

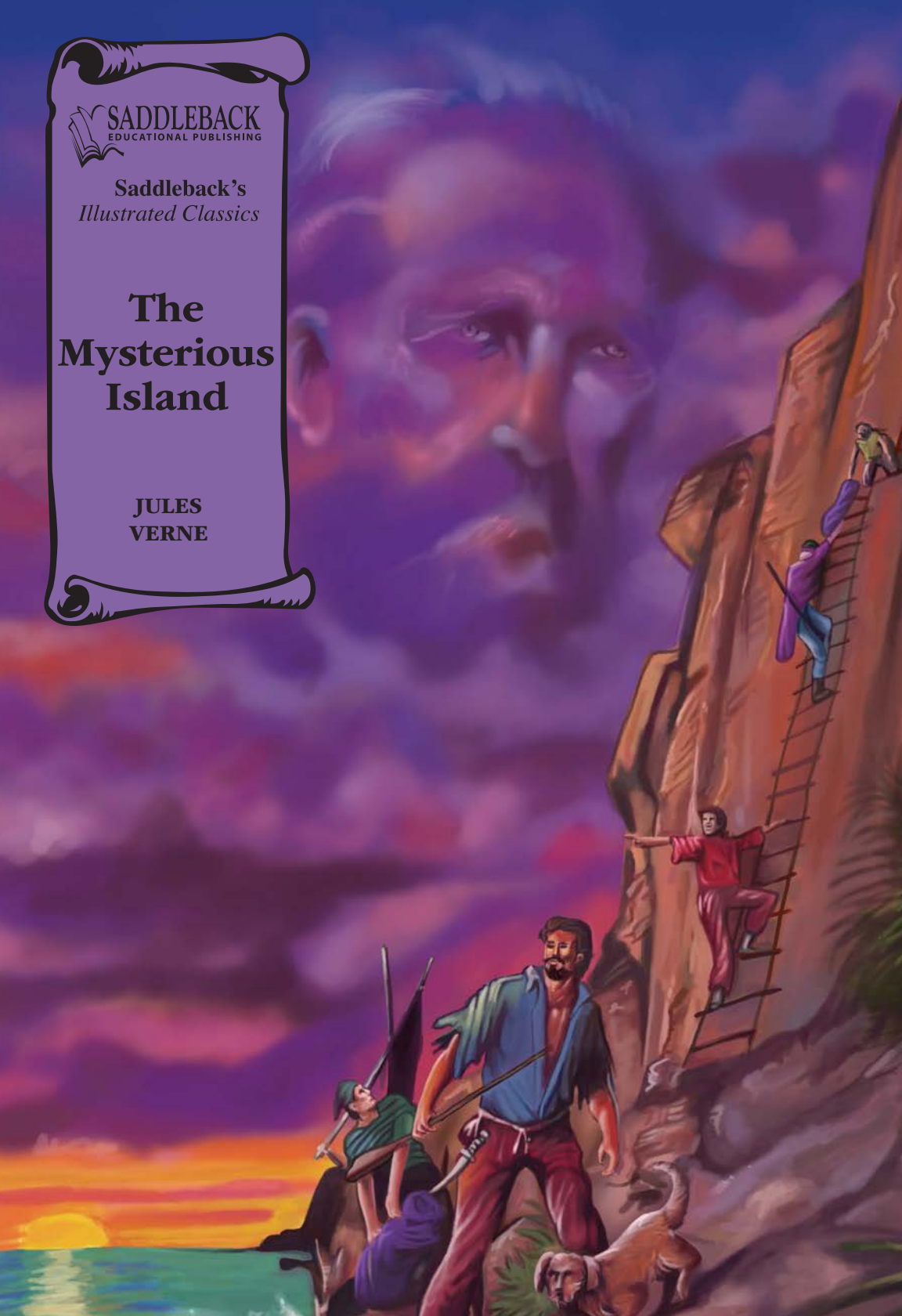


SADDLEBACK
EDUCATIONAL PUBLISHING

Saddleback's
Illustrated Classics

The Mysterious Island

**JULES
VERNE**



Jules Verne

The Mysterious Island



Gideon
Spilett



Neb



Jup



Captain Cyrus Harding



Top

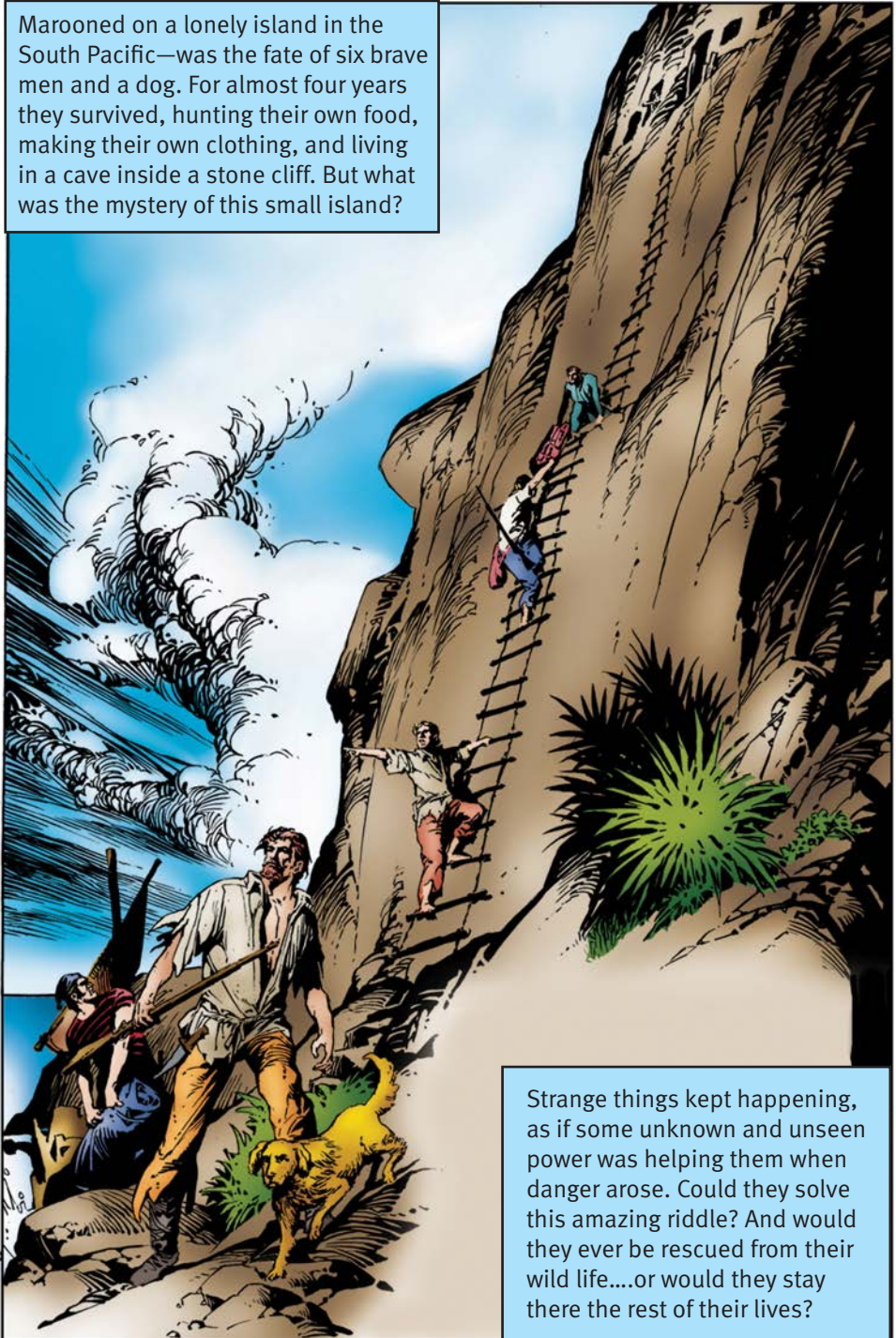


