SIR JOHN FRANKLIN'S ILL-FATED EXPEDITION.

LAMENT OF THE LAST MAN ON HIS WAY TO GREAT FISH RIVER. *

T.

They have fallen, one by one;
The last, but one, to-day—
God! am I left, alone,
To track this weary way;
Ily weary way to the River,
The haven where I would be?
But, alas! heart-struck I shiver—
I can never attain the sea!
I am touching his lifeless head,
A waif on this desolate shore;
I am kissing the last of the dead—
Shall I see man's face no more?

Cold, cold, cold:
But mine hour is not yet told!

II.

n mine ear the terrible rush,
The thund'ring rush of the floe;
Indthe shrick of herribs in the grinding crush,
And the good ship in her throe.
In mine heart, their mute despair,
And the groans of our wailing knell,
Is the death-call swoop'd thro' the pitiless air,
And the pale men droop'd and fell.
Where they fell, they lay;
Not a knee rose more to the light;
The recling and shrunken clay
Sank at once into icy night!

Cold, cold, cold:
And mine hour as yet untold!

III.

Mine eyelids burn; congeals
My brain within its cell;
And the scalding tear-drop steals
From an overflowing well;
For I dream of fond hearts at home,
I think of the brave that are gone;
As I gaze at this star-lit dome,
And staggor from stone to stone.
We were two but yesternight;
And, faint, to this welcome sod
I've crawl'd, till he's out of sight—
And there's no one near but God!

Cold, cold; cold:
And mine hour is nearly t

IV.

When they come, for come they will,
Nor search this coast in vain,
They will find us sleeping still,
On its lone unfriendly plain;
But none shall ever know,
Till the Great Day comes at last,
Our griefs in these realms of snow,
And the horrors of the Past!
For I sink on this fatal beach;

And my struggles will only reach

The River of Life, in Death!

Cold, cold, icy cold:

And mine own last hour is t

I have pray'd with my latest breath

Edenhall Vicarage, Sept. 26.

В.

* The writer assumed the last man had died, this is questioned by

CAPTAIN SIR EDWARD BELCHER, R.N. CAPTAIN COLLINSON, R.N. Dr. KING, M.D.

Captain Parker Snow. Captain Kennedy. Captain Bedford Pim, R.N.

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—Spectator.
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