fleet was Her Majesty's Ship *Pinafore*, and I call the ship "Her Majesty's" because she belonged to good Queen Victoria's time, when men-of-war were beautiful objects to look at, with tall tapering masts, broad white sails, and gracefully designed hulls; and not huge slate-coloured iron tanks without masts and sails as they are to-day. She was commanded by Captain Corcoran, R.N., a very humane, gallant, and distinguished officer, who did everything in his power

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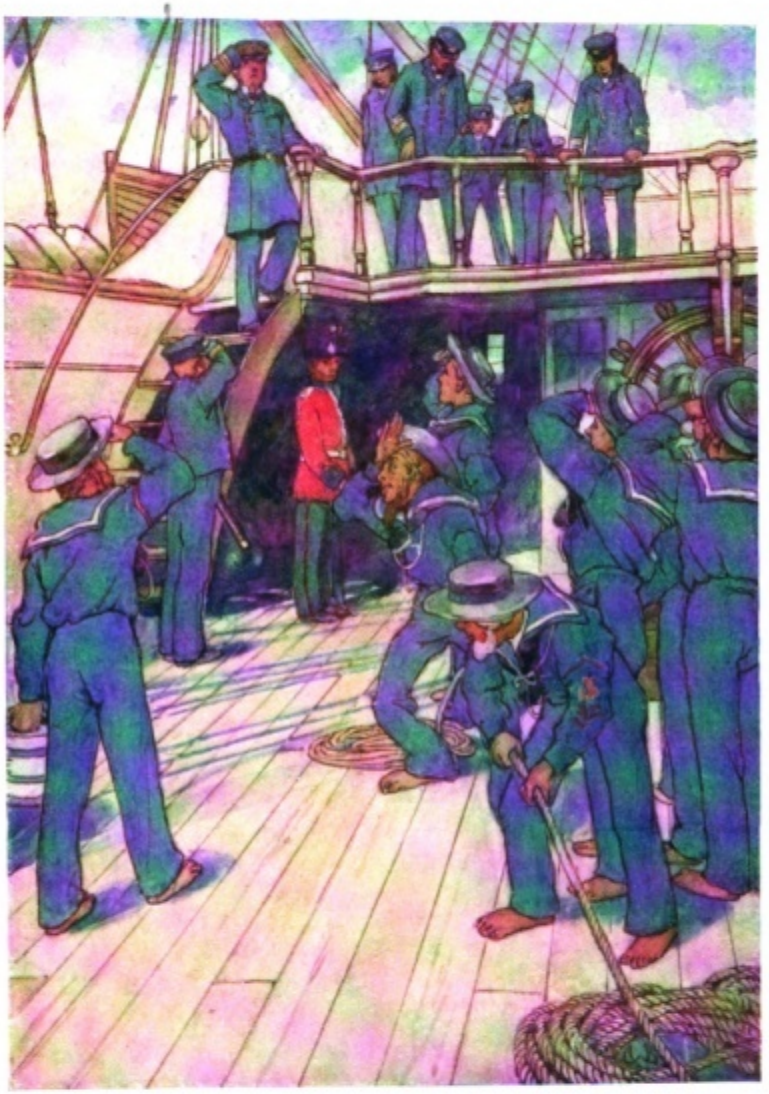

