

to make headway against it, and steamships were unknown in those days in the Southern Seas.

"I can see her light now, Tim," said Helen presently.

"It is, sure enough, miss;" and the old fellow hobbled off to the shore end of the jetty, where a bell was suspended from a post. He rang it loudly, and in a few minutes voices were heard, as the settlers came down the bank, and then a measured tramp, tramp, sounded on the corduroyed path, as Sergeant Rush and some of his men marched down to meet the commandant. Helen herself, having no wish to be detained on the jetty by some of the gossiping women who had come with their husbands to await the boat, slipped quietly away to one side, and sat down on the bank at a spot which gave her a good view.

"Keep quiet, Russ," she said to the collie, who could now hear his master's deep voice talking to the men in the boat, and was straining at her detaining hand on his collar; "you must wait till he gets out of the boat."

The boat was heavy and deeply laden with stores and supplies for the small garrison and the prisoners, as well as with some goods for some of the settlers; she was manned partly by soldiers and partly by good-conduct prisoners. Captain Lathom was the first to step out, his uniform soiled and crumpled.

"Good evening, Sergeant," he said, returning Rush's salute, as he stood beside the lighted lamp. "Get the boat unloaded as soon as possible. She is leaking considerably, and I fear some of the meal may have become wetted. Then let the crew have their supper and turn in. We have had a very long and hard pull, for there