***Treasure Island***

***Chapter 6:***

# *The Captain’s Papers*

***Brief Summary:***

* Doctor Livesey isn't at home.
* Jim and Mr. Dance find Doctor Livesey at the squire's house.
* The squire is named Mr. Trelawney.
* Mr. Dance tells Squire Trelawney the whole story about the men who invaded the Admiral Benbow Inn, Jim and his mother running away, both of them heading back on their own when the villagers wouldn't help, and the fortunate arrival of Mr. Dance and his men.
* Doctor Livesey asks Jim to hand over the packet of papers.
* He takes it and puts it unopened in his coat pocket.
* Doctor Livesey suggests that Mr. Dance head back to his duties. He wants Jim to spend the night at his house.
* When Mr. Dance leaves, Doctor Livesey and Squire Trelawney start talking.
* They've both heard of Captain Flint: "the bloodthirstiest buccaneer that sailed" (6.22). (A buccaneer is a pirate.)
* Doctor Livesey is the first to come out and say that he thinks the packet of papers includes a treasure map.
* Squire Trelawney promises that, if there is a map, he'll hire a ship to take Doctor Livesey, Jim, and himself on a treasure hunt.
* Doctor Livesey opens the packet. It contains a book and a sealed piece of paper.
* The book doesn't seem to offer much in terms of obvious directions.
* Squire Trelawney is the one who figures out that it's an account book: it has all of the captain's wages from when he first started as a pirate to much larger sums now.
* The sealed paper includes something much more promising: a map of an island with three crosses of red ink, two on the northern part and one in the southwest. Next to the southwest cross it says: "Bulk of treasure here" (6.40).
* The handwriting on the map is different from the captain's. It also contains some more specific directions that Jim can't understand.
* Squire Trelawney tells Doctor Livesey to give up his medical practice right now: they're going to sail away looking for treasure in three weeks' time. Jim gets to come too, as cabin boy.
* Doctor Livesey agrees happily, but he warns Squire Trelawney under *no circumstances* to tell anyone where they're going.
* Squire Trelawney promises not to breathe a word.

***Synopsis:***

Mr. Dance relates the events of the evening to [Dr. Livesey](https://www.coursehero.com/lit/Treasure-Island/character-analysis/#Dr._Livesey) and [Squire Trelawney](https://www.coursehero.com/lit/Treasure-Island/character-analysis/#Squire_Trelawney). The doctor and squire listen, intrigued. They applaud Mrs. Hawkins's bravery, Jim's resourcefulness, and Mr. Dance's nobility.

The squire then tells the doctor and Jim what he knows of Captain Flint, declaring that if the packet contains a clue to Flint's buried treasure, he will purchase a ship and take the doctor and Jim on a treasure hunt.

The packet contains a book and a sealed paper; the paper is far more useful. It is a map of an island marked with three red crosses where treasure is hidden, with one in the southwest part of the island carefully labeled "Bulk of treasure here."

Swept away with excitement, the doctor and squire begin to plan an island excursion. Dr. Livesey expresses his concern that the squire talks too much, and the ruffians who attacked the inn could hear of their plans. However, Squire Trelawney promises to "be as silent as the grave."

After the darkness and chaos of the pirates' attack, the light and order of [Squire Trelawney](https://www.coursehero.com/lit/Treasure-Island/character-analysis/#Squire_Trelawney)'s home is a relief. Once again [Stevenson](https://www.coursehero.com/lit/Treasure-Island/author/) brings into stark contrast the savagery that defines the pirate world and the order that defines civilization. He then proceeds to build tension as the doctor, squire, and Jim pore over the contents of the oilskin packet.

Billy's account book makes clear the connection between money and rank. As the amounts increase over the years, he rises in rank aboard the ship. This foreshadows the connection [Long John Silver](https://www.coursehero.com/lit/Treasure-Island/character-analysis/#Long_John_Silver) will make between acquiring wealth and gaining the status of a gentleman.

There is a childish form of greed behind the men's decision to pursue Flint's treasure. Neither the squire nor the doctor needs the money, but they are practically giddy with the thought of "money to eat." The idea of a treasure hunt is too exciting to pass up. While thoughts of violence in obtaining the gold never enter their minds, their greedy quest for it will end badly all the same.

