

that they are right; there is no such difference of opinion among seamen about the truth of Bowditch."

"Nor is there any difference of opinion among sinners when they are bound to Christ," replied the mate.

"*They* all steer the same course; they all come to Him by prayer and supplication; and when they have found Him precious to their souls, they give expression to their gratitude by associating with one another. For my part, I enjoy myself with pious people of every name who love our Lord Jesus. I know that I am a sinner; I believe that Christ is a Saviour, and that the Bible is the Word of God, because its glorious truths have been tested by multitudes, many of whom have laid down their lives rather than renounce them."

"Still, Briggs," said the captain, "I don't believe the Bible. The fact is, I have never looked into it since I was a boy."

"The greater your loss, captain. But no doubt if you will take the trouble to visit Jim Wood's gin-palace, when we reach shore, and enter into conversation with the people there about the Bible, they will tell you it is a humbug. But if you will seek the *good*, like your own mother, you will find they loved the Bible."

"What you have said about my mother, Briggs, is true; and if there is a heaven she is surely there."

"And, of course, captain, you would like to join her there, when you have run down your reckoning here. You have either to join her, or such fellows as those who frequent Jim Wood's. Which like you the best? This is the question which you must decide for yourself."

Here the ship's duty interrupted the conversation. But that night Capt. Williams thought much; and the more he thought, the more uneasy he became. He felt that he was a sinner in the sight of God, and finally he was led to exclaim, "What shall I do to be saved?"