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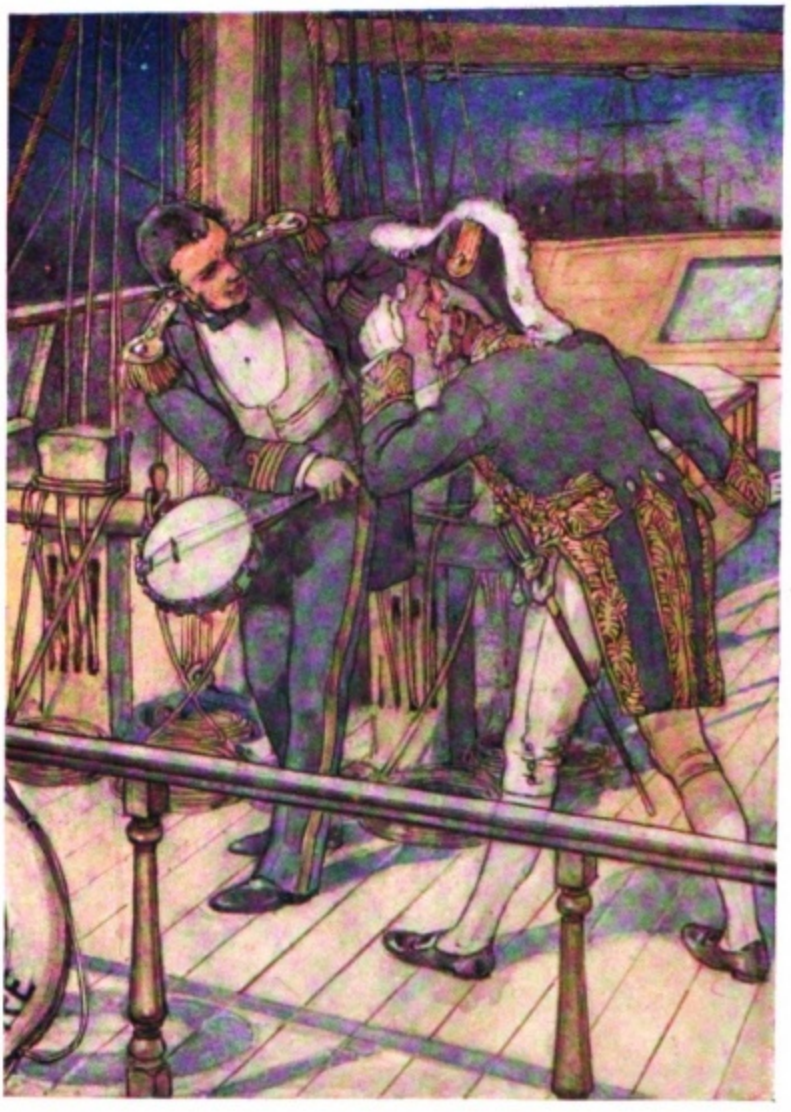

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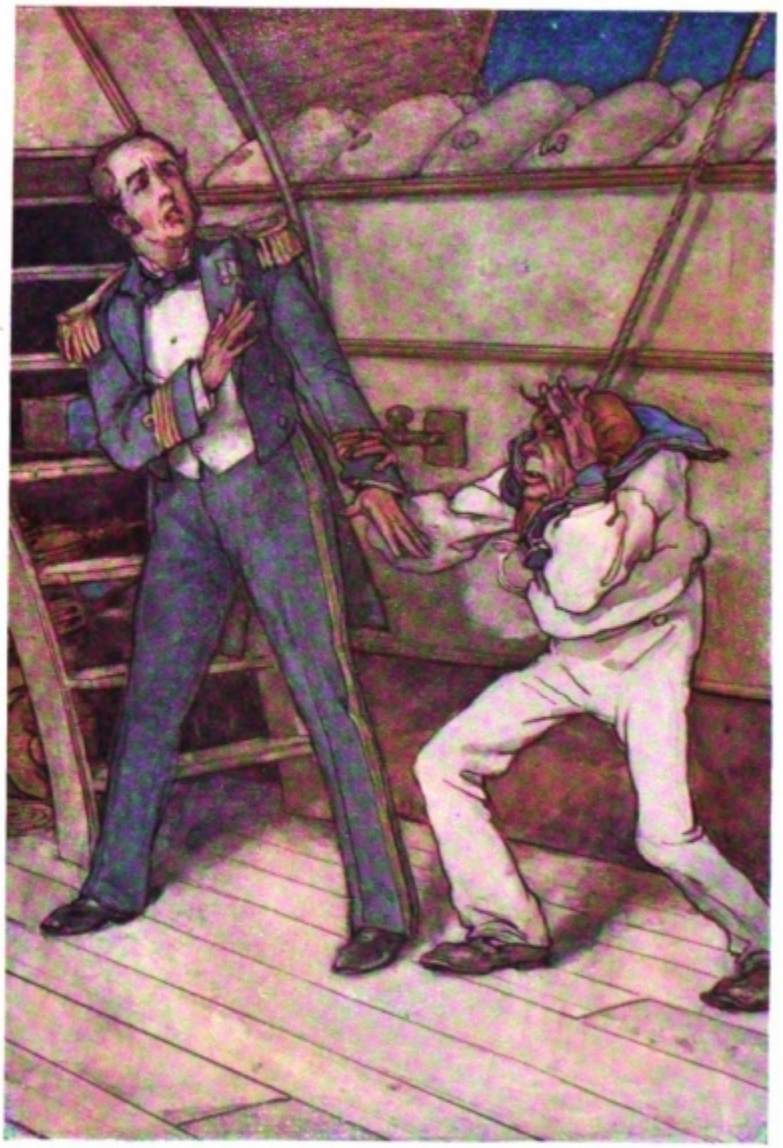

