#### AT MIDNIGHT.

red at midnight in the graveyard; di of damp grass was in my nostrils; my heart throb in the awful aftence.

as a headlong diver, plunging in the ocean, dimly glimmering through the green The swinging surges pulsating above him:

with bubbling wake of ghostly foam in fur

and a dull shine of sails swollen by tempests: Sees tidless eyed monsters leering past him, And wrecks and drowned men constantly sinking. While the muffled knell of the surf is tolling:

So as I heard the sad lapse of the mill stream.

Nown, down, quickly my spirit descended

To the residence of dead men and women.

an unearthly sepulchral twilight Pace grassy firmament was visible Plecked with white clouds of motionies

The craggy roots of the headstones protruded Secomfortably from the low ceilings of the Tertuous obscure damp cavern.

Suddenly from ten thousand eyeless sockets a mild but awful glare of light glowed bluely. Lighting the streets of that benevolent city. A bospitable city, whose gates were always

with low priced tenements for God's poor s obeap resort for desoiate age in winter.

The neighborhood was orderly and quiet, as from each coffin window a skull was grinning idle mockery at life's foolish satire.

More was a wonderful sameness in costume worn by rich ladies and their poor servants, and no bills presented to embarrassed hus-bands.

ade by side lay the spendthrift and the miser, The maid and her rejected lover.
The prodigal and his unrelenting father

sises there were of feet in sad procession, ad gleams of eyes with curious sadness, sering into the dark they soon or late must

My soul, moved by an irresistible impulse, Lake the thistledown before the east wind. Went through many anonymous avenues.

I heard a sound of deep perpetual thunder, Lake life's flood tide throbbing in monotoner pulses, Upon the shore that has no road or harbor.

Was it a reality, or was it a vision merely Leaw underground as my spirit descended into The land of the mole and the gopher? John James Ingalls in Minneapolis Journal.

#### ELEANOR IN LOVE.

She held in her hand the letter. Should se send it? That moment was one of se wistfully critical epochs of existence upon which may swing, as upon a hinge, the door of destiny.

Eleanor Armstrong stood in doubt. Why? It was a little thing, just a friendletter to Jack Renshaw out in Texas. What matter? Why should she hesitate? Seanor could not tell. Still she lin-gored, dimly prescient of that swinging door of destiny.

She had written his name across the envelope; should she complete the address and let it go? Hers was a quick, positive nature, given to the obedience of impulse. It was vexing to be so puzsed over so slight a thing.

An accident, if such, it was, decided e question. A caller was announced. She descended to the drawing room, and the letter went to the box, gathered up with the rest of her mail by the hand of

"It was destiny," said Eleanor to her-

self in an afterthought. After all nothing could come of it. She was under no obligation to Jack Renshaw, nor to any other man, in fact. Then she wondered idly if she ever should care for any of them—one more q's correctly, that was all. another-for Eleanor Armstrong. while no beauty, had grace and sparkle, and a subtle personal magnetism which

drew about her plenty of admirers. She favored them all by turns. Last summer it was Lew Hunter. She went beating with him up in lovely Chocorua, where they summered, played tennis and climbed country roads and hills.

"He was so strong and good natured, and made such a good alpen-stock," she coolly explained to her aunt, Miss Jane Mears, who was her careful chaperon.

This year, last past, it was Jack Renshaw, at the same place, Chocorua-"dear old dreamy town," Eleanor said,
"I could never tire of it." Jack did not dance, cared nothing for tennis, and had no experience with oars; but he read poetry beautifully, and could tell her charming old idyls as they walked by the river.

He interested her in a way that others did not: and yet he had such a dreadfully intense earnestness about him that he positively frightened her sometimes, she

Now the summer was gone, Jack was Texas, and Eleanor was in her city home with only Aunt Jane and memory. Yes, there was always Fred Kensel. He lived in a handsome house up in the uare, with a stylish mother and sisters. was the oldest friend of all, and was always at hand, sometimes more than Kleanor wished. For in the last year their frank, unrestrained good fellowship had in some way taken on a color too strong for ordinary friendship, and canor often found herself uncomfortable and ill at ease when Fred was near. She would declare the air was close-she must have the window open-and where was Aunt Jane? Or if they were on the street she complained of his pace: why did he lag so? Couldn't he walk up like any other man? Poor Fred unwittingly felt the smart of many thoras that

But about Jack Renshaw; Eleanor d nothing for him-she knew she didn't. He was a pleasant summer friend, nothing more. He had light bair; she wouldn't marry a blonde, any-way. Then he was too serious, too "preachy." She wasn't going to marry. a guideboard. Besides he was all of ten your older than she might as well be over the threshold up to her room, flung off her hat mendately sat down, and yething but a friend, was out of the anything but a friend, was out of the mind, and secretly to herself, she owned.

