is Conducive

Manners and

Tidiness in

the House

to Genial

By MEREDITH NICHOLSON.

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Merriam looked at her gravely. When it was not respectable to stay away ing to make the best of him and his for the public to find.

man: "don't begin running away." comfortable; but I must be going-

pronounced a barbarous liquor, unfit spectable, a man must pay pew rent in meditation during an interval of and own a lot in Beech Hill Cemetery; silence in the room. Presently the min-"Well?" he said finally, slowly sip- and Copeland's dicta were entitled to ister said: ping his own whisky.

"It was a great evening," said Mor-

call. I liked her particularly." she sleeps; and don't ask her how she Sunday school and gradually rising to cated, as she bowed her head and me that way. I can't work two people advancing years; but he continued a lifted; the words of his prayer were at once in the same family—and I'm most faithful member of the Central singularly well chosen as he expressed

"Oh, you are, are you? Bah! That very shadow of the pulpit. whisky has a green streak in it some-

ting forward in his chair.

have you know." Morris was trying hard not to laugh. The old gentleman glared at him fiercethen Leighton said, very quietly: "She is charming—more than that. from honest self-examination.

There is something very unusual about Merriam's face changed slowly. He

his bluster to draw Morris out. He itable garment of righteousness. Leighton went on: "I don't know that singing could be

thing strange about it-almost uncanry-in what seemed to lie back of it." "You noticed it—you felt it?"
Merriam rose and walked back and

forth before the fire, with his hands thrust deep into his trousers pockets. "A savage would feel it. It was as though-

The old man paused suddenly and glared at Morris. "Yes, it was like what?" he demand-

ed impatiently. "Like the cry of a soul in pain. No! you can't tell what it was: but it hurt. It was as though a child had suddenly gained the power to tell of a deep, heart-breaking grief in a great way." "Yes," Merriam said; and then he added very softly; "Yes, it was like

They sat together until late, talking of many things; but they did not re-fer again to Zelda Dameron. CHAPTER VII.

A Prayer For Divine Grace, Mariona had not, when the Twentieth Century dawned, quite broken tempting things present themselves. I with all its traditions. It was still find a certain rest in a mid-week hour considered bad form to display wealth of praise and meditation."

"Ah, very likely. I suppose he does not insist on the prayer-meetings for you."

"No, but I've volunteered! I'm to begin next Thursday night. I'm sure I ties than to be possessed of much also for sale by w. 1. Strong & Co. gin next Thursday night. I'm sure I ties than to be possessed of much money. There had been a time when

she spoke in this way, softly, with her from church—when only here and there lingering, caressing note at the end of some persons, usually called "queer," sentences, he did not know what to make of her. He was half disposed to believe she was chaffing him; for she was too clever to be deceived by her father—for very long, at least. Rodney Merriam was expecting daily that she other institution that depends on pub-

and Zelda's reply just now had sent a the community from force of habit and others were teachers in the Sunday wave of hot blood to his face. But she later comers because their neighbors school. was a Merriam, he remembered. She did, which is not to say that all were The pastor, the Rev. Arthur Martin, put her arms about his neck and not moved by religious impulses of the kissed him good night.

not moved by religious impulses of the was a young man, without perceptible phylactery of his calling. He wore a Morris went with them to the car- our neighbors as ourselves in the gray sackcoat and a blue four-in-hand riage. Mrs. Forrest had brought Zelda strictest sense of the commandment we lie, and was very good-looking. He and was taking her home. Merriam nevertheless like to appear well in read from the Bible and prayed. A waited for Morris in the library. "Sit down, lad," said the old gentleman; "don't begin running away."

"Very good. I want to leave you dren, equally splendid, going to Sunday sage of Scripture; then prayer was ofomfortable; but I must be going—" school, is well calculated to awaken "Going? No! I refuse to be left here in the Morgansons over the way a lone yet." worthy ambition to be equally virtu- and unpretentious and had the interest The Japanese boy brought whisky ous and splendid. Copeland, the lawyer of novelty for Zelda. and water, and the old man scolded who never practiced, had announced Morris for taking Scotch, which he the dictum that in Mariona, to be re- father would participate; he sat deep

Ezra Dameron was of the old order. He still attended all the services of "Um. How did you get on with my the Central Presbyterian Church, of and after a moment began to speak, his which he had been a member for forty head lifted, his eyes open and gazing "All right, I hope. She asked me to years. He had held nearly all the of-all. I liked her particularly." He had held nearly all the of-ister's head. Zelda's heart beat fast. "That's good. But for heaven's sake at one time or another, beginning in The experience was wholly new and don't call on Sunday afternoons, when his young manhood as secretary of the dismaying. She felt oppressed, suffolikes things. She has a lot of sense- be an elder, a position of dignity and do you understand? And if she takes honor in the communion, which he held ther's voice had struck strange upon a fancy to you, she'll do a lot for you." for twenty years. He had lately re- her ears as he made his petition. Leighton laughed. "Don't embarrass fused further election, on the plea of seemed in a way transformed and up-

the respectful attention of all men.

