

TAKE MY HAND.

She slept within her little crib,
Beside her mother's bed.

AUNT MARTHA'S CLOCK.

"You know, my dear Herbert," said
my aunt Martha, "that in the precat-

ment—"It chimes only twice in the day
at twelve o'clock and at six. I could

"The clock has a history, Herbert,"
she said. "It belonged to our ancestor

"Yes," responded my dear old aunt,
"I have been thinking of that. Girls

"It would be a sort of olive-branch,"
I suggested instinctively.

"Exactly," agreed my aunt. "And I
should like to see the clock."

"It would be only right to leave it to
my cousin," I urged, with decision.

"Yes, I think it would be right," as-
serted aunt Martha, with an air of

"That, my dear boy," she exclaimed,
"is your grandfather's clock."

"The chime is out of order," said
aunt Martha. "The clockmaker says it

"It's a hideous discord now!" I re-
marked, with some emotion, for I was

"I am very fond of the old clock,"
said my aunt plaintively. "It is asso-

"I have felt the change," continued
my aunt—"at my age one feels every-

"Yes, you have nothing to reproach
yourself with on that score," I acquies-

"You may trust me, aunt Martha,"
I replied.

Susan Miles, my aunt's maid, met
me at the door of her room.

"Thank goodness you've come, Mr.
Herbert!" she exclaimed, whilst the

"I am glad you have come, Herbert,"
she murmured weakly. "It is over for

"I loved my head, whilst a queer
choking sensation in my throat pre-

"I have been thinking of that. Girls
have more reverence than young men,

"I don't see any necessity for your
hurrying back so quickly, Herbert,"

"I have had a case made for it," said
my aunt plaintively, as she slipped a

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"I have had a case made for it," said
my aunt plaintively, as she slipped a

ribble clamor from the interior of the
black case.

"The man in charge of the box dropped
it with a positive shriek of terror,

"I played my trump card boldly on the
inspiration of the moment, and my

"I do not know to this day what you
are carrying on a conveyance of

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which made my pulses throb in an ut-
terly unprecedented manner said softly:

"Mr. Overton!—My aunt!—I should
like to see the clock."

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replied.

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Some Cranky Matters.

"There are tricks in every calling it
seems," said the proprietor of a fash-

"What peculiar tricks are in your
business?" inquired a reporter.

"In the message operation much de-
ception is frequently practiced by the

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inspiration of the moment, and my

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Marrying Daughters Off.

In France the parents make the
match. If not so occasionally, yet no less

"The roller-skating craze has struck
the Sandwich Islands."

"The Zuni Indians have smoked cig-
arettes for 700 years."

"A street railway will soon be in op-
eration in Macon, Ga."

"Berlin has but one church to every
30,000 of its inhabitants."

"Quails in Montana are exempt from
the sportsman's gun for six years."

"A millionaire Chinaman is among
the residents of Rockford, Dakota."

"The Rothschilds never employ a man
who has the reputation for ill luck."

"The volume of Southern travel this
season is said to be unprecedented."

"Fifty-five per cent. of persons dying
in Paris are buried at public expense."

"A five-year-old child was choked to
death in Cincinnati recently on a pen-

"Missouri produced last year the largest
crop of corn ever gathered in that

"Forest fires have been quite numer-
ous in the vicinity of Wildwood, Fla.,

"Capital is being raised in London
for a new American cable via the Az-

"General Earle, killed in the Sudan,
is to have a memorial in Liverpool, his

"Cases of small-pox and scarlet fever
are reported from various points on the

"A rash and blind factory with \$50,-
000 capital has been established at Bir-

NEWS IN BRIEF.

Fifteen railroads were foreclosed
last year.

There are 11,000 hotels in the State
of New York.

Germany has no hod carriers. Bricks
are passed by hand.

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