#### MY OWN ROOF-TREE "

heard the organ's noble strain The trumpet's rousing call. The trembling string, the mellow pipe, Sound through the varited hall. But oh! the tinkle of the brook, The throstle's melody, The music of a thousand leaves-

woodland song for me! saw a pageant marching by. With banners floating gay,
The horses pradeing in their pride Aclown the broad highway. But oh! green blade and grassy plume, The daisles on the .lea. The kingcups shining in the sun-The meadow's pomp for me!

I mingled in a highborn throng, Fa ir dames and gallants bold. Where wit and fame were oft at strife, And hearts were swayed by gold. But oh! that nook of sweet content Beneath my own roof-tree. Tis lit by steadfast eyes and true-My home, my home, for me!

#### BIDING HIS TIME ....

The patience of certain Indian traders is almost beyond belief. However, eyes as a virtue is seldom a simple and single-hearted affair, it is safe to conthe measure of these pedlers' patience.

transaction in which he had a part. He was camping in the mountain region, and merchants were continually coming to his tent in the hope Matt really loved, her, yet he spoke you, Logan." of disposing of their wares. They did almost roughly-"Mother, I've quit "I guess I know my men, and my below before you could say Jack not bought. "Only just look at this beautiful wor-rik, sahib," said orte.

"I am top busy," replied Mr. Mo-Oh, I don't mind. I'll wait. At the end of the day there was the

"I want to show sahib this beautiful "I don't want any ring," insisted

"sahib." Jas!" (Go).

"But, sahib, I sell this ring very "I-tell-you I-don't want-it!" "I wait, hazor, (highness). If only The next morning he was seated later he was in the same position. At nightfall he was still there. Mr. Mc-Compick could stand it no longer. "Show me the ring!" he called. "What

do you want for it?" "O hazor, it is a beautiful ring! made it myself!" "Here, you old scandal, this isn't stone; it's a piece of glass!" "O sahib, e-stone is good e-stone; gil-lass, no!"

"Well, what do you want for it, you swindle?" "Fifty dupoes." "Make tracks quick! I won't give you more than ten!"

The next day the merchant reapfive rupees. The day after he came tion to quit school, now that at last mountain work and picked their way asked her name, patted her pale the village store; handed across the

insisted. Mr. McCormick finally, in despera-

#### fairly bored his way to success. GEMS OF THOUGHT

solve. It would seem that it is not in those construction camps are so roughly squared. toil for Him feel ourselves masters of

work at your pattern. It will come the caboose of the contruction train a the snow and brush, when men with sitently walked over to one of the picout a rose by-and-by." Life is like week later. It was a contrast to his spiked poles had to come to the help tures on the wall, and ran another finpatiently, and the pattern will come bunks along the walls, clothes and out all right, like the embroidery .- | tools were hung up, or lay on the floor. Oliver Wendell Holmes.

No man loses anything by being true hot lids at one end of the car. may not be popular, but what does a man's world and not even to him- ger came back, that this citified-look- ening. until determination stood

Spirit; be diligent in good works, and men were unconcerned. "Most at the The man looked at him in surprised nurse went shopping. The patient premake others happier and better .- | camp," yawned one, and Matt real- disapproval, then went on along the scribed a cup of hot ginger tea for the

tongto of the wise useth knowledge still, on a rocky shelf, half way up a seventeen casy. An now the boss will The nurse came back with a cake of aright; but the mouth of fools pour- deep gorge. Seventy feet below a be acting up nasty to yer father, fer scouring soap, a tin of furniture polish

put at the beginning.-Pascal.

