

Till God shall every creature bless With his supremest blessing, And hope be lost in happiness, And wishing in possessing



The Cabin Boy.

On my way across the Sound I fell in with two old sea captains-John Streeter and Asa Morton-with whom I had some slight acquaintance. Capt. Streeter was about three score, and had followed the sea during most of his life. Morton was considerably younger, but still a seaman of much experience. The subject of the abolition of flogging in our navy came up shall die under the operation.' in course of conversation, and Capt. Morton expressed himself very decidedly in favor of time honored institutions, the cat-o nine-tails.

'I am not prepared to say,' remarked Capt. Streeter, in reply, 'that the condition of our man-o -wars-men will le in every case benefitted by the alolition of flogging, though I am sure that it might be so. I mean, of course, ed on ship.

'For my part,' returned Morton, 'I shouldn't care to take command of a ny seamen as I thought proper were taken from me.

'Well,' said Capt. Streeter, 'I used but few masters more passionate or severe than I was. Men used to run away from me, and on more than one occasion my life has been in danger from violence of men I have abused. mined to let him stay there. I suppose ready to die-but he would save the I used the cat and the rope's end almost as freely as I used my tongue; and I used to wonder how it happened that I always had the luck to get such bad men.

When I was about forty years of age I took command of the ship Petersham. She was an old craft, and had .seen full as much service as she was capable of seeing with safety. But her owners were willing to trust a valuable cargo in her, so I wouldn't refuse to go myself. We were bound for Liverpool, and nothing happened until about the eighth day out, when we ran foul of a small iceberg. It was early in the morning, before sunrise, and not above five or six feet of ice was above water, it having nearly all melted in the warm waters of the Gulf Stream. I did not "think we had sustained much injury, for the shock was slight but I was very

sun was already past the meridian, the dead-lights, looked about for a snug place in which to lie, for his limbs and that I was too late.

This added fuel to the fire of my mad- were sore. He went to sleep, and when ness, and quickly seizing the lad by he awoke he heard a faint sound, like the collar, I led him to the main hatch- water streaming through a small hole. way, and had the hatch taken off. I He went to the open place in the carthen thrust him down it, and swore I go, and looked down, and he was sure would keep him there until his stub- that he saw a small jet of water springborness was broken. The batch was ing up from the ship's bottom. He

then put on, and I went into the cabin. | leaped down, and in a few minutes I suffered a good deal that afternoon. found that the timbers had wholly givnot with my compunctions for what I en away, and that the water without had done, but with my own temper and was pressing it inward. He had sense bitterness. But it made me mad to enough to see that if it gained an inch think that I could not conquer that more it must all go, and the ship be boy-that I could not break down his lost, and perhaps all hands perish .-cool, stern opposition. 'But I will do And he saw, too, that if he could keep t,' I said to myself. 'hy the heavens the broken plank in its place ne might above me, I'll starve him into it, or he stop the incoming flood. So he sat himself upon it, and braced his feet against After supper I went to the hatch- the cask, and then called for help .way, and called out to him, but he re- But he was so far away, so low down,

turned me no answer. So I closed the | with such a dense mass of cargo about hatch and went away. At ten o'clock him that his voice scarcely reached I called again, and I got no answer. other ears than his own. Some of the I might have thought that the flogging men heard him but thought he was had taken away his senses, had not talking to himself.

some of the men assured me that they And there he set, with his feet brachad heard him, not an hour before, ed for four-and-twenty dreary hours, talking to himself. I did not trouble with the water spurting in tiny streams for such offences as are usually punish- him again till morning. After break- all over him, drenching him to the skin. fast I went to the hatchway and call- He thought several times of going to ed out to him once more. I heard noth- the hatching and calling for help; but

ing from him, nor could I see him-I he knew that the broken plank would ship if the power of punishing refacto- had not seen him since I put him down be forced in if he left it, for he could there. I called out several times but feelitheave beneath him. Hisstrength he would make no reply-and yet the was failing him-his limbs were racksame men told me that they had heard ed with pain-but he would not give to think just so. In fact, there were him talking that very morning. He up. I asked him if he would not have seemed to be calling on them for help, given up if I had not come as I did .-but he would not ask for me. I meant He answered that he could not have to break him in toit. 'He'll beg before done it while he had life in him. He he'll starve,' I thought, and so deter- said he thought not of himself-he was

> he had crawled forward to the bulk rest if he could-and he had saved us, head, in order to make the sailors hear | surely saved us all, from a watery grave. him. Some of the men asked leave to That boy lavsick almost unto death; go down and look for him, but I re- but I nursed him with my own hands fused. I threatened to punish the first -nursed him through his delirium ; man that dared to go down.