acter; and yet we may sometimes con- shadow of death. He prayed that they He set down his glass and put the demn him with an excess of zeal. It might be safely restored to health, or, tips of his fingers together, resting his is something gained when a bad man it God willed it, received into the elbows on the arms of the chair. Then with sudden energy re roared:
"I don't see why you don't like her."
"May Forward? Of course Like her."
"The realizes, no matter how ignobly, that he avenly kingdom. Help was invoked for the church and all other agencies of mercy; for the pastor in his labors, and the standard of the church and the standard of the church and the standard of the church and the standard of the "Mrs. Forrest? Of course, I like her. weakness of his position being that he and the Sunday school, the very foundation and hope of the church." I heard you. I'm not talking about he may go far toward doing so. Ezra Mrs. Forrest. Why weren't you decent Dameron had begun to deteriorate in light upon the parents of this congretate to my niece? I brought her here so his young manhood and his pettiness gation. We thank thee for the price-that you could get acquainted with her. and sordidness had grown steadily. less gift of our children. Guide us in I was fool enough to think you had Through many years he had submitted thy infinite wisdom that we may lead some sense-some social instinct, some the other cheek and worn a grieved them aright. Make us gentle, make us idea of good manners, but you acted and wounded air, as though the world merciful, make us patient, that in all ke a perfect damned clam."
"I am very sorry," said Morris, sitng forward in his chair. "I don't
had taken his daughter away from
the world in his chair. "I don't
had taken his daughter away from
the young men and women of this know what you expected, I did my poor him; and now that they had educated household of faith, we beg thy tenderher according to their own ideas, they est care, O, Merciful Father, "And it was damned poor, sir, I'd had flung her back upon him, with an through them thou wilt lead us to thy injunction to take good care of her lest heavenly kingdom at last." fierce penalties be visited upon him.

Ezra Dameron leaned upon his her. I knew that before she sang; and church-not in a spiritual so much as He assumed now an air of indifference as was a man of little imagination, but to walk down the long aisle to his pew during the playing of the voluntary, like that. I don't believe I ever heard and to hear the hymns and the more anybody sing before! There was some- ambitious efforts of the choir, and then to settle back for the sermon-these

"I usually go to prayer-meeting," Thursday evening shortly after her home-coming.

"Yes, father.

REASON Nº 50

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gone to church with him on Sunday as Forrest had married an Episcopalian. matter of course, and she debated now whether to offer to go to the Easter and Christmas to the ivy-clad, formed suddenly. "Your mother usually went with me," her father said.

"I don't remember. But I should like to go. I shall be ready whenever and the Roman Catholic Bishop

conflicting engagements. often has Don't feel bound to go when more

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He bowed his head a trifle, as was his way in saying something he wished to make impressive. "Yes; I should think that would be

" said Zelda. They walked together to the church, would throw him over and cease try- lic support-it must make itself easy most of them elderly persons. A few young people came, but Zelda did not ugly, forbidding home. His wrath rose | So, many people continued to go to know them. One was the president of every time he reviewed the situation church in Mariona—the old element of the Christian Endeavor Society; the

It had not occurred to her that her

"Mr. Dameron, please lead in pray-The old man rose slowly in his place, at a spot on the wall beyond the minclasped her hands in her lap. Her fa-Church, where his pew was under the thanks to God for many blessings. He asked the divine mercy for the sick and The hypocrite is not a lovable char- for all who walked in the valley of the

"Now we especially beg thy heavenly

His participation through He was a martyr, he told himself; and years in these services had given Ezra ly. There was a moment's silence, and his vision was marred by that form of Dameron an easy facility in speaking spiritual myopia which cuts man off of divine things. The phraseclogy of prayer came naturally to his lips; in public devotions a mood of exaltation fell on him; there was a kind of inher singing sets her apart from all the a social sense. It afforded him the toxication in this hour in which he only opportunity he cared for of appearing before his fellows clothed in sion of his faith. These weekly experiwas listening carefully. He had used his old broadcloth coat, that was a ver- ences touched his vanity; he knew that his prayers and his testimonies of personal experience were a feature of the Thursday night's meetings; a line of pastors had spoken to him of his beautiful gift in prayer.

