MILES, WALLINGFORD

BY JAMES FENIMORE COOPER CHAPTER XX

"Och ! botheration-'t is a beautiful All made up of rocks and deep bays; Ye may sail up and down, a marvelous

host, And admire all its beautiful ways."

And admire all its peautiful ways.

Insh Song
Little did we, or could we, anticipate all that lay before us. The wind held at northwest until the ship had got within twenty miles of the Welsh coast; then it came out light again at the southward. We were now so near Liverpool that I expected every hour to make some American bound in. None was seen, notwithstanding, and we stood up channel, edging over toward the Irish coast at the same time, determined to work our way to the northward as well as we could. This sort of weather continued for two days and nights, during which we managed to get up as high as Whitehaven, when the wind came dead ahead, blowing a stiff breeze. I foresaw from the commencement of this new wind, that it would probably drive us down channel, and out into the Atlantic once more, unless we could anchor. I once more, unless we could anchor. I thought I would sttempt the last some-where under the Irish coast, in the hope where under the Irisa coast, in the hope of getting some assistance from among the children of St. Patrick. We all knew that Irish sallors, half the time, were not very well trained, but anything that could pull and haul would be inthat could pull and haul would be invaluable to us in heavy weather. We had now been more than a week, four of us in all, working the ship, and instead of being in the least fagged, we had rather got settled into our places, as it might be, getting along without much trouble; still there were moments when a little extra force would be of great moment to us, and I could see by the angry look of the skies that these moments were likely to increase in frequency and in the magnitude of their importance to us.

importance to us.

The waters we were in were so narrow that it was not long before we drew close in with the Irish coast. Here, to my great joy, we saw a large fishing-boat, well out in the offing, and under circumstances that rendered it easy for those in it to run close under our lee. We made a signal, therefore, and soon had the strangers lying-to, in the smooth water we made for them, with our own main-yard aback. It is scarcely necessary to say that we had with our own main-yard aback. It is scarcely necessary to say that we had gradually diminished our own canvas, as it became necessary, until the ship was under double-reefed topsails, the forecourse, jib, and spanker. We had brought the topsails down lower than was necessary, in order to anticipate the time when it might be indispens-

rerence O' something be born, it is not hereabouts? Is it know the coost, too?

Ah! we're ould acquaintances."

"And where do you intend to take the ship, Terence?"

"It's houlding-ground yer honor asked

for?"
"Certainly. A bottom on which an

"Och! is it that? Well, all the bottom in this counthry is of that same natur.'
None of it will drag, without pulling mighty hard. I'll swear to any part of it?"

"You surely would not think of anchoring a ship out here, a league from the
land, with nothing to break either wind
or sea, and a gale commencing?"

"I anchor! Divil the bit! ever anchor
a ship, or a big, or even a conther

the ship should be anchored if there nivver was a grain of goold in the wurr-r-ld. Would ye like a berth pratty well out, or would ye honor choose to go in among the rocks, and ile like a babby in its cradhle?"

"I should prefer a safe roadsted, to venture too far in, without a professed pilot. By the look of the land in-shore, I should think it would be easy to find a lee against this wind, provided we can get good holding-ground. That is the difficulty I most apprehend."

"Trust ould Ireland for that, yer honor; yes, put faith in us, for that same. Ye've only to fill your topsail, and stand in; ould Michael and ould Ireland together, will take care of yees."

same. Ye've only to fill your topsall, and stand in; ould Michael and ould Ireland together, will take care of yees."

I confess I greatly disliked the aspect of things in shore, with such a pilot; but the aspect of things outside was still worse. Short-handed as we were, it would be impossible to keep the ship in the channel, should the gale come on us heavily as it threatened; and a single experiment satisfied me, the four men in the boat would be of very little use in working her; for I never saw persons who knew anything of the water, more awkward than they turned out to be on our decks. Michael knew something, it is true; but he was too old to turn his knowledge to much practical account, for when I sent him to the wheel, Neb had to remain there to assist him in steering. There was no choice, therefore, and I determined to stand close in, when, should no suitable berth offer, it would be always in our power to wear off shore. The fishing-boat was dropped astern, accordingly, the men were all kept in the ship, and we stood in nearer to the coast; the Dawn bending to the blasts, under the sail we carried, in a way to render it difficult to stand erect on her decks.

