

billows that moved sternly along, or broke in a foaming surge against the bow of the vessel, every plank and timber of which appeared to quiver with the shock.

"Let me put the mantle closer around you, Ellen," said Conrad, adjusting on her shoulders, as he spoke, the folds of a cloak provided with a hood, and trimmed with fur, which had escaped from its fastening at the neck; "the wind is keen and winter-like to-day, and the sea looks wild."

"There, then, friend Conrad," replied the maiden, "thou hast thy wish, which is kind; but, in truth, I do not feel cold; there is something in the air and waves to-day that makes my heart beat quicker than usual. Dost thou know, they seem to me to be saying, all the time—we are free! we are free!"

"And have you no fear of the perils of the deep, Ellen?" inquired her companion; looking curiously into her face, which was serenity itself, though lit up by a bright glow.

"Oh, yes; often it troubles me until I feel ashamed. But this is only when I lay tossing in my berth below. Here, where I can look at the sea, I have no fear of it. I feel even stronger, strange to say, at the sight; and I think of what the Bible says—in the beginning, the spirit of the Lord moved upon the waters."