and when his reason returned and he At noon I went again, and as he did could sit up and talk, I bowed myself not answer me this time, I resolved before him, and humbly asked his parthat he should come to the hatchway, don for all the wrong I had done him. and ask for me ere I went any more. He threw his arms about my neck, and The day passed away, and when eve- told me if I would be good to him, he ning came again I began to be start- would never give me cause for offence: led. I thought of the many good qual- and added as he sat up again-'I am ities the boy had, and of his widowed not a coward-I couldn't be a dog.' mother. He had been in the hold thir-From that hour I never forgot those ty-six hours, and all of forty without words : and from that hour I never food or drink. He was too weak to struck a blow on board my ship. I cry out now. It was hard for me to make men feel that they are mengive up, but if he had died from abso- that I so regard them, and that I wish lute starvation, it might go harder with to make them as comfortable and hapme still. So at length I made up my py as possible ; and I have not failed mind to go and see him. It was not to gain their respect and confidence.

where you are. Then I begin to get lonesome; and so one thought follows another, until I feel troubled and uneasy. Oh, if you would only stay with the floor and whistle. Then he got his me a portion of your evenings!"

"Aha! I thought that was what you were aiming at," said George, with playful shake of the head. "You would partner. Then he walked the floor have me here every evening.'

struck nine and his wife returned. "Well-can you wonder at it ?" returned Emma. "I used to be very happy when you came to spend an joyed yourself?" evening with me before we were married; and I know I should be very appy in your society now !"

you have enjoyed yourself.' "Ah !" said George, with a smile. those were business meetings. We wore arranging then for the future. "And why not continue so to do, my husband? I am sure we could be place, after all-isn't it ?" as happy now as ever. If you will returned George, carelessly. remember, one of our plans was to fact," he added, "I rather like it." make a home.

"And haven't we got one, Emma?" "We have certainly a place in which o live." answered the wife, somewhat week of it.' evasively.

"And it is our home," pursued George. "And," he added, with a stand it out. sort of confident flourish, "home is the wife's peculiar province. She has ed to go out again. charge of it, and all her work is there; while the duties of the husband call im to other scenes.'

"Well, I admit that, so far as cerain duties are concerned," replied Emma. "But you must remember that we both need relaxation from la- go to several places.' bor: we need time for social and mental improvement and enjoyment; and what time have we for this save our evenings? Why should not this be my home for an evening, as well as in upon that empty chair, and the thought he day time and in the night ?"

"Well-isn't it ?", asked George. "How can it be if you are not here? What makes a home for children if it be not the abode of the parents ?--nervous and unhappy What home can a husband have where there is no wife? And-what real home comfort can a wife enjoy where after he had listened for some time in there is no husband. You do not con- vain, 'this is too bad. She ought not sider how lonesome I am, all alone to stay out so late !' But he happenhere during these long evenings .- ed to remember that he often remain- longer he enjoyed this comfort the They are the very seasons when I am ed away much later than that, so he at leisure to enjoy your companionship, concluded that he must make the best and when you would be at leisure to of it.

enjoy mine, if it is worth enjoying .--At a quarter to ten Emma came They are the very seasons when the home.

'A little late, am I not?' she said happiest hours of home life might be passed. Come-will you not spend a looking up at the clock. 'But I fell in with some old friends. How have few of your evenings with me?" "You see enough of me as it is," you enjoyed yourself?"

'First rate,' returned George, bravesaid the husband, lightly. "Allow me to be the best judge of ly. 'I think home is a capital place! that, George. You would be very 'Especially when a man can have it

'Certainly,' returned the huskand. wife to hear it. At half-past eight he rose from his chair and begun to pace flute, and played several of his favorite

chair, and looked at the clock. airs. After this he got a chess-board, and played a game with an imaginary marked George

The young wife looked up in o her and whistled again. Finally the clock husband's face, and, with an 'epression half smiling and half tearfiel, she ed "Well, George," said she, "I am back in good time. How have you en- answered, "I will confess the wruth, George ; I have given up the esperiment. I managed to stand is last "Capitally," returned the husband. 'I had no idea it was so late. I hope evening, but I could not bear it through "Oh. splendidly!" said his wife. "I all alone, I wanted to be with voz. It and t seem right. I haven't er joyed

was away from home. Home is a dull myself at all. I have no home but book. "Why no-I can't say that it is, "In his chair to his wife's side, and taking my. one of her hands. 'Then let me nake my confession. 'I have stood it not a 'I'm glad of that,' retorted Emma, whit better. When I left the house for we shall both enjoy ourselves now You shall have a nice, comfortable this evening, L could bear it no longer. I found that this was no home fc me, your hat !' while my sweet wife was absert. I .: George winced at this, but he kept

