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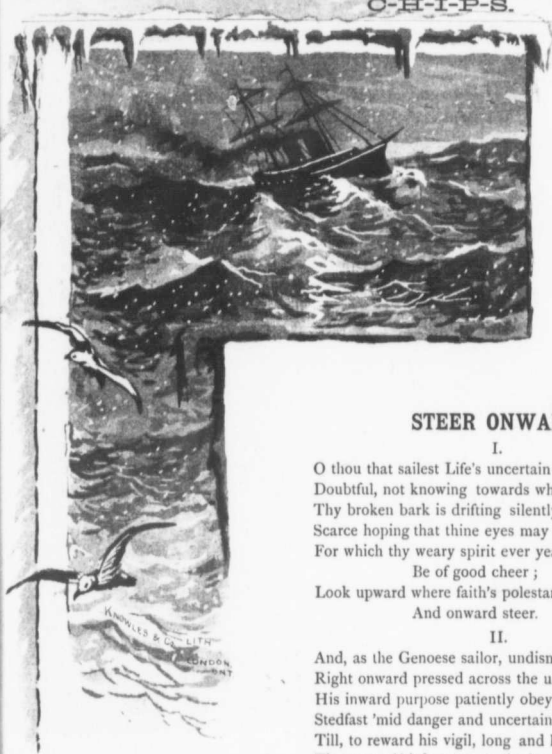
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STEER ONWARD.

I.

O thou that sailest Life's uncertain sea,
Doubtful, not knowing towards what unseen strand
Thy broken bark is drifting silently,
Scarce hoping that thine eyes may see that land
For which thy weary spirit ever yeameth,
Be of good cheer ;
Look upward where faith's polestar brightly burneth,
And onward steer.

II.

And, as the Genoese sailor, undismayed,
Right onward pressed across the unknown sea,
His inward purpose patiently obeyed ;
Stedfast 'mid danger and uncertainty,
Till, to reward his vigil, long and lone,
The song of birds came on the breezes borne ;
A blaze of fire across the dark waves shone,
And with the breaking of the longed-for morn,
Bathed in the splendor of its golden light,
The new world burst on his enraptured sight.

III.

So, when thine unseen goal is drawing near,
Perchance a light shall through thy darkness break,
Perchance the songs of angels thou shalt hear,
And when that last glad morning shall awake,
Thou shalt behold the blest eternal shore
Where thou may'st rest in peace for evermore.

P. A. GAHAN,

(An old pupil of the Institute.)