

The Tiverton Times

8 May 1685

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Lies, speculation and rumour wrapped up in libel.

Red Face Cash dead.

Reports have come in that the Dread Pirate Red Face Cash has been killed. In an epic sea battle between the Pirate and His Majesties valiant Navy, led by Captain Wood, the pirate's ship 'The Bloody Mary' was sunk with all hands lost. However in a dramatic turn of events the Navy were unable to secure the drowning crew as the good captains ship came under fire by an unknown ship. This ship was in turn fired upon and believed to be severely crippled. However with French ships also involved in the battle, the mystery ship escaped.



Red Face Cash was a known Pirate and was wanted on several charges including Piracy, Murder and Treason. He stole a large tribute due to be delivered to our gracious King James II from the King of Spain. He is known to have frequented this area regularly and some believe he buried a large portion of his treasure in the locale.

An eye witness account from Mrs Meggins, local widower and curtain twitcher, who was on the shore, said that she saw a small rowing boat leaving the Bloody Mary shortly before it sank, she also said she saw the Mystery ship, that flew no colours, make for the land with one of the damaged French Ships closely following it. Captain Wood said he was following up all leads in conjunction with the army and local militia and is offering a reward for information.

Rebellion!

Rumours of a plot to oust Our Gracious Majesty are rife. Soldiers are combing the area as they have information that rebels are planning an uprising. They believe the dissenting rebel scum have a base somewhere in the Devon area and will pay for information that leads to its whereabouts. Loyal subjects of the King are asked to report any strange travellers or unlawful assemblies. Subjects are also reminded that to bear arms against the King or his authority is treason and punishable by death.

Playing Card Muggings

A series of muggings and robberies have been taking place in the area. The scoundrel makes his mark with a playing card, the Jack of Spades, which is found or left with the victims. Local enforcement have put a bounty on the perpetrator. As yet no description is available of the bandit and he is still at large. However, we can speculate that the offender is probably foreign, over 3 foot tall and wears a three cornered hat. Subjects are recommended to avoid anyone fitting this description.

Swindlers Fair

The annual Swindlers Fair shall be taking place on the 15 May at the prestigious Mermaids Purse. People are invited to bring any items they wish to sell at the market and are welcome to set up Swindlers' Stalls. There will be entertainments in the evening and a poetry competition with a 5 Guinea Prize. All good folk are reminded that the event does attract n'er do wells and to be on their guard. Sergeant Dare of the light infantry remarked that there will be a military presence so that there is no repeat of the terrible troubles last year.



Situations Vacant

Want a career where you can see the world and get to teach those foreigners a good lesson in English? Join the Navy - a shilling dropped in your tankard soon.

Militia Men required. To assist the efforts of the army we require local men to join the militia.

Mermaids Purse requires several staff. Apply within for full details.

Local troubles

The local gang 'The Tivy boys' have been causing trouble again. A large brawl was started at 'The Travellers Rest' in Tiverton and they have been barred for 2 weeks. Local militia reports that the 'Tivy Boys' may travel further a field looking for trouble. They are well known as vagabonds and thieves and it is pure conjecture that they have links to organised crime.

Hero of the week

This week unfortunately our roving reporters have found no one suitable to be interviewed for this prestigious and popular section of the paper. The editor wishes to assure regular readers that our reporters are travelling the land seeking those with a great tale to tell. If you have a magnificent tale to tell of valour or skulduggery you should be aware that the paper pays good money for a good story.

Court rules Duelling Legal

After a long and protracted courtroom drama at the New Bailey the high Justices have ruled that a death caused in a legitimate duel was not to be treated as murder as long as full formal rules are adhered to.

Travellers advice

In order to balance the books after the glorious victorious war with the Spanish and Dutch, the King is imposing more tolls and local taxes on travellers. This is an effort to raise revenue and to discourage journeys that are not necessary. Anyone making an excursion is advised to have a good reason to travel and have money ready for tolls and taxes.

Sermon Times

The Right Reverend Preacher Alabaster will be giving an outside service on the 16 May at the Swindlers Barn. This will start at 9am sharp. The Reverend has made a remarkable recovery from the horrific injuries he suffered last year and is praying for calm at this years fair.

Advertising feature

'Uncle Grouches Elixir' a wonderful modern cure all from the apothecary we all know, love and trust. Heals cuts, bruises, sprains, gout, couties, women's troubles, pox, lurgies and hair loss. Quick acting and tastes so bad you just know its doing you good. Now with 20% less side effects*. Available at all major outlets. Get your trial sample for only one shilling on production of this paper.

*'Auntie Grouches Breeches Saver' also available