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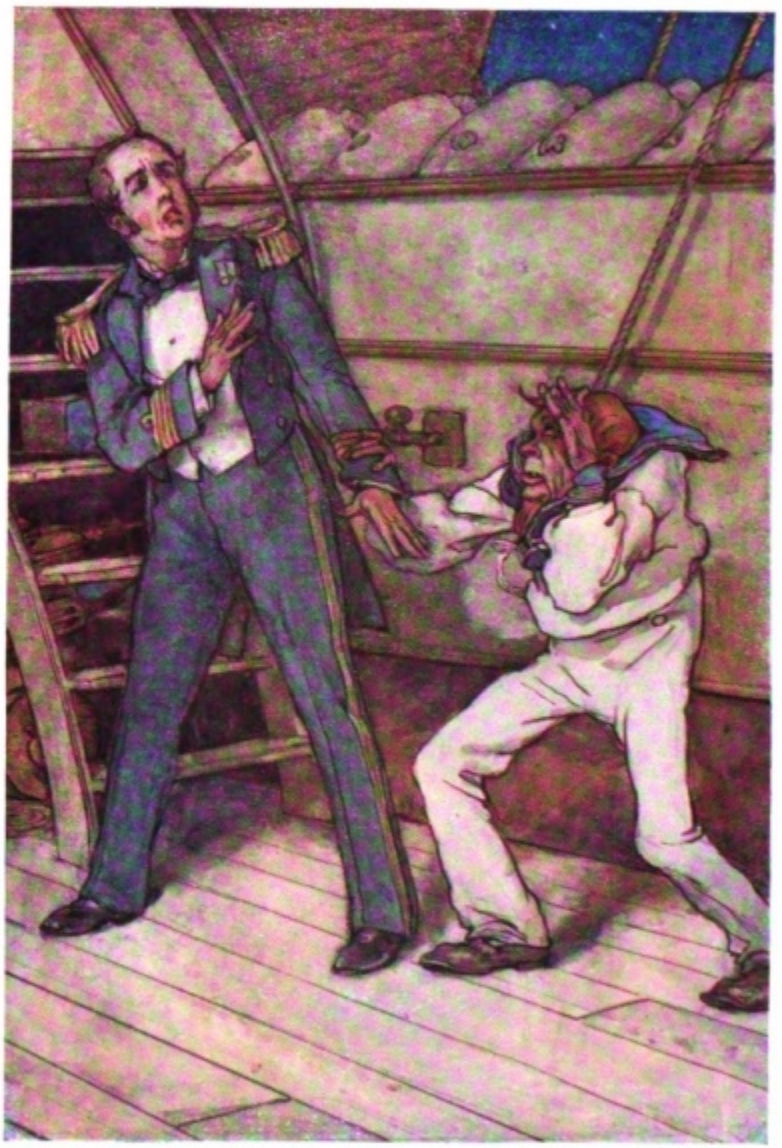

