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(By Nina Welles Tibbot.)

ate in the ordinary with his nurse all unmolested.

rather vague and uncertain.

family belongings. They were never woman's and fondle it a bit. Mediterranean. Whether the good the father was keeping a lonely vigil. years In the face of such disparfamily will remain a mystery.

When The Boy was sixteen years days he had been an athlete. He his nightly plunge. The father groan- his lips to a glittering coil. What then might be supposed to be ing about of furniture followed by a showed her a roll of tissue paper. It was blossoming into manhood. His up.

Boy again for a long time. hours of the day with her. At such the room. times, if they were alone, she strok-

ed in watching his son. He was won- above her.

A Product of the Times tell her I will return by twelve." The very considerate of her-in that posi-father did not answer, he was absorb- tion he stood head and shoulders

dering if a more inconsequent-look- "The question which I am about to ing creature was ever gotten togeth- ask may seem worse than useless. I The boy was reared in a hotel. It er and put into men's clothes. His am undersized, I am insignificant in was a fashionable hotel, and the fam- little, round, pink face and shock of appearance, and sometimes I have the ily had fashionable apartments - blonde hair; his thin shoulders notion that I resemble a painted doll. corner, second floor, front. His fath-and flat body, finished by a pair of If you accept me, these are some luxer ate at unseasonable hours, to make the suburban trains. His mo-ther took her coffee in bed. The boy ate in the ordinary with his nurse and sucked oranges and sopped cream when The Boy reached out a little, doctor and a carriage. There are white hand and exclaimed, "Do not other and graver things. I have ne-The father did not know very much about The Boy. He had seen him Somewhere in the father's anatomy have never seen one that I wanted to only at Sunday dinner and while tra- was a sense of humor that the press marry, and I did not think it worth velling, and his opinion of him was of business bad not dissolved. He while to waste time and run chances still held his son's limp, little hand, on any other kind. I have never There was also a peculiarly vague and a smile crept into his features. sewn any 'wild oats' or had any and uncertain condition about the He had a mind to pretend it was a 'high times,' since I have never visited a place I could not take my moquite settled any place. But that all came about from the strenuous effort when The Boy returned. He tiptoed lete, and I never won honors at any to make the watering-places in sum- to his door and turned the key soft- game, but," his voice dropped a shade mer and take tropical trips in win- ly. He had been accustomed to mov- lower, "I was class president for ter, to say nothing of jaunting ing this way so as not to disturb his four years, and made a class-record through Europe, and cruising on the mother. She was sleeping now, and that had not been equaled in twenty

that was in The Boy was due to the The Boy was humming softly a rag- agement, can I hope that you will training of his flat-chested nurse, time tune and he kept it up while he accept me as your husband?" evolution, or the hegira flights of the got into his dressing gown. Thus com- The Girl was playing with the piano fortably garbed, he began folding and keys. She did not answer, but she putting away the various articles he raised her face, and The Boy kissed old the father took a good look at had worn during the evening and her. His face was soft and smooth him. It was jarring to say the least. would not put on the next day. A and he kissed her exactly as he would The father stood six feet in his socks moment later, the father heard the have kissed his mother. He toyed and weighed a half-stone short of water running in the bath-tub and with her hair, and, when she was not two-hundred pounds. In his college knew his son was making ready for looking he bent his head and touched

stroked his crew and had taken a do-zen firsts at the Interscholastic. He to The Boy that would cause him to He had never kept a secret from had made a sixty-yard touchdown and change his horribly perfect manner of her so long before, but he was only a won a game for his Alma Mater. He living? He could recall yet the things boy and he enjoyed hugging his new played the piano and twanged the gui- that happened when he had been out sensation to his heart. After he h tar, and above all, he was a Psi U. - the boisterous laughter, the knock- told her, he took out a green box and

the sensations of the man when he general mixup in the morning. Noth- was white and crisp and he held it looked upon the face of his son and ing was more evident to the father in his palm while he unfolded it, exrealized, for the first time, that he than that The Boy needed a shaking posing a circlet of diamonds great, blue stones with a larger and a bluer face was as round and pink as a The Boy had been in his father's one in the centre. "Her engagement

