

## CHOICE SELECTIONS.

Continued from page 1.

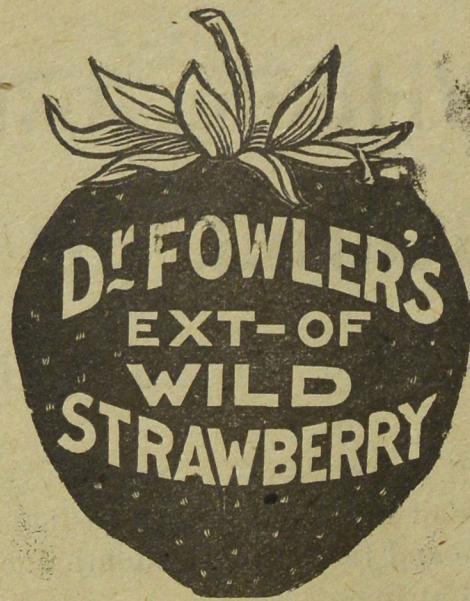
Above the smothered roar—  
 "Head her south east without delay,  
 Make for the nearest shore."  
 "No terror pales the helmsman's cheek  
 Or daunts his cloudless eye  
 As in a sailor's measured tones  
 His voice responds—"Aye aye!"  
 Three hundred souls, the steamer's  
 freight  
 Crowd forward wild with fear  
 While at the stern the dreadful flames  
 Above the deck appear.  
 John Maynard watched the nearing  
 flames  
 But still with steady hand  
 He grasped the wheel, and steadfastly  
 He steered the ship to land.  
 "John Maynard," with an anxious  
 voice  
 The captain cries once more,  
 "Stand by the wheel five minutes yet  
 And we will reach the shore."  
 Through flames and smoke that daunt-  
 less heart  
 Responded bravely still  
 Unawed, though face to face with  
 death—  
 "With God's good help I will."  
 The flames approach with giant strides,  
 They scorch his hands and brow—  
 One arm disabled seeks his side,  
 "Ah! he is conquered now."  
 But no!—His teeth are firmly set  
 He crushes down the pain;—  
 His knee upon the stanchion pressed  
 He guides the ship again.  
 Brave heart, thy task is o'er"  
 The pebbles grate beneath thy keel  
 The steamer touches shore.  
 Three hundred thankful voices raise  
 In praise to God that He  
 Hath saved them from the fearful fire  
 And from the engulfing sea.  
 But where is he, that helmsman bold?  
 The captain saw him reel—  
 His nerveless hands released their task,  
 He sank beside the wheel.  
 The waves received his lifeless corpse  
 Blackened with smoke and fire—  
 "God rest him!—Never hero had  
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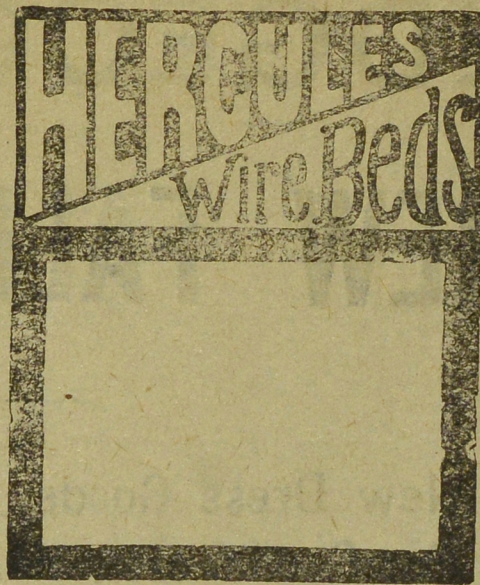


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