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merchant vessels wending their way to and from all parts of the world, moving monuments of the national feature and industry, were now to be suddenly exchanged for the pathless tracks of the silent ocean.

And now commenced that earnest search for novelty which invariably succeeds the first week of a landsman's voyage, when every eye is strained to find the sail that the seaman descries in the distant horizon ; every ripple in the wave is marked to see if it is formed by some unknown monster of the deep. Now we become certain that we are really embarked on the wild sea, and that nothing but time and patience can extricate us from our prison. Now we begin to know each sailor's face ; we visit the caboose, the cook, the carpenter, the mate ; we descend into the hold ; we listen to the sailor's song of an evening, as he sits surrounded by his comrades on the forecastle ; and now we begin to ask the master and his mate the news of the voyage, the situation of the ship, and the state of the weather.