JTC's Glory

Estelle Kendall wrote this poem and read it to her fellow crew members just before they hit the water for their firstever Head of the River Regatta.

It was the "Big Day," we were going to win.
We were in Mr Starter's hands and all our oars we were in.
We heard the word 'Ready'
We heard the word 'Row'
Then up for ten we had to go.

Our hearts were pumping and our faces were pale
This was our race and we were not going to fail.
"Cos JTC is one of a kind.
If Penrhos were there we did not mind.

Nell took us out hard and fast
We had finished the twenty at last,
But it was not time to slack off and have a rest.
Because we were out there to prove something.
To prove we were the best.

We all slammed our legs down as hard as we could.
Many a time hitting the wood.
But we didn't mind, we could handle the pain.
We were tough - that's why we train.

Lengthening out our stroke, keeping it strong.
We knew nothing would go wrong.
We'd win anyway, "Cos this was our race.
This was our day.

Lara called "Wind it girls. Let's row."
"You only have 400 metres to go!"
We knew this was the most important part,
We had to try our guts out or losing would break our heart.

You have to carry on even if you're going to die.
We could win it and if we did we'd be so happy we'd cry.
As I said we have everything to prove. Let's pick it up and make this boat move.

We have the power to beat every other team.
Let's make every one on the shore gleam.
We shall bring up the power for our last ten.
Let's do it right there and then.

In history we shall make our mark.
In front of Penrhos our bow ball we will park.
We will show them we have the power.
And make them want to forget that dreaded hour.

We glided through the spit posts and the crowd roared.
Suddenly all our energy is restored.
We knew this was something we could do.
We've done it, we've made our dreams come true.
I think in the newspapers this would make a good story.
The day of JTC's Glory!!

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