Jack Pencroft



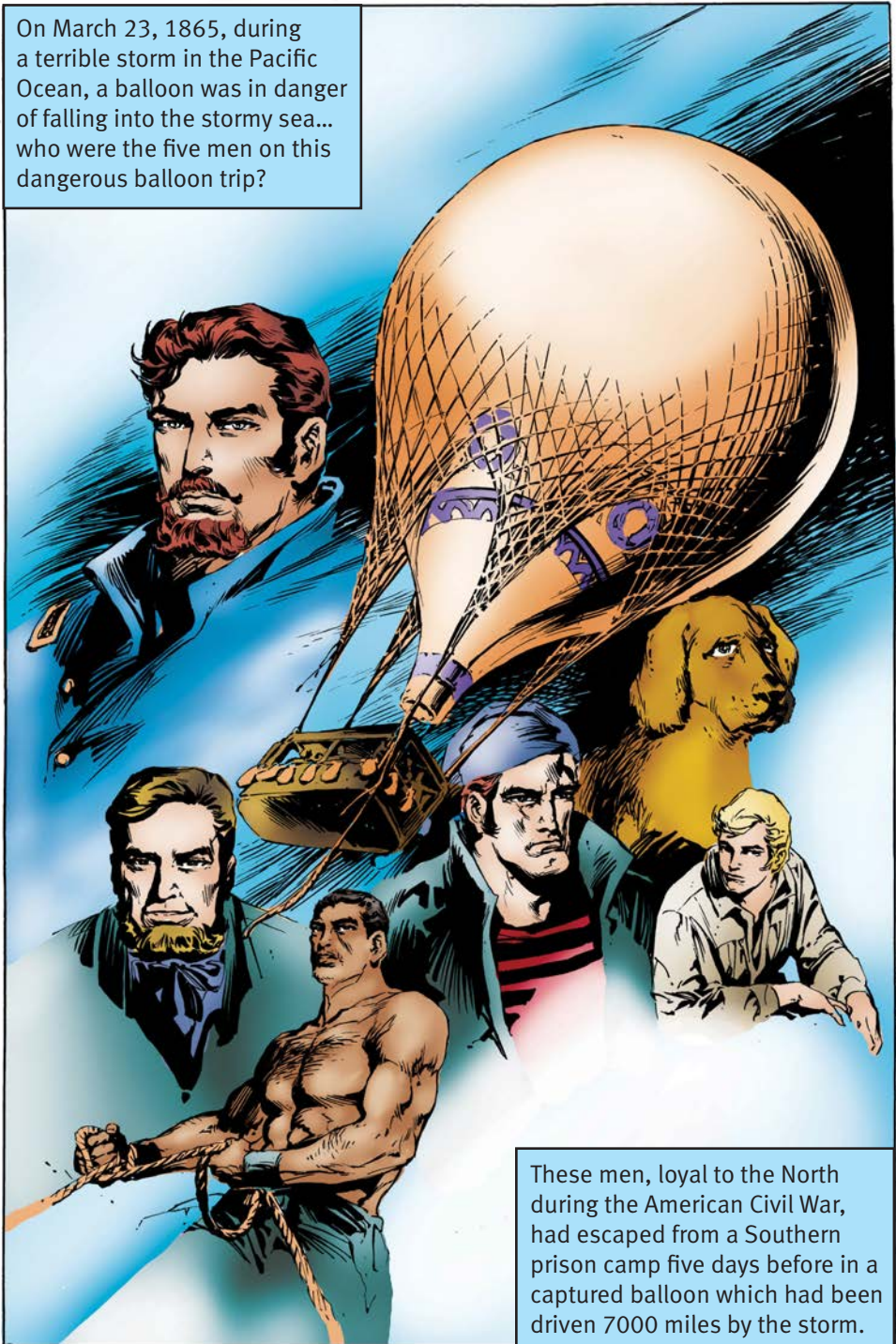
Herbert Brown

Marooned on a lonely island in the South Pacific—was the fate of six brave men and a dog. For almost four years they survived, hunting their own food, making their own clothing, and living in a cave inside a stone cliff. But what was the mystery of this small island?



Strange things kept happening, as if some unknown and unseen power was helping them when danger arose. Could they solve this amazing riddle? And would they ever be rescued from their wild life....or would they stay there the rest of their lives?