The coast promised well as to formation, though there was much to apprehend on the subject of the bottom. Among rocks an anchor is a ticklish thing to confide in, and I feared it might be a difficult matter to find a proper bottom, as far out as I deemed it prudent to remain. But Michael, and Terence, and Pat, and Murphy, or whatever were the names of our protesting, confident friends, insisted that "ould I rever were the names of our protesting, confident friends, insisted that "ould I rever were the names of our protesting, confident friends, insisted that "ould I rever fail to the stand and trenece, and Pat, and Murphy, or whatever were the names of our protesting, confident friends, insisted that "ould I re-

ever were the names of our protesting, confident friends, insisted that "ould Ireland" would never fail us. Marble and I stood on the forecastle, watching the formation of the coast, and making our formation of the coast, and making our comments, as the ship drove through the short seas, buried to her figure-head. At length, we thought a head-land, that was discernible a little under our lee-bow, looked promising, and Michael was called from the wheel and the strength of the ship of the

ever, began to come gale-fashion, and I foresaw we should get it presently in a style that would require good looking to.

The ship soon drove within the extremity of the head-land, the lead giving us forty fathoms of water. I had previously asked Michael what water we might expect, but this he frankly owned he expect, but this he frankly owned he ships sometimes anchored there, but what water they found was more than aguessing might be dangerous, so he chose to say nothing about it. It was not of the question to think of it, situated as we were. I to only remained to ride out the gale in the best manner we could. Nothing occurred, for several hours, the wind was at that moment.

Marble and I now began to question our fisherman as to the precise point where he intended to fetch up, and the wind got more to the eastward about half an hour afterward. It was out of the question to think of getting under way gagin, with so strong getting under way gapin, with so strong awind and with our feeble crew. Had it was out of the question to

run," and down both our anchors wen run," and down both our anchors went, at the same instant, in twenty-two fathoms water. The ship took cable at a fearful rate; but Marble and Diogenses being at one bower, and Neb and I at the other, we succeeded in anubbing her, with something like twenty fathoms within the hawse-holes. There was a minute, when I thought the old bark would get away from us; and when by desperate efforts, we did succeed in checking the mass, it seemed as if she would shake the windiass out of her. No time was lost in stoppering the cables, and in rolling up the main-top-sail.

she would shake the windiass out of her. No time was lost in stoppering the cables, and in rolling up the main-topsail.

Michael and his companions now dame to wish us good luck, get the guineas, and to take their leave. The sex was already so rough that the only mode that remained of getting into their boat was by dropping from the end of the spanker-boom. I endeavored to persuade two or three of these fellows to atick by the ship, but in vain. They were all married, and they had a certain protection against impressment in their protection against impressment

CHAPTER XXI "The power of God is everywhere, Pervades all space and time;
The power of God can stir the air,
And rules in every elime;
Then bow the heart, and bend the knee
And worship o'er both land and sea.'

since smooth water we made for them, with our own main-yard aback. It is as it became necessary, ontil the ship was under double-reefed down tower than the same of the same o

minute only, or even a less time; but I could discern this expression in each face. Some looked up at our spars, as if to ascertain whether all were right; while others looked back at the headland they had just rounded, like those who examined the roadstead. Most shook their heads, as remarks passed from one to the other. The captain as I took him to be, spoke to us. "What are you doing here?" came to me through a trumpet, plainly enough; but answering was out of the question. Before I'could even get a trumpet in my mouth, the frigate had gone foaming by, and was already beyond the reach of the voice. Heads appeared over her taffrail for some time, and we fancied these manof-war's regarded us as the instructed are apt to regard the ignorant, whom they fancy to be in danger. Marble sneered a little at the curiosity betrayed by these two crafts; but as for myself, it caused great uneasiness. I fancied they acted like those who were acquainted with the coast, manifesting surprise at seeing a stranger anchored in the berth we occupied.

I alept little that night. Marble kept me company most of the time but Neb and Diogenes were as tranguil as if

one of the shop expressions so common among us.

There was a little relaxation in the force of the gale in the middle of the night; but, with the return of day, came the winds howling down upon us, in a way that announced a more than common storm. All hands of us were now up, and paying every attention to the vessel. My greatest concern had been lest some of the sails should get adrift, for they had been furled by few and fatigued men. This did not happen, however, our gaskets and lashings doing all of their duty. We got our breakfasts, therefore, in the ordinary way, and Marble and myself went and stood on the forecastle, to watch the signs of the times, like faithful guardians, who were anxious to get as near as possible to the danger. the danger.

It was wonderful how the ship pitched!

Frequently her Aurora was completely submerged, and tons of water would come in the upon forecastle, washing entirely aft at the next send, so that our only aft at the next send, so that our only means of keeping above water was to stand on the windlass-bitts, or to get upon the heart of the main-stay. Dry we were not, nor did we think of attempting to be so, but such expedients were necessary to enable us to remain stationary; often to enable us to breathe. I no longer wondered at the manner in which the cutter and frigate had examined one position. It was quite clear

no longer wondered at the manner in which the cutter and frigate had examined our position. It was quite clear the fishermen knew very little about finding a proper berth for a ship, and that we might pretty nearly as well have brought up in the middle of St. George's Channel, could our ground-tackle reach the bottom, as to have brought up where we were.

