

going out to dance with my sweet heart; for when I was with him I imagined myself happy. But this young man did not perceive that I loved him so much; and it happened very unfortunately I did not tell any of my friends of it; which if I had done, it would probably have been better for me; for my mother would no doubt have persuaded me for my good. But I afterwards felt the bad effects of concealing this warm affection. I could not blame the young man, since he had never given me any reason so to do. Hereupon I was very unsettled in my mind, and unable to fix myself in any place; nevertheless, I carried it off as well as I could.

I had not been long at home, before one Mr. Daniel Stoaders at Ash wanted me to come and live with him; accordingly I went, and liked the place very well; and, had I been but contented, I might have lived there very comfortably. But my mind became continually disturbed and uneasy about this young man, who was the involuntary cause of all my trouble, which was aggravated by my happening to see him one day talk to a young woman: the thoughts of this made me so very unhappy, that I was from that time more unsettled than ever.

A short time after, a thought came into my head to dress myself in mens apparel, and set off by myself; but where to go, I did not know, nor what I was to do when I

was gone. I had no thought what was to become of me, or what sorrow and anxiety I should bring upon my aged father and mother by losing me; but my inclinations were still bent on leaving home. In order to do this, I went one day into my master's brother's room, and there found an old frock, an old pair of breeches, an old pair of pumps, and an old pair of stockings, all which did very well; but still was at a great loss for a hat; but then I recollected that my father had got one at home, if I could but procure it unknown to my parents; I therefore intended to get it without their knowledge; whereupon I went to my mother's house to ask her for a gown which I had given her the day before to mend for me. She answered, I should have it to-morrow. But little did my poor mother know what I wanted; for I went immediately into my father's room, took the hat, put it under my apron, and came down stairs; but I never said good-bye, or any thing else to my mother; but went home to my place, and packed up the things that I had got; and now only waited an opportunity to decamp.

On the first day of May, 1759, about six o'clock in the morning, I set off; and when I had got out of town into the fields, I pulled off my cloaths, and put on mens, leaving my own in a hedge, some in one place and some in another. Having thus dressed myself in mens habit, I went on to a

place called Wingham, where a fair was held that day. Here I wandered about till evening; then went to a public house, and asked them to let me have a lodging that night, for which I agreed to give two-pence: now all the money I had when I came away was no more than five-pence. Accordingly I went to bed, and slept very well till morning, when I got up, and began to think which way I should go, as my money was so short; however, I proceeded towards Canterbury. But as I was coming along upon the road, a post-chaise overtook me: I got up behind it, and rode to Canterbury; and then the post-chaise stopping, I quitted it, and walked on before, that they might not take any notice of me. After perceiving they did not take the horses out of the chaise, I concluded they were going farther, but did not know where; nor indeed did I care what became of me. When they came on the road to Chatham, I got up behind; not knowing whither I was going, never having been so far from home in my life.

When the chaise had reached Chatham, I got down, but was an utter stranger to the place; only I remembered to have heard my father and mother talk about a man's being hung in chains at Chatham; and, when I saw him, I thought this must be the place. I immediately began to think what I must do for a lodging; having no more than one penny, with which I went and bought some

bread and cheese. Here I was quite at a loss what step to take: to go home again, was death to me; and to ask for a lodging, I was ashamed: so I walked up and down the streets, as it was the fair time, and sauntered about till it was dark.

As I stood considering what I should do, I looked about me, and saw a farm-house on the left hand of Chatham, as you go down the hill; I thought within myself I would go to it, and ask them to let me lie there; but when I came down to the house, I was ashamed to make the request. In this distressed situation I continued some time, not knowing how to proceed; for money I had none, and lie in the streets I never was used to, and what to do I did not know: but at last I resolved to lie in the straw, concluding that to be somewhat better than lying in the street; accordingly I went and got in among the straw, and laid myself down, but was so greatly terrified, that I was afraid to move; for when the pigs stirred a little, I thought somebody was coming to frighten me; therefore I did not dare open my eyes, lest I should see something frightful. I had but very little sleep; and when it was morning, I got up and shook my cloaths, and looked about to see if any body perceived me get out. I then came down to the town, and went up to some men that belonged to a collier, who gave me some victuals and drink with them.

While I was standing here, a gentleman came up to me, and asked me if I would go to sea? for, said he, it is fine weather now at sea; and if you will go, I will get you a good master on board the Sandwich. I replied, Yes, Sir. He then shewed me the nearest way on board; but instead of going to St. Princess's-bridge, (as the gentleman had directed me) I went over where the tide came up, being half up my legs in mud; but at length I got up to the bridge, and seeing a boat there, I asked the men belonging to it, if they were going on board the Sandwich? They told me they were; and asked me if I wanted to go on board? I told them, Yes. They enquired who I wanted there? I told them, The gunner. They laughed, said I was a brave boy, and that I would do very well for him. But I did not know who was to be my master, or what I was to do, or whether I had strength to perform it: They then carried me on board.