#### SEED GRAIN FOR ARGENTINE

Part of the cargo of the S. S. "Haleslus," of the Houston L. T. line, which sailed from New York on February 20th, for Buenos Aires, was 2,000 bushels of Canadian' Pedigreed Banner This is the largest order for eeed grain that has been exported from Canada. It is a shipment from the Canadian Seed Growers Association's plant-at Moose Jaw, Saskatche-

For the past two years the Canadian Seed Growers Association, which the results of the experiments made from the donations, and also of the activity on the part of the Canadian Brooks, Alberta, to Sweeden, and is load of seed oats to Australia:

WHAT PA SAID The Sunday School teacher had been For the next month there was very telling her pupils of a good habit of little shangs in Mat's life. He work-listen, son, when I was a boy on a saying grace at the table. Now, can be initially at stable cleaning, and range for the saying state of the stable. Now, can be initially at stable cleaning, and range for the saying state of the stable. Now, can be initially at stable cleaning, and pragric farm we had harder times than folks now know much about. We say the saked of the stable in the sta

#### The Free Press' Short Story

#### MATTHEW'S MISTAKE

BY E. A. TAYLOR

pected to find his mother. It was a very dainty room for a house in foothills of the Rockles. The painted some different work. floor had been varnished and waxed; the rugs matched the curtains at the windows and door; there were books and pictures, and furniture so carefully arranged that it looked far more murmur of their voices; then woke

was discontent, not admiration, in his!

ot to grow up an ignorant, low-class about me applying for the job." don't take to your books like your should get it, for you've worked "Well, anyllow, you must rest. It's tle, isn't it, doar," she said, "to achieve

Matt did not answer, but he looked the past eight years." than Matt; and the boy, who worship- chantment, where everyone was a milped his father, felt more and more but lionaire, or near it." of touch with his home. He was not A week later all the camp knew

to work among the men, he hoped. her voice as she talked to her husband his hand.

speak for a moment, and his mother The skidway was a long chute, fenced have a mind to."

the situation. It must be enough to Sadie," said Logan, quietly, and with were working, then hook his logging know that He is Master of it .- P. C. a sigh she was silent, while the de- chain round a huge timber, and take but let's look and see." She bent over lighted Matt asked a hundred ques- it to the chute. The distance was and drew her finger along the walnstions about his equipment and duties. | never yery far, but the going was of coting. Dust "Take your needle, my child, and Matt felt a man indeed as he sat in the roughest, the log often sticking in She silently showed it to her nurse. that. One stitch at a time taken very mother's dainty home. There were of the panting horses. Everything was rough, untidy, and standing by the men who started the rounds of chairs, the top of the fire-

that emount to? Conscience is, or self would be own to a tiny feeling of lag man, far younger than his father, stamped upon her face. ought to be dearer than human favor homestckness, sometimes, for the com should yet be put over him. fort and charm of his mother's home.

down into your heart. by a violent joit. He scrambled up he said. "How old are you?" Embalm your soul in Him now, make in some alarm, for the car was cerwithin you a temple for the Hely tainly jumping wildly; but the other stiffly. the temporary track laid right up to to Matt, "That's the new boss, an' for a minute, and retired to her con' but grievous words stir up anger. The working. Then the train was standing years on yer age? You could pass for dust-pan and three dusting-cloths. oth out foolishness.-Proverbs 15: 1-2. river all green, curling water, crested hirin' of kids for men's work." with white foam,—ran swiftly between Matt turned away from him, fur-two walls of rock. On the far side all lously angry again, as he watched the sitting-room. They swept, scoured growing. When Mait looked up, it camp. Then he got off the trall, such They whipped the furniture with Mr. The last thing that we discover in seemed to him that there were firs and as it was, and went sliding helplessly John Harper's .. walking-sticks until writing a book is to know what to firs, all dark and pointed, clinging to down toward the river!

to help in the stable. Yet when the water.

longed to be among them. hay, were against one wall. A primi- feeling rather larged and diszy, he at last the nurse each into the near sive areplace, made of clay, filled up crawled quickly down to the shore est chair and shilled weakly at the haif the opposite wall, and the log and tossed the rope to the man, who patient: burning in it looked very pleasant was now fighting desperately with the There were some rough seats and a current, which had gripped him.

me, Matt," he said, rather absently, Matt returned to his horses. being to make sure of stopping them to keep it."

of incomparable quality. The order at the bottom; as, if they once were Then he left, and at supper Logan and all his rooms as clean as a newreferred to from Argentine is one of plunged into the river rapids, they talked much more than usual. "He made pin. would be whirled away and be a dead was a boy in my gang seven years Trade Commissioner at Buspos Afred smiling, brought in supper—well-cook- I'm real glad he is to be the new boss.

