

the ocean of life. There are in his bosom the same social sympathies that animate our own. He has nerves to feel pain, and a heart to throb with human affections, even as you have. His life, to establish the law, or to further the ends of justice, is not required. Taken, it is to us of no value; given to him, it is above the price of rubies.

And Costa, the cabin boy, only fifteen years of age when this crime was committed—shall he die? Shall the sword fall upon his neck? Some of you are advanced in years—you may have children. Suppose the news had reached you that your son was under trial for his life, in a foreign country (and every cabin boy who leaves this port may be placed in the situation of this prisoner), suppose you were told that he had been executed, because his captain and officers had violated the laws of a distant land; what would be your feelings? I cannot tell, but I believe the feelings of all of you would be the same, and that you would exclaim, with the Hebrew, "My son! my son! would to God I had died for thee." This boy has a father; let the form of that father rise up before you and plead in your hearts for his offspring. Perhaps he has a mother, and a home. Think of the lengthened shadow that must have been cast over that home by his absence. Think of his mother, during those hours of wretchedness, when she has felt hope darkening into disappointment, next into anxiety, and from anxiety into despair. How often may she have stretched forth her hands in supplication and asked even the winds of heaven to bring her tidings of him who was away? Let the supplications of that mother touch your hearts, and shield their object from the law.

I have thus endeavored to impress upon you that you are not to judge of these men in a mass. Condemn not, I beseech you, a single one of them, unless you see upon his hands the red spot of guilt. It is my interest, as a member of society, as much as it is yours, that the guilty should be punished. Where the sin lies, there let the axe fall; but be sure that the crime has been committed ere you inflict the penalty. You never can be called to perform a more serious duty than the