

say that, for I'd scorn to smuggle, it's a low thing — but I imported several times British goods to that city from Nova Scotia, but forgot to enter them regular; and when Bigelow Pineo, the officer, came to search (a very pious, conscientious man he was, too, an elder among the elect, and an awful large seven-foot down-easter; they used to call him Big Pineo), 'Brother Pineo,' sais I, 'verily I'm glad to see you; how is the good lady to hum, and the little Bigs, eh? None of 'em, I guess, will ever make the man their father is, as Widow Atwater said to me, when she first sot eyes on you: Laws me, Mr. Slick, who is that noble-lookin' man? he is the handsomest I ever saw in all my born days. My! what a fine man!' "

" 'Friend Slick,' he would say, with an inward chuckle, like a half-grunt, and a half-cough (Christian men never larf), 'thee aint improved, I see, by being among the heathen colonists, that live away down where the sun riseth. What in natur' hast thee got in all these trunks?'

" 'Smuggled goods,' sais I, 'of course.'

" 'Oh yes!' sais he; 'and if they were, thee wouldst fetch them here to be seized, of course! How soft thee is!'

" And then he gave another chuckle at that bright idea of hisn, that made his chest heave again. 'But,' sais I, 'look for yourself, brother, and sarch well. Here's my spectacles,' and I took out a pair of tortoise-shell ones, that had the glasses slipt out, and two gold eagles slipt in.'

" 'What in the world are these?' sais he.

" 'Magnifiers,' sais I. 'Put them on, and nothin' will escape you; and if you can't see through them at first, practice will soon make you parfect. Accept 'em for my sake, for they are curiosities, that's a fact. The benighted colonists wear them, when the sun shines, to keep it from hurtin' their eyes. But come, that's a good man, put the chalk mark on my traps right off, for I want to be a movin'.'

" Well, he put the spectacles in his pocket; and as he stooped down to chalk the trunks, sais he: 'Verily thee is different from other men, in all the doeth; seein' I can take no fees, thee hast adopted this mode to obviate a hard law. If these trunks contained smuggled goods, of a sartainty thee wouldst not fetch them here, so I will mark them.'

" No, President, we must wink, or put on solid gold spectacles, like B'gelow Pineo, and look without seein'. I would prefer going down in one of our coastin' vessels, careless-like, slippin' into this harbour, and dodgin' into that, and while the captain is tradin' here and tradin' there pick up all the information I want. If we had them fisheries, they would be worth more to us than California."

" I think so too," sais he. " I had no idea of their immense extent until lately. I actilly saw a barrel of Nova Scotia mackerel

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