The association is also sending and hash, good bread and strong ten, here, for he is a first-class fellow." ton of registered alfalfa seed from and ple. But all the dishes were made | But Matt burst out, "It's a shame to of granite, and Matt found he must put him over your head, father. You negotiating for the shipment of a train cat hash and pie off the same plate. know a heap more than he can of the Then his father was too much occu- practical side of the work-everybody finger on her lip. Tve just got her off pied with his papers to-talk; so it was says so. But I suppose he has some to sleep!"-By George Weston.

rather a disappointed boy who shed pull with the big fellows in Montreal, his outer garments and lay down in and so he gets the top jobes." the hay, with a blanket over him.

a was only fourteen, and he was too triffe deflantly, as he entered young to have a man's steadiness at the sitting-room, where he ex- work. But his pride kept him from showing any discontent with his job. and he was still determined not to go a rawly new settlement among the back to school; only he did long for

> One evening, after Matt had gone to his bunk, Lane, the foreman of the track layers, came in to talk to his father. Matt dozed, lulled by the

The room was so very, what Matt ing I've got it. Now that Brown has tooked at him.

the skilful trader everywhere. Mr. A. moved with an impatient roughness, engineering college," said Lane, an- her eyes: was a pretty, daintily dressed woman. me sick. What we want is a man like ing you after all these years-".

"Matt! What do you mean. Of out of both, but that's not saying I culty in the world he made his mother licer." course you will go on through high have the scientific training to hold lie down and rest. school. Your father can afford to send a bigger post." Logan spoke very "The doctor says-you must rest for eyes filled with tears. What would bard. you, and we certainly will not allow quietly, then added, "Keep it quiet a day or two," he declared. Aunt Caroline think? man. Though I can't think why you "Sure, but the men all think you know," she objected.

determined, if not sullen. His father With that Lane went out, but Matt a nurse come." worked in the railway construction dreamed happily that night, and all camps, usually taking contract for the next day built castles in the air. head. road-grading and log-hauling, and His father now made a comfortable working with his own gang of men income, but If he did get this other and big Percheron horses. Then, post he would earn twice as much! when he was off duty, he enjoyed the Matt's fancles grew; he saw his dhd sake!" rest in the pretty home his wife kept rising up to be a millionaire, and the up for him and the children. There whole family transported to Montreal, were two little girls, both younger a city that to Matt was a place of en-

a brilliant scholar, and he did not do that a new man had been appointed, as good as he could at school, be- and a few guessed that Logan had ap-

"So you think you're big enough for little while one of these would fall, other all their lives. trader went away smiling, having come up with me to British Columbia into a back-water partly fenced off by nurse laughed, at last. Matt was too delighted to be able to it was the end of Logan's skidway. you shall. You shall help me all you er.

"Let the boy choose for himself, teamsters to where the lumbermen

the chute, when he saw a stranger now grown ominous, she tried the overheated by the stove with its red- logs, with their handspikes and tack- screen, the empty bottom drawer of a Matt felt he was a man at last, in was the new manager, and all his an- the result to her nurse, her lips tight-

looked steep and barren; but on the new man picking his way along the and scrubbed; they dusted, rubbed and tide where the track was being laid, doubtful-looking foot path that wound polished—the patient in her glory and there were many ledges, with tall firs along the face of the cliff, toward the her nurse valiantly following the pace.

the rock right near up to the sky line. No one was concerned, as the mass struggle and came out of its hiding-However, he was most interested in of soft snow and slush 'ice by the place, Our deeds determine us as much as the camp, a village of log shacks and backwater would break his fall; and ' They cleaned the wainscoting and we determine our deeds.—George from huts wedged in wherever there they were rather amused at his distinction between the distinction of years of dust gave the help get the horses out—he knew and his feet and shake himself, then sud-patient a special pleasure. They helphe loved every one of the big fellows, dealy the ice under the slush gave ed the janitor put down the carpet,