She remembered it now with a smile, ideboard. Besides he was all of ten that Mr. Jerome Arthur, the tenor at St.
Paul's, was nearer to her teste than the tenor. But Mr. Jerome Arthur was as to the inexplicabilities of girlhood she yet only a vague possibility. She had did not know.

met him casually a dozen times or so.

Thus she reasoned.
So the days went by, and the letter and Jack went almost out of mind. Occasionally a remark or tone of voice, or a marked passage in some favorite book they had read, would recall him. Then memory would stir, and she would idly wonder if he got her letter, and when and how he would write. But the speculation was one of indifference. It troubled her not. The issue was all too

Lew Hunter was around occasionally: she began to meet and sing duets with Jerome Arthur at the houses of friends, while Fred Kensel was in constant attendance for lectures, concerts and drives. Therefore, if Miss Eleanor's time did not fly, it at least did not drag: and she spent very few hours either in ennui or in serious reflection.

Miss Jane Mears was sometimes anxious for the future of her niece, and took occasion to remind her of the ultimate necessity of a choice and a judicious settle neut in life. Whereupon the spirited girl, with laughing audacity, averred that Aunt Jane herself was to be congratulated upon her own merciful preservation from such a climax! That good lady received the lively sallies of her niece with the good humored toleration of a mother cat under the attack of a frolicsome kitten.

"But, Eleanor, my dear," she would purr, "you know you cannot always go on in this way: you really must make a

"Make a choice—how shall I do it, auntie? Advertise for sealed proposals and award the contract to the highest bidder, or put the candidates in a bag and raffle for them?"

"Don't be absurd, child," responded Miss Jane: "you know what I mean, of course. I am afraid you will go through the entire pasture and then take up with a crooked stick."

"Well, I haven't seen any quite straight enough to suit me yet.' Well, well, my dear, I only talk to you for your own good. I have been afraid you misssed it when you didn't

take up with Josiah Hawkins.' " Josiah Hawkins'-and 'missed it, indeed!" retorted Eleanor. "What did l miss but an antiquated old pig with dyspepsia and squeaky shoes. I trust I

am not reduced to quite so low an ebb.' "No, no, child; don't fly in a passion so; it isn't ladylike. I am only afraid you will never do any better, that is all.' 'Do any better!' I should think I could hardly do worse than marry a

man for whom I hadn't a spark of love!" and the girl's eyes flashed.
"Well, there, there," soothed the serene maternal cat, "don't let's talk any more about it."

"No, but you mustn't begin it, and please don't scold me any more, dear,' succumbed Eleanor, with a kittenish embrace. And so the dialogue would end. And the autumn days went by.

November came on, and no letter from Jack. Eleanor began to think about it. Sometimes she watched, half unconsciously, for the postman, with a little sting of disappointment when he went by. Yet her intimacy with Mr. Jerome Arthur grew apace, and she was quite fascinated by his tender tones and dark. passionate eyes.

December-no letter. Eleanor's feeling of mere question of the cause passed into the stage of positive pique. Her pride was touched. Not even to write to her, to leave any letter of hers unanswered, when any other man would have written two. Well, if Jack Renshaw had a remote idea of her wearing the willow for him he had not read his p's and

sang more and sweeter duets with Jerome Arthur, smiled more graciously on Lew Hunter, and completely dazzled poor Fred Kensel with her affability. On the whole she was rather glad he did not write—so she soliloquized-for inasmuch as she cared nothing for Jack, and never could, a correspondence would be stupid and only lead

Of course he cared for her-that is, well, of course he did! Then, in proof of that fact her mind reverted to the night last summer when they parted at the gate of the old farmhouse where she stopped. They had taken their last walk by the river. They had then sought the top of the "ledges" to watch the sun set. Finally, in the twilight they had wandered back to say goodby at the gate. Jack was going tomorrow and she a week later. Their conversation was broken and intermittent as they came

down the grassy road. "Perhaps this may be our last walk forever," spoke his low, earnest voice. 'Should you care if it were, Eleanor?" "Oh, don't be so solemn," exclaimed

she. "Of course we shall have moredozens next summer.' He detained her gently by the arm. "But would you care if we never did.

I asked you?" "Jack Renshaw," facing him audaciously, "did you ever see an owl? You positively make me think of one some-

His face paled a little. His mouth had a firmer look as he walked in silence by her side to the gate. Hesitating a moment while she coquetted with her parasol and shifted some wild flowers uneasily from one hand into the other:

"Goodby, Eleanor," very gravely. "Goodby, Jack," vivaciously,
"Is that all—can you say nothing else?"
"Why, what should I say?" she laugh-

"Say that you care a little-for our ummer ended-if you do," taking her

"But what if I don't?" withdrawing

that member.

He looked at her challenging face a moment, seriously.