On March 23, 1865, during a terrible storm in the Pacific Ocean, a balloon was in danger of falling into the stormy sea... who were the five men on this dangerous balloon trip?



These men, loyal to the North during the American Civil War, had escaped from a Southern prison camp five days before in a captured balloon which had been driven 7000 miles by the storm.

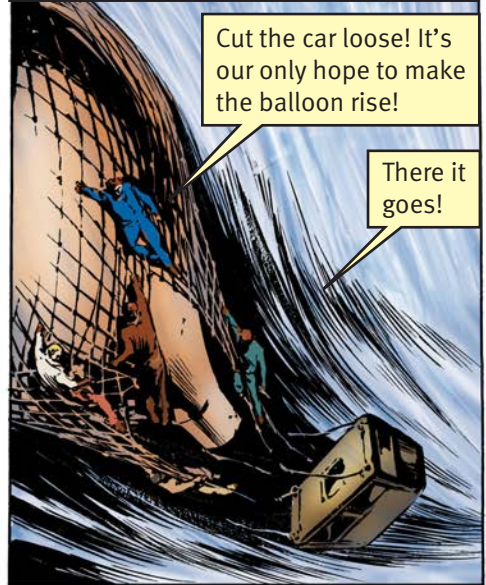
We're going down! Quick!
Toss out guns...bullets...food...
sacks...everything loose!



Finally, still sinking...

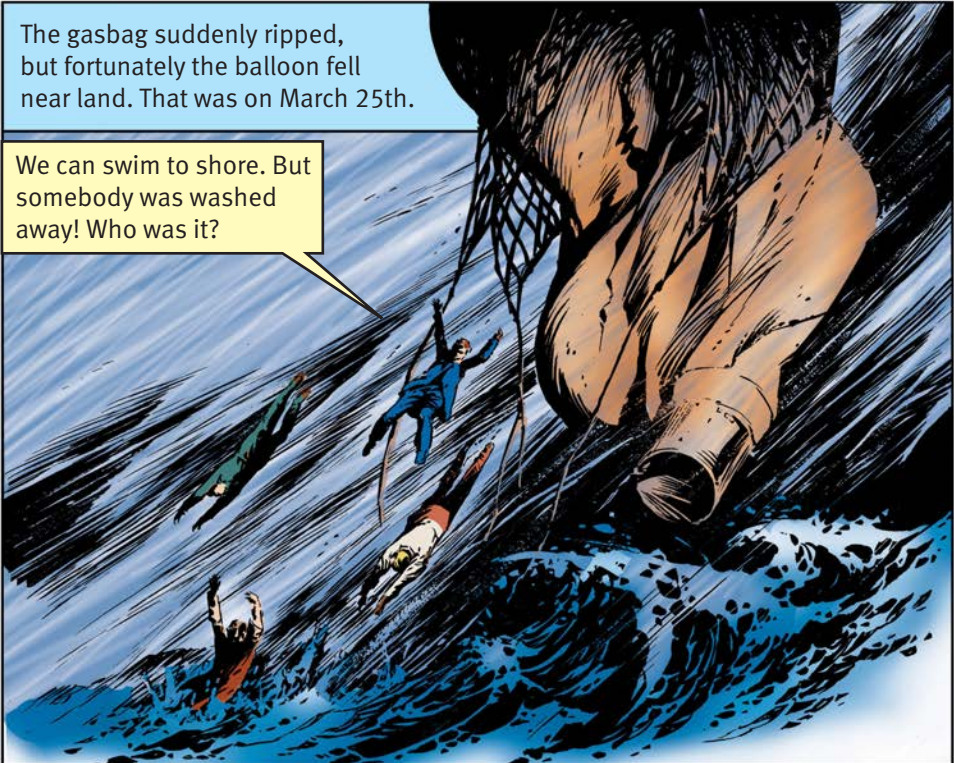
Cut the car loose! It's
our only hope to make
the balloon rise!

