

A surgeon was quickly at hand; "Be comforted, good woman," said he; "it is only a fainting fit."

They bathed his forehead, poured a few drops of wine into his mouth, and he soon opened his eyes and said, with a smile, to his wife, "Don't be uneasy, dearest Madeline! thy Bousard is not dying."

Sailors bore the brave pilot in their arms to their nearest inn, where he obtained some refreshment. The surgeon who accompanied him had no little trouble to defend him from the proofs of love and gratitude which well-nigh overwhelmed him.

"My good Bousard," said the kind man, "you need rest; come, I will go with you to your home."

"Thank you sir," replied Bousard; but first, if you will be so kind, come with me to the hospital, that I may see how they are all getting on, especially the sick man."

It was a real triumphal procession to the hospital, where the state of the sick man demanded a rest which it was scarcely possible for the authorities to obtain for him. The surgeon alone accompanied Bousard into the room where all the shipwrecked sailors were assembled.

Oh, what tears of gratitude flowed when Bousard entered the apartment! He and the surgeon wept with the rescued. Bousard directed them to look above, to the Almighty and gracious God, who, by the blessing He had granted, had been the real and only Author of his success.

"I have been only God's instrument," said the modest, noble, and pious seaman; but that I should have been allowed to be it, for that shall my soul praise and glorify Him forever!

The inhabitants of Dieppe testified their satisfaction of their brave fellow citizen by oft repeated praises, but the brave deed of the noble pilot became known very soon beyond the limits of his native town, and the fame of it soon spread throughout France.

M. deCrosne, Intendant of Rouen, informed the Minister of Finance, M. Necker, of Bousard's brave action; M. Necker acquainted the king (the good Louis XVI.) with the fact; and immediately, on receiving His Majesty's orders, wrote himself the following letter to the Pilot of Dieppe:—

"BRAVE MAN, "I only heard yesterday, through M. l'Intendant, of the courageous action which you performed on the 31st August last, and yesterday I informed the king of it, who commanded me to testify to you his satisfaction for the same, and to announce to you from him that he makes you a present of 1,000 francs, and grants you a pension of three hundred francs. Continue to help others whenever you can, and pray for your good king, who loves brave men and rewards them.

"NECKER, General Director of Finance. "Paris, Dec. 20th. 1777."

The contents of this letter soon became published at Dieppe. To the brave pilot it caused great joy, and he took care that it should be preserved as a precious heirloom in his family. The money which he received from all sides he employed to clothe his children better than his former needy circumstances had allowed him to do; moreover, he took two little orphan nieces into his house, and educated them with his own children. Another good use which he made of his money is best shown by quoting his own words: "During my poverty, it was always my greatest grief that I could not buy ropes and cords to save ships which were in danger. I always found a difficulty in borrowing them from others. In such cases they were sometimes broken or lost; I was then quite afraid to meet those who had lent them to me, because I had no money to replace them."

His fellow-townsmen came to congratulate him on the king's favor, and urged him to go to Paris to present himself to Louis XVI., to express his gratitude to His Majesty.

Bousard at last yielded to their wishes. He went to Versailles, where the king received him with great kindness, and repeated with deep feeling "There is a brave man! really a brave

man" Bousard, who only saw in the deed he had performed the duty of one man towards others. was astonished at the remark with which the prince had honoured him. "I have done," he said, "many actions like this one; I don't know why my last should make so much noise. My comrades, too, are as brave as I am."

The brave man, faithful to the duties which he had imposed upon himself, continued still to watch the harbor and piers of Dieppe. The king had appointed him overseer of the light-house, and, besides, had caused a little house to be built for him close to the harbor, and could at once perceive if a ship was in danger.

At the least appearance of a storm, or of any vessel in distress, Bousard, provided with ropes, would dash into the waves, and then steer the vessel into the harbor. If the fury of the sea was too great to allow him to steer the ship in safety, he seized the sailors or passengers and bore them to the shore.

In the course of the autumn of 1786, brave Bousard perceived, in the middle of the night, that a barque was foundering at a little distance from the piers. Attracted by the cries of the unhappy crew, who were struggling in the waves, he threw ropes to them, and called to his held those who were within hearing of the shore. The darkness was so great that he could not see those who were in danger. Bousard's son was among the six shipwrecked men. He was skillful enough to get hold of a rope which would quickly have helped him to the pier, but perceiving by his side an unfortunate lad of fourteen, whose strength was already exhausted, and who was allowing himself to be borne away by the waves, as a worthy son of the brave man he resolved, at the risk of his own life to save him from danger.

To succeed in this with greater certainty he passed the end of the rope under the lads arms and then round his own thighs. This double burden caused it to break. A cry from the man on the pier who held the rope warned Bousard the elder of this accident; he promptly threw himself into the water, and his son

had a deal of trouble to console him for a loss for which in some way he reproached himself.

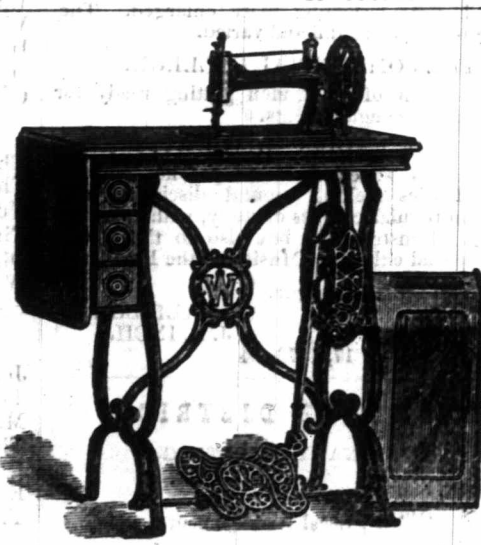
This was not the first noble deed of younger Bousard, who associated himself henceforth with his father's glory, for in 1784 he had already saved the lives of four shipwrecked men. M. de Crosne, Intendant of Rouen, sent him a reward of 400 francs, and the Chamber of Commerce added to it a silver medal as they had previously given a gold one to his father.

Since that day Bousard's descendants have always been watchmen at the Dieppe Lighthouse. Scarcely a year has passed in which some one of them has not distinguished himself in saving a vessel or human lives.

On the parapet of the pier stands a post, firmly planted in the rock and plated with copper. To this post a chain is fixed. Since 1777, in every storm by day or night, a Bousard is lashed to this post. From hence he calls out, through his speaking trumpet, his warnings and directions to the sailors who have to struggle with the storm and waves. And though sometimes the waves dash high over his head, the next moment the faithful watchman appears again, and his voice sounds above the roar of the storm and the raging of the sea. Since 1777 the townsmen of Dieppe enquire, when a ship or a man is to be saved, "Is there no Bousard there?" And as yet one has never failed. Nearly a century, therefore, has the race of the faithful pilot endured.

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C. J. BRIDGES, General Supt. of Government Railways RAILWAY OFFICE, Moncton, 7th June, 1876.

P. S.—The night Express Trains from Halifax and St. John, on Saturday night, do not connect at Moncton with Trains for Riviere Du Loup. These Trains leave Halifax and St. John, on Sunday night, and connect at Moncton for Quebec as per Time Table. July 8

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