MILES WALLINGFORD

BY JAMES FENIMORE COOPER CHAPTER XXX

"This disease is beyond my practice; yet I have known those which have walked in their sleep, who have died holily in their beds."

The honeymoon was passed at Clawbonny, and many, many other honeymoons that have since succeeded it. I never saw a man more delighted than Mr. Hardinge was, at finding me actually his son-in-law. I really believe he loved me more than he did Rupert, though he lived and died in ignorance of his own son's true character. It would have been cruel to undeceive him: and nothing particular ever would have been cruel to undeceive him; and nothing particular ever occurred to bring about an eclaircissement. Rupert's want of principle was a negative, rather than an active quality, and was only rendered of account by his vanity and selfahness. Self-indulgence was all he aimed at, and he was much too self-indulgent and shrewd to become an active rogue. He would have spent Lucy's and my joint fortunes, had they been put at his control; but, as they never were, he was fain to limit his expenditures to such sums as we saw fit to give him, with certain extra allowances extorted by his debts. Our intercourse was very much restricted to allowances extorted by his debts. Our intercourse was very much restricted to visits of ceremony, at least on my part; though Lucy saw him oftener: and no allusion was ever made to the past. I called him "Mr. Hardinge" and he called me "Mr. Wallingford." "Rupert" and "Miles" were done with forever, between us. I may as well dispose of the history of this person and his wife, at once; for I confess it gives me pain to speak of them, even at this distance of time.

Rupert lived but for four years, after my marriage to his sister. As soon as he found it necessary to give up the Broadway house, he accepted the use of Riversedge and his sister's \$2,000 a year with gratitude, and managed to get along on that sum, apparently, down to the hour of his death. It is true that I the hour of his death. It is true that I paid his debts, without Lucy's knowledge, twice in that short period; and I really think he was sensible of his errors, to a certain extent, before his eyes were closed. He left one child, a daughter, who survived him only a few months. Major Merton's complaints had carried him off previously to this. Between this old officer and myself, there had ever existed a species of cordiality; and I do believe he sometimes remembered his various obligations to me and Marble, in a proper temper. Like most officials of free governments, he left little or nothing behind him; so that Mrs. Hardinge was totally dependent on her late husband's governments, he lett little or hotning behind him; so that Mrs. Hardinge was totally dependent on her late husband's friends for a support, during her widowhood. Emily was one of those semiworldly characters, that are not absolutely wanting in good qualities, while there is always more or less of a certain disagreeable sort of calculation in all they do. Rupert's personal advantages and agreeable manners had first attracted her; and believing him to be Mrs. Bradfort's heir, she had gladly married him. I think she lived a disappointed whan, after her father's death; and I was not sorry when she let us know that she was about to "change her condition," as it is termed in widow's parlance, by marrying an elderly man, who possesses the means of giving her all that money can bestow. With this second, or, according to Venus' nomenclature, step - husband, she went to Europe, and there remained, dying only three years ago, an amply-endowed widow. three years ago, an amply endowed widow. We kept up a civil sort of in-tercourse with her to the last, actually passing a few weeks with her, some fifteen years since, in a house, half barn, half castle, that she called a palace, on one of the unrivalled lakes of Italy. As La Signora Montiera (Montier) she was sufficiently respected, finishing her career as a dowager of good reputation and who loved the "pomps and vanities of this wicked world." I endeavored, in this last meeting, to bring to her mind divers incidents of her early life, but with a singular want of success. but with a singular want of success. They had actually passed so far as her memory was concerned, into the great gulf of time, keeping company with her sints, and appeared to be entirely forgotten. Nevertheless, La Signora was gotten. Nevertheless, La Signora was disposed to treat me and view me with consideration, as soon as she found me living in credit, with money, horses, and carriages at command, and to forget that I had been only a shipmaker. She listened smilingly, and with patience, the latest and ware my profix to what, I dare say, were my prolix narratives, though her own recollec-tions were so singularly impaired. She did remember something about the wheelbarrow and the canal in Hyde Park; but as for the voyage across the Pacific, most of the incidents had passed out of her mind. To do her honor. wore the pearls, on an occasion in a she gave a little festa to her neighbors ; and I ascertained she did remember them. She even hinted to one of her guests, in my hearing, that they had been intended for her originally; but "We cannot command the impulses of the heart, you know, cara mia," she added, with a very self-complacent sort

of a sigh.
What of all this? The ci devant What of all this? The cidetant Emily was no more than a summary of the feelings, interests, and passions of millions living and dying in a narrow circle erected by her own vanities, and embellished by her own contracted notions of what is the end and aim of hymen existence and within human existence, and within a sphere that she fancied respectable and re-

fined.