Just about 9 o'clock, Marble and I had got near each other on the fife-rail, and I held a consultation on the subject of our prospects. Although we both clung to the same top sail-sheet, we were obliged to hallow to make ourselves heard, the howling of the wind through the rigging converting the hamper into a sort of tremendous Eolian harp, while the roar of the water kept up a species of bass accompaniment to this music of the ocean. Marble was the one who had brought about this communication, and he was the first to speak.

"I say, Miles," he called out, his mouth within three feet of my ear, "she jumps about like a whale with a harpoon in it! I've been afraid she'd jerk the stem out of her."

"Not much fear of that, Moses—my great concern is that starboard bower-cable; it has a good deal more strain on

as one may say. S'pose we clap the helm a-port, and try the effects of a sheer?"

"I've thought of that; as there is a strong tide going, it may possibly an-

strong tide going, it may possibly answer—"

These words were scarcely out of my mouth, when three seas of enormous height came rolling down upon us, like three great roistering companions in a crowd of sullen men, the first of which raised the Dawn's bows so high in the air, as to cause us both to watch the result in breathless silence. The plunge into the trough was in a just proportion to the toss into the air; and I felt a surge, as if something gave way under the violent strain that succeeded. The torrent of water that came on the forecastle prevented anything from being seen; but again the bows rose, again they sank, and then the ship seemed easier.

"We are all adrift, Miles!" Marble shouted, leaning forward to be heard.

of the land's trending again to the westward.

Long, long hours did Marble and I watch the progress of our ship that day and the succeeding night, each of us taking our tricks at the wheel, and doing seaman's duty, as well as that of mate and master. All this time, the vessel was dashing furiously out toward the Atlantic, which she reached ere the morning of the succeeding day. Just before the light returned we were whirled past a large ship that was lyingto, under a single storm-stayasil, and which I recognized as the frigate that had taken a look at us at our anchorage. The cutter was close at hand, and the fearful manner in which these two stronghanded vessels pitched and lurched, gave me some idea of what mast be our situation, should we be compalled to luft to the wind. I supposed they had done so, in order to keep as long as possible on their cruising ground, near the chops of the Irish Channel.

A wild scene lay around us, at the re-

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"Not much fear of that, Moses—my great concern is that starboard bowercable; it has a good deal more strain on it than the larboard and you can see how the strands are stretched."

"Ay, ay,'t is generalizing its strength, as one may say. S'pose we clap the helm a-nort, and try the effects of a sandden, this brig gave a plunge, and luffing-to, in order to hold our own. Of a sudden, this brig gave a plunge, and she went down like a porpoise diving. What caused this disaster I never knew; What caused this disaster I never knew; but in five minutes we passed as near as possible over the spot, and not a trace of her was to be seen. I could not discover so much as a handspike floating, though I looked with intense anxiety, in the hope of picking up some fellow-creature clinging to a spar. As for stopping to examine, one who did not understand the language might as well hope to read the German character on a mile-stone, while flying past it in a railroad car.

ing a ship out here, a league from the coast, under such a coast, to complete the coast, under such as the coast, under such as the coast, and the two coast as two coast a

water isst, every time tag ise guiwale went under. I gave up my sugars and coffees from the first, bringing my hopes down as low as the saving of the ship, the instant I saw the state of the upper

works.

Marble and I had not been educated in a school that is apt to despair. As for my mate, had he found himself on a plank in the middle of the Atlantic, I do believe he would have set about rigging a jury-mast, by splitting off a piece of the hull of his craft and spreading his shirt by way of sall. I never knew a more in-and-in-bred seaman, who, when one resource, failed, invariably set about the next best visible expedient. We were at a loss, however, whether to one resource, failed, invariably set about the next best visible expedient. We were at a loss, however, whether to make an effort to get rid of the foremast or not. With the exception of the damages it did on the forecastle, it was of use to us, keeping the ship's bow up to the wind, and making better weather for us, on deck. The aftermasts standing, while those forward were gone, had the effect to press the stern of the vessel to leeward, while talls support in the water prevented her bows from falling off, and we rode much nearer to the wind than is usual with a ship that is lying-to. It is true, the outer end of the fallen spars began to drive to leeward; and acting as a long lever, they were gradually working the borken end of the foremast athwart the forecastle, ripping and tearing away ening the foot of the main-stay. This made it desirable to be rid of the wreck, while on the other hand, there was the danger of the ship's bottom beating against the end of the mast. did the while on the other hand, there was the danger of the ship's bottom beating against the end of the mast, did the latter get overboard. Under all these circumstances, however, we determined to cut as much of the gear as possible, and let the fallen spars work themselves clear of us, if they could.