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H.M.S. "PINAFORE"

I, humble, poor, and lowly born,
The meanest in the port division—
The butt of epauletted Scorn—[1]
The mark of quarter-deck derision—

Have dared to raise my wormy eyes
Above the dust to which you'd mould me;
In manhood's glorious pride to rise,
I am an Englishman—behold me!

---

[1] The idea of Scorn wearing epaulettes is rather a fine figure of speech. I do not remember to have met it before.

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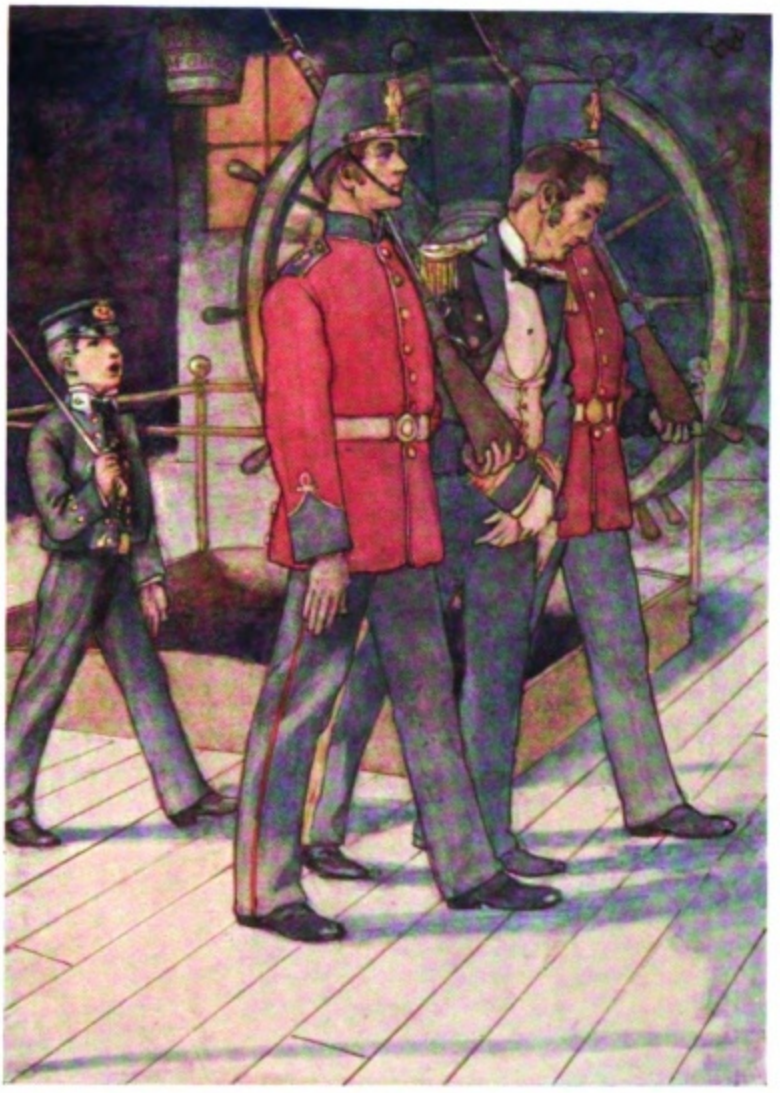

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she was a knowing one, I can tell you, was Little Buttercup!

As Corcoran (no longer a captain) stepped forward, Josephine rushed to him in amazement.

"My father a common sailor!" she exclaimed.

"Yes," said Corcoran, "it is hard, is it not, my dear?"