As for the race of the Clawbonnys, all the elderly members of this exteusive family lived and died in my service, or it might be better to say, I lived in theirs. Venus saw several repitions of her own charms in the offspring of Neb and Chloe, though she pertinaciously instead to the last, that Cupid, as a stephusband, had no legitimate connection with any of the glistening, thick-lipped, chubby set. But even closer family ties than those which bound my slaves to me, are broken by the pressure of human institutions. The conscript fathers of New York had long before determined that domestic slavery should not continue within their borders; and, one by one, these younger dependents dropped off, to seek their fortunes in town, or in other portions of the State, until few

were left besides Neb, his consort and their immediate descendants. Some of these last still cling to me; the parents having instilled into the children, in virtue of their example and daily discourse, feelings that set at naught the innovations of a changeable state of society. With them Clawbonny is still Clawbonny; and I and mine remain a race apart, in their perception of things. I gave Neb and Chioe their freedom papers the day the faithful couple were married, and at once relieved their posterity from the servitude of eight and twenty, and five and twenty years, according to sex, that might otherwise have hung over all their elder children, until the law, by a general sweep, manumitted everybody. These papers Neb put in the bottom of his tobacco-box, not wishing to do any discredit to a gift from me; and there I accidently saw them, in rags, seventeen years later, not having been opened, or seen by a seul, as I firmly believe, in all that time. It is true, the subsequent legislation of the State vendered all this of no moment. as I firmly believe, in all that time. It is true, the subsequent legislation of the State rendered all this of no moment; but the procedure showed the character and disposition of the man, demonstrating his resolution to stick by me to the last. He has no intention to free me, whatever may have been my plans for himself and his race.

I never had more than one conversation with either Neb or his wife, on the subject of wages, and then I discovered how tender a thing it was with the fellow, to place him on a level with the other hired people of my farm and household.

"I won'er what I done, Masser Mile

"I won'er what I done, Masser Mile, dat you want to pay me wages, like a hired man?" said Neb, half disposed to resent, and half disposed to grieve at the proposal. "I was born in de family, and it seem to me dat quite enough; but, if dat isn't enough, I went to sea wid you, Masser Mile, de fuss day you go, and I go ebbery time since."

These words, uttered a little reproachfully, disposed of the matter. From that hour to this, the subject of wages has never been proached between us. When Neb wants clothes he goes and gets them, and they are charged to "Masser Mile"; when he wants money he comes and gets it, never manifesting the least shame or reluctance, but asking for all he has need of, like a man. Chloe does the same with Lucy, whom she regards, in addition to her having the honor to be my wife, as a sort of appartment." she regards, in addition to her having the honor to be my wife, as a sort of substitute for "Miss Grace." With this honest couple, Mr. and Mrs. Miles Wallingford, of Clawbonny, and Riversedge, and Union Place, are still nothing but "Masser Mile" and "Miss Lucy"; and I once saw an English traveller take out her note-book, and write something very funny, I dare say, when she heard Chloe thus address the mother of three fine children, who were hanging around her knee, and calling her by that, the most endearing of all appelations. Chloe was indifferent to the note of the traveller, however, still calling ther mistress however, still calling ther mistress "Miss Lucy," though the last is now a

grandmother.

As for the children of the house of As for the children of the house of Nebuchadnezzar, truth compels me to say, that they have been largely influenced by the spirit of the age, and that they look on the relation that existed for more than a century, between the Wallingfords and the Clawbonnys, with eyes somewhat different from those of their parents. They have begun to migrate, and I am not sorry to see them go. Notwithstanding, the tie will not be wholly broken so long as any of the older stock remain, tradition leaving many of its traces among them. Not one has ever left my rule without my consent; and I have procured places for them all, as ambition or curiosity has carried them into the world.