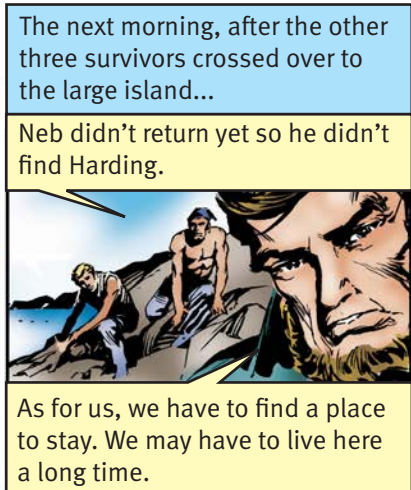
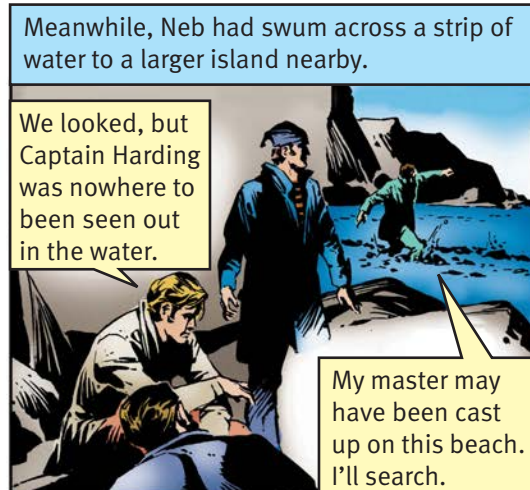
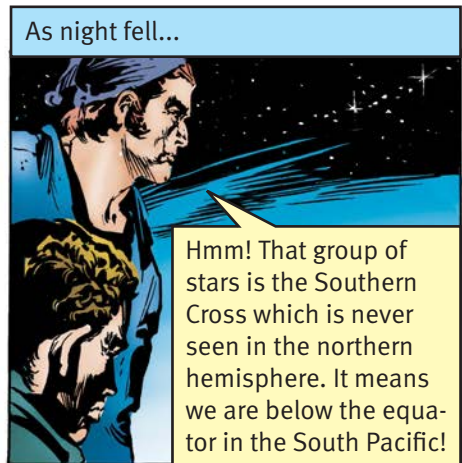
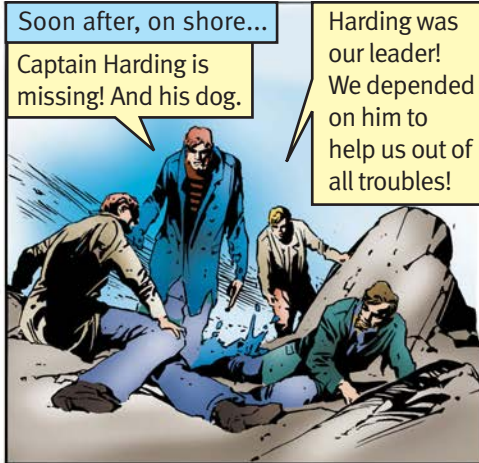
There it
goes!

