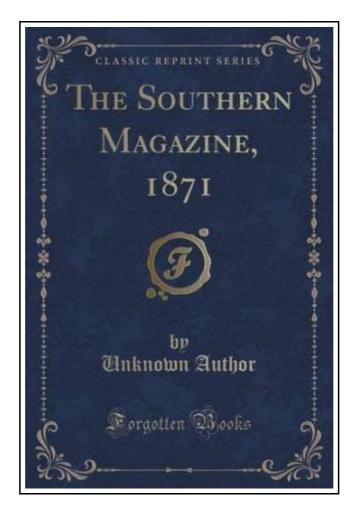
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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ****** Print on Demand ******. Excerpt from The Southern Magazine, 1871 A day or two after the start the saloon, the state-rooms, the decks are like the field of Balaklava; everywhere lie the sick, the dead and the wounded. To go upstairs is to meet a hundred mute eyes upturned in silent appeals for mercy and help - women s eyes that speak volumes of nocturnal woe, children s eyes that look hot and haggard with expectant changes in the condition of the stomach, men s eyes that have grown weak as gruel or as a cat that has just kittened. If there were strength for it, a serenade would arise as harmonious as an orchestra of Grimalkins invoking Venus on the housetop. But the marrow of men at sea is a sort of soup; the blood is water; the bones are sticks of soft sealing-wax; the brain is a bowl of porridge. Nerve-force is just strong enough to diffuse an infinite ache and indigestion through what seems like leagues and leagues of body. One s legs, in their capacity to spin out and be twisted, and overflow the berth and be bruised on the washstand, and catch among crinolines and trains, seem fully equal to the famous boots of faery. You never knew the length of your arms till you went to sea. At the table they are in the ribs of the elderly lady who sits next to you. On deck they are in a continual state of stretch, to try to catch hold of something or somebody, to hold on to no matter what, even your deadliest enemy. When you go to bed their portentous length shocks and terrifies...

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