During this time Ralph was too much occupied

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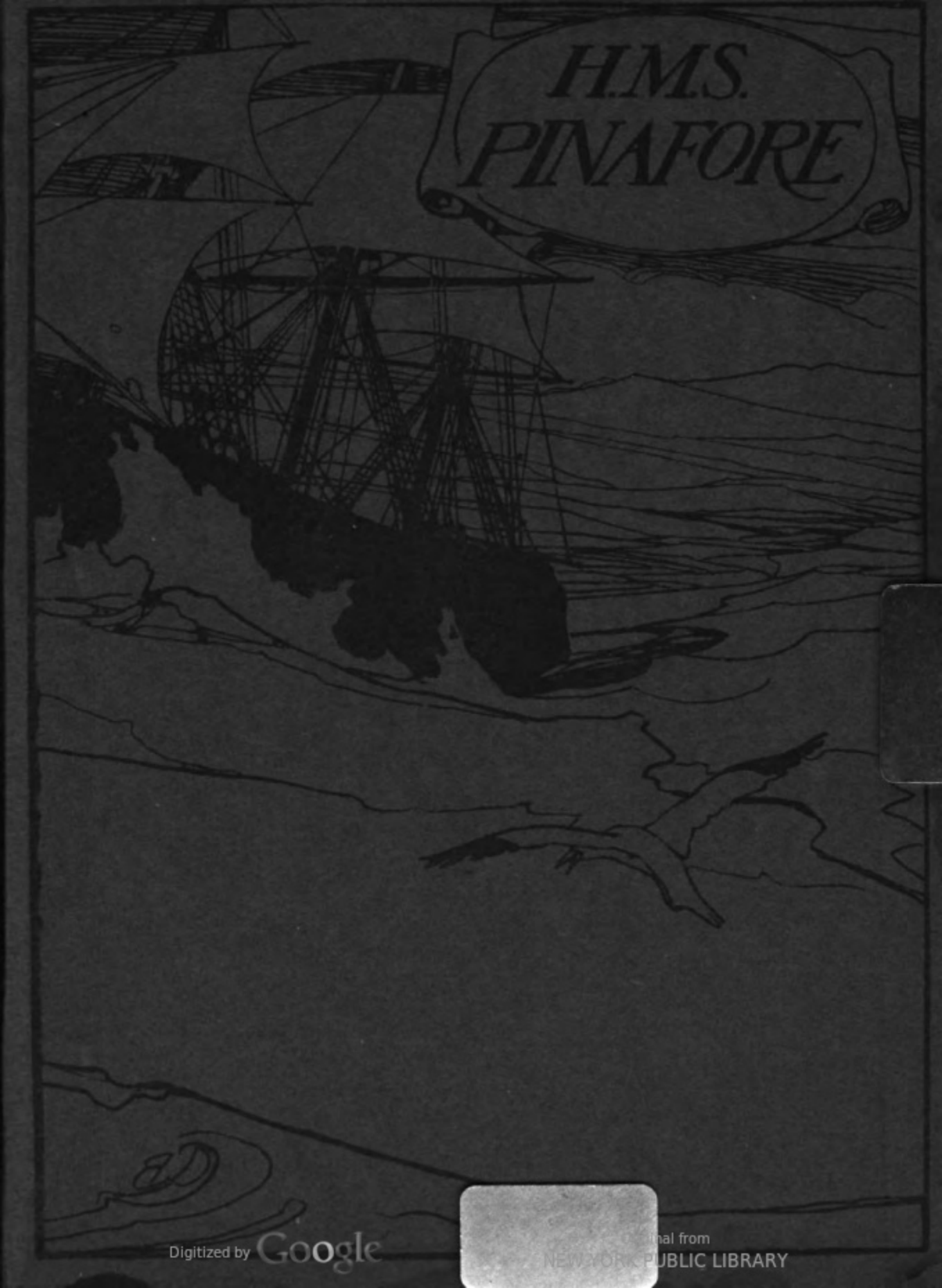

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