But with the same unsteady step,
Adown the wharf he strode,
That marked his sad departure from
His lady-love's abode.

And up the good ship's side he went, And tried the deck to gain; But Old Sir Alcohol was there;— His efforts all were vain!

With nervous hand he grasped the rail;
But ah! no strength had he!
His feeble fingers clutched the air;
He tumbled in the sea!

A noble comrade sprang amain
And caught his sinking head;
And but for that good temperate man
The barrister were dead!

The cold and bleak December wind Had swept the river dark, And formed a crust of sparkling ice Around the stately bark.

He fell with heavy crash, and struck
The surface shining bright;
A heavy groan escaped his lips;
He vanished out of sight!

With active hand, and powerful grasp His flaccid form they caught, And snatched him from a watery grave With motion quick as thought.