THE LOOM OF LIFE.

All day, all night, I can hear the jar,
Of the loom of life and near and far
It thrills with its deep and muffled sound,
As the tireless wheels go always around.
Busily, ceaselessly goes the loom
In the light of day and the midnight's gloom.
The wheels are turning early and late,
And the woof is wound in the warp of fate.

Click, clack! there's a thread of love wove in!
Click, clack! and another of wrong and sin;
What a checkered thing will this life be,
When we see it unrolled in eternity!

Time, with a face like a mystery,
And hands as busy as hands can be,
Sits at the loom with its warp outspread,
To catch in its meshes each glancing thread.
When shall this wonderful web be done?
In a thousand years, perhaps, or one;
Or to-morrow. Who knoweth? Not you nor I,
But the wheels turn on, and the shuttles fly.

But each one is nearer the end, I know;
And some day the last thread shall be wove in,
God grant it be love instead of sin.
Are we spinners of woof for this life-web—say?
Do we furnish the weaver a thread each day?
It were better then, oh my friend, to spin
A beautiful thread, than a thread of sin.

Spirit Lake.

Exciting Scene at Camp Wiggins—A Sailboat with Six Persons Upset in a Storm—Gallant Rescue—Heroic Conduct of a Young Lady.

Mr. Charles Tatum returned yesterday from a visit to Spirit Lake, on the borders of Iowa and Minnesota. He spent a week at Camp Wiggins, and left the St. Louis sportsmen, Messrs. Wiggins, Neff, Snydam and Cheney, in fine spirits and enjoying the unsurpassed fishing and chicken shooting to the fullest extent. Spirit Lake is said to be one of the most romantic spots on the Continent, abounding in the finest of game fish, such as pike, pickerel, bass, etc. The prairies and fields in the vicinity are covered with prairie chickens, and the shooting affords excellent sport.

Mr. Tatum was an eye-witness to a thrilling scene on the lake, in which four ladies and two gentlemen were capsized far out from shore, during a furious storm, and gallantly rescued from the very jaws of death by Mr. O. Pilsbury, a farmer residing at the lake.

Capt. Spydam and Mr. Cheney were absent on a chicken hunt, and Messrs. Wiggins, Tatum, and Neff were resting in camp and smoking their cheroots on the lake shore. A Mr. Arnold, wife and two daughters (twenty and twelve years of age), and an invalid gentleman and his wife from Spencer—six in all—borrowed a sailboat at Camp Wiggins and took a sail on the lake, principally for the benefit of the sick gentleman's health. While they were quietly sailing over the clear and placid bosom of the lake, one of those storms, peculiar to the Northwest, arose, and before the sail could be furled a squall struck the boat a mile from shore, and in an instant turned her bottom up in water 125 feet deep. The occupants of the boat were of course thrown out, and the waves rolled over them like the billows of the angry main.

Mr. Pilsbury, the farmer who owns the ground on which Camp Wiggins is located, saw the boat capsize, and being a bold and vigorous oarsman, sprang into a small skiff belonging to the Wiggins Club, and rowed vigorously toward the wrecked sailboat. It seemed a desperate undertaking, as the waves were throwing their white caps high into the air, and the wind was blowing great guns. But he was entirely unnerved by both wind and wave, and pushed the little boat through the foaming billows to the sailboat.

There were six persons in the boat when Mr. Arnold, the invalid gentleman, first seized his wife by the hair of the head and placed her on the bottom upside down craft. The wife and boy were told her to hold to something and they would be safe. The elder daughter secured a hold of the boat, and seeing the lady unable to drown released her hold upon the boat and drew her to the surface. The sick man was also sinking for the second time, when he caught a support on the side of the boat, and was shortly afterwards safely arrived at the shore with the wife and two gentlemen who had clung to the sides with the exception of the sick man, who was found dead. The rescue was made by Pilsbury, who was entirely exhausted when he reached the shore. The young lady who had released her hold upon the boat was found by the side of the boat, and was brought to the shore by Pilsbury, who had to dive for her. The young lady was insensible when he reached her, and he had to carry her a long distance before she could be restored to consciousness. The young lady is a young lady of great beauty and accomplishments, and her friends are lavish in her praise for her heroic conduct in the hour of danger. The young lady is a young lady of great beauty and accomplishments, and her friends are lavish in her praise for her heroic conduct in the hour of danger. The young lady is a young lady of great beauty and accomplishments, and her friends are lavish in her praise for her heroic conduct in the hour of danger. The young lady is a young lady of great beauty and accomplishments, and her friends are lavish in her praise for her heroic conduct in the hour of danger.

Victor Hugo owns stock in the National Bank of Belgium to the amount of $415,000.