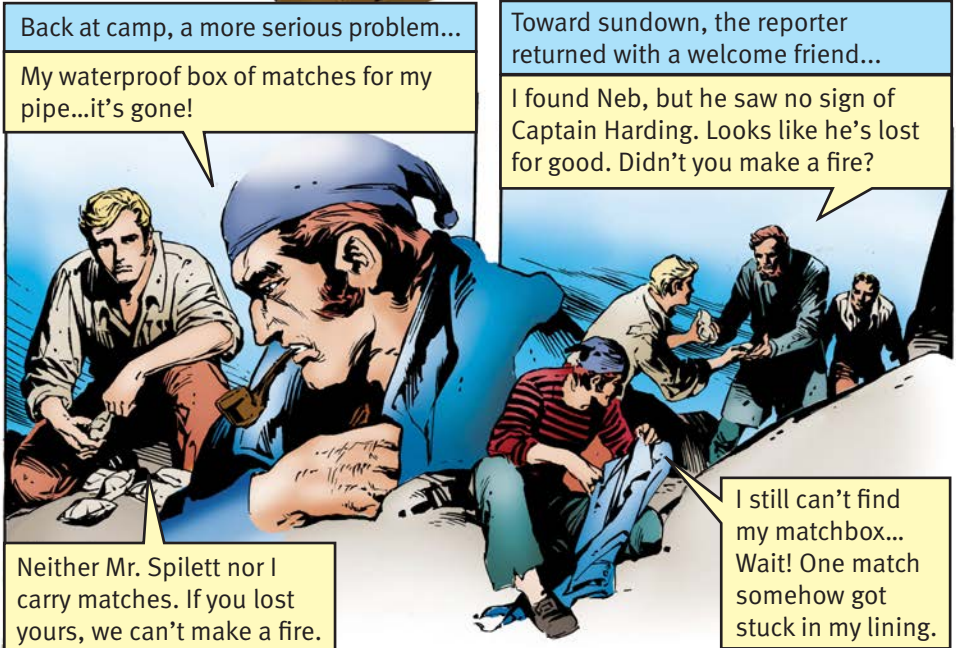
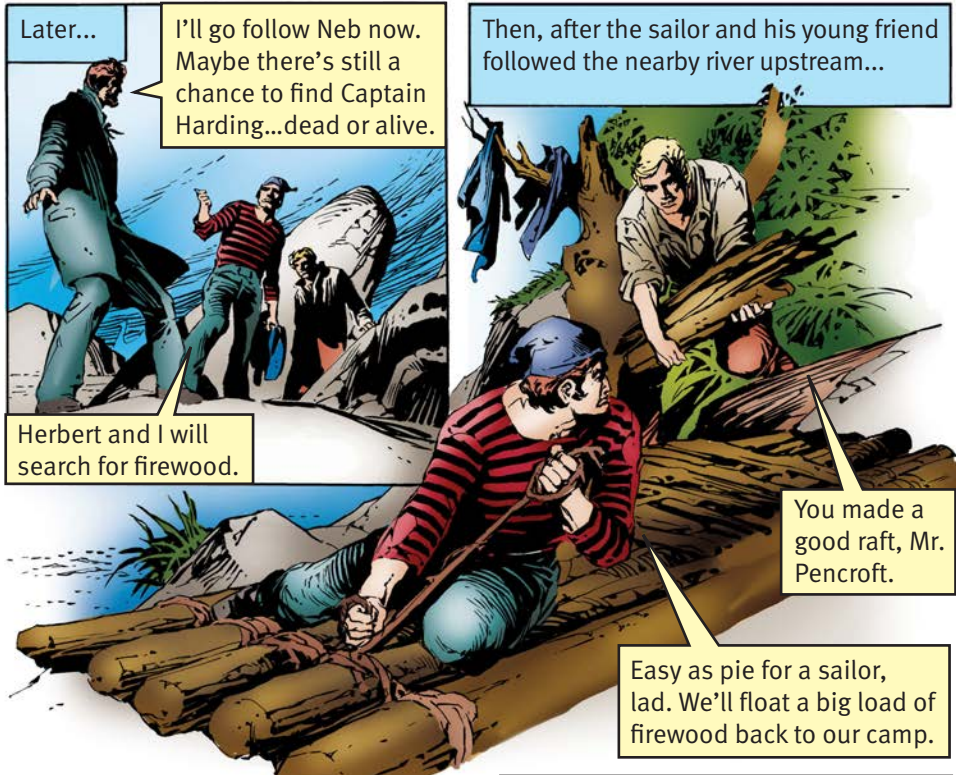


The gasbag suddenly ripped,
but fortunately the balloon fell
near land. That was on March 25th.

We can swim to shore. But
somebody was washed
away! Who was it?



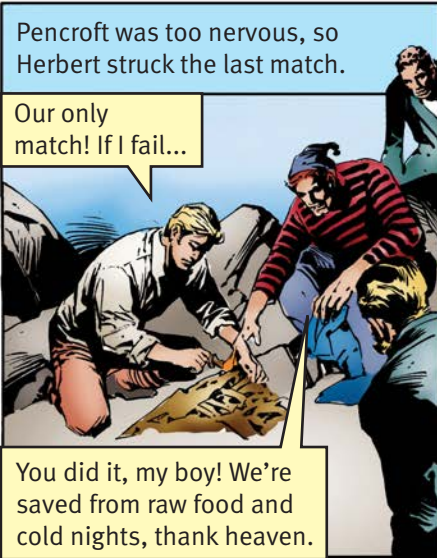




Pencroft was too nervous, so Herbert struck the last match.

