



John Wolcott Adams

Title

Boarding the Vessel

Medium

Ink on paper

Date

1915

Dimensions

8 1/8 × 7 5/8 in. (20.6 × 19.4 cm)

Accession number

2018.7

Credit Line

Gift of Mickey and Larry Magid, 2018

Web Description

John Wolcott Adams was already working as an illustrator when Howard Pyle invited him to join his prestigious school in Wilmington as a teacher. Showing off Adams's specialty of pen and ink, this drawing is one of several illustrating Stephen Vincent Benét's poem "The Hemp: A Virginia Legend" in *The Century Magazine* in 1916. The poem traces the legacy of a pirate named Captain Hawk and his eventual downfall at the hands of Sir Henry Gaunt. Rather than depicting a raiding band of pirates taking a ship, Adams here illustrates Gaunt's men boarding Hawk's vessel, bringing an end to the pirate's reign of terror.