

**POEMS BY AN  
ABLE SEAMAN**

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Poems by an able seaman by W. V. Bernard

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**W. V. BERNARD**

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by an  
ABLE SEAMAN



*Wm. Va. Foster*

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1918

THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED TO  
THE GALLANT SAILORS  
WHO HAVE FALLEN IN THE WAR.

Weep not for those who paid the price  
" For England, Home and Beauty."  
They, with unselfish sacrifice,  
Died at the post of duty.

W. V. B.

*22nd October, 1917.*

In compiling this book I have made  
no attempt at classical work, but  
simple verse written on board one of  
H.M. Battleships whilst at war.

W. V. BERNARD.



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## THE GALLANT LADS IN BLUE

YE gallant tars of Britain,  
That plough the raging main,  
To fight our common enemy,  
And bring us peace again.

You are thinking of the dear ones,  
That you have left at home,  
While you are guarding old England,  
Far, far across the foam.

Shame on those arm-chair critics,  
Who tried your name to slight ;  
But you showed what you were made of  
In the Heligoland Bight.

And, even at Coronel,  
Where the gallant Craddock fell,  
Although you were outnumbered,  
You did your duty well.

But nought could ever daunt you,  
And things were soon set right,  
For Sturdee caught them napping  
In the Falkland Island fight.

The German ships came out again,  
On some foul errand bent,  
You met them off the Dogger bank,  
And back again they went.