TUESDAY JUNE 9, 1908.

A Train Belated

By TROY ALLISON.

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John Dilwood, Junior partner of the Erskine & Dilwood law firm, wandered almiessly around the new Union station trying to kill time waiting for the train. He had promised his partner that, as he would be in Washington that week, be would make a special point of meeting Mrs. Erskine's train and transferring her safely to the southbound train. He had started to the station an hour earlier than necessary in order that he might have time to look at the new station which every Washingtonian was foully proclaiming the biggest in the world. But here he found that an hour was more time than a railway station could satisfac torily fill, even though it lived up to

He looked at his watch and found to his satisfaction that it lacked only was due. He hurried through the gates and reached it just as a leisurely official marked the train an hour late. The official seemed, from Mr. Dil od's point of view, to take a tiendish delight in writing it slowly and care



fully, as if there was plenty of time

"Uh-m." said Mr. Dilwood in an eloquent half voice,

The girl in front of him, who had

"Ob, dear," she wailed, "I never was so dead tired of waiting in my life. If I only knew he would be sure to come was merely joking about the long childish degree, fascinated him it wouldn't seem so bad. It will be wait," he hastened to assure her. She "I you don't mind my talking make that hour pass, for I've read ev- "Oh, these women!" he said whims!

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ery magazine on the stand."

The bot chocolate evidently appealed to Bobble. Dilwood saw him lead the way toward the cafe with an absolute indifference to the fallure of time

When Dilwood stopped at the cashler's desk inter to pay for a cigar the girl came to settle for the chocolate that had fallen decidedly short of occupying an entire hour.

Dilwood, lighting his cigar at the lighter, spoke to the cashier, "That western train has had time for a full sized wreck."

The girl's eyes dilated, and she turned been anxiously eying the same buile-suddenly, utterly oblivious of his being tin, grasped the arm of the small boy an unintroduced man. "Did you say suddenly, utterly oblivious of his being the western train bad been wrecked? she asked breathlessly.

"If you will buy that change askle, I will tell her to come for it be-

"I'm sorry I gave you such a fright," he said when he found her peering through the bars down the track

"I'm always expecting a wrock-it's one of my horrors." The cusual friendliness of her tone showed a childish indifference to his being a stranger. "Perhaps you haven't lived in a city tong," he hazarded, an indefinite some

thing causing him to imagine that city ways were strange to her. "Oh, yes agea-two years."

eyes were still focused on a distant point on the track. Dilwood found himself possessed of

an amount of curiosity foreign to him. The piquancy of her face, vibrating "No, no! Don't be frightened. I with the joy of living, yet frank to a

"I you don't mind my talking to you half past 6 before the train gets in gave the cashier a thirty cent check and Bobble. Let's go in the cafe and and a bill and in her excitement rush late the friendly face of the boy, who get some but chocolate. I'm going to ed off without the change to see with into the friendly face of the boy, who drink mine a spoonful at a time and her own eyes the latest bulletin. Dilty. Dilwood knew he had a good unsuspecting eyes of the girl could see
tallor and was gratified to see that he would have to manufacture had at least made a good impression

> The boy's smile broadened. "You won't find talking to my sister a bard job. She does it all herself," he bulletin,

winked sociably. "Now, Bobble Tisdate, you are al-

ways pretending that I talk too much teresting hanging around a railway staand that I can begin in the year one and bring history up to date in an hour's conversation."

Dilwood patted Bobble on the back with an affection not generally elicited by small boys, but he no longer looked spon Bobble as a small boy. He was

a method of procedure. "I hope, then, you will consider that you have known me at least fifteen minutes and will skip the creation, the fall of Rome, the civil war and a few other items and bring history far enough down to date

to tell me more—friendly things."
"In the beginning I accepted a position under the civil service and moved to Washington and put Bobble in the public schools, where he played football the first part of the term and fall-ed in Latin the second part thereof,"

"There-I told you she could tell everything she knew in a few min-utes," declared Bobbie disgustedly. "But she's promised not to tell John about the Latin. He's coming on this train we're waiting for. She perfectly daffy about John."

An unreasoning dislike to the name of John sprang, full grown, to the heart of Mr. Dilwood. "Is it permitted to ask who John may be?" he asked

gloomily.

"Oh, he may be president some day or most anything in that line," declared the boy airily, "but just at present he's our big brother coming to spend his two weeks' vacation with us. He's been in Chicago six months learning to be a lawyer. He's a clerk in Erskine & Dilwood's office."

Diswood made a basty search for his enricano.

"I happen to be Dilwood," and his entire antisfaction with his lot in life beamed from his eyes. "He is a re markably promising boy, Miss Tie date." Ife was in the meantime trying fercently to remember just which of the twenty employees was Tisdale. He himself traveled for the firm and spent very little time in the office.

"Oh, Mr. Dilwood, do you really think she questioned engerly, her face flushed with pleasure.

"He has the making of a first class lawyer," he vouched stoutly for the capabilities of the youth of twenty that he was in mortal terror he would full to recognize when the train arrived. "Isu't it a queer coincidence that we should meet?" he asked eagerty. "I have to see Timbale tomorrow about some special instructions, and to think he happens to be your brother?" Mr. Dilwood's hypocrisy was so thickly told on that he feared even the frank, those special instructions before the

next day "Oh, they have marked it another half hour late," she nodded toward the

"What's a half hour!" declared Mr. Dilwood, "I always found it rather in

Her Standard of Comparison. "Yes; he's her third husband."

"How were the other two?" Both worthless."

"Then he must show up pretty good by comparison?"
"Not by comparison with the men his

wife says she might have married."-Cleveland Plain Dealer.

So Thoughtful.

Neil-Yes, the count is very atten-tive to her. She admired some roses she saw in a florist's window they were passing yesterday, so he had some sent up to her-

Belle-How thoughtful! Netl-Yes; C. O. D.-Catholic Stand ard and Times.

rt of a Souttle Sound.

They're "Sh s s s!

"Are you sure?" "Yes. I hear father eating soup." Leslie's Weekly.

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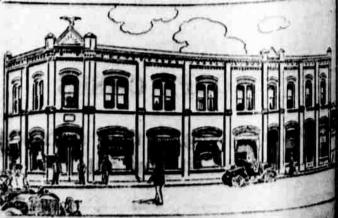
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