

looked, and there they were, sure enough. Jones had hailed a waterman sculling by, and had deserted us in high dudgeon.

‘Man the boat, and give chase!’ I commanded. The ladies were put on board—the rudder shipped—I grasped an oar and we were once more on the bosom of the deep; but what with Wilson’s willfulness and Tomlins’ awkwardness, we made little or no way for some time; and the wherry distanced us so rapidly, that we at last lost sight of it altogether. At length we got into better working trim, and pushing along, came, after an hour’s chase, in sight of Richmond bridge. As we neared that beautiful structure, the *Diana* steamer pushed off from the shore, and almost ran us under water. What was our astonishment, at that trying moment, lo! behold Jones standing coolly on the paddle box, with his hands in his pockets, laughing at us in the most insulting manner. ‘Tis too bad!’ I exclaimed, with all that energy of which I am master. ‘It is—it is!’ cried one and all. ‘Well, what will you do to mark your sense of Mr. Jones’s unhandsome behaviour?’ ‘I know,’ said Smith—‘*Diana*, a-hoy!’ he bawled; the steamer stopped her paddle-wheels. You have room for eight?’ inquired he of the captain. ‘For eighty,’ replied the fresh-water wag. ‘Well, then, ladies, get on board;—they did, ‘jump on board, gentlemen;’—we did;—Smith then, in a most masterly manner made fast a tow-rope to the *Diana*’s stern-rails—and then jumped on board, over the cabin-windows, with the gallantry of a Nelson. Scowls of defiance were, as I expected, exchanged between Jones and him, they even went so far as to exchange cards, which I thought very unnecessary, as they live next door to one another. I took care to prevent any further collision; by tearing Smith away from him. After we had taken tea, that mild beverage, sacred to friendship and all the social feelings—the smiles of the fair—the dulcet strains of the harp and violin, and the dance on deck, softened down the asperities of the belligerents, and before we had arrived at Westminster, we were all as good friends as when we started. And so ended our first trip to Richmond by water.

*Dowgate. T. T.*