

entirely irreparable, abandoned themselves totally to despair, and again refused to work at the pumps any longer. However, they had not long remained inactive, before we contrived once more to persuade them to make another effort to clear the vessel; when, to our great surprise and consternation, we found the pumps so hard frozen that it was impossible to move them.

Every idea of keeping the ship clear was now given up, and in a very short time she filled to the water's edge. Having no longer, as we imagined, the smallest foundation for hope, we resigned ourselves with as much fortitude as possible to our fate, which we expected every moment to be that of going to the bottom. However, when the vessel was quite full, we observed she was very little deeper in the water than before; and then recollecting a circumstance, which the trouble and confusion we had been in had almost obliterated, namely, that we had a quantity of lumber on board, we immediately accounted for the cause of her not sinking beyond a certain depth in the water, and began to entertain hope of saving our lives at least, if we could but prevent her from oversetting till we could make the island of St. John's, or some other island in the gulf. Having no guns on deck, and not much lumber, to render the ship topheavy, we contrived to prevent her from oversetting, by steering directly before the wind. Besides taking care to keep the vessel steady, we used every precaution to se-

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