

with all my heart, it would have been good for me, I think. But no; I was allowed to drift a certain distance—not too far—and to wet my pillow at night with tears of repentance because I was not living up to the high standard I believed to be required of me by my loving Father. Ah me! how little, after all the painful teaching I had endured, did I yet know of Him!

Nothing of any notable interest took place upon our passage down to Tonala. The days glided by most smoothly; the work went on without a hitch. But on our arrival within the bar of Tonala River there was a change. The skipper and the second mate, inseparable now, took to making long excursions ashore, leaving me to carry on the work. And after a day's ramble, or a picnic, they would come on board, having invited their friends from the other vessels, and expect me to join them in an evening's carouse. This I could not do, for two reasons. One was that I had no taste or inclination for such affairs—that had all been taken from me long ago; the other was that I felt my position very keenly as the first officer, being thus placed with regard to the second. For this is not merely a matter of wounded *amour propre*; it is an essential part of discipline, by the