Zelda heard her father's voice with a kind of awe. Prayer still held for simple experiences touched him, much her a mystery; she had been taught as a summer breeze plays upon the to pray by her mother, and she had leafy crest of a rough, old tree without carried through the years a feeling of communicating any motion to the trust and fait in a power not her own, but it was unrelated to sects or creeds. She had gone to countless churches said Ezra Dameron to Zelda, one while abroad-but chiefly in the tourist's spirit of adventure. The Merriams had been Presbyterians eriginally, but as a family they no longer She hesitated a moment. She had had any unity of religious faith, Mrs. and when in Mariona she went at prayer meeting. Her decision was stone Gothic church that stood in the shadow of the monument. Rodney Merriam attended no church. asked as to his religion he always said he was a Roman Catholic, and as he Mariona dined together now and then, "I shall be glad to have you go when there were people in town who really you like. Of couse, a young woman believed that Merriam was a Roman communicant.

After another hymn and a benediction the meeting closed. The minister shook hands with Zelda and expressed his pleasure at seeing her; a number of others spoke to her. Some of them looked at her curiously, seeing on their own ground a young woman who was much talked about, and whom they might not have an opportunity of services; but she labored patiently to services; but she labored patiently to worst one afternor she drove to a ter's wife, a bright-faced, young wo- tressing faults. Polly was a good cook introduced herself to Zelda. "It's a joy to see a new face at She could not read, so that the cook prayer-meeting," she said. "It seems books which Zelda bought were of no to be an institution for the tried and use to her. She shook her head over faithful. I admit that I never went un- "book cookin'," but Zeida, who dimly

remembered that her mother had spent til I was married." "I think I shall come often," Zelda much time in the kitchen, bought supply of aprons and gave herself pereplied passively. The pastor's wife was very pretty. sistently to culinary practice. Or, she She had just come to town from an- sat and dictated to Polly from one of other city, and her fall street-gown was

of a fresh and bridelike quality. "You are the one that sings?" said Mrs. Martin. "I'm just beginning to get acquainted here; but I've heard that about you."

"I'm one of a million amateurs -that's all," replied Zelda. She walked home with her father, who talked chiefly of the church and its work and the fine promise of the young minister. Zelda said little. father was inexplicable to her; but he had begun to fascinate her curicusly. She had always accepted the relationship of life as a matter of course. Decency, order, fidelity, were all essential to the ordinary trend of life. "Honor thy father and thy mother" was a commonplace; but tonight she challenged it as she walked home from grayer-meeting by the side of Ezra Dameron. And after she had gone to her room, she wondered about him and saw and heard him again petitioning If it had not been for her mother's testimony she could have believed in him.

CHAPTER VIII.

Olive Merriam. Zelda's days ran on now much like those of other girls in Mariona. Between Mrs. Forrest and Mrs. Carr, she was well launched socially, and her time was fully occupied. She overhauled the house and changed its furnishings radically — while her father blinked at the expeditures. Rodney Merriam, dropping in often to chaff

to beg a little attention, rejeited at the soul mixed the ingredients; and then, to avoid a railway track on which a free way in which she contracted bills. after the necessary interval of fear and line of freight cars blocked her path. The old mahogany from the garret hope, they opened the oven door and She came upon a public school buildfitted into the house charmingly. The peered in anxiously upon triumph or dingy walls were brightened with new disaster.

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The horse was duly purchased at and managed by Mrs. Carr. of putting down hardwood, and rugs their ledgers for the first time in years, marveled; but after they had seen Zelda, often with her aunt or uncle, making purchases, they were not anxious about the accounts contracted in

mare and a runabout greatly increased matters. The young woman stepped Zelda's range of activities. Her uncle between the antagonists without parkept a saddle horse and he taught her how to ride and drive. He also, under one had ever denied Zelda Dameron anything in her life; and she had burn reconstructed, to make a proper the gallery. Zelda heard the teacher's abiding place for a Kentucky horse of at least decent ancestry, and employed When her aunt complained that the a stable boy. Zelda became daily more conscious of

her, Zelda brought them to time by her father's penurious ways, that were telephone. She knew by experience always cropping out in the petty dethat her aunt's methods were ineffectails of the housekeeping. One evening when he thought himself unobserved, she saw him walking down the hung the same day, as any other front stairway, avoiding the carpet on | Zelda. time would be inconvenient; and no the treads with difficult care. Zelda The girl stepped to the curb and deone ever seemed to have the heart to did not at first know what he was doing; but she soon found this to be only was small and trim of figure and had one of his many whimsical economies. very blue eyes. instaling of the telephone in his house; He overhauled the pantry now and but every one else in Mariona, so Zelda then, making an inventory of the started forward. assured him, had one; and it would amount of flour, sugar and coffee in "You are Miss undoubtedly be of service to her in stock, and he still did a part of the many ways. Her real purpose was to marketing. Zelda had given the black place herself in communication with stable boy orders that Zan was to be her aunt and uncle, whose help she fed generously; and when she found ortwardly refused but secretly leaned that her father was giving contrary directions she said nothing, but connived with the boy in the purchase of

Zelda did not disturb the black womeeting in any other way. The minis- correct some of the veteran Polly's dis- remote quarter of town in pursuit of a laundress that had failed her. She concluded her errand and turned Zan in the haphazard fashion of her kind.

