

THE MINIS

The cold December down the wide-mouthed Fairchild's, shill-draft, stopped to listen had listened during all winters.

She was getting a li and some-times Keziah ly like the sighing of it was old Eoreas su pitiless out of the nor quaint little window house, and awaying th the back yard, until it against the icy eaves.

Mistress Fairchild ing' jug upon the an would scarcely cool of from the glow of the always burning there. lar about her sponge. Barstow was quite equ snowy leaves.

The tall clock in th glass and symbol serp that concealed a close Humphrey's, now stri rice stroke, which ec reproach at the lat-ne its mistress stir. St an air which seemed the tall mal ogany cas Old Time, as much yourself, old comrad.

She was a spare of the shoulders, with a and an almost saintly kled brow, where the hair lay. Her dress Quaker primness abe not belong to that sec as a dark serge like t the same, crossed at t handkerchief. There dangling at her side, ured shoes, were clas The only other sign tume display-d was a English lace that bord

The kitchen was v- ous ideas of our foref ous chimney that look interior. There wen and roomy corner, bo cupboard, filled with little blinking window were wreathed with t rann-r and musk rose held in sea-on their p marj-ram. But now them from out the gr ard, and the ground le der a spectral gleam-o

It stole into a cor- fa-hion high post bed hillock of down, cover counterpane of the da spotted valances, an reeved linen, still hol There was the lad's t tions padlock, standi and a wood-n stool, d tials "G F," cut, evi knife.

Old Keziah, a servi of such long standing t acquired a right in fee. mistress, had already little refrigerator of a tall-w candle that co person, and stopping t step, with a motion of

The dame felt a li when Keziah was su ancient mariner, that the practical rule of alert eye. The old n pet cushions she loved alone—foolish little her heart, they were, fresh unwithered fanc

She stepped softly a of the kitchen floor, w good pastors quiet, wh reached the twelfthly o The great oaken door the drifty shed, was b the same stout wood colient invention of ou hole for the lazy hous wood, and beside it da tached to a thong of l only bolt or bar the d house breakers and thi

Dame Fairchild's di this primitive device. portal, and glanced w apologetic look up to t the old clock, that said say: "Saturday nigh has not been barred th knows but my lost boy home on just such a ni

The fire upon the b

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