

whom I was bred. It doth appear to me more agreeable to God, that we should mingle cheerfully together, and assist each other in times of need. But, alas! they were full of stern opinions and called me a simple, wilful child. Now, the first I knew I was, but not the other: for I did not oppose them wilfully, doing only what I thought right.

"Nevertheless, I do not blame them, those poor recluses, since they only did as they were taught to consider proper. May God bless them. Their lot is sad."

The dinner bell put an end to their discourse and they went below; while each moment the wind waxed stronger, and the hoarse voice of the boat-swain was soon heard calling the crew up to shorten sail. Hardly was this accomplished, and the ship rendered easier in its motions, under less press of canvass, when, borne down upon the gale, came a furious storm of hail and snow, which entirely obscured their course, and covered deck and rigging with a thick icy mass that rendered all manœuvring difficult, if not impossible; so that they were obliged to stand on towards the southern shore till within a few fathoms water, when they cast anchor, trusting entirely to the strength of the cables for protection during the storm which it was now evident they were about to encounter.