"Goodby," he said, and turned and

ahe had received a letter from Jack in Texas, purely friendly, but the closing paragraph of which was this, "May I expect an answer, and may I hope that you do regret, just a little, the ending of our summer idyl!" So Eleanor had written her reply warily eschewing the subject of "regret," however, and that was the letter to which she had received no re-

The winter days wore on. From indifference to curiosity, from curiosity to pique, and now from pique to anxiety and fitful depression her feeling had passed. From a careless dream of security in his regard she had awakened to doubt and uneasy question. Had he never cared himself for their summer idyl? Of course she didn't, she stoutly maintained to herself, but someway the growing conviction of his indifference

was extremely unwelcome to her. If the truth must be told, her anxiety wore on Miss Eleanor, and she even moped a little, dismally sometimes, at twilight in her room, and pretended she had a headache when Fred called. She dropped by degrees out of the duets and petulantly declared it bored her to sing. Her friends and Mr. Jerome Arthur implored, but she was obdurate. Neither passionate glances nor tender tones had power to move her more. Then she snubbed Lew Hunter and privately voted him stupid.

Miss Mears noticed capriciousness of appetite, and was anxiously solicitous. Did Eleanor sleep well nights? Had she a pain in her side? A dizzy head? Was her tongue coated? And wouldn't she have on a porous plaster or wouldn't she take some tonic bitters? To all of which her niece objected with laughing contempt.

"What do you think about going to Chocorua again this summer?" inquired Miss Mears of her niece one morning the following June. They were sitting at breakfast, and Eleanor was dallying with her coffee spoon.

"Oh, that stupid little town, no. Any place but there," was the quick response. "Why," said her aunt, in mild sur-prise, "I thought you liked it so much ast year. I am sure the farm house was cool, the vegetables fresh, and you know

lightful.' At mention of the river scenery Eleanor was conscious of a pang at her heart like pain; but she answered carelessly: "One tires of things sometimes. I should like a change."

you thought the river scenery was de-

That evening as she took down her long hair in her aunt's room, before retiring, she said suddenly, and with a little nervous flutter, "Yes, let's go to Chocorua, auntie; you know you like it, and the Kensels are going, and it's as good as any place, after all. Miss Jane Mears received the proposi-

tion without surprise, having had twenty years' experience with the fluctuating inclinations of her niece. So it was ar-

A month later found them settled. There were numerous gay young people, Fred Kensel, his sister and Jerome Arthur among the rest, and Eleanor walked and drove and sought out her old haunts by the river. But there was a lack, a haunting memory, and a wistful pain which her heart sought in vain to ignore.

One night a merry half dozen of them were playing tennis in the field near the farm house which was the temporary home of their choice, when a carriage passing, the driver raised his hat and

"Jack Renshaw!" exclaimed two or three, recognizing and running toward

Eleanor felt as if stunned, but, being d of too much tact and pride to allow herself to seem disconcerted, she approached with the others and offered her hand. He leaned from the carriage in greeting them all, and Eleanor felt, when he took her hand, that his eyes were seeking her own. But she could scarcely look up. Her old fearless confidence was gone, and she blushed half angrily at her disadvantage.

Jack Renshaw recognized, too, the difference, and a something intuitive directed his reply to the general importunity whether he would not be with them before the season was over. "Yes, certainly, I think I shall," was

his reply as he drew his reins and drove

He had told them that a telegram brought him from Texas a month ago to the bedside of his mother, who was critically ill, and whose only son he was. Her home was in an adjoining town. She was now convalescent, and he was to return south in September.

That night Eleanor pleaded weariness and retired early to her room. But she could not sleep. She did not try. Without a light, and in her flowing wrapper, she sat long, dreaming in the wide west window: dreaming of all things, of last summer and of the dull, gray future. But through every vision there moved one central figure. All else revolved about that. One face haunted her memory, one voice thrilled her heart.

She rose at last and nervously paced the floor. Way should she think of Jack Renshaw? Why could she not shut him out of mind? She—Eleanor Armstrong —who always had sailed on the crest of the wave, to find herself now chopping dismally in the trough. It was too exasperating.

Yet again and again the same vision haunted her memory, and ever and ever, against her will, the same questions forced an answer. Why could she not forget him? How well he looked! Why had she never noticed his fine express What ease and self possession were his! Why had she been so blind before? And so, and so she vexed herself as the night

so, and so she vexed herself as the night hours were away.

Within a week Jack was back at Chocorus, a guest at The Elms, the village inn. Eleanor as him constantly, was obliged to do so, since he was a general favorite, although not given to games.

His attitude toward her was perplexing. Politely indifferent, he neither abunned nor sought her. Eleanor was as always gay. But her gayety was fitful; now bordering on extravagance as when she dashed after a hay cart with Fred; now relapsing almost to sobriety,

rags with old Aunt Eunice.

