

Miscellaneous.

THE GIRL WHO SAVED THE GENERAL.

BY CHARLES H. WOODMAN.

From St. Nicholas for July.

Far down the Carolina coast lies the lovely island of St. John, where stood, one hundred years ago, a noble brick-built mansion, with lofty portico and broad piazzas.

It was the home of Mr. Robert Gibbs and his beautiful young wife, and the great house was full at all seasons. Eight children had already come to this good couple, and seven little orphaned cousins were their playmates.

But in those troublous times it could not always remain peaceful. In the spring of 1773, the British took possession of all the sea-board. General Prevost marched up from Savannah and laid siege to Charleston.

After a time, the enemy determined to take possession of this beautiful place. A body of British and Hessians quietly captured the landing one midnight, and, creeping stealthily onward, filled the park and surrounded the house.

Then came trying days for the family. The officers took their quarters in the mansion, allowing the family to occupy the upper story.

John's Island was less than thirty miles from Charleston, and when the American officers in the city heard that 'Peaceful Retreat' had been captured by the British, they determined to rescue it from the enemy.

Two large galleys were immediately manned and equipped and sent to the plantation, with strict orders not to fire upon the mansion.

Sailing noiselessly up the Stono River, at dead of night, the vessels anchored abreast the plantation. Suddenly, out of the thick darkness burst a flame and roar, and the shot came crashing on the British campment.

The whole place was instantly in uproar. The officers in the house sprang from bed, and hastily dressed and armed. The family, rudely awakened, rushed to the windows.

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