MERLE'S CRUSADE.

BY BOSA NACCHETTE CAREY.

Author of "Barbara Heathcote's Trial,"
"Queents's Whim," "The Search
of Basil Lyndhurst."

CHAPTER SIV .- "BREAD AND SALT." I thought Mrs. Markham looked som

"We must ask your mother's permis-sion, Master Rolf;" then, turning to her, "I hope you will allow him to go with us "I sope you will allow him to go with he take afternoon;" for, in spite of his rule ways, I felt full of pity for the lonely lit the boy; he seemed to have no playfellows except poor Judson, who was a low spiritd, overworked young woman. It must ave been dreary for him to be in a house and been dreary for aim to be it a notice boild of grown-up people, who all voted aim a plague and took no trouble to annuse aim. Spoiled children are seldom happy mes; and it did not need a second look at Rolf's pale, sickly face to read the lines of iscontent and peevishness.

"I am rather surprised that Miss Fenton bould make such a request after her reatment of my boy yesterday," returned Mrs. Markham, ungraciously, I think if she had dared to contradict Rolf she would not have given her consent, but a sulky look was already clouding his face.

"Never mind about that," he said, imestiently; "Miss Fenton is going to make the tail for my kite; and I am going out with her this afternoon, and I shall and Master Rolf, that is not the way to an

wer your mother.' "You may leave me to rebuke my own child," she observed, coldly. "Very well. Rolf: you may go, but you need not be so cross about it. I came to see about the children, Miss Fenton: I think it is too ot for them to go on the beach this after-

"Joyce will wear her sun-bonnet; and there is a nice breeze," I returned, some-what ruffled by this interference. I fancy she did it to aggravate me, for there was no fault to be found with the weather, and knew my mistress always left these thing to me.

She remained for a few minutes making little suggestions about the ventilation and the nursery arrangements, which I bore as patiently as I could, though the harsh, metallic voice irritated me dread-fully. I did not wish to be disrespectful to Mrs. Markham, but I did not feel bound to obey her orders, and I knew I should tell her so if any grave dispute arose between us. I was rather relieved when she left the room at last, taking Rolf with her; but in a few minutes afterward Judson

glided in on tiptoe. "Oh, Miss Fenton," she said, in a pa-"Oh, Miss Fenton," she said, in a particular of the promising to take charge of Master Rolf this afternoon; I thought there would be auch a piece of work; Master Rolf thought he was going out in the carriage, and he was going out in the carriage, and Mrs. Markham has friends, and cannot and room for him; and what I should have any love enviously, as Hannah and the continues."

"It must be werry nice to be Rolf,"

"It must be werry nice to be Rolf," done with him all this afternoon. I hardly

"If Rolf is good I have no objection to take charge of him. I am very fond of children, only they must be obedient." "Obedience is an unknown word to Master Rolf; returned Judson, ingulariously; "times out of number that boy has
got me me into trouble, just because he
would not mind a word I said. Why, he
later, and then he burst into the room

got the colonel's sword out of his mother's wardrobe one day, and nearly killed him-self, and another morning be fired off his grandfather's gub, that had been loaded his kite.

Rolf's recklessness?
"Mrs. Markham blames me for all that

happens," went on Judson, "and Master Rolf knows that, and there is no checking sim; he is not nearly so mischlevous when his mother is near, because she loses patience, and has more than once boxed patience, and has more than once boxed his ears soundly. She spoils him dreadfully, and he takes liberties with her as no child ought to take with a parent; but now and then, when he has aggravated her past bearing. I have known her to punish him pretty severely."
This was sad. Injudicious indulgence.

and injudicious severity. Who could wonder if the results were unsatisfactory "No one dares to say a word to him ex-cept his mother," went on Judson; "It is just her temper when she files out at him; but she worships the very ground he walks on. If his finger aches she thinks he is going to die, and the house is in an nd yet when he is ill he is as

med a relief to Judson to pour out her woes, and I could hardly refuse to excessively solemn; "and Mr. Hawtry listen to her. She was evidently attached said no, don't stop me, it is nothing bad, to her mistress, with whom she had lived nothing like mother; oh, dear, it will come since her marriage; but she was one of out, I know he only said, 'She seems a those helpless beings who are made the very quiet, well-conducted young person, butt of other people's wills and passions; and not at all above her duties;' for you she had no dignity of mind to repel even were carrying Reggle, you know."
shildish importinence; her nervous, vacil "Oh, Rolf, do hold your tongue!" I ex phildish impertinence; her nervous, vacillating ways would only increase Rolf's

