"Pieces of eight!" the parrot shrieked suddenly. Jim jumped.

"What are pieces of eight?" he asked.

"They are Spanish ships, and he got thousands of Spanish coins," Silver explained. "Flint robbed many Spanish ships, and he got thousands of Spanish coins." He laughed and petted the parrot. "Perhaps Captain Flint here saw some of the treasure. He is over a hundred years old, and has sailed on many ships. Since I adopted him, however, his life has not been very exciting."

Silver went on to tell Jim of how he served in the Navy, then lost his leg, and ended up running an inn, just like Jim and his mother did. Jim thought he was the most interesting person he had ever met, and he soon forgot about the one-legged sailor that the Captain was so afraid of. After all, Silver was polite and kind, not at all like the rude, dirty pirates who had come to the Benbow. Jim decided he liked Silver very much, and they soon became friends.

Finally, Jim left the galley and went to find the squire and the doctor. They were in the dining room talking to the ship's captain, who was a tall, serious man, about forty-five years old. His name was Smollett. Captain Smollett and Squire Trelawney seemed to be having an argument.

"I was told the purpose of this voyage was a secret, even from me," the captain was saying. "That's fine. But then I found out that every sailor on this ship has heard that we are going after treasure. They also know that you have a map of an island indicating where the treasure is buried. Are you sure they will stay honest when they know there is so much money at stake?"

"I am sure I never told anyone about the map!" said the squire, looking puzzled.

"Maybe you did, maybe you didn't," said Captain Smollett. "However, I will not go on this trip unless you do the following: you must keep all the weapons close to your cabin, along with your servants Joyce and Redruth, and there must be no more talk of treasure with the crew."

"I think you are worrying too much," said Dr Livesey, "but we will do as you suggest." He smiled at Trelawney, who was