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From her Start from the Stocks,—to her Wreck on the Rocks.



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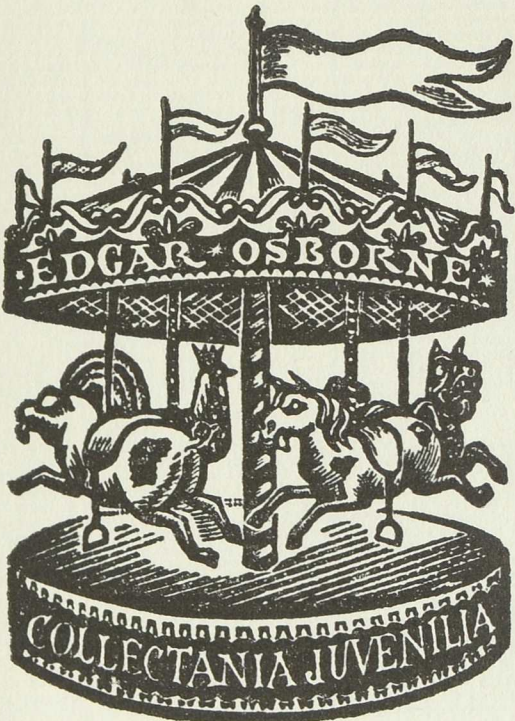


ON THE STOCKS.



WHEN I was a boy of twelve years old,
The "George" was built, and I was told
That she would rank A one:
With clink! and clang! and thud! and bang!
The men at work went on, and sang;
At last their work was done.

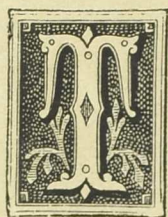
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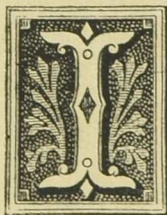
THE LAUNCH.



HE launch of the "George" I went to see ;
The day was as bright as a day could be,
The crew were blithe and gay:
Their shouts were loud, and in the crowd
I heard a man, whose looks were proud,
Say, " Who on land would stay !"



THE SEA-SIDE.



DWELT on the strand, and caught small fish,
And till that day I had no wish
To cross the great wide sea:
The mate's own boy was full of joy;
To me he said, "You like your hoy,—
A sea-boy's life for me!"



OFF SHE GOES!



WENT to the mate ; I said, " Sir, can
You take me on ?" said he, " My man,
We want a hand like you."
I left all those so dear to me—
Left some I was no more to see;
And soon the " George " left too.



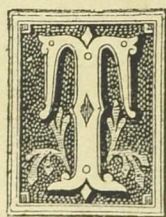
JACK REEFS SAILS.



NEAR boys, have you heard of those stiff gales
In which ships' crews must reef the sails
And keep the deck quite clear?
One night in sleep my eyes were fast;
I woke—I heard, "Boy! to the mast!
Reef sails! A storm is near!"



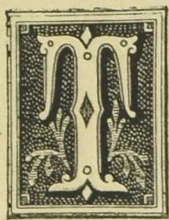
THE STORM.



HE crew of the "George" were all on deck :
"The ship," they said, "will be a wreck ;
This night we all may die :
But One there is who rules each wave ;
He from the deep our lives can save ;
To Him then let us cry."



THE RAFT.



HE men and the boys ran fore and aft;
To work they set, and made a raft,
In hope all hands to save.
“ Pray, try to save the mate’s young wife!”
The crew all cried ; “ Oh, save her life ;
She is both good and brave.”



THE WRECK.



ALL those on the raft were found next day;
A brig home bound had come that way :
The "George," with those on deck,
Was split on rocks, but no one died.

"Praise God!" said all; and then I cried
To see the "George" a wreck.

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