MILES WALLINGFORD

BY JAMES FENIMORE COOPER

CHAPTER XXI.—CONTINUED Bitter moment, truly! Time has scarcely lessened the keenness of the sensations I endured, as memory traces the feelings and incidents of that day. From the hour when I sailed from home, Lucy's image was sailed a should be supported to the sailed from home, From the hour when I sailed from home, Lucy's image was seldom absent from my imagination ten minutes at a time; I thought of her, sleeping and waking; in all my troubles; the interest of the sea-fight I had seen could not prevent this recurrence of my ideas to their polar star, their powerful magnet; but I do not remember to have thought of Lucy even once after Marble was thus carried away from my side. Neb, too, with his patient servitude, his virtues, his faults, his dauntless courage. his unbounded devotion to myself, had taken a strong hold on my heart, and his loss had greatly troubled me since the time it occurred. But I remember to have thought much of Lucy, even after Neb was swept away, though her image became temporarily lost to my mind, during the first few hours I was thus separated from Marble.

By the time the sun set, the wind had so far abated, and the sea gone down so much, as to remove all further apprehensions from the gale. The ship lay to easily, and I had no occasion to give myself any trouble on her account. Had there been light, I should now have put the helm up, and run to leeward, in the hope of finding the spars, and at least of keeping near Marble; but fearful of passing him in the darkness, I deferred that duty until the morning. All I

wind should shift.

What a night I passed! As soon as it as dark, I sounded the pumps, and and six feet of water in the hold. It works of the snip, that I had solved conviction she must go down, unless fallen in with by some other craft. I cannot say apprehensions for my own fate troubled me any, or that I thought fate troubled me any, or that I thought of the ruin to my fortunes that was in-volved in the loss of the ship. My mind reverted constantly to my com-panions; could I have recovered them, I should have been happy, for a time at least.

I slept two or three hours towards morning, overcome with fatigue. When I awqke, it was in consequence of receiving the sun's rays in my face. Springing to my feet, I cast a coafused and hursed glance around me. The wind was still at northeast, but it barely blew a good whole-sail breeze. The sea had gone down, to the regular roll of the coean; and a finer day never shone upon the Atlantic. I hurried eagerly on deck, and gazed on the ocean to leeward, with longing eyes, to ascertain if anything could be seen of the wreck of our spars. Nothing was visible. From the maintop. I could command a pretty wide horizon; but the ocean lay a bright, glittering blank; the creets of its own waves excepted. I felt certain the Dawn was so weatherly, that the spars were to leeward; but the ship must have forged miles ahead, during the last twelve hours; and there was almost the equal certainty of her being a long distance to the southward of the floating hamper, her head having lain in that direction since the time she broached-to. To get her off before the wind, then, was my first concern, after which I could endeavor to force her to the northward, running the chance of falling in with the spars. Could I find my mate, we might still die together, which would have been a melancholy consolation just then.

CHAPTER XXII "Father of all! In every age,
In every clime, adored;
By saint, by savage, or by sage—
Interest, lored or Lord!"

my strength, I ate a breakfast before I commenced work. It was with a heavy heart and but little appetite that I took this solitary meal; but I felt that its effects were good. effects were good. When finished, I knelt on the deck, and prayed to God fervently, asking his divine assistance in my extremity. Why should be a sent to the contract of the fervently, asking his divine assistance in my extremity. Why should an old man, whose race is nearly run, hesitate to own, that in the pride of his youth and strength, he has made to feel how insufficient we all are for our wants? Yes, I prayed; and I hope in a fitting spirit, for I felt that this spiritual sustanance did me even more good than the material of which I had just before par-taken. When I rose from my knees, it was with a sense of hope, that I endeav-ored to suppress a little, as both un-reasonable and dangerous. Perhaps the spirit of my sainted sister was permitted to look down on me, in that awful strait, and to offer up its own nurs natitions in

sheet. By these means, aided by the action of the breeze on the hull and spars, I succeeded in getting something like three knots' way on the ship, keeping off a little northerly, in which direction I felt sensible it was necessary to proceed in quest of the spars. I estimated the drift of the wreck at a knot an hour, including the good and moderate weather; and allowing for that of the ship itself, I supposed it must be by that time, some twelve miles to leeward of me. These twelve miles to leeward of me. These twelve miles to leeward for mr. These twelve miles to leeward of me. These twelve miles to leeward for mr. These twelve miles to mr. These target, mr. These target mr. These twelve ships that not a ce

