

Oct. 27 / 1882

galed from S. E. to S. with heavy cross sea & thick misty weather, barom. W. 29.4, at 4 am barom at 29.60 and falling fast increasing & inclining to (S. W.) took in all square sails & came to pinel under storm try sail & stay sails. Hatch lathings locked to and every thing made ready for a heavy gale at 6 am barom at 29.40 still falling weather looking bad showing a storm not far off at 8 am lost main stay sail in a squall being blowing heavy & shipping mist with purple lightning attended to at 9 am barom at 28.60 falling very fast sea increasing sea very toppling at 10 am wind shifted ending by to S. W. more ship to the S. E. barom 28.30 falling & had barely got around when fierce tornado burst upon us from about N. W. throwing the brig on her beam ends, firing the boats under water, taking them up & down, taking the miter quattr boat & even its lashings taking it clear across deck and away to leeward sending out davits & bars & splitting the sail, matted up to main hatch the sail entirely submerged ship filling fast from cabin & fore castle gang ways, sails in the yards literally torn to pieces under the gaskets, and blown away by the fury of the tornado, the air full of pieces of canvas, the wind blowing direct to leeward toppling sea cutting the tops off & sending the salt spray and foam far in the air it ^{was} utterly impossible to face the wind, it appeared to cut like a knife and there was so full of salt salt water that one could not breathe and still the wind appeared to increase every instant, and did look certain and near, starting

us in the face. The only chance for life was
to get rid of one or both masts, but the
weather fore rigging and the mast men
over the side, as we cut but 2 lanyards the
other parted or took down main rail and
all with them the brig felt the relief &
sided at once and about the time the mast
went and for a few minutes after it when the
hatches, and had the mast line standing
this would have never been written nor
would there have been a soul left to
tell the tale, the Brig would have
missing, suposed foundered at sea, no more

Set one gang of men to the pumps
gone to cutting & clearing away
the ice at 11 a.m. moderating & barom
rising fast. Thank god we have
weathered that storm, by half the
hardest I ever experienced, in
thirty years service, at 12 an blowing
a strong steady gale from N. W. big
labouring heavily and taking in much
water from head, stern, & both sides,
and now to look about the brig
so snug and trim a few moments
before gives one the heart ache
fore mast main top mast and jibboom
and all the tops gone, main sail, dories,
cargoes, spare spars stern skids, &c some
broken and some gone, and among the
rest lost two fine bags washed out
over the lee rail. at 2 p.m. found
the ship of water. barom rising
shdaly weather moderating but still
blowing hard, & the brig labouring
heavily & taking in water on
board