> horses were all made comfortable, and Probably he would soon be able to and started him to the roof with it. he stepped out for another look round, climb out on an ice cake, or the logs, the patient's aid being of such a vigorthe noise of the men at work rose But he was new to the river, and at ous character that the janitor had to above the roar of the river, and he any moment its changing undercur- trot to save himself from falling on rents might catch his feet, and sweep his face. They moved the furniture A loud horn, sounded from the him into the rapids. Matt did not back into the sitting-room, the patient largest shack, and the clash of tools hesitate. Snatching up a rope, he carrying the heavy pieces and the stopped, as the men trooped up for stepped on the long slide, and sitting nurse, taking care of the light ones, supper, the day's work over. Matt down there, let himself go. The swift- They hung the pictures back on the heard his father call him, and went ness, of his journey took his breath wall, gave the room, a long, satisfied into a small hut. It's floor was earth, away, but he managed to throw him- look, shut the door, started on the next and uneven. Four bunks, piled with self aside before the final plunge; and room, and all with such ardor that

order to sell this grain abroad it has his mind evidently filled with the plans That evening as he went to supper,

was to cut and square the heavy logs friendly talk with the new manager. . "And you didn't got any rest!" chidrequired by the track layers. The Logan introduced the boy to him, ed the patient. "Ah, that will never lamber would be out up on the heights, and he said smilingly, Well, young and there would not be much hauling, man, I guess you have earnt your So when John came home early from as he could build a skidway to sling right to hold a man's job in this con- his office early, and gently opened the logs down the greatest trouble struction camp-as long as you want the door, he found his mother proudly ago, Matt-just a shovel man, working "You up?" Then a Chinese, very clean and to put himself through McGill. And

my way up to this. Buil guess I'm as high now as I can get. I applied for this job, and I got the nicest letter who have been trained in the technical help it? knowledge-which I have not and cannot get, at my age-by the best engineers in the world." And Matt answered slowly, "I see.

you say so, I'll go back-to school." THE PATIENT

with a benignant eye that took in everything, and finally rested upon "And so," she said, "these are your bachelor quarters, Johnny?"

his mother called him Johnny because more allent, and the children harder traveller to come along and stub his he had never seemed anything else to manage. right up, for Lane was speaking, of the maternal perception Johnny ing that Joe's Aunt Caroline was go-"Mother, is sure smart at fixing as if Logan—the listening boy's father was forty years of age, portly in his ing west for a visit, and she would everything up pretty," Matthew told —might be made the head of that sec- bearing, dignified to a degree, and stop two days with them on the way almost above the mounted tourist. known to his contemporaries as Mr. Nettie scolded, but there was nothing "I've applied for the job," said Lo- John Harper, and a man not to be to do but do accept the situation, for for you while I digested my dinner. gan, with a laugh, "but that's not say- lightly regarded, no matter how you Aunt Caroline was rich, and perhaps After getting up at four, milking a

It thus becomes only a passive form big and strong as most lads of sixteen, have another man in their minds."

While she was unpacking her trunk the first night, and the children were here a few minutes till somebody like "Some slick fellow just out of an she shut the lid, sat, on it, and closed looking their best. The children were you come along an asked me them D. McCormick, in "An Artist in the as if the house initated him, and he grily, "without a scrap of practical "I-I think it was the motion of the that was why it happened. In a break overy day. Glad you didn't-Oh, so knowledge of the work there is., Yet train," she murmured. "You know I in the talk their voices rose eagerly. long, stranger, so long!" he'll walk round as. if he knew every- am not used to travelling, Johnny, and Then Mrs. Logan came in. She thing. This university business makes what with that and excitement of sec-

Yes, but doctors don't always

around here among the mountains, for better to be on the safe side. And a 'company voice' every day? I know to-morrow, while I'm away, I'll have all about it." "A what?" she cried, raising her

"A nurse," said John. "A nurse?" she cried, sitting up.