Feeling the necessity of possessing all strength, I ate a breakfast before I loved Marble and Neb the most, and these two were probably both dead, or doomed, like myself. We must all yield up our lives once; and though my hour came rather early, it should be met as a man meets everything, even to death

Some time before the sun set, I went aloft to take a last look at the ocean. I do not think any desire to prolong my existence carried me up the mast, but there was a lingering wish to look after my mate. The ocean beamed gloriously that eventide, and I fancied that it was faintly reflecting the gracius counterness. faintly reflecting the gracious counten faintly reflecting the gracious counter-ance of its divine Creator, in a smile of beneficent love. I felt my heart soften, as I gazed around me, and I fancied heavenly music was singing the praises of God on the face of the great deep. Then I knelt in the top and prayed.

reasonable and dangerous. Perhaps the spirit of my sainted sister was permitted to look down on me, in that awful strait, and to offer up its own pure petitions in behalf of a brother she had so warmly loved. I began to feel myself less alone, and the work advanced the better from this mysterious sort of consciousness of the presence of the souls of those who had felt an interest in me, while in the body.

My first measure was to lead the jibstay, which had parted near the head of its own mast, to the head of the mainmast. This I did by bending on a piece of another rope. I then got up the halyards, and loosened and set the jib; a job that consumed quite two hours. Of course, the sail did not set very well, but it was the only mode I had of getting forward canvas on the ship at all. As soon as the jib was set, in this imperfect manner, I put the helm up, and got the ship before the wind. I then hauled out the spanker, and gave it sheet. By these means, aided by the action of the breeze on the hull and spars, I succeeded in getting something like three knots' way on the ship, keep-

secured there, either to form a sort of shelter against the breaking seas, or a bed. Whatever may have been the inbed. Whatever may have been the intention of this nest, it no longer had an occupant. Marble had probably been washed away, in one of his adventurous efforts to make himself more secure or more comfortable.

The disappointment that came over me, as I agcertained this fact, was scarcely less painful than the anguish I had felt when I first saw my mate carried off into the ocean. There would

had felt when I first saw my mate carried off into the ocean. There would have been a melancholy satisfaction in finding his body, that we might have gone to the bottom together, as least and thus have slept in a common grave, in the depths of that ocean over which we had sailed so many thousands of leagues in company. I went and threw myself on the deck, regardless of my own fate, and wept in very bitterness of heart. I had arranged a mattress on the quarter-deck, and it was on that I now threw myself. Fatigue overcame me, in the end, and I fell into a deep me, in the end, and I fell into a deep sleep. As my recollection left me, my last thought was that I should go down with the ship, as I lay there. So complete was the triumph of nature, that I did not even dream. I do not remember ever to have enjoyed more profound and refreshing slumbers; slumbers that continued until returning light awoke me. To that night's rest I am probably indebted, under God, for having the means of relating these adventures.

means of relating these adventures.

It is scarcely necessary to say that the night had been tranqui; otherwise, a seaman's ears would have given him the alarm. When I arose, I found the ocean glittering like a mirror, with no other motion than that which has so often been likened to the slumbering respiration of some huge animal. The wreck was thumping against the ship's bottom, announcing its presence, before

expect a continuation of comparatively good weather. I should not have been a true seaman not to have bethought me of a mast and a sail. I saved the fore-royal-mast, and the yard, with its canvas, for such a purpose; determining to rig them when I had nothing else to do. I then ate my dinner, which consisted of the remnants of the old cold meat and fowls I could find among the cabin estables.

This meal taken, the duty that came next was to provision my raft. It took but little time or labor. The cabin stores little time or labor. The cabin stores were quite accessible; and a bag of pilot-bread, another of that peculiarly American invention, called crackers, some smoked beef, a case of liquors, and two breakers of water, formed my principal stock. To this I added a pot of butter, with some capital smoked herrings, and some anchovies. We lived well in the cabin of the Dawn, and there was no difficulty in making all the provision that six or eight men would have needed for a month. Perceiving that the raft, now it was relieved from the weight of the sails and rigging, was not weight of the sails and rigging, was not much affected by the stores, I began to look about me in quest of anything valuable I might wish to save. The preparations I had been making created a sort of confidence in their success; a confidence (hope might be the better word) that was as natural, perhaps, as it was unreasonable. I examined the different objects that offered, with a critical comparison of their value and future usefulness, that would have been absurd, had it not afforded a melancholy proof of the tenscity of our desires in weight of the sails and rigging, was not absurd, had it not afforded a melancholy proof of the tensity of our desires in matters of this nature. It is certainly a sad thing to abandon a ship at sea, with all her appliances, and with a knowledge of the gold that she cost. The Dawn, with her cargo, must have stood me \$80,000, or even more; and here was I about to quit her, out on the coses, with an almost moral certainty

THE CATHOLIC RECORD

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most of my stores away. The last consideration induced me, now, to go to
work with the oars, and try to do all I
could, by that mode of propelling my
dull craft. I worked hard just one hour dull craft. I worked hard just one hour by my watch; at the expiration of that time, the nearest end of the raft, or the lower part of the foremast, was about a hundred yards from the Dawn's taffreit. This was a slow movement, and did not fail to satisfy me, that, if I were to be saved at all, it would be by means of some passing vessel, and not by my own progress.

