

steel snapped, it occurred to her that she might have stooped under the water and stuck the pin into the monster's evil eyes. Well, she had still the broken end—about two inches of it, and enough, she hoped, to make a serious disturbance in the interior of those malignant black orbs.

But just as she was about to put this idea into effect an inspiration came to her, and she vehemently tugged the boat round till she held it near the bow. She had remembered that very efficient weapon, the hand-saw, in the "cuddy" at the foot of the mast. She realized that against her present foe such a weapon might be even more effective than a knife.

With some difficulty she reached the saw. Then, with her lips set in a hard, thin line and her blue eyes flashing fiercely, she turned upon her writhing adversary. As she turned, she gasped, and with a violent wrench succeeded in twisting her foot about three inches away from where it had been held. That parrot beak had been just about to close upon it.

It had been Elsie's plan to attack first the tentacles which held her ; but now she changed her tactics. Stooping swiftly, she reached down at arm's length, and drew the tip of