

as I saw that she pointed clear of the weather corner of that death-trap, I said quietly up there in the night, 'Thank God! thank God!'

Slipping downwards to the deck, I called the skipper, who was, as may be supposed, dreadfully alarmed. He went aloft immediately, and did not come down again until we at last swung clear of that terrible place and were once more able to resume our homeward course.

Thenceforward we had no more trouble. After a fairly good passage we entered Falmouth Harbour, whither we were bound for orders, and after a couple of days' stay, departed for Rotterdam, where the crew were discharged and only the skipper and myself remained behind. And here I had another experience similar to that quoted by me in St. John, N.B. As soon as the nature of our cargo became known, we were boarded by quite a crowd of nondescript fellows, mostly Jews, whose one object seemed to be the purchase of our dunnage wood. One of these men thrust a 5*l.* note into my hand, and upon my inquiring what his generosity meant told me that it was because he had taken a great liking for me. He was, it was true, going to bid for the mahogany dunnage wood, but he did not wish me to bias the skipper in his favour at all