As for this new spirit of the age that

of our households, previous to the change in the laws; and the relation of master in the laws; and the relation of master and slave in old, permanent families, in which plenty was no stranger, had ever more or less of that which was respectable and endearing. It is not so much in relation to the abolition spirit (if it would only confine its exertions to communities over which it may happen to possess some right of control), that I feel alarmed, as in reference to a certain spirit, which appears to think there always must be more and more change, and that in connection with any specific always must be more and more change, and that in connection with any specific interests, whatever may have been its advancement under previous regimes; nothing in social life being fully developed, according to the creed of these movement-philosophers. Now, in my view of the matter, the two most dangerous of all parties in a state, are that which sets up conservatism as its standard, and that which sets up progress: the one is for preserving things gress: the one is for preserving things of which it would be better to be rid, of which it would be better to be rid, while the other crushes all that is necessary and useful in its headlong course. I now speak of these opposing principles, as they are marshalled in parties, opposition giving pertinacity and violence to each. No sane man can doubt that, in each. No sane man can doubt that, in the progress of events, much is produced that ought to be retained, and much generated that it would be wiser to re-ject. He alone is the safe and wise legislator, who knows how, and when, to make the proper distinctions. As for conservatism, Lafayette once char-acterized it excellently well in one of his hamplest hits in the tribute. "Gen-

equally in the wrong; the truth never lies in extremes, and four and four make

what is true of conservatism, as a principle, is still more true as to the movement; for it often happens in morals, as well as in physics, that the remedy is worse than the disease. The great evil of Europe, in connection with interests of this nature, arises from facts that have little or no influence here. There, radical changes have been made, the very base of the social edifice having been altered, while much of the ancient architecture remains in the superstructhe very base of the social editice having been altered, while much of the ancient architecture remains in the superstructure. Where this is the case, some errors may be pardoned in the artisans who are for reducing the whole to the simplicity of a single order. But, among ourselves, the man who can see no end to anything earthly, ever maintaining that the best always lies beyond, if he live long enough to succeed, may live those who rush in so headlong a manner at its goal, as to suffer the impetus of the ascent to carry them past the apex A social fact cannot be carried out to demonstration like a problem in Euclid, the ramifications being so infinite as to reduce the results to something very like a conclusion from a multitude of interests.

It is next incumbrent to speak of Marble. He passed an entire month at Clawbonny, during which time he and Neb rigged the Grace and Lucy seven different ways, coming back to that in which they found her, as the only rig in

Neb rigged the Grace and Lucy seven different ways, coming back to that in which they found her, as the only rig in which she would sail; no bad illustration, by the way of what is too often the winding up of experiments in overdone political movements. Moses tried shooting, which he had heard belonged to a country life; and he had a sort of dealgn to set up as a fourth or fifth class country gentleman; but his legs were too short to clamber over high rail-fences with any comfort, and he gave up the amusement in despair. In the course of a trial of ten days, he brought in three robins, a small squirrel, and a crow; maintaining that he had also wounded a pigeon, and frightened a whole flock of quails. I have often bagged ten brace of woodcooks of a morning, in the shooting-grounds of Clawbonny, and as many qualts in their season.

Six weeks after our marriage, Lucy and I paid Willow Cove a visit, where we passed a very pleasant week. To my surprise, I received a visit from 'Squire Van Tassel, who seemed to bear no malice. Marble made peace with him, as soon as he paid back the amount of his father's bond, principal and interest, though he always spoke of him contemptuously to me in private. I must confess I was astonished at the seemingly forgiving temper of the old usurer; but I was then too young to understand that there are two principles that govern men's conduct as regards thair associations; the one proceeding from humility and Christian foregiveness, and the other from indifference to what is right. If an afraid the last produces more of what is called a forgiving temper than the first; men being often called vindictive, when they are merely honest.

Marble lost his mother about a transvenont of the contempt of the called a forgiving temper than the first; men being often called vindictive, when they are merely honest.

twelvemonth after we returned from our unfortunate voyage in the Dawn. A month or two earlier, he lost his niece, ittle Kitty, by a marriage with the son of "neighbor Bright." After this, he passed much of his time at Clawbonny, making occasional visits to us, in Chambers Street, in the winter. I say in Chambers Street, as trade soon drove us out of Lucy's town residence in Wall Street. The lot on which the last once stood is still her property, and is a small fortune of itself. I purchased and built in Chambers Street, in 1805, making an excellent investment. In 1825, we went into Bleeker Street, a mile higher up town, in order to keep in the beau quartier; and I took advantage of the scarcity of money and low prices of 1839, to take up new ground in Union Place, very near a league from the point where Lucy commenced as a house-keeper in the good and growing town of Manhattan.