As for Jim, he is never asked if he wants to go along, but is simply pulled into the adventure in the role of cabin boy. Yet he doesn't resist. He is still a child, obeying the adults around him.

***Critical Study:***

Jim, Dance, and the others arrive at Dr. Livesey’s darkened house to learn that he is dining at the home of Squire Trelawney, a local nobleman. The group heads to Trelawney’s residence, where they find the two men in the library. Livesey examines the oilskin packet that Jim has recovered. Trelawney claims that the pirate Flint is more bloodthirsty than Blackbeard and has accumulated a huge fortune. They open the book wrapped in the oilskin and find that it is a log of all the places where Flint acquired loot, and of the sums of gold that he obtained in each place. The packet also includes a map of the island where the whole treasure now lies buried, with longitude and latitude detailed. Trelawney and Livesey are filled with glee, and start making plans to sail to the island themselves, bringing Jim along as cabin boy. Everyone present swears to secrecy.

***Critical Analysis(Ch4-6):***

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In this section, Jim is already beginning to develop as a character and as a hero. Whereas in the first chapters he wants to run to his mother out of fear, here it is his mother who faints in terror and Jim who drags her to a safe hiding place. Now the male head of the household, Jim shows courage and quick-wittedness. When examining the contents of the sea chest, Jim’s mother seeks to take only the money Billy owes her, whereas Jim has the foresight to take the valuable oilskin packet containing the map of Treasure Island. Facing Billy’s dead body, Jim’s mother sobs and complains that she could never touch it, while Jim tears open the corpse’s shirt and finds the key to the chest. Furthermore, after Pew’s death and the arrival of the town officers on the scene, Jim bravely rejects officer Dance’s request for the map. Jim voices his preference to take the map to Livesey instead, the event that sets the whole adventure in motion. It is hard to imagine that the meek little boy of Chapter I would have taken any of these bold actions; indeed, Jim is growing up quickly.

The aura of mystery and excitement surrounding the pirates grows in these chapters. Jim’s vision of Pew suggests that these pirates are superhuman, as Pew appears much more powerful than one would expect a blind beggar to be. Like many of the other pirates, Pew is physically flawed. He lacks sight, just as Billy lacks overall health and Long John Silver, as we soon see, lacks a leg. Yet these pirates’ inner strength appears to compensate for their physical flaws. This inner power and charisma captivates the young Jim, even as it strikes fear into the villagers. None of the good men has any force of personality or charisma comparable to that of the pirates. Though Trelawney applauds Dance for killing Pew, whom he compares to a cockroach, it is Pew who acts heroically in the streets while Trelawney dines comfortably in his library. In this way, Stevenson subtly sketches the buccaneers as mysteriously attractive, in spite of their immoral and crude outward behavior. He likewise makes it difficult for us to conclude that men like Trelawney are unambiguously superior to the pirates.

Somewhat surprisingly, perhaps, Livesey and Trelawney, the respectable members of local society, become boyishly excited and “filled … with delight” upon seeing Flint’s map. Rather than turn the documents over to the authorities and turn their backs on the dark underworld of piracy and thievery, they are thrilled at the idea of becoming pirate adventurers themselves. The upstanding Trelawney immediately launches into a schoolboy’s fantasy of finding “favorable winds, a quick passage, and not the least difficulty in finding the spot, and money to eat—to roll in—to play duck and drake with ever after.” The image the pirates have left in Trelawney’s mind is not one of crime and murder, but one of fun, games, and riches. The readiness of these responsible and professional grown men to become adventurous boys again is part of a theme central to this novel: Stevenson implies that there is a little pirate in everyone, old or young, nobleman or beggar. In this sense, Jim begins to emerge not as the token boy in the novel, but as representative of all the characters, no matter what their age or position in life.

Chapter 6 ("The Captain's Papers") begins at Dr. Livesey's house, where they are told that the doctor has gone to dine with Squire Trelawney at his hall. They proceed there, and Dance tells his story to the doctor and squire. Livesey is interested in the packet Jim took from the sea chest, but he waits to open it until after Dance has gone. When it is opened, it is found to contain a book listing sums of money and dates covering over twenty years. Livesey deduces it is a record of the captain's share in plunder taken from many ships and towns by the notorious pirate Flint and his crew. Along with the book is a map showing where the treasure is hidden, buried on an island about 45 square miles in area. The squire immediately proposes to leave for the port city of Bristol, where he'll obtain a ship, hire a crew, and — taking Livesey as ship's doctor, Jim as cabin boy, and three other men whom he names (Redruth, Joyce, and Hunter) — they will sail in search of the island and the treasure. Livesey warns him not to tell anyone of his plans and destination, and the squire promises he'll be "silent as the grave."

