

tain he became but he could not get it out of his mind.

Two weeks later he rapped again on Mr. Walton's shack door. "I did a better job crossing the muskeg this time he said. I dropped the lariat over Sandy's head and kept out at the other end of it while I led him across. I find that I don't sink well when he has only his own weight to carry. He can't splash mud the length of the lariat and these high boots keep my feet dry."

"Yes," said the younger boy, "but you could ride him across without any trouble if you went at it right. There are all kinds of stuff growing in the muskeg; under some of it the ground is very soft; under other kinds of growth it is almost as firm as the prairie. You have to zig-zag about a bit but if you keep your horse walking on the right kind of growth you get along all right."

"Why, Dick," said his mother, "a little boy should not be telling a man what to do."

"He is all right, Mrs. Walton, I am a tenderfoot and anxious to learn. Dick, what do you say to piloting me across when I go back and showing me what sort of growth I should ride on? Once I saw it I would be all right afterward. Is Mr. Walton in?"

"The range steers broke the fence last night and he has gone to fix it. See where the fence runs over the hill yonder, he is just beyond the hill."

satisfied the curiosity of the family by exhibiting the twelve hundred dollars and passed the word around that no mention was to be made of the real estate deal in Nelson's presence. "He sold the property for fifteen hundred," he said, "and seems to feel uneasy about the three hundred profit which he made, at any rate he feels uneasy over something in the deal. We will do nothing to attract attention to it."

Supper was ready when Nelson came in. It was a good recommendation of the modified prairie grass which the government offers as rations for settlers doing government duties on the homestead lands: a soft rooster browned to a turn with saskatoons from the coulee instead of cranberries and jelly made from wild raspberries, vegetables galore from the garden, rolls with fresh butter from the spring house and genuine home made mince pie.

After supper they organized an impromptu quartette with Miss Walton, soprano; the older of the boys, tenor; the younger boy, whose voice had not begun to change, sang contralto; Nelson, bass while Mrs. Walton acted as accompanist. They sang college songs, love songs, old and new; scraps from operas that everyone knows and from the latest brought in by the stage driver. It was a merry evening and at its close when Nelson indicated that he was about to start for the ranch the family was unanimous in proffering the usual frontier hospitality.

General Booth.

(In Memoriam.)

Chas. W. McGee, Moose Jaw, Sask.

"Promoted to Glory!" We cannot bewail thee,
Though bitterest tears be our meat day and night;
"Promoted to Glory!" Where nothing can ail thee,
Earth's darkness exchanged for Heaven's pure light.

"Promoted to Glory!" From leading our legions,
Not parted for ever, but gone on before;
"Promoted!" Exalted to Paradise regions,
"Promoted" not perished. "Than conqueror more."

"Promoted to Glory!" Thy mantle desiring,
We plead that thy spirit upon us may fall;
Thy works, thy example our hearts re-inspiring,
Though dead, thou dost speak; and though silent dost call.

"Promoted to Glory!" Blest General, we'll follow!
By blood and by fire, our foes we'll defeat;
We'll "love one another," scorn earth-joys so hollow,
And march on until "in the Morning" we'll meet.

Nelson turned Sandy's head toward the fence and rode off to find Mr. Walton for he was certain of his attitude toward the real estate deal. As he could not determine whether Miss Walton thought that he was trying to play the munificent benefactor or that he was trying to drive a sharp bargain, he preferred to settle the matter with her father alone.

"You didn't leave all trouble behind in Toronto, I see," he said as he rode up. "No, farming and ranching cannot both be managed conveniently in the same locality. This country belongs to the ranchers now and we will have to put up with a few annoyances till it becomes a farming country. How is business in Toronto real estate?"

"Fine, I sold the property which I bought from you for fifteen hundred dollars. I have the papers making the transfer directly from you to the purchaser. Here is your money. We will have to go to the station and get the papers fixed up before a notary. It would have been a better deal for you if you had sold on commission."

"Don't talk about a better deal, this seems too good to be true. I must drive a few more staples and then we will go to the house."

As they approached the buildings Mr. Walton said: "Put up your horse and feed him while I put my tools away and I'll meet you at the shack."

Before Nelson arrived Mr. Walton had

All except Miss Walton who was busy looking for a song, a last song for the evening while the rest of the family urged that it was late and a long way to the ranch. The boys were especially anxious that he should remain till morning to look at a saddle horse on a neighboring ranch which they hoped to buy, but he said that he and Sandy both knew the trail and that he would probably be in yet before all of the cowboys on the ranch were in bed. After a last song he rode away in the crisp autumn night. Presently he was surprised to find himself singing, cowboy fashion, a rollicking western song. "I believe the West is getting hold of me, Sandy," he said.

Nelson's visits to the Walton homestead became so frequent that it made him the butt of endless jokes and off-hand witticisms from the cowboys. Finally autumn with frosty nights and days of mild sunshine turned the prairie from green to variations in russets and yellows, and the bushes and trees along the coulee banks flamed forth in crimson, purple and gold. It was time for Nelson to return to Toronto if he were going into the real estate business with his father, but he was not sure that the prairies and the free out door life did not suit him better. There lacked but one thing to make him certain. Did Marjorie Walton love him as he loved her. He must find out at once. He had tried several times to bring the matter to a test, but she had so skill-

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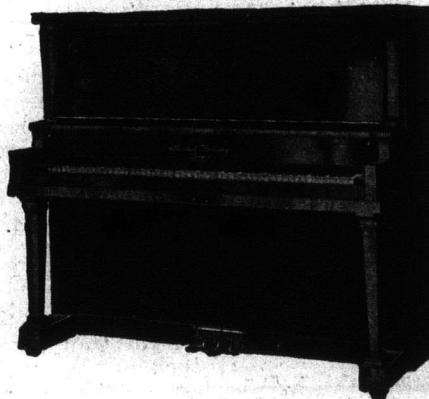
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