

cabin-floor: the water came through the seams forward in such quantities as to wet every bed and article of clothing on the berth-deck. This was a great addition to the labour and discomfort of the crew, now reduced by sickness to four men, and the strength of these much impaired by previous sickness, excessive labour, and almost constant exposure. To relieve their situation as much as possible, Lieutenant Pinkney ordered them to make use of the cabin in common with the officers. To ease the pitching of the vessel, a quantity of coal was shifted aft; but although this was a partial relief, yet as she had too much sail on her, which they had been unable to reduce at the commencement of the gale, it was not sufficient to make her easy.

On the 5th, the gale began to abate, when the crew, through one of their number, presented a communication to Lieutenant Pinkney, of which the following is a copy.

(COPY.)

We, the undersigned, the crew of the Schooner Flying-Fish, wish to let you know that we are in a most deplorable condition: the bed-clothes are all wet; we have no place to lie down in; we have not had a dry stitch of clothes for seven days; four of our number are very sick; and we, the few remaining number, can hold out no longer; we hope you will take it into consideration, and relieve us from what must terminate in our death.

(Signed)	A. MURRAY.	THOMAS DARLING.
	JOHN ANDERSON.	JAMES DANIELS.
	F. BEALE.	JOSEPH.
	JAMES DARLING.	JOHN H. WEAVER.

To LIEUTENANT PINKNEY,
U. S. Schooner Flying-Fish.

On the receipt of this appeal, Lieutenant Pinkney addressed an order to the officers, a copy of which follows.

U. S. Schooner Flying-Fish,
Lat. 66° S., long. 143° E., Feb. 5th, 1840.

GENTLEMEN,—

You will furnish me with your opinion, and the reasons which induced that opinion, of the propriety of any longer endeavouring to accomplish that part of the accompanying order, which refers to penetrating to the south.

I am, respectfully, &c.,

R. F. PINKNEY,
Lieutenant-Commandant.

To ACTING MASTER GEORGE T. SINCLAIR.
PASSED MIDSHIPMAN WILLIAM MAY.
PASSED MIDSHIPMAN GEORGE W. HARRISON.