PIECES OF EIGHT: BEING THE
AUTHENTIC NARRATIVE OF A
TREASURE DISCOVERED IN THE
BAHAMA ISLANDS, IN THE YEAR 1903NOW FIRST GIVEN TO RHE PUBLIC

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RICHARD LE GALLIENNE

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Being the Authentic Narrative of a
Treasure discovered in the Bahama
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now first given to
the Public

RICHARD LE GALLIENNE



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LIFE, BEING OF THE NATURE BOTH OF A TREASURE-HUNT AND A PIRATICAL EXPEDITION, I DEDICATE THIS NARRATIVE TO THE FOLLOWING SAILING COMPANIONS OF MINE ON THIS ENTERTAINING OLD PIRATE CRAFT WE CALL THE EARTH, IN THE HOPE THAT EACH MAY FIND HIS TREASURE, AND AT LEAST ESCAPE HANGING AT THE END OF THE TRIP—TO WIT: HARRY DASH JOHNSON, SAM NICHOLSON, BERT WILLSIE, AND CHARLEY BETHEL, ALL ENGAGED IN ONE OR ANOTHER OF THE PIRATICAL PROFESSIONS.

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INTRODUCTORY

The following MS., the authorship of which I am not at liberty to divulge, came to me in a curious way. Being recently present at a performance of 'Treasure Island,' at the Punch and Judy Theatre, in New York City, and seated at the extreme right hand end of the front row of the stalls, so near to the ground-floor box that its occupants were within but a yard or two of me, and, therefore, very clearly to be seen; I, in common with my immediate neighbours, could not fail to remark the very striking and beautiful woman who was the companion of a distinguished military-looking man on the youthful side of middle age. Still young, a little past thirty, maybe, she was unusually tall and stately of figure, and, from her curious golden skin and massive black hair, one judged her to be a Creole, possibly a Jamaican. Her face, which was rather heavily, but finely, moulded, wore an expression of somewhat poetic melancholy, a little like that of a beautiful animal, but readily lit up with a charming smile now and again at some sally of her companion, with whom she seemed to be on affectionate terms, and with whom, as the play proceeded, she exchanged glances, and whispered confidences, such as two who