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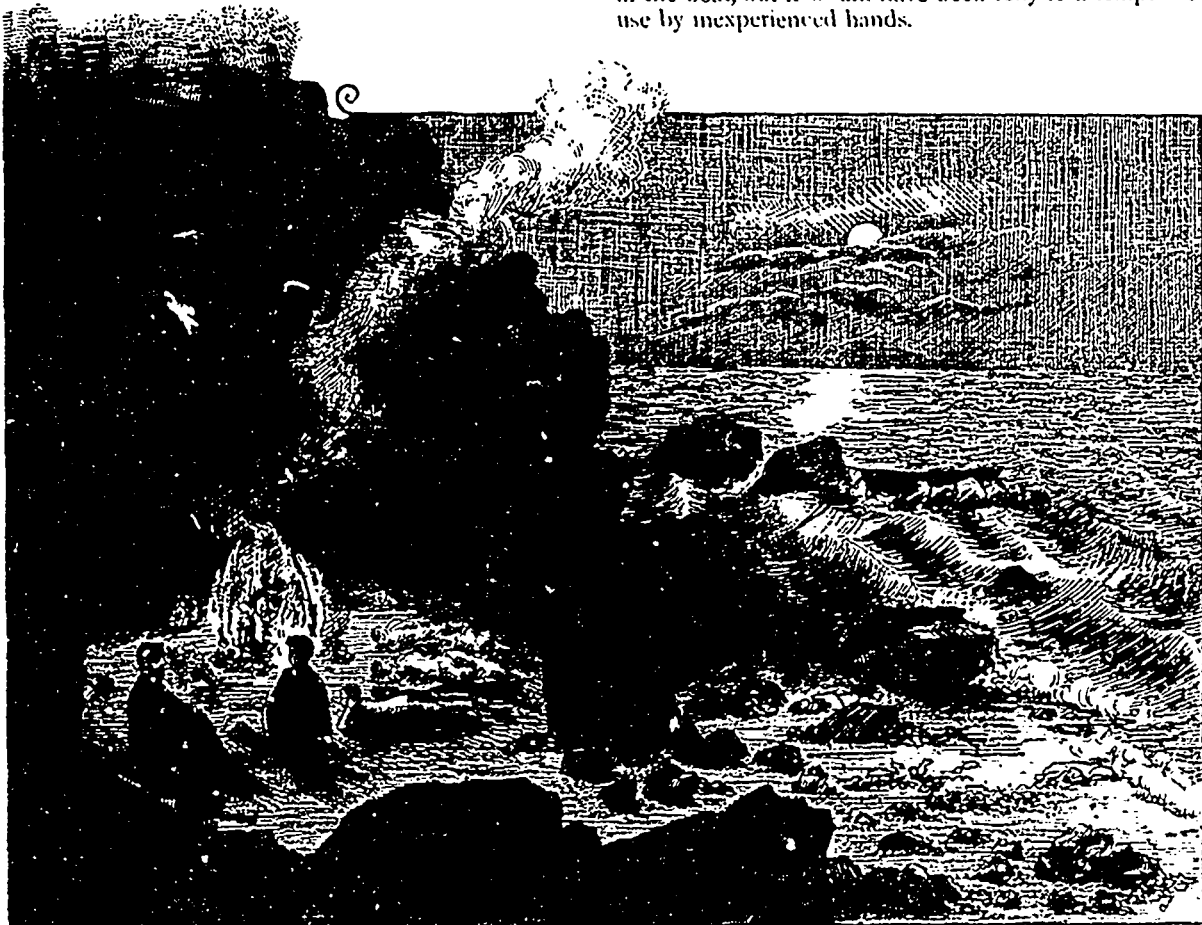
CHAPTER XVI.

AFTER THE WRECK.

THE life-boat, containing Professor Ballentine and his youthful charges, was lifted like a cockle-shell on the crest of the waves as it separated from the Neptune.

Amid that woeful scene the terrified lads could only blindly follow the order given, and though the salt water choked and drenched them, close their eyes and hope for the best.

Professor Ballentine was agonized at the horror of the situation, and his inability to aid them. There were oars in the boat, but it would have been folly to attempt their use by inexperienced hands.



BY THE CAMP FIRE.