To read the opening paragraph of Treasure Island is a bit like sneaking a look at the last page first. When you come to the end of the first sentence, you know that the treasure-seeking voyage is over and was successful — with part of what was found still left on the island — and that at least three of the major characters (although you do not yet know that they are major characters), the squire, the doctor, and the narrator, have survived it. That you are told these details at the outset does not affect your reading of the story, because you can tell from the tone of the paragraph that the story is not about whether Treasure Island and its cache of riches can be found but about how the story unfold and all the particulars that take place on the way. It is, in other words, about an adventure. And you believe in that adventure because its details are set down in writing by someone who experienced it, someone whom you are inclined to trust because he is recording it at the request of other men who experienced it, too. Thus, Stevenson's first-person narrator immediately transcends fiction and becomes, for the willing reader, a real person writing about real events.

The first part introduces you to several of the major characters of the novel. One of them, Billy Bones (whom Jim innocently calls "the captain," although this rank has been conferred on Billy by himself alone), is dead before the third chapter ends. Billy, despite his rough talk and ragged appearance, seems to Jim, and indeed to some of the neighbors who come to the inn for evening refreshment and conversation, to be fierce and commanding, something of an exotic figure. These are country people who, despite the fact that they live on the coast of southwestern England, are not very familiar with sea-faring men and their ways, and Billy is entertaining. But he is mostly bluster. He is a drunken old miser who bullies everyone he can, frightening Jim's father into giving him room, board, and plenty of rum at no charge and scaring the neighbors into joining him in drink and raucous song. But he backs down immediately when his loud bullying has no effect on Dr. Livesey, and he is horribly frightened of his erstwhile shipmates, especially the one-legged man for whom he urges Jim to keep a sharp lookout. What is Billy Bones doing at the Admiral Benbow? In fact, he seems to have no real idea. He has Flint's map, the key to a vast fortune, given him — as he says — by Flint on his deathbed, which is probably true, because Flint was much taken with rum himself (as is described in a later chapter) and perhaps Billy Bones seemed to him an appropriate heir. But Billy's former mates know that he has the map, and Billy knows that they know, and he knows they will eventually come after it and him (as of course they will, for his behavior has made it inevitable that people will spread the word of his being there, and he will be recognized by his description).

Billy has good reason to fear his pursuers, because they want his treasure and he does not want to share it. So he waits for the inevitable approach of his former shipmates and, meanwhile, drinks himself to death in an effort not to think about what will happen to him as a result of his unwillingness to give up any of the treasure. In the end, Jim Hawkins pities him.

Trelawney reveals himself as another blusterer, although of a pleasanter sort than Billy. He is openhanded, quick to think well of people (he pronounces Jim a "trump" without having any good reason to think so and offers him a hearty meal), and he is impulsive, deciding immediately to go after the treasure and telling not only Livesey but also Jim, whom he has just met and has no reason to trust, of his decision. He is also, as Jim says without resentment or irony, "condescending" — that is, he is aware of his wealth and position and pleased that others are aware of it. He has always been an important person in the district, a big frog in a small puddle, and you can see that he may be taken advantage of by a reasonably clever person. On the other hand, he is not offended when the doctor (a professional man but not the squire's social equal) tells him that he is likely to talk too much; the squire knows this is true and does not care, because it has never cost him what it may cost him now. Trelawney is a hearty man and, so far, a lucky one; readers like him but do not really trust him.

Dr. Livesey is trustworthy. He is revealed as a conventionally good man: honest, outspoken, courageous, steady, and notably un-condescending. You discover very little more about him than this as the novel progresses. But because you already know that he survives the voyage, Livesey becomes a sort of anchor for the reader, an adult whom you know will act firmly and with good sense throughout the book.