One afternoon following the arrival of the daily stage she and the Kensel girls proposed walking up to the village post-office for letters. They were joined on the way by Fred, and at The Elms by re-enforcements, including Mr. Jerome, Arthur and Jack. At the postoffice de-livery Kitty Kensel volunteered to call for letters for the company.
"Mr. Jerome Arthur, one; Miss Grace

E. Morris, two-three! more than your share, Grace Morris; Miss Persis G. A. Pratt, two and a card; Miss Catharine Kensel—that's me—one; Miss Eleanor Armstrong, card and letter-oh, see! and a dead letter, too!"

"A 'dead letter?' Oh, let's see!" cried all the girls, huddling together.

Jack Renshaw stood at Eleanor's right. looking quietly on.

Behold her rosy cheek doth pale, And palsied grow her lily hands; She dare not rend the mystic veilran on the giddy girl who had delivered

Eleanor flushed and wrenched the envelope in laughing contempt.

"See if I dare not!" she exclaimed. The inclosed letter fell to the floor, with the addressed side conspicuously uppermost. Jack stooped and restored it to her, inevitably reading the superscription as he did so. Eleanor at that moment read it also.

"J. H. Renshaw"-nothing less, nothing more. In amazement and confusion she raised her eyes to his, which were eagerly regarding her The lightning of recognition flashed between them.

There it was, her own letter of a yes ago sent to the dead letter office on account of an unfinished address. She remembered it all. She had written his name, nothing more, that day when she was hesitating to send the letter. A caller had interrupted and made her forget. Then the maid had mailed it as it was. So Jack had never heard from her and she had never heard from Jack again.

Eleanor hastily thrust the letter in her pocket and hurried from the office, folowed by the chattering company, whose attention was already caught by another

Jack soon took his place by her side on the homeward way. Neither spoke until they came to where the old path led out from the main road and through the meadow along the river.

. The shadows were long and cool, and the golden sunset light swept down the depths of the quiet water like a reflected

"Eleanor," said Jack, pausing at the turn, "I think I see how it all was: I think I understand. Do I not?" Her heart beat thick and fast, would not trust herself to speak; she only looked away to the sky.

"Shall we walk by the river tonight?" he continued, "and would you care now, as I would, not a little, but with all my soul and for all my life, if we never had walked together again?"

Eleanor lifted her eyes to his with a look which answered his fondest hope, as they turned and went down the river "But really, Jack, you do make me think of an owl sometimes you look so

very solemn and wise!" she said, with a

again in the twilight down to the farmhouse gate.—Elmira Telegram. Woman and Her Foot Wear. "Please try the left shoe on," said the lady who sat next me in a shoe store.

"Why was that?" I asked the man who had served her, when she departed. would hardly believe how many ladies ways know it. It's 'try the right shoe on,' or the left, 'never mind the other.' Some of them say: 'I'm afraid I have a little break in my stocking. I didn't expect to get my shoes tried today.' And often the little break horrifies them, having grown to a big break during the day. Oh, yes; little breaks come sometimes and the lady herself does not know it till the shoe is removed. In those cases she usually says nothing, but just blushes. The hole is always a genuine case of accident when a woman takes it that way. Sometimes they gasp, so that we shall see how surprised they are; but then some women pretend that. We can usually tell the real thing. A successful shoe salesman needs peculiar gifts of tact and the genius of patience," this one continued

When a woman has a really large foot it's best to bring a shoe slightly too small, and then appear surprised that it does not fit. 'Some feet look smaller than a really smaller foot' is a good explanation of your error. Bring to the woman who has a genuinely tiny foot a shoe too big and then fit down to her. Nothing pleases her so much. A salesman influences the buyer tremendously I believe a woman would rather have her foot praised than be told she is clever. Always humor a woman with a big foot. 'You can wear a much smaller shoe than this, of course, but you want this for really comfortable wear.' That makes her want to hug you."—New York

#### Wooden Lace.

Lace making in America is still an infant industry, though the continent can claim the only lace tree yet discovered. It is the lazzette, or lace tree of Jamaica whose inner bark can be separated into layers of very pretty mesh. Queen Vic-toria has had a dress of it, presented by the people of that loyal colony. His Majesty Charles II had only a crayat. History does not record if he wore it.

It does tell, though, of a wooden lace cravat that must have been much more desirable. It was carved by the famous Grinling Gibbons in imitation of point lace, and was so flexible that it could be tied or folded without injury.

The Duke of Devonshire was its first owner. Gibbons gave it to him upon the completion of Chatsworth, the magnificent. In some manner it came into the hands of Horsce Walpole, who delighted to wear it when he had special guests of honor, at Strawberry Hill.—New York Herald.

# The Dalles Chronicle

is here and has come to stay. It hopes to win its way to public favor by energy, industry and merit; and to this end we ask that you give it a fair trial, and if satisfied with its course a generous support.

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