I had gazed upon your empty thair lie table, and pay for it, too ! On the next evening Emma prepartill my heart ached.' He kissed her as he spoke, and then added, while she 'I shall be back in good time,' she reclined her head upon his aril, 'I 'Where are you going?' her hus-Your presence here is like the Ursting forth of the sun after a storm; 'Oh, I can't tell exactly. I may and if you love me as I love youwhich, of course, I cannot doubt -my So George Wilson was left alone again, and he tried to amuse himself as presence may afford some sunlight to you. At all events our next experibefore, but he found it a difficult task.

ment shall be-to that effect. I will Ever and anon he would cast his eyes try and see how much home confort would come, 'How pleasant it would we can find while we are both here to be if she were here !' The clock final- enjoy it.' Emma was foo happy to ly struck nine, and he began to listen express her joy in words ;. but ship exfor the step of his wife. Half an hour pressed it, nevertheless, and in a manmore slipped by, and he became very ner, too, not to be mistaken.

The next evening was spent at Fome by both husband and wife, and it was 'I declare,' he muttered to himself. a season of much enjoyment. fin a short time George began to realize how much comfort was to be fourd in a quiet and peaceful home; and the more plainly did he see and under tand the simple truth, that it takes two to make a happy home, and fit if the wife is one party the husband

> must be the other. Scenes from Life Scenes; h AND REAL LIFE BEHIND THE SCINES. BY OUR NED.

THE EIVAL VENTRILOQUISTS,

firmative answer, by a quiet movement She took his arm, and they walked of the head. The Signor picked up home in silence. When Emma Had ta- stool, seated himself unceremoniously ken off her things, she sat down in her between the young stranger and the end of the table near by. This move-'You are home early to-night?' re- ment arrested the attention of the stranger, who looked up, inquiringly.

> "You seem to be much interested in your book, sir,' the signor remark-

'Yes, sir,' he replied, 'a good book is to me preferable to a good dinner. Signor .- 'That depends - upon the length of time you have fasted. By to-night. When I thought of you here the way, I did not see you at the dinnor table ?'

Stranger .- 'No, sir, I preferred my

Signor.- 'One dollar is high for a 'Say you so ?' cried George, myving single meal; I commend your econo-

> Stranger (indignantly.)-I eat when hungry, whatever the price !"

Signor .- 'I spoke of economy, because I observed some provisions in

Stranger (in an offended tone.)his countenance, and determined to thought I would walk down by Incle 'Provisions, sir? I carry no provis-John's and see your face, if posable. ions with me; I always eat at the pub-

> The whole attention of the passengers was now centered upon the speakers and considerable interest manifesthave learned a very good less n. - ed by the company in the peculiar subject under discussion.

> > Signor (lifting up the 'young gent's hat from his side, and passing it uncer the eyes of the entire group)-1 do not wish to offend you, sir; but I see here quite a supply of provisions!

This created not a little merriment at the expense of the stranger, which soon increased to a laugh, as the wizard drew forth slice after slice of stale bread from the young man's hat. The stranger bit his lips in confusion, and fixed his gaze upon the Signor ; then, with a smile, got up from his seat, and movered toward his state-room.

'Frightened ?' says one of the lookers-on, smiling at the sudden disappearance of the stranger.

Stranger (emerging from the stateroom.)-'No: not frightened, exactly. I merely put away my book, because I find there is going to be some fun aboard, and when there's 'fun about, I want to be 'counted in,' for that's my forte.'

Looker-on (enthusiastically)-'Good! bravo, bravo! Goit, little 'un-you're a match for him !'

The stranger had barely finished his remarks, when a loud yelping and shapping was heard at his heels, and "Once upon a time," as the "s pry- the passengers began to scatter, think

angry and gave the look-out a severe punishment, with out stopping to enquire whether he could have seen the berg in time to escape it.

My cabin boy was named Jack Withers. He was fourteen years of age, and this was his first voyage. I had taken him from a widowed mother, and had promised her that I would see him well treated-that was, if he behaved himself. He was a bright, quick, intelli-I fancied that he was the most stub- hold, which would have let everything had never been properly governed, and the ship.

resolved to break him in. I told him To this place I made my way, and I'd curb his temper before I had done looked down. I heard the splashing of with him. In reply he told me that I water, and thought I could detect a might kill him if I liked; and I flogged sound like the incoming of a tiny jet him with the end of the mizzen-top- or stream. At first I could see nothgallant halliards till he could hardly ing, but as soon as I became used to stand. I asked him if he got enough, the dim light, I could distinguish the and he told me I might flog him more faint outline of the boy, at some disif I wished it. I felt a strong inclina- tance below me. He seemed to be sittion to throw the boy overboard, but ting on the broken floor, with his feet at the moment he staggered back a- stretched out against the cask. I callgainst the mizzen mast from absolute ed out to him, and thought he looked weakness, and I left him to himself .- up.

quite sundown when I had the hatch I give no undue license, but make my taken off, and I jumped down from the crew feel that they have a friend and boxes alone. a superior in the same person. For