Overcome by fatigue, I now lay down and slept. I took no approach to say it is a second to the same and slept.

Overcome by fatigue, I now lay down and slept. I took no precautions against the wind's rising in the night; firstly because I thought it impossible from the tranquil aspects of the heavens and the ocean; and secondly, because I felt no doubt that the wash of the water and the scand of the winds would arose me. doubt that the wash of the water and the sound of the winds would arose me, should it occur differently. As on the previous night, I slept sweetly, and obtained renewed strength for any future trials. As on the preceding morning, too, I was awakened by the warm rays of the rising sun falling on my face. On first awaking, I did not know exactly where I was. A moment's reflection. where I was. A moment's reflection, however, sufficed to recall the past to my mind, and I turned to examine my

otual situatiou.

I looked for the ship toward the end I looked for the ship toward the end of the mast, or in the direction where I had last seen her, but she was not visible. The raft had swung round in the night, I thought, and I bent my eyes slowly round the entire circle of the horizon, but no ship was to be seen. The Dawn had sunk in the night, and so retails as to give no alaym! I shad-The Dawn had sunk in the night, and so quietly as to give no alarm! I shuddered, for I could not but imagine what would have been my fate, had I been aroused from the sleep of the living only to experience the last agohy as I passed away into the sleep of the dead. I cannot describe the sensation that came over me as I gazed around, and found myself on the broad ocean, floating on a little deck that was only ten feet square and which was raised less than two feet above the surface of the waters. It was now that I felt the true fraility of my position, and comprehended all its dangers. Before, it had been shaded by the ship, as it might be, and I had found a species of protection in her presence. But the whole truth now stood before me. Even a

my own fault. I was bound to let the gallsh earry her into port, and to a ward judgment—the let support and to a ward judgment—the let support in the justice. The law might have been done in the support in the justice in the justic nad to wear ship before I could gather any way. This single manceuvre occu-pied a quarter of an hour, my braces, tacks, and sheets not working particu-larly well. At the end of that time, however, I got round, and laid my yard square.

LORD, HELP THOU MY UNBELIEF!"

Closed blinds, and on the door bell a long scarf of black crepe told its story to the passer-by, who looked up at a pretty home in a quiet village of New York. Within the little parlor the casket lay. The odor of flowers hung in the air, and beautiful emblems were scattered around the room. They were living and he, whose life was worth so much to those who loved him, was lying there pulseless and cold, unresponsive to the heart-broken words and caresses of those who called him father, and on whom his life had been lavished until this cruel separation. Closed blinds, and on the door bell

of those who called him father, and on whom his life had been lavished until this cruel separation.

They could not yet believe it! So short a time ago he had been in their midst—with his smile, his vigorous manliness, his earnestness, his devoted affection, striving to take the place of a loving mother, beside whom they were now going to lay his remains! It was too much! Both were gone, and their hearts refused to be comforted!

Oh Death! how cruel dost thou seem, sometimes! Did we not know thou wert the messenger of the Most High, we would hate thee!

Among the heart-broken children was Margaret, a bright, innocent girl of fourteen. Idolizing her father, she was stunned with the agony of the blow. Because she was quicker and of finer feeling; because she had a deeper sense perhaps, of the exquisite joys of loving, she felt his death most and so, when the long silent cortege filed out of the hitherto happy home to the solemn city of the dead Margaret felt as if the world were draped in the blackest mourning. Poor girl! we have all felt so! What heart that has suffered thus, cannot ache with her?

When the lonely home was regained,

mourning. Foor girl? We nave all felt so! What he leart that has suffered thus, cannot ache with hers?

