night," she said. "You are very good to me, David. Good-night." He would

have lingered, but she smiled again and

shut the door gently.
When Martha shut the door on

David she saw her father sitting ex-

pectantly before the fireplace with the checker-board. And Martha took off

her things and played checkers. Her

father beat two rubbers in succession.

He was in high good humor, and made no objection when at last she said she

guessed she would go to bed, she was a little tired. She went up the narrow

stairs slowly, and shut the door of her

own pretty chamber behind her.

ose it's only what it she makes it paused for a reh the expansivea sympathetic now-she seems , somehow—that ,-and traveling, fine—I can't ex-he shakes hands, that funny way er voice up, as if lestion—oh, you lartha!"

stiffly; she did She—she makes you were at a d it, Martha?" hands together now what you

that, even if I ou? I mean to I hope you will

Her voice came David, "it's the

stly depends on

n." easy enough for care!—a great, he world before

tone. said, squaring w can't do less or it. I never

uch things—till

ent. Amy Law-Rock since Septhe post-sums of the nerves. familiar embarour party yet,

u really want n?" she said. vid. l for a moment.

lack sea. Then will get to the will get every-. I guess if it

saffron moon

folks would get uldn't they?" ike one of my You are all I

ing—or motherd I've had or are-my own,

ced itself from

Then suddenly; go home." didn't you tell wrap the tightabout her, she Take hold, and said cheerfully. sagged against her uncertain-

loved! rthie," he said within his arm, you work too ought to have keep you standn me, dear" hard. "You

hard. said unsteadily. s tired before. morrow." d proestingly.

how it pushed it stung her before it had At her door "You go right rl—and rest." aintly as she strong, warm ery large and

tly Relieved pel any neuralgia r back, by taking "This remedy

ny headache will euralgia. Sold be g them, send 25c.

And then, standing among the small tokens and conveniences her own patient handiwork had wrought, the sensible New England girl, who had never done a dramatic thing in her life, suddenly threw up her arms and

dark as he looked into them. "Good | kitchen stove. Her father was already out; he came in as she was lifting the coffee pot to the back of the range, and drank a steaming cup without sitting.

"Awful wind," he said as he drank; "roof's gone off the barn; I've got to go right back up there, the creatures'll freeze to death if they ain't tended to. You won't be frightened stayin' alone, will you Marthie?"

"Oh no," Martha said smiling faintly, "I guess not, father."

She drank a little coffee herself after he had gone, but she could not eat.

The clash of the stones on the beach was tremendous, here. The sea rushed up with an appalling roar, broke with a deafening boom, and sucked sullenly out again with a mighty grinding of stones. So overwhelmingly near it sounded on this side that the girl ran to the window and rubbed it as clear as she might. The first glance brought



"Now then, Dave!"

clutched wildly at the air, like a tragic an exclamation to her lips. The huge

actor in a scene of despair.

That night she learned for the first time what the unbroken darkness is from end to end of a sleepless night. Staring into the shadows with hot eyes she asked herself, over and over again, why? why? He was hers, hers, not this stranger's? Who could know him as she did? She found herself sobbing helplessly, unrestrainedly, in the dark. After a time she because aware that the wind was rising. It was raining too. She realized that it was a wild

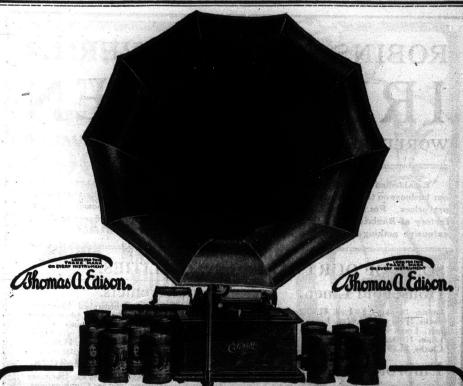
"A real northeaster," Martha said to herself indifferently. "Well, our house is solid." The fleeting thought crossed her mind that she would not care were

At seven o'clock the snow and sleet had ceased, but the wind rose steadily. Martha dressed, and made a fire in the | don't mind my staying, do you? I'd

dirty waves were rolling high over the crest of the beach on a level with the very top of the breakwater which bounded her own little front lawn.

The girl watched them with puckered brows, then she turned and looked at the little clock on the mantle. Just then a loud knock sounded at the back door, and as she hastened to answer, it was pushed open and the slender figure of a girl half fell into the warm

panted Amy Lawrence, "isn't this awful? Our house is shaking so we couldn't stay in it; the water's running right under it! Every one at our end has gone to the life-saving station. They say the houses are going! The Greens went to the Clarks, but I made them leave me here, your house looks so much stronger.



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