ity, and when the nurse knocked on curls from her forehead. the door the next morning, after her let her in.

cause of his growing determination to plied for the post, and had been re- smiling more than ever, "that's it! get out to work-if possible on a rail- fused. No one could have guessed Where is she? You come right in my way construction gang. His bigness, anything from Legan's manner. He dear, and take off your things, and if which made him ashamed to sit was quite his usual self, but young you'll forgive an old woman for say. "baking day" may not be apparent to and bring the balance next day. He among boys smaller than himself, Matt was so miserable, and so furious ing so; you need a nurse your own city dwellers, but there are places was told that he could do so. though they were no younger, at the at the managers at Montreal, that he self more than ever I do. You take where it exists. A contributor to school, would help him to get a place did not feel delighted even at being your things off and draw up to the Harper's Magazine tells how the little prietor reprimanded the clerk for alallowed to go up to the timbercutting, are and I'll make you a cup of tea. girl revealed it to the country store- lowing the man to take the boots, say-Wisely, Mrs. Logan said no more with one of the teams, that morning, Young ladies shouldn't look so pale- keeper. then, but Matt heard the murmur of in the place of a man who had hurt and they didn't, either, when I was From one of the smaller cottages "Yes I shall," replied the youth. "

in another room. Matt felt she was . However, Matt forgot his temper | She bustled to the little kitchen and footed child in a colorless callco dress foot, so he's bound to come back." talking about him, and resolved that when he climbed up steep trail with put the kettle on, bustled back again and slat sunbonet. With the importnothing should shake his determina- the big horses who were used to the and helped the nurse take off her coat, ant air of a heavy buyer she entered carefully. There had been a cold-spell, cheek, called her Jenny, and before the counter a blue teacup. The proprietor. When the family met at supper Mrs. and snow was piled on the trees; and clock on the wall had ticked sixty ap- took the cup, and said, in a brisk Logan looked very downcast; but her down below snow-covered 'icecakes proving seconds you would have truely tone: husband only said carelessly to Matt: overhung the hurrying river. Every thought that they had known each a man's job, eh? How'd you like to and either be swept away, or whirled "But I came to look after you," the a boom of logs chained together; for "And so you shall, my dear, and so place a large, white egg on the

said anxiously: "Matt, dear, you at its curves by timbers, down which Her voice dropped to a confidential There is always the unknown quan- could never stand it; the work is so the logs came, from the heights where pitch as she continued, "I wouldn't and set the cup before his customer. tity, always the equation we cannot hard, and dangerous too, and the men the trees were cut and trimmed and mention it to my son for worlds, but -I don't think his rooms have had a purchase, "I'll be back in a little while Matt's job was to follow the other good cleaning since he came here!" "They look clean."

> "Look clean; aye, I'll grant you that, Matt had just brought one log to Still in silence, but a silence that had

les. The boy guessed directly that he bureau, and each time she showed The stranger looked very keenly at | First everything came out of the Then his thoughts were interrupted Matt. "You're young for your job," slitting-room, the carpet was taken up, and while an astonished junitor was

"Fourteen past, sir," Matt answered, beating the carpet on the roof, the patient went calling on his wife, and the loiting over trail, while one of the chutemen said Janttor's wife's cold, nursed the baby where the construction gang were why didn't yer stick another three rooms bearing a broom, a brush, a

and a piece of chamots. the last speck of dust gave up the

and was so glad that his first job was way, and he was swimming in the ley helped him take up another, helped him put the carpet on his shoulders.

the patient, sympathetically, "and I'l table, which Mr. Logan was clearing . But in a few minutes he was safe do the rest of the rooms myself! Poor on the rocks. Then, leaving him to dear, you're not used to such hard -"You'll est and bunk in here with hurry to the camp and dry clothes, work! Aye, dear me, shall I over for-

and specifications of the contract he he heard his father laughing. Entering "but I was on a special case all night, had undertaken. This, Matt. knew, the shack he found him in a very nearly, and—"

She kissed him fondly, and proudly "Did the nurse come?" he asked. "Sh!" she whispered, putting her

