Winnipeg, July, 1914.

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The Western Home Monthly

In Lighter Vein

Wise Silence

He had studied by himself, and came up for examination to college with inadequate preparation. He approached an-cient history with fear and doubt, for he had had little time to stuff himself with the history of the Caesars.

The paper contained a question at which the young man looked with dismay.

'What can you say about Caligula?" He did not remember that Caligula was the worst of a long line of mad and bad

Roman emperors. But a witless inspiration came to him. of the sort that often saves the young and ignorant. He wrote:

"The less said about Caligula, the better."

He passed.

A Partly Good Egg

Hal had just sent his dish of cereal back to the kitchen. "It's not halfcooked!" he said disdainfully. "When I was a boy," began his father, "children were taught, in fact, made, to eat what was put on their plates."

"Would you have eaten raw oatmeal?" Hal. demanded

"I would," said his father, virtuously, "unless I'd been lucky enough to slip it to the dog or on my sister's plate.

"I am not so sure of it," retorted the

officer. "But I am Doctor Clifford, and I am due to preach in another minute and a

half." "Oh, are you?" said the incredulous policeman. "I have let in two Doctor Cliffords already."

An Unexpected Promotion

Benny's intellectual achievements were far from notable, but in the eyes of his small sister hewasnonetheless a wonderful personage. She keenly resented allusions to his lengthy stay in the last desk row at school, although Benny himself took quite a cheerful and philosophic view of the matter.

One afternoon the little girl appeared, flushed and panting, in the library door-

"Daddy," she exclaimed, "you promised Benny a dollar when he got moved off the bottom bench, and now he's up in the next row with me and—" Benny himself entered just then, in his usual unconcerned

"Why, what's this I hear, my son?" his father welcomed him. "I'm very glad you've worked your way up-" The boy stared uncomprehendingly. "Elsie says you're in the second row now," his father continued, in explanation.

nacle, which my eyes have been aching through all the weary years to see once more before I die. My longing has been satisfied at last, and I thank you from the bottom of a grateful heart!" Again lifting his hat, he stepped forth

into the pouring rain and strode rapidly down the street.

New Caste

Two men were discussing the social station of a lord who had married an Amer-

ican girl. "You say his social position has im-proved since he married her?" "Yes, indeed. Formerly he was only

a nobleman, but now he belongs to our heiresstocracy."

Harder Work, Higher Pay

Mrs. Blank was trying to decide upon a new cook. "You say you have not had much experience?" she ventured, as she looked doubtfully at the applicant. "No'm

"Well, I like your being truthful about it, but—it seems to me you're asking rather high wages for an inexperienced person.

"Well, ma'am," returned the applicant, "you see, it's just that much harder for me, not knowing how to do the work, and having it on my mind how I might be making you all ill any minute with a misstep.

Not a Favorite Breed

Lovers of good, plain dogs, which have been allowed to grow naturally, will ap-



criticize or otherwise assert

"Course!" returned the youngster, im- | preciate the story of the English pedlar who went to a dealer in dogs and thus described what he wanted: "Hi wants a kind of dog about so 'igh an' so long. Hit's a kind of gry'ound, an' yet it ain't a gry'ound, because 'is tyle is shorter nor any o' these 'ere gry'-ounds, an' 'is nose is shorter, an' 'e ain't so slim round the body. But still 'e's a kind o' gry'ound. Do you keep such dogs?" "No," replied the dog man. "We drowns 'em."



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"Yes, sir," said the young man, with equal gravity, "but up in our little town there's not so much difference between the Orthodox and the Methodists as there

"It made for heroism, if not for truthfulness," he continued, in a glow of pride and reminiscence.

"I remember being at Aunt Martha's at Thanksgiving-time. She was an excel-lent soul, but her fetish was economy in just the wrong things.

At breakfast one morning, while I was struggling with an egg, she said she was afraid it wasn't very good, but without offering a substitute. "'Oh, it's all right,' I said, manfully,

for mother's eyes were upon me. parts of it are very good'." 'Some

A Well-Supplied Pulpit

There are various morals to this story of Doctor Clifford, the eminent English clergyman. One is that it is wise for public speakers not to put off their appearance at the meetings they are to address till the last moment. A writer in Woman's Life tells the story.

Doctor Clifford was once conducting a series of services in Birmingham. Arriving a few minutes before the commencement, the doctor was refused admission by the policeman at the door. "I want to go m," said Doctor Clifford.

"Are you a seat-holder?" "No, I am not."

"Then you can't go in." "I think," remarked the famous pas-sive resister, "that there will be room for me in the pulpit.'

What Moved Him

The extravagant hats which the ladies have been wearing this year have little to recommend them, but they have at least proved a boon to the comic artists and the funny men of the newspapers. Here is a jeu d'esprit taken from the Chicago Tribune:

The rain, which had come suddenly and unexpectedly, was falling in torrents. Among the persons who had taken shelter under a friendly awning was a fashion-

ably dressed woman. "I beg your pardon, madam," said a plainly attired man considerably past middle age, stepping up to her and lifting his hat, but I want to offer you my sincere thanks."

"What do you mean, sir?" she said. "Thanks for what?"

"I never expected to see it again," he went on. "It has been nearly thirty years since—"

"Since what, sir? What are you talk-ing about?" "Pardon my emotion, madam, but I used to live in Salt Lake City and—"

"I have nothing to do with Salt Lake City, sir. I never was there in my life. "But I was. That was my home for

many years. And when I saw—" "When you saw what?"

"That hat of yours, madam. It brought back the old thrill. It's an exact reproduction of the great Mormon Taber-

Not Epicures

A city woman who had decided that she would keep some hens as profitable amusement during her long summers in the country asked the farmer of whom

she bought them what they could eat. The man looked at her in silent amaze

ment for a moment before he replied. "It would take me the rest o' my days to tell ye what they can eat," he said, at last, "but it won't take long to tell ye what they can't. You avoid feeding 'em with salt fish and cobblestones, and I guess you won't have any trouble."

For a Remote Future

Mr. Green looked with a calm but not unkindly gaze at the simple-minded young man from Vermont who aspired to be his son-in-law.

"What preparations have you made for the future?" he asked, gravely. "You know how my daughter has been brought up."

is in some places, and I'd be willing to go to the Orthodox Church if 'twould make any difference. I'm not what you'd call narrow, sir."

He Knew His Worth

A gentleman calling on a member of Parliament one day, while waiting in the reception-room, was attracted by the man-ner of the small attendant, and started a random conversation.

"And how much do you earn a week, me boy?" he inquired. "Ten pounds," said the youngster, with avidity.

Being shown into the member's private office just then, the visitor's surprise found vent in words.

"Mighty bright youth you have, to be getting ten pounds a week." he remarked.

"Why," said the member of Parliament, "he gets only twenty-two shillings."

"But he told me just now you were giving him ten pounds a week," persisted

the gentleman. "Nonsense!" said the member of Par-liament, and he touched the bell. "Billy," he said, "did you tell this gen-tleman I was paying you ten pounds a week?"

"No, sir."

"You didn't? Well, what did you say?" "I said I earned it," was the prompt and stout rejoinder.