

began to blow strong in gusts of wind, which obliged me to haul the mainsail up, the ship being then under bare poles. This was scarcely done when a gust of wind exceeding in violence every thing of the kind I had ever seen, or had any conception of, laid the ship upon her beam ends. The water forsook the hold, and appeared between decks so as to fill the men's hammocks to leeward : the ship lay motionless, and to all appearances irrecoverably overfet. The water increasing fast, I gave immediate directions to cut away the main and mizen masts, hoping when the ship righted to wear her. The mizen mast went first without the smallest effect on the ship. The main mast followed, and I had the disappointment to see the foremast and bowsprit follow also, the ship upon this immediately righted, but with great violence : and the motion was so quick, that it was difficult for the people to work the pumps. Three guns broke loose upon the main deck, and it was some time before they were secured. Several men being maimed in the attempt ; every moveable was destroyed either from the shot thrown loose from the lockers, or the wreck of the Deck !

The officers who had left their Beds (when the ship overfet) naked in the morning, had not an article of clothes to put on, nor could their friends supply them. The masts had not been over the side ten minutes before I was informed the tiller had broke short in the rudder head : and before the chocks could be placed, the rudder itself was

gone.-
was p
sea ; y
seemed
the mo
modera
North-
tle ship
and bow
the gen
former
The R
15 sail
the mor
head of
Ville de
immedi
distress,
mizen r
the fore

The
and it w
had the
and stan
ships also
and offer
King's sh
joined th
tion. I
de Paris
not to ha