The fourth major character presented is Jim Hawkins himself, the narrator and apparently the novel's protagonist. What do you discover about Jim? His age is not immediately obvious, but you know something about the century in which he lives: "17\_\_," he writes, and from later evidence in the book, you may put the events of this first chapter at no earlier than 1730 or so and no later than around 1750 or '55. During this time period, the age at which young men were considered adults and at which they often went to sea as common sailors or even junior officers was about sixteen; because the squire suggests that he be a cabin boy instead of an ensign or mate, you can guess that Jim is in or very near his early teens. He is young enough that Black Dog can patronize him as "sonny" and that blind Pew recognizes his youth; his voice has apparently not begun to deepen. (Stevenson's stepson, Lloyd Osbourne, in whose company he wrote Treasure Island, was about twelve years old when this writing began, so it is tempting to think that the young protagonist himself is about that age or perhaps a year older.) Jim must be literate and fairly intelligent, and he must subsequently have proved himself honest, or he would probably not have been asked to write this record of events. He is open and trusting, first of "the captain" and later of Black Dog and then of Pew, but he learns quickly and is mature enough to pity Billy Bones. He is responsible at his work, and although much later he tells you that he had often played "boys games," you do not see him doing that now, only working. It's probably fair to say that Jim at this point is a normal young teenager of his (or at least of Stevenson's) time, and, like boys of our own time — although perhaps in different ways — sometimes still a child and sometimes, when circumstances demand it, almost an adult.

The minor characters who appear in this part are relatively few. The pirates, Black Dog and Pew, give you a taste of some of the pirates Jim will meet on the voyage. Black Dog is patently a cruel, vicious man, patronizing Jim, calling him "sonny," talking about "discipline" — all very thinly veiled threats: Do what I say or I will hurt you. Pew, the blind beggar (and you later discover that he is indeed a beggar, having wasted his own wealth in record time), applies pain directly instead of merely threatening. Like another character whom you meet later, Pew is physically daunting, having overcome his disability to an extent that would be admirable in a different man and is frightening in this one. Although you see Black Dog for an instant in the next part of the book, neither of these men figures in the rest of the story. Yet their presence as individuals is felt effectively here; like Billy Bones, they lend Treasure Island color and texture from the beginning.

Jim's father, on the other hand, is almost a nonentity so far as the book is concerned. He scarcely speaks, and Jim scarcely speaks of him. All you know of Hawkins senior is that he owns and operates an inn that has very little business, that he is ill (dead before the end of the third chapter, like Billy Bones), and that he allows the person who is apparently the inn's only actual guest free room and board, not out of charity but out of timidity — he is afraid to face the old sailor and demand the money due him. One may say, of course, that he is not important to the book, that his fictional existence is necessary only as a nearly anonymous innkeeper whose young son finds a treasure map left by a deceased guest. But why, then, does he appear at all? Note, for example, that in the 1934 MGM film directed by Victor Fleming, in some ways the best of the movies made of Treasure Island, Jim's father is said to have died well before the film opens.

One possible reason for Mr. Hawkins' appearance seems to be related to one of the themes of the book, that its central action is a quest for Flint's treasure (just as Jason's quest, in Greek mythology, is for the Golden Fleece). But Jim's quest, too, is for a father. Not only do you know that is he suddenly left fatherless, you also know that the man who raised him lacked courage to collect payment for services he provided. No wonder Jim's father appears in the book as a nonentity; although the comparison is unspoken, the reader is aware throughout the novel that Jim must be comparing him, perhaps unconsciously, with all the other men into whose company he is now thrust.

Another minor character deserves a mention. Jim's mother, whose first name is never given, is the only female character in the book, and she is barely sketched as an individual, let alone drawn in any detail. Yet in the one instance of action she is allowed, she shows herself to be a stronger person than her husband (to whom she defers, as convention required, when he is alive). He does not dare to ask Billy Bones for the money owed them, but after both he and Billy are dead, Mrs. Hawkins berates the men of the village who refuse to accompany her back into danger. She insists on going back to the inn, on opening the sea chest, and on counting out as well as she can the exact amount due her. Jim leaves no doubt that he would not have chosen to go back, or that — having been forced to accompany his mother — he would have taken a random number of coins and left immediately. He blames her, he says in an interesting phrase, for her honesty as well as for her greed.

