

The Swiss Family Robinson: A New Translation From the Original German (Classic Reprint)

William H. G. Kingston

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Excerpt from The Swiss Family Robinson: A New Translation From the Original German

Storm-tossed - Wrecked - Deserted - Supper - We make swimming-belts for the children - An anxious night - The gale moderates - We examine our cargo - Jack introduces two new acquaintances - How shall we get on shore? - Jack's plan - We adopt it - The use of a lever - Our tub-boat completed - Another night on the wreck - We collect a cargo - And embark - Jack's friends will not be left behind - Steer for the shore - Once more on land - We erect a tent - Glue soup - Jack makes the acquaintance of a lobster - Ernest shirks the water - Oysters and salt - How shall we eat our soup? - Ernest solves the difficulty - Fritz returns - The sucking-pig - How to open an oyster and how to eat it - The dogs devour the agouti - Fritz's anger - Our first night in the new country.

For many days we had been tempest-tossed. Six times had the darkness closed over a wild and terrific scene, and returning light as often brought but renewed distress, for the raging storm increased in fury until on the seventh day all hope was lost.

We were driven completely out of our course; no conjecture could be formed as to our whereabouts. The crew had lost heart, and were utterly exhausted by incessant labour.

The riven masts had gone by the board, leaks had been sprung in every direction, and the water, which rushed in, gained upon us rapidly.

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