

stern pulley, and the long boat righting, I jumped in to save Mr. Lévêque and Dufresnois, who were almost drowned. Meanwhile, the sea used our long boat so roughly, that it was leaking at every seam. Without rudder, without strength, a frightful wind, rain in torrents, a sea in fury, and an ebb tide, what could we expect but a speedy end? Yet we made every effort to get off; some bailed, one steered with an oar,—everything was wanting, or against us, and, to fill up our miseries, we shipped two seas that left us knee-deep in water; a third would have surely swamped us; our strength began to give out as it became more necessary; we made little headway, and, with good reason, began to fear our longboat would fill before we could reach land. The rain prevented our making out a proper place to run in; all before us seemed very rocky, or rather we saw nothing but death.

I believed that it was time to exhort all to prepare, by an act of contrition, to appear before God. This I had deferred till now, so as not to augment the panic or unman their courage; but there was no recoiling, and I did not wish to have my conscience reproach me with a neglect of duty. Every one prayed, and after the *Confiteor*, I gave a general absolution. It was a touching sight! All those men bailing and rowing, while they implored our Lord to have mercy on them, and forgive them the sins which made them unworthy of partaking of his glory; at last they were prepared for death, and awaited it without repining. As for myself, I commended my soul to God. I recited the *Miserere* aloud, all repeating it after me. I saw no hope left. The longboat was going down, and I had

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