When I came along-side the Sandwich, there were lighters with rigging or something belonging to her: that appeared all strange to me, as I never had seen such a large ship before; having often seen the hoys at Sandwich haven. When getting out of the lighter into the Sandwich, I thought it was impossible for such a great ship to go to sea. But what the men most took notice of, was, my observing how many windows the ship had got; she not yet having got her guns on board, for her ports were open.

When I found that the men laughed at me, I was angry with myself, for saying any thing before I was acquainted with it. The sailors asked me if I would go to the gunner, who was in his cabbin in the gun-room. Accordingly I went down: but it was remarkable I did not then know the head of the ship from the stern; for when I was down I could not find the way up again. When the gunner saw me, he asked where I came from, and how I came there? I told him, I had left my friends. He enquired if I had been 'prentice to any body, and run away? I told him, No. Well, said he, should you like to go to sea? I replied, Yes, Sir. He then asked if I was hungry? I answered in the affirmative; having had but very little all the day. Upon this, he ordered his servant to serve me some biscuit and cheese. The boy went and brought me some, and said, Here countryman, eat heartily; which I accordingly did: for the biscuit being new, I liked it well, or else my being hungry made it go down very sweet and savoury. After I had eat sufficiently, the gunner came and asked my name. I told him my name was WILLIAM CHANDLER: but God knows how that came into my head; though it is true, my mother's maiden name was Chandler, and my father's name William Lacy; therefore I took the name of Chandler. Then the gunner told his boy to give me some victuals with him; and that when he went on shore, I was to go with him, (Jeremiah Pane, for that was

his name) and we agreed very well: for he used to carry the people over the river, which sometimes put a few pence in his pocket; so that he always had some money, and was very good to me, and often gave me some, with which we sometimes tossed up for pies: therefore I lived very happy, considering the condition and situation I was in at that time.

There was another circumstance that attended me; for though I could not play the rogue much at first, yet in a little time afterwards I learned to do it very completely. But not knowing all this time who was my master, made me dissatisfied; for I had no linen to clean myself with, having only the shift that I had when I came from Ash; and I was very much afraid my fellow-servant should see my shirt had no collar; and besides, I had no other cloaths to wear but those I had on, which gave me such concern, that I often wished I was at home again. But the thoughts of seeing the young man again when I went home, diverted me entirely from that resolution, and made me conclude, that I had rather live upon bread and water, and go through all the trouble that I had brought, or might hereafter bring upon myself, than go home again.

I had been on board the *Sandwich* about four days when the carpenter came on board; and he had only one servant, who was at work in Chatham Yard; so at that time he had none on board. Now the gunner, whose name was

Rd. Ruffel, liked me very well: he lived in lodgings at a place called Brompton, near Chatham; and the land-lady of the house where he lodged had a son, who wanted to go to sea; and this woman was willing, if the gunner would take him, that he should go: whereupon the gunner and she agreed that he should go to sea with him as his servant. He told me, the carpenter would be glad to have me as his servant, for he was not willing I should be the captain's servant, that being the worst place in the ship, but at that time I did not know which was the best or worst: Mr. Ruffel, the gunner, therefore spoke to Mr. Richard Baker, the carpenter, for me. I was then sent for to the carpenter's cabin. He asked me, Whether I had been an apprentice to any body, and was run away? I told him, No. Well, said he, are you a Kentish boy, or a boy of Kent? For my part, I did not then know the difference between a Kentish boy and a boy of Kent; but I answered, A boy of Kent, which happened to be right. This made him laugh at me; for he was a merry man; but when out of humour, it was trouble enough to please him.

I shall here take occasion to relate what my master said to me concerning being his servant. There were two gentlemen with him. He first of all ordered me to fetch him a can of beer: I accordingly went, and brought it to him. Now, said he, you must learn to make a can of flip, and to broil

me a beef steak, and to make my bed against I come to live on board. Come, said he, and I will show you how to make my bed. So we went to his cabbin, in which there was a bed that turned up, and he began to take the bed cloaths off one by one. Now, said he, you must shake them one by one, you must tumble and shake the bed about, then you must lay the sheets on one at a time, and lastly the blankets. I replied, Yes, Sir. Well, said he, you will soon learn to make a bed, that I see already. But he little knew who he had got to make his bed; and he not having any suspicion of my being a woman, I affected to appear as ignorant of the matter as if I had known nothing about it. He then provided for me a bed and bedding of a boatswain who came on board to see him, and then directed his mate to sling it up for me. When I attempted to get into bed at night, I got in at one side, and fell out on the other, which made all the seamen laugh at me; but, at it happened, there were not a great many on board, for being a new ship, but few had entered on board of her; so that my hammock was hung up in the sun-deck: but when the whole ship's company was on board, it was then taken down, and placed below in the wing where the carpenter and the yeomen both were; now it was better for me to lay there than anywhere else. But I was very uneasy by lying there, on account of a quarter-master that lay in that place, whom I