

EVER ONWARD.

I must go on, though obstacles arise
On ev'ry side, if I would gain the prize;
Not to move forward is to fall behind,
To linger with the halt, the lame, the blind,
Nor with the foremost reach the shining goal
Where rich rewards await the earnest soul—
I must go on!

I must go on! The path may be unseen,
Not always found in fields of living green,
Where flowers bloom and brooks forever flow;
Briars and thorns may make my progress slow,
No grateful shade subdue the burning heat,
Yet must I toil to have my task complete—
I must go on!

I must go on! Danger lurks in delay,
To pause is loss. I come no more this way
To right a wrong, to set all things in place
My footsteps in life's journey ne'er retrace;
Each hour has its own duty to direct,
To-morrow's zeal squares not to-day's neglect—
I must go on!

—John J. McLaurin.