After Marble found himself an Chambers Street, as trade soon drove

After Marble found himself an orphan again, he complained that he was little better off than a "blcody hermit" at Willow Cove, and began to talk about seeing the world. All of a sudden, he made his appearance at Clawbonny, bag and baggage, and announced an intention to look for a mate's berth in some East Indiaman. I heard his story kept him a day or two with me, while I superintended the masons who were building my addition to the house, which was then nearly completed, and then we proceeded to town in company. I took Moses to the ship-yards, and carried him on board a vessel that was just receiving her spars (she was coppered and copper-fastened, After Marble found himself she was coppered and copper-fastened. A No. 1, of live-oak frame, and southern A No. 1, of live-oak frame, and southern pine decks, etc., asking him how he liked her. He hoped she had a good name. "Why, she is called the Smudge," I answered. "I hope you fancy it." Moses jerked a finger over his shoulder, as much as to say he understood me, and inquired where I intended to send the craft. "To Canton, with you for master." I saw that my old mate was touched with this proof of confidence, and that his self-esteem had confidence, and that his self-esteem had so much risen with discovery of his origin that he made no objection to the trust. I did not intend to go regularly into commerce, but I kept the Smudge running many years always under Marble, and made a vast deal of under Marble, and made a vast deal of money by her. Once she went to Europe, Lucy and I going in her as passengers. This was after the death of my dear old guardian, who made such an end as became his virtuous and Christian life. We, that is, Lucy and I, remained abroad several years, returning home in the Smudge, and on the last voyage she ever made as belonging to me. Neb had often been out in the ship. just to vary the scene; and he passengers. This was after the death of my dear old guardian, who made such an end as became his virtuous and Christian life. We, that is, Lucy and I, remained abroad several years, returning home in the Smudge, and on the last voyage she ever made as belonging to me. Neb had often been out in the ship, just to vary the scene; and he came to Havre in her, as a matter of course, when "Masser Mile," "Miss Lucy," and their two "young massers," and two "young missuses," were ready to come home. I was a good deal shocked on meeting my old friend, Moses, on this occasion, for he was breaking up fast, being now hard on upon seventy; a time of life when most seemen are unit to their calling. Moses, hewever, had held on, with a determination to convey us all back to Clawbonny. Three days after we had

sailed, the man of stone had so give up, and take to his berth. I saw that his days were numbered, and felt it to be a duty to let him know his real situation. It was an uppleasant office, but became less so by the resigned manly manner in which the invalid heard me. It was only when I ceased speaking, that he made an attempt to reply.

"I have known that the v'y'ge of life was pretty near up, Miles," he then answered, "for many a day. When the timbers complain and the new tree-natis hit only decayed wood, it is time to think of breaking up the hull for the craft's copper and old iron. I've pretty much worn out the Smudge, and the Smudge has pretty much worn out me. I shall never see Ameriky, and I now give up charge of the craft to you. She is your own, and nobody can take better care of her. I own I should like to be cased in something; that once belonged to her. There's the bulkhead that was taken down, to alter the state-rooms for your family—it would make as comfortable a coffia as a body could want."

I promised the old man all should be done, as he desired. After a short pause, it struck me the present might be a favorable moment to say a word on the subject of the future. Marble was never a vicious man, nor could he be called a particulary wicked man, as the world gets. He was thoroughly honest, after making a few allowances for the peculiar opinions of seamen, and his sins were principally those of omission. But, of religious instruction he had literally known none, in early life. That which he had picked up in his subsequent career, was not of the most orthodox character. I had often

literally known none, in early life. That which he had picked up in his subsequent career, was not of the most orthodox character. I had often thoughs Marble was well disposed on such subjects, but opportunity was always wanting to improve this hopeful disposition. Accordingly, I now spoke plainly to him, and I could see his still keen eyes turned wistfully toward me, more than once, as he listened with an absorbed attention.

"Ay, ay, Miles," he answered, when I was through, "this may be all true enough, but it's rather late in the day for me to go to sohool. I've heard most of it before, in one shape or another, but it always came so much in scraps and fragments, that before I could bend one idee on to another, so as to make any useful gear of the whole, some of the pieces have slipped through my fingers. Hows'ever, I've been hard at work at the good book, the whole of this v'y'ge, and you know it's been a long one; and I must say that I've picked up a good deal that seems to me to be of the right quality. Now I always thought it was one of the foolishest thing a man could do, to forgive one's enemies, my rule having been to return broadside for broadside, as you must pretty well know; but I now see that it is more like a kind natur' to pardon, that to revenge."

