

DRIFTWOOD

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Driftwood by Addie L. Ballou

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ADDIE L. BALLOU

DRIFTWOOD



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To My Children, and—

To those who suffer long and wait,
Who climb, and fall, and rise again,
Who bow before imperious fate,
But bravely court her happier vein ;

To those whose lifted hands implore
Heaven's guidance o'er the rugged way ;
Who shrink when tempests round them roar,
But steadfast wait the rising day ;

To humble hearts along life's shore
Who garner what the sea upheaves,

I dedicate in broken lore,
With loving trust, these " Driftwood " leaves.

THE AUTHOR.

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VIOLETS.

(FOR EVANGELINE.)

THROUGH the long days of the chill wintry weather,
Coyly their purple lips whisper and wait.
Under their leaflets green, huddled together,
Violets bloom, though the spring cometh late.

Out from the south-land with sun-lighted tresses,
Cometh the trail of the fairy of spring ;
Over their beds, with her love-warm caresses,
Perfumes of violet rise to her wing.

Out of the chill of the heart's bleak December,
Like the bloom of the violet, tender and fair ;
Though severed by oceans, love still will remember,
And bless with devotion the friendship we share.

Nov. 23, 1894.

PUT OFF AT HONOLULU.

I'VE heard it said in Frisco rings—

It may be false (it may be true, though)—
That king Claus Spreckles rules the sea,
From Frisco down to Honolulu.

That steamers of the "O and O"

(Except one buy to Sydney through, tho')
Will sell no tickets on their line
To passengers for Honolulu.

With "All aboard!" and "All ashore!"

How shrilly then the whistle blew, too;
The Captain said we'd next sight land,
And stop an hour at Honolulu.

And so we sailed away, away!

In spite of all precautions due, though,
And much against his will; 'twas said
We'd land one soul at Honolulu.