papier-mache doll. His hair was office a year when he chanced to meet ring," he explained exultantly. blonde, and he wore it disgustingly The Girl. She had cousins in the The months that followed were filllong and parted in the middle. His city and had come to visit them. She ed with hard work for The Boy. The forehead was seamless and pink. His was tall and willowy and moved with more he thought of it, the more he eyes were blue, with an innocent, al- a stateliness that was charming. The felt it was only fitting to do somemost infantile expression, while his cousins opened the season by making thing worth while before giving himwhole anatomy resembled a wrung-out a dinner for The Girl. They invited self, for time and eternity, to The rag. The father did not look at The The Boy, and to the surprise of ev- Girl. He told himself he could never ervone present he was given the seat have enough to offset his ungodly The mother detected more charms of honor. It was a big chair and it size. Day after day he sat at his in The Boy. It had always teen a was placed directly behind a bank of desk tracing endless lines and makconsoling trial to her that she had roses. The Boy flattened himself out ing numberless figures. Many times married a man engrossed in busi- to fit the chair and raised himself he forgot his luncheon, and often ness, but for all that, she meant to up to look above the roses, but all to when his father called him to go to Practical Science correct the fault in her son. As a no avail, he remained what he was in dinner he would get up in a prestarter, she had him spend certain the beginning-the smallest man in occupied manner and ask some mathematical question that would make The Girl sat beside him, she could the father scowl. The season vanish-

ed his hair or toyed with his hands. see above the roses and she told The ed and his work neared completion. If she had callers, she allowed him to Boy what was going on in the out- One evening he came home late, he make the afternoon tea and hand it side world. This occasioned much carried a roll of blue prints and there about. If the time hung very heavy, she permitted him to manicure her heing left quite to themselves. This between his eves. He joined his moshe permitted him to manicure her being left quite to themselves. This between his eyes. He joined his mofinger nails and crimp her false hair. was the beginning of the "shaking ther at table but declined to eat. The Boy did all of these things meek- up." The next day he asked for a Later he asked his father to take a



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ly and without complaint. One summer the father was surprised quite out of his senses when

told they would not start on their their usual time. "The Boy is to finvery modulated tone of voice. The father had an itching desire to enquire whether The Boy was to "finpink teas or a cooking school, ish" but he resisted, for he had long since learned that the feminine member of Boy. Like dutiful parents, they swel- of times. He ordered a carriage, workout the details." ly the propitious day when The Boy, beaming and innocent, strode into the house with his diploma. He also carried a letter which he handed his auread the letter he looked at The Boy. markings. This encouraged him to it was barely possible that she was For the first time in his life, the address his son, but when the reply beaming upon them. came in a squeaky, feminine voice, During the evening he sat very dence. The father was given a back

trouble him.

were done in Flemish oak with delf unite us with Asia. A tall problem quiver in his thin voice. ish book-case. They were names to be the happiest man in the world." ped to the next shelf, a chilling sen- man. One of the girls tittered. sation played on his nerves-i.a Gailienne, Bill Nye and Kipling.

celain; quaint bits of Thune pottery; beside her. ikons of enameled brass; carved cocoa- "They smiled to-night at what I crystal; Danish glug-bottles; and a sal voice, "and yet, it was not so pictures, mostly photographs in little -I am ridicuously small. No mat- before them. black frames-the course at Epsom; ter what I do, I suppose I shall althe vachts at Menlain; a cut of De ways give people insignificant, nothem were pictures of Clara Morris, bodies. If I had been given the grocery store and asked for a box Rita Elandi, Edna May and Juin choosing of mine, I would have taken of matches. Marlowe. The father turned away, one six feet tall and weighing two house

thinking of it when he reached home and was met by his son.

stroll. When out in the street, he raise in salary. That evening while The Boy was told him he was on his way to an reading to his mother, he stopped important meeting and desired his long enough to tell her he had met company.

summer outing until a month after The girl and that she was the peach- "The truth is, father," he explainiest thing he had ever seen. He con- ed in his squeaky little voice, "I be ish," the mother informed him in a gratulated himself on being a good lieve I have solved the transportajudge of girls, for he had made com- tion business, so far as it relates to panions of them since his pinafore surface lines, and I am to put the days. He did not wait for com- matter before a body of railroad ofments; the case had not progressed ficials to-night. I thought, perhaps, you might like to be there. It may sufficiently to be commented upon. One evening he called on The Girl. not be up to the point of perfection, pecially when it reflected upon The By the way, he had called a number but if the theory is right I will soon

tered in the hotel and waited patient- making his usual nice selection. He The meeting was held on an upper stopped at the florist's and looked the floor of a tall block. When they enflowers over, paying twelve dollars for tered the elevator, The Boy moved to a bouquet of American beauty roses, one side where he could watch the Then he entered his carriage and sat stroke of the elevator man. When gust parent. When the father had back complacently, his little pink face they stepped out he turned a pink, pinker for the exertion. The Girl innocent-looking face to his father, and was forced to admit that he had was very gracious, it seemed to The "There is a deal of power lost in that been graduated two years younger Boy that she beamed upon him; when machinery. Sometime I mean to than himself and had received higher he remembered the roses, he thought make an improvement on it.

