

and hymns and spiritual songs be part of our daily family pleasures; let them have a prominent place in our social meetings, as among the Moravians, and our church music will be better, and our religious life more joyous and attractive.

On Monday morning we left St. John on board the splendid steamer *New England*. I used to flatter myself that I was pretty much of a cosmopolitan in my feelings; but I confess to an uncomfortable feeling when, as we were approaching Eastport, I saw the stars and stripes waving high over the town, and felt that, for the first time in my life, I was going to be under any other than the British flag. I think I have got over that weakness now. In one Banner alone I wish to glory. It is neither British nor American. In the degree in which other flags are loyal to it, I shall try to love them all.

The weather was still calm, but night closed in foggy and disagreeable. That horrible but most useful steamwhistle kept ever repeating its doleful screams, now and then answered by the bell or steam-foghorn of some light-house, or by the weaker foghorn of some passing schooner, the whole suggesting uncomfortable thoughts of collisions and rocks, with the latter of which the whole coast is lined. One can shut out a sense of danger, to some extent, by refusing to think about it. But, whether the danger be great or little, the Christian has a better way. He remembers that the all-mighty, all-wise God of nature and providence, is his Father, who "slumbers not, nor sleeps," that "all things work together for good to them that love God"; and so, not oblivious of the danger, but in "perfect peace," he says, "I will both lay me down in peace and sleep, for thou, Lord, only makest me dwell in safety."

Next morning we learned that we had been in considerable danger, having passed the mouth of Portland harbour in the fog, and almost gone on the rocks; but that after some two hours delay, and working backwards and forwards, we had got on our right course, and so, safely into harbour. Mr. Blanchard, according to previous arrangements, left us here; he had been awake and aware of what had been going on, and seemed very glad to get safely ashore.

About one o'clock we arrived in Boston. We were to spend only the afternoon here, and so at once drove to the Young Men's Christian Association Rooms. And here the Secretary, Roland, gave us a welcome which proved to be just a specimen of what we were to receive in New York, Philadelphia, and all along. Mr. McLean was already known and loved; and his introduction of me as a brother, and member of the Halifax deputation, was sufficient to secure for me at once a warm, loving, frank and brotherly welcome. I had not time to see much of the city during the afternoon, but I visited the much talked of "Common," and the Public Gardens attached to it.

In the evening we left for New York. We went by the Fall River line, and I may here warn any reader, who purposes going to New York by that line, not to leave the securing of a state room till his arrival in Boston. Often every room is engaged days ahead. There is, however, a probability that some who have engaged rooms may fail to be on board; and in that case, after a delay of perhaps two or three hours, a number of rooms may be obtained. Failing in that, there are berth rooms, which are not so comfortable, and cannot be locked. In our case, Mr. McLean succeeded in obtaining an excellent room for us. An hour and a half, by rail, brought us to Fall River, where we went on board the magnificent floating palace which was to convey us through the Sound to New York. Like other American passenger steamers, the boilers, engines and freight were carried on deck. Here also is the ladies' cabin, immediately forward of which, strange to say, is the smoking promenade, on the floor of which gentlemen are requested not to spit, out of respect for the ladies. One wonders that deference to the ladies has not gone a little further, and provided accommodation for the defilers of the atmosphere in some other part of the ship. The whole space below is given to the dining saloon and to berth rooms, &c. On the third story is the magnificent saloon, or drawing room, which