

# THE UNDERTOW

## I

### *The VALEDICTORIAN*

“**A**ND now it is my privilege to award the highest academic honour of the year, the Gilchrist medal, to go to the best all round scholar of the graduating class. The struggle has been close and the examiners have had no little difficulty; but it has been fairly won by a student whose honours are already thick upon him. I must ask Mr. Stephen Wishart to come to the platform once more.”

The Chancellor's kindly eyes are turned toward the quarter of the hall from which the prizeman had more than once emerged, smiling as the familiar form starts slowly up the aisle. A storm of cheers sweeps through the Convocation Hall, before which the advancing scholar's head is bowed. Out of the silence that followed the ovation a solemn voice floated over the audience:

“They knew that in the coming time  
Great things would he achieve;  
They thought his name should sort of rhyme  
And so they called him Steve.”

The audience turned and looked up to the gallery,