And, while greed is certainly one of the themes of Treasure Island, it is interesting to note here that greed is not attributed solely to the "bad" characters, represented in the first part of the novel by Billy Bones and by Pew, who loses his life mainly because he insists (like Mrs. Hawkins) upon finding what he and his mates have come for, even after the signal of danger has been heard and the others want to run away without the map. Squire Trelawney, too, who has plenty of money, is immediately eager to spend quite a lot of it in a search for the treasure; and Dr. Livesey, who seems happy in his position in the district and also seems to have a better idea of the dangers this enterprise may hold, is anything but reluctant to agree with Trelawney's hastily-formed plan. Seven hundred thousand pounds — as the island's treasure is eventually estimated — is a lot of money, and to some extent everyone in the book is under its spell from the start.

Brief Analysis:

Upon their arrival to Livesey's home, Jim and Mr. Dance learn that the doctor is having dinner with no one else but Squire Trelawney. Consequently, the two head to his residence. Dance relates the tumultuous events that surrounded the inn and afterwards Jim gives Livesy the oilskin packet. Jim is given something to eat and invited to stay overnight with the doctor.

After Dance leaves, Squire Trelawney explains to Jim that Flint was the most bloodthirsty pirate that ever sailed the seas, an Englishman who was far superior to even Blackbeard. Naturally, the man assumes that if Jim has a clue to Flint's treasure he will hire a ship and search it out. Excitedly, Dr. Livesy opens the packet with his medical scissors and discovers a book and a sealed piece of paper. The book appears to be an accounting of the loot of the treasure, complete with the exact amounts plundered and where he gained these. The piece of paper was a map of an island with words "bulk of treasure here." In the same handwriting, on the back of the map, was information regarding coordinates and how to get the treasure.

Although Jim was slightly puzzled, the two older men were thrilled by the contents. The Squire declared that he would immediately set out in order to outfit a ship and the three of them would go and search for the pirates' loot. The doctor agrees to the voyage but is scared of merely one man - the doctor, believing the man incapable of not telling others what he is doing.

As Part I comes to a close, the people most involved with the plot must literally shed their old selves in order to assume the roles of adventurers that will be necessary on their upcoming expedition. Each, the future cabin boy Jim, who goes home to finalize things with his mother, the squire who intends to outfit the ship, and the doctor who returns to his practice to close it, must shed their old identities and do so literally and figuratively at the conclusion of this chapter.

Also, we are introduced to another major character in the plot, Squire Trelawney, who is one of a plethora of characters who assumes a type of surrogate father role to Jim. Like Jim's real father, however, it quickly becomes apparent that Trelawney is lacking in personal authority. He cannot keep his own or other people's counsel - "you cannot hold your tongue" Livesy tells him regrettably. Because he is the highest in the social hierarchy , and the way in which he is introduced in the this chapter (the squire, sitting complete with a pipe in his plush surroundings), one might assume that he becomes the dominant father figure, but this would be completely false because of his inadequacies, as detailed above.

Again, Robert Louis Stevenson uses the technique of foreshadowing at the end of the chapter, as Dr. Livesey predicts what will be the downfall of the trio setting out. The person who most endangers the expedition will be the squire, as Dr. Livesey fears at the end of this chapter. Also in this chapter notice the use of coincidence in advancing the plot, as Livesey is conveniently having dinner with the squire just as Jim is arriving so there is no need for the pair to waste time trying to locate each other.

***Summary and Analysis Part by Part:***

***Summary Part 1:***

[Mr. Dance](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/treasure-island/characters) and [Jim](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/treasure-island/characters/jim-hawkins) arrive to [Dr. Livesey](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/treasure-island/characters/doctor-livesey)’s house, where [Squire Trelawney](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/treasure-island/characters/squire-trelawney), a tall, rough-faced man, is also sitting by the fire. Mr. Dance tells the story, and Jim pulls out the oilskin packet.

***Analysis Part 1:***

Livesey and Trelawney are more stable authority figures than the captain, though they too are fascinated by the contents of the bag.

***Summary part 2:***

First, though, they eat dinner, and the [squire](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/treasure-island/characters/squire-trelawney) talks about [Captain Flint](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/treasure-island/characters/captain-flint), the most violent and bloodthirsty pirate of all time. [Dr. Livesey](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/treasure-island/characters/doctor-livesey) asks if Flint had money: the squire exclaims that his treasure is well-known. The three then open the bundle. On the first page there are only a few scrawled lines; the next few pages include latitude and longitude and some accounts of debts. The squire exclaims that this must be [Billy Bones](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/treasure-island/characters/billy-bones-the-captain)’ account book, including the ships sunk and towns plundered.

