

When Thanksgiving comes this P. O. N. Hudson River Light House.

HEROINES ON GUARD.

THE STORY OF THE SACRIFICES "LOU" AND KATE CROWLEY THE KEEPERS, AND THEIR DAUGHTER ELLEN—A STORY OF THEIR BRAVERY AND COURAGE—RELATED FROM THE MOUTH OF THEIR OWN FATHER—A GOOD RECORD.

Life in the lighthouses on the Hudson River is as a general thing very dull, but it has remained for a New York reporter to bring the inmates of one of the "beacon lights" into some notoriety. In his report he says that Miss Kate C. Crowley is the mistress and keeper of the Huguenot lighthouse, and while there is no official report of her achievements, they have been heard of through other sources.

Major Burke, Chief Clerk at the Government Lighthouse Bureau, at Tompkinsville, L. I., says "there is no one connected with the lighthouses of the government, whose general characteristics, being, heavy and invariably so, but with natural modesty, would be so apt to include her name as Miss Crowley." Her accounts are always kept right, the light is always burning, and Miss Crowley is the very best kind of keeper.

An old boatman and fisherman says it is now twenty years since Miss Crowley was appointed lighthouse keeper. The old light stood on a piece of masonry which was built midway in the river upon a narrow gravel bar above the surface of the water at high tide. Fifteen years ago he moved his family into the building. His daughter Kate, a little girl then, from the first seemed to be amphibious, and she would go out in a little skiff from the lighthouse alone. Many times her little craft upset, but she swam like a duck. Her sister Ellen, during those years lived at her relatives in Saugerties, and did not join her till the new lighthouse was built, which was nine years ago. Then Kate was fifteen years of age and Ellen seventeen. In that year Ellen was leaving Saugerties in a boat with her mother, and she saw a boy swimming and struggling for aid. She endeavored to reach him, and her mother attempted to assist her, but the latter being a woman weighing over two hundred pounds upset the boat, and the girl was thrown into the water in such a way that she came under the boat, which was capsized. Her mother was speedily rescued, but the daughter could not release herself for several minutes, and when rescued was nearly unconscious, and her health was seriously affected for some time after.

Two years ago a steamer ran into a sharp rocky shoal of the lighthouse, cutting the latter in two and throwing all on board into the water. The steamer immediately launched their boat and put off to the assistance of the men in the water. Two of the sailors could swim, and in a few moments succeeded in reaching the bar, but two others were struggling for life. One of them had gone down twice, and was rescued as he was going down the third time. A fourth was hanging to a piece of wreck, when the girls hauled him into their boat.

The father of the girls became blind nine years ago, and their aged mother is with him and there in the lighthouse. The girls row daily to the neighboring village to get their provisions, and receive \$300 per annum remuneration. They have to find everything except oil and kerosene for keeping the lamp in order. They lead a solitary life, and the only time they see any one is when they visit the main land for provisions.

Three years ago a young man and a lady attempted to cross the ice to Tivoli, and were precipitated into the water. Kate Crowley had rigged her boat with runners and arrived at the scene of danger speedily, and rescued the young man, but his companion had disappeared. Kate saw a fragment of her dress floating on the water, and knew she was under a cable of ice, and it took but a moment for her to throw herself into the opening and pull the dying woman out, limp and apparently lifeless, and it took several minutes to restore her to consciousness.

1878 - Hudson River Light House - Heroines on Guard - article

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Tue, Nov 8, 2016