

tection from the heavy seas that frequently swept over us, threatening a speedy termination of our sufferings, and in constant dread that the shattered wreck might founder from under us. Except by those who have witnessed somewhat similar scenes, the most fertile imagination can but faintly depict what will be far short of the sad reality.

On the 16th the gale was much abated; but the sea was still so high that we attempted, without the least success, to pump the water out. Four or five onions floated up in the cabin, and we eagerly devoured them. The weather had become much warmer, the wind having changed from N.W. to Southerly; but this brought us little relief, for, owing partly to the increased warmth, the water in the vessel was now quite offensive from the corpses of our four drowned shipmates. Brown, too, was very unwell; he had several sores breaking out on his limbs, and though Paxton and myself were not so troubled, yet from such exposure to the weather, with so little clothing on, and incessant soaking in sea water, we exhibited to each other a most wretched and cadaverous appearance.

The 17th proved a fine morning, which somewhat revived our drooping spirits. We soon tried the pump, and, in about half an hour, finding the water decrease, we redoubled our efforts. We were much exhausted, however, and both Brown and myself were frequently obliged to drop on our knees, and pump as long as we were able in that posture. But it was more than we were equal to. We were often forced to desist entirely, and extend ourselves on our backs on the deck, for a quarter of an hour or so, before we could resume our task;