

THE NAUTILUS AND THE AMMONITE.

The Nautilus and the Ammonite
Were launched in friendly strife;
Each sent to float, in its tiny boat,
On the wide wild sea of life!

For each could swim on the ocean's brim,
And when wearied its sail could furl;
And sink to sleep in the great sea deep,
In its palace all of pearl!

.

They swam 'mid isles, whose summer-smiles
Were dimmed by no alloy;
Whose groves were palm, whose air was balm,
And life—one only joy!

They sailed all day, through creek and bay,
And traversed the ocean deep;
And at night they sank on a coral bank,
In its fairy bowers to sleep!

And the monsters vast, of ages past,
They beheld in their ocean-caves;
They saw them ride in their power and pride,
And sink in their deep sea-graves.

.

And they came, at last, to a sea long past,
But as they reached its shore,
The Almighty's breath spoke out in death,
And the Ammonite lived no more?

So the Nautilus now, in its shelly prow,
As over the deep it strays;
Still seems to seek, in bay and creek,
Its companion of other days.