

period of debility succeeded my convalescence; during which, I suffered from the combined causes of not being able to obtain the requisite nourishing food, and the vexations incident to being subjected to the *surveillance* of a military guard. In this trying state of suspense, anxiety, and incessant aggravation, I remained seven months, and then, by virtue of an order from the viceroy of Peru, I went to Lima, where a ray of hope began to dawn. At length, my ship was restored to me, together with a remnant of the cargo. At the expiration of twelve months from regaining possession of the ship, I had employed her so advantageously as to have paid all the expenses incident to repairing, victualing, and remanning her, which amounted to more than the product of the remnant of cargo returned me. I had shipped on board the *Beaver*, for New York, a cargo of cocos in bulk, which, it was presumable, would nearly replace the original capital; besides specie more than sufficient to defray all the expenses of the ship, up to her arrival in the United States; and in addition, a clear and legitimate claim on the Spanish government for the original amount of cargo and damages. This entirely for account of the owners of the *Beaver*.

For myself, having laid a foundation before the restoration of the ship, by a speculation to Valparaiso, I had succeeded in acquiring a property, such as the most successful accomplishment of my views, at the outset, would not have produced. Thus, again, as in repeated instances of my eventful life, have the circumstances, which I deplored as being fraught with overwhelming calamity, proved to be productive, in the end, of the greatest good fortune. And thus is manifested an instance, which teaches, in the most emphatic manner, that, in the most distressing circumstances, we should never yield to despair, remembering always, that

"We, ignorant of ourselves,
Beg often our own harms, which the wise powers
Deny us for our good; so find we profit
By losing of our prayers."

When on the point of leaving Lima, for the United States, I received a letter from the owners of the *Beaver*, acknowledging the receipt of mine up to the 23rd of August, and conveying a peremptory order, that I should lose no time "in bringing so long pending a concern to a close, by a speedy return home," &c. The impatience manifested in this letter, to have returned to them an old and worn-out ship, that probably would not sell at New York for more than it would cost to deliver her there, would have excited surprise, had they supposed she was engaged only in a moderately advantageous business; but to give such an order, when informed by my letter above mentioned, that the ship was earning the enormous sum of ten thou-

sand dollars per month, was perfectly comprehensible, and seemed to indicate such suspicion that my intentions were not honest, as was very mortifying. A peremptory order also was unnecessarily misplaced, and offensive. The voyage being one of my own suggesting and planning, it would have been as preposterous for the owner to give orders, as it would for me to receive them; and though, for form's sake only I received instruction, yet it was well understood, that the entire and unshackled control of the voyage was vested in me; nor would I have undertaken the management of the enterprise on any other condition.

Our passage to Rio Janeiro, where we arrived on the 14th of August, was remarkable neither for celerity nor tardiness; for very good nor very bad weather. No sickness on board to distress, and no disorderly behaviour to mar the general harmony and quiet on board. As soon as we had anchored, the usual number of custom-house guards and soldiers were put on board. The former, from the facilities they are expected to render to those who make short entries, are treated with great familiarity and attention by the masters of merchant ships, at whose table they always occupy seats, and sometimes invite their comrades. As I had no favour to ask of them, other than such as common civility requires, which I was ready to reciprocate, I saw no reason for submitting to the inconvenience of having them at my table, and therefore desired the steward to give them their meals in the lower cabin. I could not imagine, that an objection could be made to such arrangement; but we had scarcely taken our seats at the supper table, when one of the officers came into the round-house, and began to remonstrate against the want of respect and the indignity offered him, in not complying with the invariable practice of admitting the officers of the customs to the captain's table. As he was backward in leaving the room, which I desired him to do, but continued talking in a high and angry tone, I arose, and, taking him by the collar, led him to the door, and then gave him a shove which laid him sprawling on the deck. The soldiers, who were on the fore-castle, immediately came aft to assist their comrade, who was already on his feet again, calling lustily to a boat, that was passing, to take him on board. This they complied with, and he left us, vowing vengeance.

The next morning, as soon as the rules of etiquette would admit, I made the customary and requisite visit to the intendente. He was sitting at his desk writing when I entered, and rose to receive me. On being informed who I was, he immediately alluded to the complaint of ill treatment on board my ship, by one of the officers of the customs. I then told him my story, as already narrated. On hearing which, he admitted I had served the officer as he deserved; and another, of less pretensions, was

sent on board the intendente, expressions of the officer about the provisions a replenishing

As the cargo adapted to the of New York I should find to proceed to at receiving mentioned, way home,

Having passed Janeiro, and sailed for home

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By being for sipate no kind but it was a evidence appreciation circumstance remarkable in

The tenor the underw had been m as it was that compl constant and Whittier posed in n letter, exp sgs, which erview wit such letter reached the myself. I knowledgma Lima, by wh ship was a thousand do nce, very n the perempt after being p hat there w and an imp