

its commencement, before I could get
on Deck, it blew and rained with
such excessive violence, that it was
a perfect impossibility to effect any
change whatever in the Boats, and
even if Hands could have got into them,
the risk of losing them, and the People,
if not quite certain, would have in the
opinion of Lieutenant Armstrong, Mr.
Thoms, the Boatswain and myself
been much greater than by their remaining
untouched. At the same time necessary
Orders were given to get the Sheet Cable
ready, hands with axes to attend the
Anchor, and a Quarter Master with
the deep sea lead and line over the
side, and people ready to wear the
small Bower to two Cables. When it
came sufficiently moderate to attempt
it, the first Cutter which had filled
from repeated Seas thrown onto her,
was hauled under the Stern, with
great difficulty, and the Tackles were
put into the Stem and Stern Bolts
because we could not hook the proper
Slings, and the intention was only
to lift her Gunwale above the water,
that she might be hauled out, Baskets
for that purpose being ordered down,
I was attending this duty with
Mr. Sobey the Boatswain when
she broke.

The Barges rode in perfect