Standing at a Distance: Connections and Disconnections in the Maritime World

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Some Maritime Milestones: 50,000-13,000 YA

50,000 Years Ago
Intervisible islands (±10 miles)
Aborigines reach Australia

29,000 YA
Islands not intervisible, but both visible at the same time from a point in between (±20 miles)

13,000 YA
Completely out of sight of land (±50 miles)
55,000 years ago: Middle Palaeolithic
45,000: Homo Neanderthalensis Extinction
35,000: Earliest expressions of art
25,000: Earliest agriculture in Europe
15,000: End of last glacial era
5,000 years ago: Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age
50,000 years ago: Homo Sapiens
40,000: Intervisible islands
30,000: Non-intervisible islands
20,000: Out of sight of land
The story of the Eloquent Peasant.
You can’t make this up.
The spread of universal religions from 300-1500 CE
Distribution of North Atlantic Cod
This is the Fugitive Sailor Law Enacted 1790.

If any seaman who shall have signed a contract to perform a voyage shall, at any port or place, desert, or shall absent himself from such vessel, without leave of the master, or officer commanding in the absence of the master, it shall be lawful for any Justice of the Peace within the United States, upon the complaint of the master, to issue his warrant to apprehend such seaman, and to bring him before the court of the United States for the trial of his case, and for punishment, if convicted.

This was the Fugitive Slave Law Enacted 1793.

An Act Respecting Fugitives from Justice and Persons Escaping from the Service of Their Masters.

Sec. 3. And be it also enacted, That when a person held to labor in any of the United States, or in either of the Territories on the northwest or south of the river Ohio, under the laws thereof, shall escape into any other of the said States or Territories, the per-
Charlie Chaplin in *Shanghaied* (1915)