



Captain William Kidd (c 1645-1701) was born in Scotland. Given the right to be a privateer, Kidd was also accused of being a pirate.

In 1701, he stood trial twice - first for murder, then for piracy. He was found guilty of murder before his piracy trial ended (which meant he would be executed even if he were found innocent on the piracy charges).

His trial transcripts - which are long but interesting - reveal the type of justice which was in place in the early 18th century.

Legends about Kidd's treasure (and whether it is still buried somewhere) have existed ever since he was executed in 1701.

In this image, the artist imagines a scene from the life of Captain Kidd in 1700.

The art work is by Angus McBride and is featured in *Buccaneers 1620-1700* by Angus Konstam.

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The linked painting, in the story text, is entitled "Buried Treasure." Howard Pyle (1853-1911), a highly respected illustrator of children's books, created a fearsome William Kidd overseeing the burial of his treasure. The linked work is in the public domain.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:
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Captain Kidd - Pirate

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