I could understand how a high-spirited ould resist any command enforced boy would resist any command enforced by that plaintive voice. A few quick con-ciae words would infinence him more than a torrent of feeble reproaches from Judson. He was not without generous impulses—what English boy is!—he had grasped at once my meaning when I re-buked him for his want of gentlemanly and, but he was too precoclous and over-aring, and had lived too much in the

My knowledge of the world was not great, but I know how deficient in retimea many grown-up people are in the that is poured into the little pitchers is effen defiled with low conventional views of duty and palafully uncharitable remarks; the pure mirror of a child's mind—and how pure that mind often is!—is frequently suilfed by some unchristian charvasions from lips that to the child are half divine. "See how ye offend one the half divine. "See how ye offend one of these little one," was the Master's reraining; and yet if we could look into ne of these young minds, we should often see its placed serenity broken up and affect by some unthinking speech, and was like a pittless pebble into its bright-

r all, we spont a pleasant afternoon beach, and I do not believe the en enjoyed themselves more than the sid I.

To not a long walk to the shore if a followed to

erton more closely; so we walked past the ballad church and down the main street, and turned off by the row of bungalows that skipted the cliff and, crossing the corn
fields, made our way down the narrow
cutting to a little strip of shingly beach,
with its border of yellow sands washed by
the summer surf. I would willingly have sat under the break-water all the afternoon, watching the baby waves lapping upon the sands, and laying driblets of brown and green seaweed on the shore. while Reggie brought me wet pebbles and little dried up crabs and empty mussel shells, but Rolf wanted me to help with his sand castle; indeed, we were all pressed into the service; even Rezgie dug

and bubbled over in a miniature lake, a cigar' in which disported the luckless crabs and Jelly fish which he had collected for his things when they returned, only I was Aquarium

up stealthily; there is a little cold lisping noon on the beach, and I would pick out outside the out-works, as though the hardest and most difficult words—treacherous foes were lurking around: in those that I generally eschewed. a few seconds the toy castle is in ruins.

The children look at the gray pool that tiful letter, without a single mistake, has inguifed their treasure with wide, and that my mistress read it over and disappointed eyes.
"Oh, the greedy sea," they say, "it has

destroyed our castle!" But to morrow they will come again with beautiful child.

"Nonsense, Merle, it was a sweet letter, ish faith and build another, and still anand I showed it to my husband." other, until some new game is proposed.

or they are weary of play.
It was quite late in the afternoon when we turned our faces homeward. Joyce morrow morning, and so I shall be able to was tired, so we put her in the perambu spare you in the afternoon; I shall not later, and I carried Reggie. Holf hung take the children further than the garden. behind rather sulkily; fatigue evidently made him cross; but he brightened up in au instant when the sound of horses' hoofs struck on our ears, and in another moment a little cavalcade came in sight Miss Cheriton mounted on her pretty brown mare Brownie, and her father and Mr. Hawtry on either side of her.

They would have passed on, but Rolf exclaimed, "Oh, do take me up for a ride, Mr. Hawtry, I am so tired!" and Mr. Haw-try looked at Miss Cheriton, and pulled up at once.

"Put your foot on my boot, then, and I

sighed Joyce, enviously, as Hannah wheeled her up the dusty road. I think we were all glad when we had

reached the cool nursery, and found a plentiful tea spread on the round table. The children were so sleepy that we were obliged to put them to bed as soon as they had finished their tea.

with his arm full of paper and string, and we were very soon hard at work on

grandfather's guh, that had been loaded by mistake, and shot poor old Pincher—not that he neart to do it; he was siming at one of the pheasants."