"My dear Moses, this is a very hope-

"My dear Moses, this is a very hope-ful frame of mind; carry out this feeling in all things, leasing on the Saviour alone for your support, and your dying hour may well be the happiest of your life."

"There's that bloody Smudge, notwithstanding; I hardly think it will be
expected of me to look upon him as auything but a 'long-shore pirate, and a
fellow to be disposed of in the shortest
way possible. As for old Van Tassel,
he's gone to square the yards in a part
of the univarse where all his tricks will
be known; and I hold it onreasonable to
carry spite agin a man beyond the
grave, I rather think I have altogether
forgiven him; though, to speak the
truth, he decarved a rope's-ending."

I understand Marble much better
than he understood himself. He felt

than he understood himself. He felt the sublime beauty of the Christian morality, but at the same time, he felt that there were certain notions so rooted in his heart, that it exceeded his power to extract them. As for Smudge, his mind had its mis-givings concerning the propriety of his own act, and, with the quickness of his own act, and, with the quickness of his nature, sought to protect itself against its own suggestions, by making an exception of that wretch, as against the general mandates of God. Van Tassel the mischief having been in a measure repaired; though it was a forgiveness that was strangely tinctured with his own deep contempt for the meanness of

the transgressor.

Our conversation lasted a long time.
At length Lucy joined it, when I thought it wisest to leave the old tar in the hands of one so well fitted by nature and education to be the instrument, under the providence of God, of bringing him to a more healthful view of his condition. I had the ship to take care of, and this was a good excuse for not interfering much with what passed between the dying man and her who might almost be termed his ministering might almost be termed his ministering angel. I overheard many of their conferences and was present at some of their prayers, as were my sons and daughters; being thus enabled to under-stand the progress that was made, and the character of the whole procedure.

stand the progress that was made, and the character of the whole procedure.

It was an admirable sight, truly, to see that lovely woman, using all the persuasions of her gentle rhetoric, all the elequence of her warm feelings and just mind, devoting herself for days and days to the labor of leading such a spirit as that of Marble's to entertain just and humble views of his own relajust and humble views of his own rela-tion to the Creator of the Son, the Saviour of men. I will not say that Saviour of men. I will not say that complete success crowned the pious efforts of the single-hearted woman it was my blessed fortune to call my wife; this, perhaps, was not to be expected. It required a power exceeding hers to guide the human heart at seventy, after

account of the decayed condition of the arthly tenament in which it had so ong dwelt, as the stork finally deserts

long dwelt, as the stork finally deserts the tottering chimney.

About a week after this change, my son Miles came to me on deck, and informed me his dear mo'her desired to see me in the cabin. On going below, I was met by Lucy, with a face that denoted how solemn she felt was the character of the intelligence she had to communicate.

acter of the intelligence she had to communicate.

"The moment is at hand, dear Miles," she said. "Our old friend is about to be called away."

I felt a pang at this speech, though I had long expected the result. Many of the earlier and more adventurous years of my life passed rapidly in review before me, and I found the image of the dying man blended with nearly all. Whatever may have been his peculiarities, to me he had always been true. From the hour when I first shipped, as a runaway boy, on board the John, down to that hour, Moses Marble had proved himself a firm and disinterested friend to Miles Wallingford.

"Is he conscious?" I asked, anxiously. "When I last saw him, I thought his mind wandered a little."

"Perhaps it did; but he is now more collected, if not entirely so. There is

"Perhaps it did; but he is now more collected, if not entirely so. There is reason to think he has at length felt some of the influence of the Redeemer's sacrifice. For the last week, the proofs of this have been increasing."

No more passed between Lucy and me, on the subject, at that time; but I entered the cabin is which the cot of Marble had been slung. It was a spacious, airy room, for a ship; one that had been expressly fitted by my orders, for the convenience of Lucy and her two daughters, but which those dear, self-denying creatures had early and cheerfully given up to the possession of their old friend.

