

Lord Selkirk's Settlers in P. E. Island—VI.

IN the March number of this magazine we left the ship Polly in the the middle of the Atlantic; with her load of emigranis, headed by Earl Selkirk's agent, engaged in a quarrel with Captain Darby. Owen goes on to say:—

On the day after the delegation visited the cabin, the sky became overcast, the wind veered a little to the southward, and then backed into the north-east, and soon rose to a gale. The icebergs, which all along seemed almost stationary, began nodding their crests, keeping time to the long, low swell of the ocean. The field ice in which the ship was embedded, crashed and ground against the planking of the vessel, threatening every moment to crush her frail sides, or to drive aboard and swamp her amid the terrible saturnalia of the frozen masses around.

It was a night of terror, in which the captain, crew and passengers shared alike.

Law, Latin and scrimp orations were alike forgotten. The elders acted like brave Christian men. They went about among the passengers, and administered such spiritual consolation as the case permitted; and even the agent, the school master and the piper, stiff-necked and self-opinionated as they were, disdained not in that solemn, trying hour to listen reverently to their earnest exhortations. By day and night the horrible grating at the sides of the ship became less violent, and gradually ceased. The wind died away, after veering to the south-east; but the sea was still in commotion. When the passengers came on deck not a vestige of the ice was anywhere to be seen, only the same low dismal-looking cloud which heralded its approach from the west, was now seen far to windward in the south-west.

As the day wore on, an examination of the ship proved that she had sustained no injury in any vital part; and although her sides were greatly chafed, and the decks presented a wretched appearance, she had made little or no water.

The carpenter and his mates, the sailors and such of the passengers as were able to work, were soon busy repairing the damages caused by the storm. A goodly supply of spars and other lumber was stored in the hold, and these, with spare chains and cordage were