Three Times 'Round

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G7------Am--------------------------G
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It was midnight on the Lake; the end of watch drew near;
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-----------Am------------------------------------Dm
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The Cap-tain sent for his first mate but be-fore he could appear,
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----------------------------------------------------Am-------------------F
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Cries for help came from astern so he swung "Juniata" 'round,
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------C-------------------G--------------------Am-------------------F
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But in the darkness of the waves no human trace was found;
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------C-------------------G--------------------Am-------------------F-------G7
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But in the darkness of the waves no human trace was found.

Sadly, they resumed their course, for Duluth they was bound,
Once more they heard desperate cries, once more they swung around;
Alas, no sign of struggling men in that wildly tossing sea;
For a second time they ceased their search, when cries were heard a-lee; (REF)

They swung her round once more and a zig-zag course they ran;
"Dead ahead there's a capsized skiff!" "Bring her to!" came the command;
A man and a boy were clinging there and were swiftly brought on board;
They'd almost died from the wind and waves but soon they were restored; (REF)

John Ruskie and his son set out from Oskar, Michigan,
Salvaging lumber from the Lake when their skiff capsized in the wind;
They climbed onto her bottom and clung on through the night;
The wind blew them far from shore; would they see the morning light? (REF)

But their prayers were answered in the night when "Juniata" swung around,
Although they searched three times o'er before these two were found;
By early morn they'd made Duluth, or so the papers say,
And to Houghton Harbor they were returned on the following day. (REF)

Now Superior's a great inland sea, as you mariners know well,
The waves can run mountain high, in a blink from a gentle swell;
And no one knows why some survive, while some sink 'neath the waves,
But "three time 'round" done the trick, spared both from a watery grave. (REF)