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out some knowledge of the wondrous life-giving virtues of Paine's Celery Compound a medicine that guarantees and points. Zeida gathered up the reins, and waited. "Do come! Zan isn't dangerous and points are with the compound of the country are with the country Compound, a medicine that guarantees release from the diseases common to

Celery Compound the fair and honest the certain reward of health, strength, riam called good night to them. vigor and happiness, or will you remain indifferent and careless, content dark grave claims you as its victim" It is almost needless to enumerate blessed results that flow from Paine's Celery Compound when used promptly in springtime, as you and your friends have a knowledge of them. Of this you may be assured; the seeds aches forever dispelled, and sweet, rest-ful sleep takes the place of insomnia.

Zelda about her neglect of himself and the recipe books while that amiable homeward, but lost her way in seeking ing, which presented a stubborn front to a line of shops and saloons on the opposite side of a narrow street. Two Lexington, on an excursion planned beys were engaged in combat on the They sidewalk at the school house entrance, named the little Hambletonian Xan- surrounded by a ring of noisy partithippe, which Zelda changed to Zan, sans. A young woman, a teacher, Zelda ing Ezra Dameron's name entered on at her uncle's suggestion. It was bet- took her to be, hurried towards the scene ter, he said, not to introduce any more of trouble from the school house door, of the remoter letters of the alphabet and at her approach the ring of specinto the family nomenclature; and as tators dispersed in disorder, leaving the they already had Z it would be unwise combatants alone, gamely sparring for

to add X. Moreover, it was fitting that an advantage before they, too, yielded Zee should own Zan! The possession of the pretty brown her horse to watch the conclusion of ley, catching the grimy fists of one of the boys in her hands, while the other voice raised in sharp reprimand as she dismissed the lad with a wave of her hand that implied an authority not to

be gainsaid. "Pardon me-" Zelda brought her horse to the curb-"but I've lost my Can you tell me-The young teacher paused. "Please don't come back-"began

scribed the easiest way across town. She "Thank you," said Zelda, and Zan

"You are Miss Dameron," the teacher said hesitatingly. "Yes," Zelda turned toward her in

surprise "it's been a long time since I saw you,-as many as a dozen years." The girl smiled and Zerda smiled, too. "I wish I could remember. I'm sorry, but won't you help me?"

"It was when you were a little girl -so was I, but I was older-and my mother took me to see your mother and we played, you and I, that is, in the yard, while our mothers talked You wore a red dress and I thought you were very grand." The blue eyes were looking into the dark ones. There was a moment

hesitation and scrutiny. Then Zelda put out her hand. "You are my cousin. Olive-is it-Merriam?-please don't tell me that isn't right!"

"Yes; that is just right." Zan, meanwhile, was pawing the dirty street impatiently. "I'm going to take you home, if you're ready to go, Cousin Olive. I'm badly lost and don't remember the way you told me to ge. It's so exciting meeting a long-lost cousin!" Olive Merriam debated for an instant, in which she surveyed her new-found cousin doubtfully. She had started home when the battle at the schoolhouse door gave her pause. There was no excuse for refusing. Zelda had "Do come! Zan isn't dangerous-

"Thank you. I'll have to come now to show that I'm not afraid." What will your decision be today. The boys tingered at a safe distance, poor sufferer? Will you give Paine's and as Zelda drove past them at the corner, several of them snatched off testing that others are giving it, with their caps and grinned, and Olive Mer-As Zelda followed the route indicated by her cousin, she was busy tryto pass your few days or weeks in misting to find a lost strand of family ery, agony and wretchedness until the history that proved elusive. She did not at all remember her mother's brother, Thomas Merriam. She had never heard her aunt or uncle speak of the relationship, and she surmised, now that she thought of it, that here must be another of those breaks in the family connection that had already revealed fortified, the blood is made red and pure, the nerves braced, digestion regulated headaches sideaches and back-

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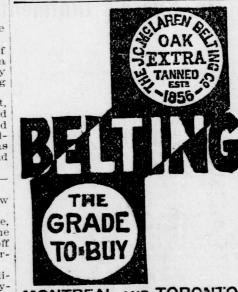
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FOR IT

papers; the old carpets were taken up,

the floors stained, to save the trouble

spend money with so little flourish but

with so fine an air in demanding ex-

actly what she wanted, received their

formed the habit of asking for things

shopkeepers wouldn't do anything for

tive. Zelda's way was to ask quite cas-

ually that the shades she had bought

Ezra Dameron's great shock was the

in a way that made denial impossible.

best attention without questi

Dameron's name.

disappoint her,

A girl who could