As yet I have not particularly spoken

As yet I have not particularly spoken of these two girls, the eldest of whom was named Grace, and the youngest Lucy. At that time, the first was just fifteen, while her sister was two years younger. By a singular coincidence, Grace resembled the women of my family most; while the latter, the dear, ingenuous, frank, pretty little thing, had so much likeness to her mother, when at the same time of life, that I often caught her in my arms, and kissed her, as she uttered some honest sentiment, or laughed joyously and melodionsly, as had been the practice of her who bore her, twenty years before. On those occasions, Lucy would smile, and sometimes a slight blush would suffuse her face; for I could see she well under-As yet I have not particularly spoken

times a slight blush would suffuse her face; for I could see she well understood the impulse which would so suddenly carry me off to the days of my boyhood and boyish affection.

On the present solemn occasion both the girls were in the cabin, struggling to be calm, and doing all that lay in their power to solace the dying man. Grace, the oldest, was the most active and efficient, of course, her tender years inducing diffidence in her sister; still, that little image of her mother could not be kept entirely in the background, where the heart and desire to be useful were urging her to come out of herself,

where the heart and desire to be useful were urging her to come out of herself, in order to share in her sister's duties. I found Marble quite sensible, and the anxious manner in which he slowly examined all the interested faces that were now gathered about his bed, proved how accurately he noted the present and the absent. Twice did he go over us all, ere he spoke in the husky tones that usually precede death.

"Call Neb," he said; "I took leave of my mates, and of all the rest of the meu, yesterday; but I consider Neb as one of the family, Miles, and left him for the last."

This I knew to be true, though I pur-

This I knew to be true, though I pur-posely absented myself from a scene that I well understood would have to be moned accordingly, not a syllable being uttered among us, until the black stood just without the circle of my own wife and children. Moses watched the arrangement jealously, and it seems he was dissatisfied at seeing his old shipmate keeping so much aloof at that solemn and absorbing moment.

"You are but a nigger, I know, Neb," the old seams not out." but your

the old seaman got out, "but your heart would do honor to a king. It's next to Mile's, and that's as much as can be said of any man's. Come nearer boy; none here will grudge the lib

erty."
Little Lucy drew back in an instant, and fairly pulled Neb into the place she herself had just before occupied.

"Bless you for that, young un," said Marble. "I didn't know your mother when she was of your age, but I can see that one cat-block is not more like an-other than you are like what she was at your age; keep that likeness up, my dear, and then your father will be as happy and fortinate in his darter as he has been in his wife. Well, nobody desarves his luck better than Miles—providential luck, I mean. my dear Madam widential luck, I mean, my dear Madam Wallingford," interpreting a sorrowful expression of Lucy's eyes aright; "for thanks to your teaching, I now under-stand there is a divine director of all our fortins, whether ashore or afloat,

"There is not a sparrow falls, Captain Marble," said the gentle earnest voice of my wife, "that He does not note it."
"Yes, so I understand it now, though

"Yes, so I understand it now, though once I thought little of such things. Thus, when we were wrecked in the Dawn, Neb, it was by God's will, and with a design, like, to bring us three all on to our present fortin' and present frame of mind; should I ever use the word luck, ag'in, which I may be likely enough to do from habit, you are all to understand I mean what I call providential luck. Yes, Madam Wallingford, I comprehend it perfectly, and shall never forget your kindness, which has been to me the best turn of providential luck that has ever happened. I've sent for you, Neb, to have a parting word, and to give you the advice of an old man before I quit this world altogether."

Neb began to twist his fingers, and I

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"Yes, sah, Cap'in Marble, sah; what please to be your wish, sah?" asked the negro, struggling to subdue his grief. "To say a few words of advice, Neb,

wife's rules, and when the v'yge is up means to say a few words of advice, Neb, to take leave of my friends, and then to be struck of the shipping articles of life. Old age and hard sarvice, Neb, has made me veer cable to the better end. The stopper is working loose, and a few more surges will leave the hulk adrift. The case is different with you, who are in your prime, and a prime chap be you, on a yard or at the wheel. My parting advice to you, Neb, is, to hold out as you've begun. I don't say you're without failin's (what nigger is?) but you're a good fellow and as sartain to be found in your place as the pumps. In the first place, you're a married man; and though your wife is only a negress, she's your wife, and you must stick to her through thick and thin. Take your master as an example, and obsarve how he loves and cherishes your mistress" (here Lucy pressed, gently, closer to my side); "and then, as to your children, bring 'em up accordin' to the advice of Madam Wallingford. You can never sail under better instructions than hern as I know by experience. Be particular to make that Hector of yours knock off from swearing, he's begun, and what's begun in sin is pretty sartsin to have an endin'. Talk to him, first, and if that won't do, rope's-end it out of him. There's great vartue in ratill stuff, among boys. As for yourself, Neb, hold on as you have begun, and the Lord will have marcy on you, before the v'y'ge is up."