father saw The Boy given the prece-

and when The Boy followed his re- straight on a divan, holding his small seat and his broad shoulders made a mark with a "By Jove" and slapped hands together or spreading them out his knees as though it were an egg on his knees as occasion demanded, the base of the base shell, the father restrained himself but he talked of Omar, Goethe, and the head of a mahogany table, facing Cervantes as though they were his a half-dozen broad-browed men. He When The Boy had "finished" there personal friends. A gentleman enter-remained nothing else for him to do ed, and the conversation turned to the his plans, elaborating on resistance but to go into business. His father thing most needed for our pushing ci- and lateral pressure. The father bebought a new desk and placed it in vilization. "Transportation," said the office opposite his own. After an experience of a month, he had to ad-blem this generation has to face. We really hit the mark and would the month of the factor of the set of the mit that The Boy got down to busi- must reach our destinations quickly men say it was a "go?" These and mit that The Boy got down to busi-ness better than he expected. He was and cheaply and we must not murder ther while The Boy sat as still as very painstaking, and details did not the going. The suez Canal, the proverbial mouse, his pink face the greatest piece of engineering in the greatest piece of engineering in the proverbial mouse, his pink face the proverbial mouse, his pink face the proverbial mouse and his infantile eves looking Simultaneously with the office desk the world, will pale before the Pana- raised, and his infantile eyes looking came the fitting up of The Boy's ma problem, and that in turn, will at one and another of his interlocuapartments. This he did by himself sink into insignificance before the tors, answering their questions and without the advice of any one They swinging bridges that will one day expounding their theories without a

blue decorations. He ordered a hun-dred books in dull levant and placed doing away with the surface lines. If hands with The Boy, and then, as an dred books in dull levant and placed doing away with the surface lines. If after thought they shock hands with When they rose, the men shook them shoulder to shoulder in a Flem- I could work it out, I think I should afterthought, they shook hands with The Boy left the plans; this was the conjure with, and the father tingled The combination seemed incongru- first intimation the father had that with pride. But when his eye drop- ous-the big subject and the little The Boy's ideas were to be carried

When the other guests left the par-The men were working on the "unlor, The Boy remained. He was still derground" when the wedding took In a corner stood a cabinet filled sitting on the divan, but he was place. It was a morning affair. The with the trophies he had gathered watching The Girl play snatchy little Boy preferred it at that time as he during his various journeys-little tunes on the piano. When she stopped considered he looked less thin and in-Madonnas in ivory, box-wood and por- he got up and came over and stood significant in a frock coat. On their way to the train, he had the driver take them out where the men were

nuts; Mexican drawn work; Bavarian said," The Boy began in his thin, na- throwing up dirt on the new road. When they were tired of Europe they smelling salts bottle of Spanish fili- much my words as myself, and I do returned to the hotel and took up gree work. The walls were hung with not know that I blame them so much hegira life as their fathers had done

Lesseps and the Suez Canal; the Ac- account impression. But what is a ropolis, and sandwiched in among fellow to do? We do not choose our

puzzled to know if the place most re- hundred pounds. But not having this asked the clerk. sembled a junk shop or a girl's play- opportunity the only thing that remains is to make the most of the wants 'em for ma's room.

The father closed his eyes and men- one I've got. If some ingenious creatally pronounced The Boy a "mufi." ture could elongate me, I'd give ten

Nearly all the infants are more or He had his own conceits as to what thousand dollars an inch, and pay it less subject to diarrhoea and such a creature of the masculine persua- uncomplainingly. But supposing such complaints while teething, and as this sion should be, and he was frank to a thing could be done, I haven't any period of their lives is the most oriconfess that The Boy did not come width to spare. I would simply be tical, mothers should not be without up to his standard. He was still an animated straw, a 'live stick' per- a bottle of Dr. J. D. Kellogg's Dysentery Cordial. This medicine is a spe-1 1ps

He had come nearer, and had taken cific for such complaints and is high-"A little dinner party," The Boy The Girl's hand. It was as large as ly spoken of by those who have used explained, "and mother is out. Will his own, so the action did not even it. The proprietors claim it will cure

you please give her my regrets for border on the sentimental. She re- any case of cholera or summer comtimere, Bd. c.S.A. going away without seeing her and mained sitting, and he thought it plaint. Presente present and place at the former of the sector of the sector place in the Toronto

MAMMA'S ROOM ONLY.