Our job was by no means easy. It was difficult to stand even on the deck of the Dawn in a time like that, and this diffi-Dawn in a time like that, and this difficulty was greatly increased forward by having so little hold on by. But work we did, and in a way that cleared most of the rigging from the ship in the course of the next half hour. We were encouraged by the appearance of the weather too, the gale having broken and promising to abate. The ship grew a little easier, I thought, and we moved about with more confidence of not being washed away by the seas that came on board us. After a time, we took some refreshments, eating the remains of a former meal, and cheered our hearts a little with a glass or two of good sherry. Temperance may be very useful, but so is a glass of good wine, when properly used. Then we went at it again, working with a will and with spirit. The wreck aft wanted very little to carry it over the side, and going aloft with a wreck aft wanted very little to carry it over the side, and going aloft with an axe, I watched my opportunity, cut one or two of the shrouds and stays, just as the ship lurched heavily to leeward, and got rid of the whole in the sea handsomely, without further injury to the ship. This was a good deliverance, the manner in which the spars had threshed about having menaged our lives before. about having menaced our lives before. We now attacked the wreck forward, for the last time, feeling certain we should the last time, feeling certain we should get it adrift, could we sever the connection formed by one or two of the larger ropes. The lee shrouds in particular gave us trouble, it being impossible to get at them in-board, the foreshannels being half the time under the water, and the bulwarks in their wake being all gone. It was, in fact, impossible to stand there to work, long enough to clear or cut all the lanyards. Marble was an adventurous fellow aloft, on all occasions, and seeing good footing about the top, without saying a word to me, he seized an axe, and literally ran out on the mast, where he began to cut the

a choose-house wont also, at the last of these terrife soes, and nothing eared these terrife soes, and nothing eared the choose lessel, but its seeight, added the continued of the control of a wave, little to subble floating the control of the power of the gale more than a major of the power of the gale more than a major of the land, running, I make no doubt, quite half a mile collupusly in the land in the control of the land, running, I make no doubt, quite half a mile collupusly in the land in the control of the land, running, I make no doubt, quite half a mile collupusly in the land in the land is treated by the land in the land in the land is treated and the land is treated by the land in the land is treated a very respected opinion of the power of the gale more into the land is treated as the land is treated as the land in the land is treated as the land is

the best berth he could find, the instant he regained the main mass of the wreck. As he rose on the creat of the sea, the poor fellow made a gesture of adieu to me, the leave-taking of the mariner!

In this manner did it please divine Providence to separate us four, who had already gone through so much in company! With what moody melancholy did I watch the wreck, as it slowly drifted from the ship. I no longer thought of making further efforts to save the Dawn, and I can truly say, that scarce a thought in connection with my own life, crossed my mind. There I stood for quite an hour, leaning against the foot of the mizzen-mast, with folded arms and riveted eyes, regardless of the pitches and lurches, and rolling of the ship, with all my faculties and thoughts ship, with all my faculties and thoughts fastened on the form of Marble, expecting each time that the top rose to view, to find it empty. He was too securely lashed, however, to strike adrift, though he was nearly half the time under water. spars and rigging, so long as any por-tion of it could be seen. Then I set it by compass, in order to know its bearing, and an hour before the sun went down, or as soon as the diminished power of the wind would permit, I showed an en-sign aloft, as a signal that I bore my mate in mind.

"He knows I will not desert him as long as there is hope—so long as I have life!" I muttered to myself, and this thought was a relief to my mind, in that oitter moment.
TO BE CONTINUED

Advice about books is conveyed Advice about books is conveyed through many mediums. An unobtrusive little blotter, lying on the desk, has printed on the upper face this test of the quality of a book: "If, when you drop it, it drops you down in the same old spot, "ith no finer outlook, no clearer vision, no stimulated desires for that which is better and higher, it is in no sense a good book." The majority of the "best sellers" would fall under this test.

Muscles Useless Without Nerve Force

Perhaps you are not quite clear no the relation of the nerves to the rest of the body. Through the nerve fibres which extend through countless branches to every nook and corner of the human system is conveyed the motive power which operates the various organs.

There could be no breathing, no beating of the heart, no flow of the digestive fluids, no action of any muscle or organ of the body without nerve force. Consequently, when the nervous system becomes exhausted there is complete collapse of the body, the different stages of which are described as nervous prostration, locomotor ataxia and paralysis.

alysis.

The time to use such restorative The time to use such restorative treatment as Dr. Chase's Nerve Food is when the headaches, sleeplessness, indigestion and other warning symptoms first appear. A few weeks' persistent treatment is then sufficient to revitalize the wasted nerve cells and restorehealth and vigor.