Here Marble ceased from exhaustion; though he made a sign to Nah ret to need on old tar for preferring blue water to one of your country churchystada."

After this, I had several interviews

have marcy on you, before the v'y'ge is up."

Here Marble ceased from exhaustion; though he made a sign to Neb not to move, as he had more to say. After resting a little, he felt under his pillow, whence he produced a very old tobaccobox, fumbled about until he had opened it, took a small bite, and shut the box again. All this was done very slowly, and with the uncertain, feeble movements of a dying man. When the lid was replaced, Marble held the box toward Neb, and resumed his address.

"Use that for my sake, Neb," he said.
"It is full of excellent tobacco, and the

"It is full of excellent tobacco, and the box has the scent of thirty years in it—that being the time it has sailed in my company. That box has been in nine fights, seven wracks, and has seen more boat-sarvice than most London watermen, or any Whitehaller of 'em all. Among other explites, it has been round the world four times, besides having run the Straits of Magellan in the dark, as might be—as your master and you know as well as I do. Take that box, therefore, lad, and be particular, always, to put none but the best of pigtail in it, for it's used to that only. And now, It is full of exce put none but the best of pigtall in it, for it's used to that only. And now, Neb, a word about a little duty you're to do for me, when you get in. Ask your master, first, for leave, and then go up to Willow Cove, and carry my blessin' to Kitty and her children. It's bleasin' to Kitty and her children. It's easy done, if a man sets about it in the right spirit. All you have to do is to go up to the Cove, and say that I prayed to God to bless 'em all, before I died. Do you think you can remember that?"

"I try, Cap'in Marble, sah—yes, sah, I try all I can, dough I'm no scholar."

"Perhaps you had better confide this office to me," said the musical voice of my wife.

my wife.

Marble was pleased, and he seen Marble was pleased, and he seemed every way disposed to accept the offer.
"I didn't like to trouble you so much," he answered, "though I feel grateful for the offer. Well, then, Neb, you may leave the blessin' unsaid, as your mistress is so kind—hold on a bit; you can give it to Chloe and her little family—all but Hector, I mean, but not to him unless he knocks off swearing! As soon as he does that, why, let him As soon as he does that, why, let him have his share. Now, Neb, give me your hand. Good-bye, boy; you've been true to me, and God bless you for it. You are but a nigger, I know; but there's One in whose eyes your soul is as precious as that of many a prince and

Neb shook hands with his old commander, broke out of the circle, rushed into the steerage, and blubbered like a baby. In the meantime Marble pause he had purchased for this express purhe had purchased for this express pur-pose when last in port. These rings he gave to my daughters, who received the presents isobbing, though with strong natural exhibitions of the friendly senti-ments they entertained for him.

"Your father and I have gone through many hardships and trials together," he said, "and I love you all even more said, "and I love you all even more than Llove my own relations. I hope this is not wrong, Madam Wallingford, for it's out of my power to help it. I've already given my keepsakes to the boys and to your parents, and I hope all of and to your parents, and I hope all of you will sometimes remember the poor old sea-dog that God, in His wisdom, threw like a waif in your way, that he might be benefitted by your society. There's your polar star, young uns," pointing to my wife. "Keep God in mind always, and give to this righteous women the second place in your hearts—not that I say a word, or think anything ag'in your father, who's a glorious fellow in his way, but, a'ter all young women should copy a'ter their mothers, when they've such a mothers as yourn, the best of fathers fallin' far astern, in gentleness and other vartues."

gentleness and other vartues."

The girls wept freely, and Marble, after waiting a few minutes, took a solemn leave of all my children, desiring solemn leave of all my children, desiring everybody but Lucy and myself to quit the cabin. An hour passed in discourse with us two, during which Moses frequently exhorted me to give ear to the pious counsels of my wife, for he manifested much anxiety for the future wel-

fested much anxiety for the future welfare of my soul.