THE "COMPANY VOICE"

It had not come all at once, nor from Montreal. They said I can al- without struggle; nobody knew, how the current literature concerning the ways get the contracts I want to do hard she had struggled, Nettle Os- natives of the Southern mountains certain work, because they know how borne often said to herself. Was there in which he was travelling. Consethorough my work is always done, a woman in the world who would quently when, about, noon, he rode out But they explained that the respon- choose to krow wrinkled and sharp- of a lonely woods into sight of a small sible jobs must be filled only by men nosed and sharp-voiced if she could cabin, he approached it with a certain

when she married Joe Osborne- by the door, sunning himself, with everybody had called her so. She could liegs outstretcked, and hands clasped be pretty now, if she had a chance; behind his head. He was the picture I guess I've made a mistake, and if not as pretty, of course, but' still of ease. pretty, if sho and a chance; but with the children to take care of, and the endless trouble with the "girls," and jocosely: the increasing cost of provisions, and Panting from the two flights of Joe's salary no bigger than when they themselves, out by outgrowing their stairs, Mrs. Harper looked round her were first married, no wonder she had land?" not time to be pleasant.

nice-she gave that up long ago; and couraged. if you could not have things nice Johnny smiled back at her and an- you were happy. You could not that right on the hoge." swered, "Yes, mother." I call him was all there was to it. Be gradually "Not just that," g Johnny because his mother did, and her voice had grown sharper, and Joe

called "girly," there was no sign of been promoted to be superintendent. He led her to the room which had So Aunt Caroline came. Nettle, who killing two, chopping a heap o' wood, clude that greed mingled with a good man's work or sports to be seen. And engineer, some one must take his been prepared for this, her first visit knew how to make the table pretty, riding five miles and back, plowing place in this section. But it's quite on to the city. She took off her bonnet althought for so long it had not seem- that field there, I felt right hungry. I Though only fourteen, he was as the books that the bosses at Montreal and hung it carefully in the closet od worth while, had a dainty supper ate a big dinner, so I reckoned I'd sit

> "It's nice to-night, isn't it. Frances?" "It's lovely: I guess it's the pudding and our best dresses." "No. it ain't-it's mamma's company horses, and how to get the best work Robinson, and with the greatest diffi- voices every day—they're so much the street, when he met a little boy,

"You!" Nettle gasped.

That night up in Aunt Caroline's room the two had a long talk, from "He asked me the time, and I said, which Nettle went at last with new courage in her face. She stopped in "Now, mother, please! Just for my the nursery to tuck the children in, fast asleep now. Frances stirred a She lay down, with suspicious docil- little, and she smoothed the tumbled "Bless : the bables! They've 'had 'a son's departure, Mrs. Harper smilingly herrid mother, but she is going to try again. We'll have company voices if "Where's the patient?" whispered we haven't money," she said.

at the end of the street came a bare- wrapped up two boots for the laft

for some ginger. Ma said to tell you the black hen was on."



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air of faurity confidence. The owner She had been such a pretty girl of the cabin was sitting on a beach

The traveller reined in his horse and cleared his throat. 'Then he said, "Waiting to the potatoes to dis

The mountaineer smiled a bland It was no use trying to have things mild smile. The joker went on, en-"Perhaps you are expecting the sur there was no use in protending that to get hot enough to fry the bacon

"Not just that," grinned the native. toes on those stumps and grub 'em One day she received a letter say out for you. Or even to talk fast enough to keep your windmill going." The mountaineer rose. He towered indeed very much excited. Perhaps questions, I digest my dinner on 'em

#### TIME TO SPARE

It is said that the distinguished Elwho asked him the time. "Ten minutes to nine," said Hub-Turning a corner, the man ran into

"What's up?" said the policeman. "See that boy." Hubbard shouted. your hair cut." "Well," said the policeman, "what are you running for? You've got eight

policeman, nearly knocking him

#### SHARP TRICK

A man walked into the shop and sked for a pair of boots. The clerk. youth of 14, showed him a suitable pair, the price being \$10. The customer stated that he had only 18 with

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