A little way forward I say a space nine years I sailed in three different where Jack might have easily gone ships, with the same crew. A man down, and to that point I easily crawl- couldn't be hired to leave me save for ed on my hands and knees. I called an officer's berth.

out there but could get no answer. A me thirteen years. He was my cabin short distance farther was a space, boy ; one of the fore-most hands ; my which I had entirely forgotten, but now gent lad, but I soon made myself be- remembered had been left open on ac- second mate ; and the last he sailed lieve that he had an awful disposition. count of a break in the flooring of the with me refused the command of a new and our evenings were happily spent. barque because he would not be sepborn piece of humanity I had ever that might have been stowed there erated from me. But he is a captain come across. I made up my mind he rest directly upon the thin planking of now, and of the best this country ever my husband. And now have I not a afforded. Such gentlemen, is my ex-

> perience in government and discipline on shipboard.

> > -There is an anecdote of an editor out West, who, when he was short of matter, or grudged the labor or type to try it." requisite to put it in print, used to send out his paper with one side or page entirely blank, merely drawing his subscribers' attention to the fact by note "This space will be useful for the children to write upon."

-"Much remains unsung." remarked the as you imagine." tom-cat, as a brickbat, cut short his serenade.

lonesome here, all alone." all to himself,' added the wife, with a "Not if it was my place of business, sidelong glance at her husband. But tellers" have it, we were sailing Jown ing a rabid dog was in their midst; as it is of yours," returned the young be made no reply.

man. "You are used to staying here, all wives belong to home."

"Just remember, my husband, that she kissed her husband ere she went, is to New Orleans. We had on board During the excitement about the and seemed to hesitate. previous to our marriage, I had pleas-

band asked-

And Jack Withers' remained with ant society all the time. Of course, I "Where do you think of going," George asked in an under-tone. remained at home much of my time, 'I may drop in to see Uncle John,' but I had a father and a mother there. replied Emma. 'However, you won't and I had brothers and sisters there, be uneasy. You'll know I'm safe.' 'Oh, certainly,' said her husband ; Finally, I gave up all for you. I left the old home, and sought a home with right to expect some of your companionship? How would you like to have me away every evening, while you nor enjoy himself in any way while sitting in the forward saloon, g zing came the squealing of a pig, and, in

> "Why-I should like it well enough." found that home had no real comfort stupefaction. "Ah-but you would not be willing without his wife. The one thing need- 'Being of an active tempera sent, the stranger's bosom a small guinea-"Yes, I would," said George, at a sent.

venture. "Will you you remain here every did not think it would be so lonesome. view to kicking up some kind of arum- Again the Signor was seized with that evening next week, and let me spend And can it be that she feels as I do, pus, for our own sake and the welief periodical attack of the wasp, and my time among my female friends?" when she is here all alone? It must of the passengers generally, we walk-brushed in vain with his hands, to rid "Certainly I will," he replied; and be so,' he pursued thoughtfully. It ed boldly into the captain's office, and himself of the little tormentor. Sev-I assure you I shall not be so lonesome is just as she says. Before we were laid the whole matter before the dis- eral of the passengers attempted to married, she was very happy in her tinguished commander. With this the husband went out, and childhood's home. Her parents loved 'We have no music on board,' the tempt proved futile, and the attacks

the great "father of waters," the Mis- but a few minutes served to prove the On the next evening Emma prepar- sissippi, in the beautiful steamer, God- barking and yelping another trick of ed to go out as before, but this time dess of Liberty," bound from St. Jou- the ventriloquist,

the usual variety of passengers but dog, the Signor seemed constantly for some unexplainable cause, an un- brushing something from behind his usual degree of monotory prevaled. ear, and becoming much annoved by a Tis true, the card-players wers at continual buzzing at his head, requestwork, with their accustomed energy, ed one of the passengers to examine and little groups of passengers were his neck, for he was fearful a wasp had earnestly engaged over the quiet same taken passage on the boat, and was enbut when left to his own reflections he of "checkers," or "draughts," while gaged in the exclusive business of anbegan to ponder seriously on the sub- one little circle only were absorted in, poying him. An examination proved ject thus presented for consideration. that old, but now popular game "chies." the Signor's fears groundless, and the He could not read; he could not play; A large number of passengers were fun with the stranger continued. Now were obliged to remain here alone?" that chair was empty. In short, he listlessly at each other, apparently, in a few moments, the Signor, to the great amusement of the crowd produced from ed to make home cheerful was not pre- and fond of excitement, we could not pig, which jumped and ran round the

suffer ennui upon such an occasion to saloon as if pleased at being released 'I declare,' he said to himself, 'I get the upper hand of us, so, with a from such an uncomfortable berth .--

catch the refractory wasp, but each at-

When I reasoned calmly about the 'Jack, are you there?'