

immediate thoughts of securing this Boat before she might be sunk by numbers. There appeared not more than a moment for consideration : to remain and perish with the ship's company, whom I could not be any longer of use to, or seize the opportunity which seemed the only way of escaping, and leave the people, whom I had been so well satisfied with, on a variety of occasions, that I thought I could give my life, to preserve them.

This indeed was a painful conflict, and which, I believe, no man can describe, nor have a just idea of, who has not been in a similar situation—the love of life prevailed—I called Mr. Rainey, the Master, the only Officer upon deck, desired him to follow me, and immediately descended into the boat, at the after part of the chains, but not without great difficulty got the boat clear from the ship ; twice the number that the boat would carry pushing to get in, and many jumping into the water. Mr. Baylis, a young gentleman, fifteen years of age, leaped from the chains after the boat had got off, and was taken in. The boat falling a-stern became exposed to the sea, and we endeavoured to pull her bow round to keep her to the break of the sea, and to pals to windward of the ship, but in the attempt she was nearly filled : the sea ran too high, and the only probability of her living, was keeping her before the wind.

It was then that I became sensible how little, if any thing better, our condition was, than that of those who remained in the ship—at best, it ap-