When the lonely home was regained, relatives had already come to a decision about the orphans. Aunts and uncles took hold of things and gave a helping hand to the children. They were to be adopted, so to speak, by different relatives until they were older. There was one aunt, living in New York, who asked for Margaret. She was a brilliant literary woman, finely educated, a charming conversationist, and fuil of the gentle delightful qualities that make a superior character fascinating. But she was an aggressive Catholic. She was a convert and was full of love for her new found faith. Her husband was an artist, with no religion but his art. The family had been too fond of the care that the relative to ignore her. was an artist, with no religion but his art. The family had been too fond of her and too proud of her to ignore her after her conversion; but Aunt Elisa was considered a deriver. was considered a dangerously persuas-ive person, and her gifts made her all the more dangerous, especially as her conversion had been an extremely mar-

cism, and a miracle of grace.

Margaret loved her Aunt Elisa and Margaret loved her Aunt Elisa and expressed a desire to go to her. There was something congenial in her aunt's manner and character, and the sensitive girl felt its charm. But her family council at first negatived her proposal and Margaret's heart was broken. Then the council of relatives hesitated. It would be dreadful, indeed, if Margaret should go over to Rome! And yet—a home with Aunt

Rome! And yet—a home with Aunt Elias would be very advantageous to the young girl, who would be among the better class of educated people in New York, and amidst an environment most suitable to her ardent nature.

At last they consented. The great obstacle being religion, they warned Margaret of the awfulness of Popery, of the only sad fault of her accomplished aunt, the insidious arts of Rome. They appealed to the young girl, reminding her aunt, the insidious ares of Rome. The appealed to the young girl, reminding he of her devotion to the Sunday-school class, her pure worship of her Heavenly Father—no Virgin Mary to tempt her class, her pure worship of her Heavenly Father—no Virgin Mary to tempt her to idolatry! They bade ner beware of the gorgeous ceremonial of Rome; the pomp of its ritual, so attractive, and so fatal to an unsophisticated heart. Margaret listened with awe and was deeply impressed; but she felt herself immune in her simple faith and practice, and promised that no art, no diplomacy, should ever move her from her loved Prosbyterian faith.

And so she was sent down the Hudson river, amid the tearful farewells of all belouging to her. The parting was almost as sad as the one with her dead

"Aust Elisa laughed merrily. "Why Margaret! I can't fancy for a moment what you mean! What charms and spells!

"Why, those images in your room! that liquid in the shell hanging at your bedaide! that string of pearl-and-silver beads, you so often slip through your flagers with whispered words!"

"Poor little gir!!" Aunt Elisa laughed again, a merry, contagious laugh which, however, did not bring sunshine to the serious face of Margaret, who had too much the martyrspirit of Calvin to relax in unseemly mirth, when religion was mentioned.

"You cannot deny it, Aunt Elisa," she protested. "I have seen it with my own eyes, dearly as I love you!"

"Poor, dear Margaret! How little you know of your sweet, beautiful consoling faith, and her sacramentals! Some day you will love the statues of our dear Lady, and you will know the value of her rosary, and will understand the efficacy of holy water; but you shall not hear it now. You must go to your own church, and try to serve God according to your own light." And Aunt Elisa showed Margaret the severe-looking Presbyterian church two squares below the house, and almost opposite the beautiful Oatholic temple of God which reared its graceful spires heavenward, pointing two slender fingers to the blue sky—and lifting up the heart of the believer to one Lord and Father of all.

Margaret weat to the Presbyterian church faithfully, and the church members, knowing who she was, paid her the mest courtecous attention. How they welcomed her and strove to hold her! How many congratulated her on her firmess, and praised her pure simple faith which defied her Catholic aunt's persuasion, when in reality there was no persuasion at all! Many Sundays passed by, leaving Margaret more deeply dyed than ever in Presbyterian prejudice.

At home her Aunt Elisa seemed to let religion drop into oblivion. She never mentioned it. Sweet, gracious and charming, no one could fail to yield to the magnetism of this brilliant woman, who was so well informed, who wrote so well, who calked so beautifully, and

years passed on.
One Sunday she came home from her own church pale and excited. Breathlessly she sought her aunt, who was alarmed at her appearance. She loved the girl for her sincere, honest characther and her affections e disposition; she appreciated, too, her talents and her success in her studies. Anxiously she inquired what was the matter. " Oh, Aunt Elisa! a dreadful thing happened to me to-day !"
"What was it, dear ?"

"Why, I went to church as usual this morning and I leaned down when I reached my pew and covered my face and prayed silently before service began. I

Colds Most Fatal at This Season

This is the time of year when colds seem to turn into pneumonia or quick consumption and to prove more generally fatal than at any other season. With many people one cold follows another during the winter months until finally the human body becomes so run finally the human body becomes so run down that it can no longer resist the at-tack of the germs which cause lung