Dr. McAFEE.—A regular graduate of British and American Institutes. Twenty years a practicing physician. Treats all diseases of the Kidneys, Liver, Lungs, Heart, Throat, Head and Nervous system. Errors of Youth and Abuses of Manhood successfully treated and even after others have failed. $100 forfeit for any case of Seminal Weakness or private disease of any kind or character he undertakes and fails to cure. Lapses will find proper treatment for diseases peculiar to their sex. All letters containing stamps for reply promptly answered.
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that bold rower saw a nearer point, and made a straight line for it. On seeing this, Wiggins and his friends pressed into service a farmer's wagon standing near, and hastily throwing into it their bottles, demijohns, vials, etc., drove at full speed to meet the rescued sufferers at a point three miles from the camp. They arrived in time to assist the ladies and the sick man from the boat. Of course, the ladies were very wet and cold, and Wiggins had forgotten to bring his blankets to wrap them up in. He, however, gave them ample spiritual comfort, and then, stripping off his coat, vest, shirt, boots and stockings and asking Neff and Tatum to do the same, insisted on the ladies putting on those useful, if not ornamental, ornaments, telling them it was no time for modesty, and that he knew how it was himself. The ladies at length consented, and, stepping behind some underbrush threw off their pull-backs and things and arrayed themselves in the garments of the men. The St. Louis gentlemen intend to preserve their clothes as mementoes of the ladies and their adventure.

Mr. Pilsbury made a second trip to the wrecked boat, and took away Mr. Arnold and his brave little daughter, landing them safely on shore, where they were made as comfortable as possible by the St. Louis fishermen. After the rescued persons were somewhat rested, they were placed in the wagon and driven to the house of Mr. Arnold. The news of the rescue soon spread through the neighborhood, and the farmers for miles around went to the lake to see the parties, and congratulate them on their narrow escape. Mr. Wiggins and Mr. Neff were also honized by the Grangers for the important assistance they had rendered, and more than one bottle of Krug was drained in drinking the health of the little heroine of Spirit Lake, Miss Arnold.—*Cor. St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

Dead Letters.

A Pathetic and Ridiculous Array of Stray Mail Matter—Love Missives, Alligators, Locks of Hair and Snakes.

The paradise of fools, "to few unknown," is the mental comment as one sees the many evidences of people's carelessness, foolishness and stupidity which are displayed at the Dead-Letter Office Museum. Arranged in glass cases on the four sides of the room are all these waifs of travel, displayed with a view to their respective attractions, and suggestive of the treachery of postage-stamps and the adverse fate which sometimes overtakes even mail-bags. There is everything known to the useful and ornamental; everything not smaller than a thimble or larger than a stove-pipe hat.

Such a pathetic array of might-have-beens, so eloquent of disappointments and blighted hopes! Locks of hair—there are whole switches of them—and as for photographs, we are told that there are forty bushels of them in the basement of the building. But fancy yourself the recipient of a nice parcel from the hands of the postman some morning, which upon being opened discloses a live snake! Whether one would go into raptures or hysterics at such a treasure would be a matter of taste, I suppose. But, then, people do send snakes through the mail, and sometimes they come back to the Dead-Letter Office for want of a claimant, and we see them leading a supremely spiritual existence in a glass jar among other stray postal curiosities. It is a fact that a postmaster once found a small live alligator disporting among the letters and papers in a mail-bag.

There was also a bouquet of fresh flowers, which had slipped out of its box; and a couple of empty boxes, very similar in size and shape, and both addressed to ladies, left the poor man in doubt as to which the alligator belonged, and to which the flowers. Imagine the fair recipient of the flowers finding a monster in her box, instead of the delicate offering which she had expected! But the Postmaster made no blunder; he put the flowers into one box, the alligator into the other; notified the ladies of the slight confusion of property which had taken place, and directed each to exchange with the other if she should receive the wrong box. But he was gratified to learn, afterwards, that there had been no such mistake made. Jewelry is one of the most commonly intrusted articles; but it; batal packages.

Realize that there is a [illegible] 15,000 dead letters in the month. Allowing [illegible] there are 400,000 [illegible] who understand [illegible] without [illegible] with can[illegible] of all age, or any [illegible] of any [illegible] or [illegible] sailboat.

[illegible] six persons in [illegible] Mr. Arnold, [illegible] first seized his [illegible] hair of the [illegible] and placed [illegible] upsized craft. [illegible] wife and bore [illegible] told her to hold to [illegible] could. The elder [illegible] secured a hold of the [illegible] seeing the lady [illegible] to drown released [illegible] and drew her to [illegible] was sinking for the [illegible] sick man was also [illegible] a support on the [illegible] arrived at the [illegible] two gentlemen [illegible] the sides with [illegible] sub[illegible] death. [illegible] afterwards, that there had been [illegible] made. Jewelry is one of [illegible] most commonly intrusted [illegible] packages.

[illegible] that there is a [illegible] 15,000 dead [illegible]