

The River of Life

BY JOHN IMRIK, TORONTO, CANADA.

DRIFTING down the river of life—
Drifting, drifting, drifting;
A lonely bark—immortal soul—
Launch'd forth to seek life's final goal,
O'er sunken rocks or hidden shoal,
Drifting, drifting, drifting!

Drifting down the river of life—
Drifting, drifting, drifting;
High, rocky, frowning banks o'erhead,
'Neath, tangled branches, 'live and dead,
A tiny bark to ocean sped,
Drifting, drifting, drifting!

Drifting down the river of life—
Drifting, drifting, drifting;
Here, passing through some lovely scene,
Cool shade and sunshine intervene,
Now, o'er a cascade's glistening sheen,
Drifting, drifting, drifting!

Drifting down the river of life—
Drifting, drifting, drifting;
Ever moving—resting never—
Speeds the bark adown life's river,
Daring Death and danger ever,
Drifting, drifting, drifting!

Drifting down the river of life—
Drifting, drifting, drifting;
Hark the roll of distant thunder,
Lightnings rend the rocks asunder,
Oh! the look of awe-struck wonder,
Drifting, drifting, drifting!

Drifting down the river of life—
Drifting, drifting, drifting;
Cowering 'neath the chilly blast,
Many a dreadful cavern past,
Out—out into the light at last!
Drifting, drifting, drifting!

See! the Pilot looking for us—
Drifting, drifting, drifting!
Raise the signal to Him—"Prayer!"
Trust His wisdom, skill and care,
Gone the night of dark despair,
No more danger drifting!

Oh! the wrecks that strew the shore—
Drifting, shifting, drifting;
No fear had they on sea or land,
While others knelt, they dar'd to stand,
And spurn'd the Pilot's helping hand
Wreck'd and lost while drifting!

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