Our only match! If I fail...

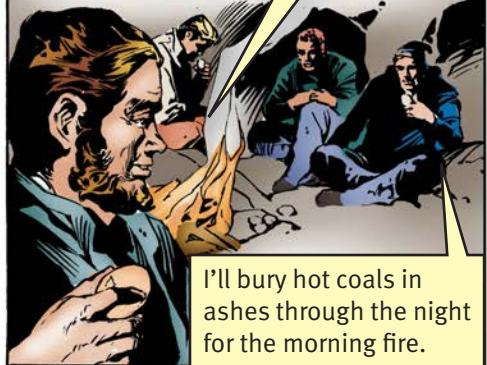
You did it, my boy! We're saved from raw food and cold nights, thank heaven.



Soon, the hungry survivors had their first cooked meal.

Pencroft, I'm glad you and Herbert brought back these seabird eggs as well as firewood.

I'll bury hot coals in ashes through the night for the morning fire.



Next morning, after breakfast...

We need better food. Herbert and I will go hunting. With sticks, we should be able to knock down game birds.

I'll stay and make notes on our doings. For one thing, poor Neb left again during the night, to search for his master.



When the hunters returned...

These game birds will taste good.

Neb hasn't returned yet. He should give up searching—Captain Harding and his dog are surely dead by now.



Suddenly, they heard a bark, and then...

Top! He came back!



Could it be that Captain Harding is alive too? If he is, Top will lead us to his master.

Following the faithful dog, they came upon Neb...and a sad sight.

My master...is dead!



No! I feel a pulse. He's alive!



Last I remember, Top and I were drowning in the sea. Wh-who brought us here to safety on dry land?



The first hint of a big mystery sprang up on the strange island.

When they had all returned to camp...



Soon we'll warm up beside our fire....

No, we won't. High tide came up during the night and wrecked our camp. The fire is out!

Cold and hungry, they tried to make a new fire in old ways....



Rubbing two sticks together...No luck.

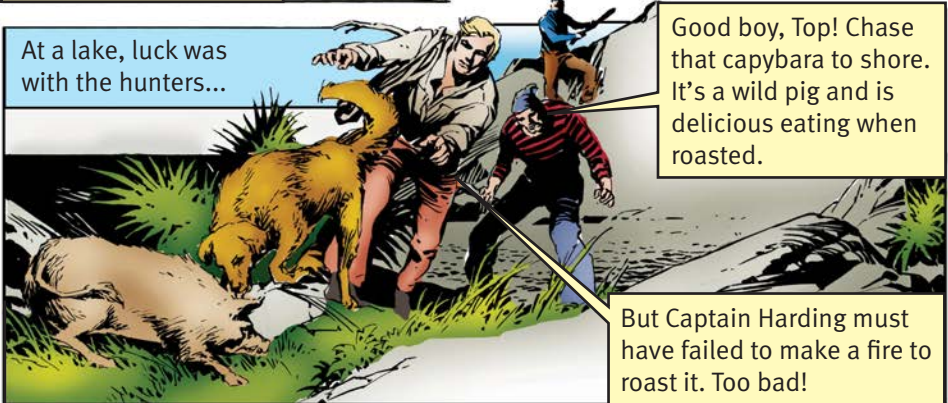
These weak sparks from a flintstone won't light that dry moss.

I'm much better, thanks to you men putting your coats around me, during the cold night. I will make a fire while the hunters are gone.



Fire? How can you work miracles, Captain?

At a lake, luck was with the hunters...



Good boy, Top! Chase that capybara to shore. It's a wild pig and is delicious eating when roasted.

But Captain Harding must have failed to make a fire to roast it. Too bad!

A big surprise, back at camp...



A fire! How in the world did you make it, Captain Harding?

Simple, Pencroft.

Spilett and I had watches. I used the two curving glass crystals to make a lens, which forms a strong beam of sunshine that is hot enough to set fire to dried moss.

