

HAND TO HAND.

By REBECCA HADING DAVIS.

Later in the afternoon the major stood leaning against a pile of bales in front of the warehouse, idly tapping his chin with his pipe-bellows...

With look of "z-z-z-z-z-z" he could be made of the boy! He took the little cheery hands in his, and pulled him closer, trying with his bearded eyes to penetrate the future...

"I'll take the weight of your old father off you, Jack," he said at last, stooping to kiss the red little face "Good-by, my son."

John Proctor was his son. He remembered well now the last day when he had called the boy by that name. It was a dreary, rainy season in November...

He had spent the week going from one newspaper office to another, vaunting and reporting and dreaming hard, but with still cold consciousness all the time of standing by her grave, on which the rain pattered...

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