"I've generalized a great deal over that affair of Smudge the whole of this v'y'ge," he continued, "and I've had sore misgivings consarning the explite. Madam Wallingford, however, has eased my mind on that score, by showing me how to lay the burthen of this, with all the rest of the load of my sins, on the love of Christ. I am resigned to go, Miles, for it is time, and I'm getting to be useless. It's wicked to wish to run a ship after her frame has worked loose, and nothing now fastens me to life but you. I own it's hard to park, and my mind has had some weakness on the matter. However, Miles, my dear boy, for boy you are still in my eyes, there is

comfort in looking shead. Go by your wife's rules, and when the v'y'ge is up we shall all find ourselves in the same haven."

cuse on old tarfor preferring blue water to one of your country churchyards."

After this, I had several interviews with the old man, though he said nothing more on the subject of his interment, that of his property, or that of his departure. Lucy read the Bible to him two or three times every day, and she prayed with him often. On one occasion I heard a low, sweet voice, near his cot. prayed with him often. On one occasion I heard a low, sweet voice, near his cot, and taking a look, ascertained it was my little pet, my daughter Lucy, then only thirteen, reading a second time a chap-ter that her mother had gone through only an hour before, with some of her own remarks. The comments were wanting now, but the voice had the same wanting now, but the voice had the same gentle earnestness, the same sweet modulations, and the same impressive distinctness as that of the mother! Marble lived until we had passed with-

in the Gulf Stream, dying easily, and without a groan, with all my family, Feb, and the first mate, assembled near Feb, and the first mate, assembled near his cot. The only thing that marked his end was a look of singu ar significance that he cast on my wife, not a minute before he breathed his last. There he lay, the mere vestige of the robust hardy seaman I had once known, a child in physical powers, and about to make the last great change. Material as were the alternations in the man, from what he had been when in his pride, I thought the spiritual or intellectual part of his being was less to be recognized than the the spiritual or intellectual part of his being was less to be recognized than the bodily. Certainly that look was full of resignation and hope, and we had reason to believe that this rude but honest creature was spared long enough to complete the primary object of his existence.

In obedience to his own earnest request though sorely against the feelings

In obedience to his own earnest request, though sorely against the feelings of my wife and daughters, I buried the body of my old friend in the ocean, six days before we made the land.

And now it remains only to speak of Lucy. I have deferred this agreeable days to be lost assets of the land.

duty to the last, passing over long years that were pregnant with many changes, in order to conclude with this delightful

theme.

The first few years of my married life were years of bliss to me. I lived under a constant sense of happiness—a happiness that man can derive only from a union with a woman of whom his reason and principles as much approve, as his tastes and passion cherish. I do not mean to be understood that the years which have succeeded were a whit less happy, for, in a certain sense, they have been more so, and have gone on increas-ing in happiness down to the present hour; but because time and use finally so far accustomed me to this intimat bady. In the meanth that the parties of the connection with purity, virtue, female had been a little disturbed by the feel-disinterestedness, and feminine delicacy, ing manifested by the black. As soon that I should have missed them, as thin ing manifested by the black. As soon as he felt himself a little composed, he hunted about his cot until he found two small paper boxes, each of which contained a very pretty ring, that it seemed married life, I enjoyed them as things

hitherto unknown to me.

As I ride over the fields of Clawbonny, even at this day, I recall with tranquil delight, and I trust with humble gratitude, the manner in which those blessed early years of our marriage passed. That was the period when every thought of mine was truly shared by Lucy. She accompanied me in my daily rides or drives, and listened to every suggestion that fell from my lips, with kind interest and the most indulgent attention, rendering me back thought for thought, feeling for feeling, laugh for laugh; and occasionally, tear for tear. Not an emotion could become aroused in my breast that it did not meet with its reflection in hers; or a sensé of the ludicrous be awakened, that her keen, but chastened humor did not increase its effect by sympathy. Those were the years in which were planned and executed the largest improvements

Low Vitality in the Spring

Vigor comes from good, red blood. Almost everybody's blood is thin and watery in the spring. Hence the tired, languid feeling, loss of energy and am-bition, and general weakness of bodily

You can feel yourself getting strength and vigor when Dr. Chase's Nerve Food is used. The blood is made rich and pure, the appetite is sharpened, diges-tion improves, and every organ in the body feels the benefit of the rich, red,