***Analysis Part 2:***

The captain (Billy Bones) had mentioned Captain Flint to Jim: now Jim learns the importance of Flint’s name, as well as the connotations it has with treasure. The bundle, though, seems at first only to yield day-to-day, humdrum pirate operations—even if these operations include great acts of destruction and violence.

***Summary Part 3:***

The final page is folded and sealed. When [Dr. Livesey](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/treasure-island/characters/doctor-livesey) pries open the seal, a detailed [map](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/treasure-island/symbols/the-map-of-treasure) of an island falls out. There’s a hill in the center marked “the Spy-glass” and a careful mark signaling where treasure is located, along with directions written on the back.

***Analysis Part 3:***

What so many figures have up until now been pursuing turns out to be a mere piece of paper, though one that indicates far greater fortune to be found elsewhere.

***Summary Part 4:***

[Jim](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/treasure-island/characters/jim-hawkins) isn’t sure what all the fuss is about, but the [squire](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/treasure-island/characters/squire-trelawney) and [doctor](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/treasure-island/characters/doctor-livesey) are thrilled. Squire Trelawney cries that they’ll draw up a crew, bring Jim on as a cabin-boy, and set out on the next ship available. The doctor, however, is a little concerned, realizing that the other pirates know about the existence of this [map](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/treasure-island/symbols/the-map-of-treasure) too—the three of them must not breathe a word to anyone, and must never be alone until they set sail from Bristol.

***Analysis Part 4:***

For Jim, it’s unclear why a simple map causes such glee: he’s still processing the wild tales of treasure, shipwreck, and intrigue related to Captain Flint and Billy Bones. Already, it is clear that the treasure hunt will be an intense competition between competing parties.

***Quotations:***

***Quotation 1:***

The squire and I were both peering over his shoulder as he opened it, for Dr. Livesey had kindly motioned me to come round from the side-table, where I had been eating, to enjoy the sport of the search. On the first page there were only some scraps of writing, such as a man with a pen in his hand might make for idleness or practice. One was the same as the tattoo mark, "Billy Bones his fancy"; then there was "Mr. W. Bones, mate," "No more rum," "Off Palm Key he got itt," and some other snatches, mostly single words and unintelligible. I could not help wondering who it was that had "got itt," and what "itt" was that he got. A knife in his back as like as not. (6.30)

***Explanation 1:***

Doctor Livesey is opening the packet of papers that Jim found in Billy Bones's sea chest. They find a few bits of writing that catch Jim's interest and imagination. As Jim speculates about "who it was that had 'got itt,' and what 'itt' was that he got, he is encouraging us to imagine along with him what this could mean. But by putting Billy Bones's spelling of "itt" in quotation marks, Jim is also pointing out the odd and uneducated way Billy Bones expresses himself. Language becomes another way for Stevenson to suggest the wacky, alien world of pirate society for his readers.

***Quotation 2:***

"Heard of [Captain Flint]!" cried the squire. "Heard of him, you say! He was the bloodthirstiest buccaneer that sailed. Blackbeard was a child to Flint. The Spaniards were so prodigiously afraid of him that, I tell you, sir, I was sometimes proud he was an Englishman." (6.22)

***Explanation 2:***

One odd historical detail of piracy in the 17th and 18th centuries is that, far from being outside the law, pirates were often secretly sponsored by governments of opposing European powers. So English pirates would board Spanish, French, and Dutch ships in the hopes of ruining their foreign trade. This is why a rabid patriot like Squire Trelawney can admit to admiring a pirate like Captain Flint.

***Quotation 3:***

I had never seen the squire so near at hand. He was a tall man, over six feet high, and broad in proportion, and he had a bluff, rough-and-ready face, all roughened and reddened and lined in his long travels. His eyebrows were very black, and moved readily, and this gave him a look of some temper, not bad, you would say, but quick and high. (6.7)

***Explanation 3:***

The Squire's temper is indeed "quick and high": look how quickly he takes against Captain Smollett when he perceives that the captain is disagreeing with his judgment. Here we find a character who looks exactly like what he is: a feisty, temperamental man. What are the limits of Jim's abilities of observation? Are there characters (besides Long John Silver) who Jim can't read?