This was not pleasant to hear, and I inwardly resolved not to trust the children out of my sight; for who could tell what unforeseen accident might arise from sud gave me half a crown. When grand-near the country of the pheasant to hear and something and taked volution. The power of Thy resource tion. Oh, let me know the sonable Reminders.

The power of Thy resource tion. Oh, let me know the power of Thy resource tion. The coloring and decorating of Easter of the pheasant to hear, and I inwardly resolved not to trust the children out of my sight; for who could tell what unforeseen accident might arise from the color of the pheasant to hear, and I inwardly resolved not to trust the children out of my sight; for who could tell what unforeseen accident might arise from the color of the pheasant to hear, and I inwardly resolved not to trust the children out of my sight; for who could tell what unforeseen accident might arise from the color of the pheasant to hear, and I inwardly resolved not to trust the children out of my sight; for who could tell what unforeseen accident might arise from the dear term of the pheasant to hear, and I inwardly resolved not to trust the children out of my sight; for who could tell what unforeseen accident might arise from the time.

The power of Thy resource tion.

The power of Thy resolved in calm and clear reflection;

Oh, let me know the color of the color in the color in the color of the color in the color of the color in the color of the color papa is pleased about anything he always. Let me dwell always, only, where Thou art. gives people half a crown. I think he ought to give you one, Fenny. Do you ought to give you one. Fenny. Do you mind my calling you Fenny? It sounds so once, rather like funny, and you are so With life abundantly because Thou livest;

funny sometimes.

returned. Gay what she thinks. Aunt Gay is so fond of you; she told me so te-day, only
she said it was a secret, so you must keep
Oh, let me go
Oh, let me go
The strong reality of gospel story;
Oh, let me go
From strength to strength, from glory un it. I told Mr. Hawtry the story about the robber servant this evening after dinner, and he said that he was a plucky fellow, in spite of his being a robber; and so I think. Do you like Mr. Hawtry, Thy love and faithfulness through all my the robber servant this evening after din-Fenny!

"I do not know him, dear."
"Oh, no, of course, you are only a nurse. and so you don't come in the drawingroom like other people; you would not know how to behave, would you? Mr. contrary as possible, and will not take a Hawiry said something about you this thing from her, for all her petting and evening. Mother was talking to him, you know how, only I can't tell you-bread and salt, you know," and here Rolf looked

> claimed, crossly; for this was too much for my forbearance. What business had Mrs. Markham to talk me over with strangers. I ought to have stopped Holf, but my curiosity was too strong at that moment. "A quiet, well-conducted young person," indeed: I felt in a fever of in-

Holf looked from his kite with some aurprise.

"Does talking disturb you? We are getting on beautifully. What a lovely tail my kite will have!" Then, as though a thought atruck him, "Are you ever cross, Fenny: really cross, I mean?

"Yes, very often, Rolf," for being a fairly conscientious person, I could not deny

my faults of temper.
"Oh!" with a peculiar intenation, "I wonder if Aunt Gay knows that. Do you remember any anecdotes about crossness,

I am afraid of what my answer might have been, for I was considerably nettled at Rolf's malicious tone, but happily Judson came at that moment with a message from Mrs. Markham that even Rolf did not dare to disobey, for he ran off at once, without bidding me good-night, and leav-ing all his tackle strewn over the floor for

Judson to clear.
As soon as I was left in solitude, I went to the open window. It was clear moon-light again. There were the tree shadows.

"My mother bids me bind my hair."
Some one clapped their hands and said
"Bravo" when it was finished.

"What a lovely evening! Do come into
the garden. Adelaide: it is quite warm
and bulmy." And then there was a rustle
and movement underneath me, a sweep of
dark drapery, followed by the whisk of a
white gown, as Gay ran down the stepe
pursued by Rolf. Two gentlemen saun
tered down the terrace; one of them was tered down the terrace; one of them was

"This is a capital cigarette, squire, When a man is not much of a smoker, he will not put up with an inferior article.

What a pretty scene it was, when the castle was finished, and its ramparts adorned with long green festoons and pennants of brown ribbon seaweed; and Reggle sat at the top kicking his little bare legs with delications. They quize the subject of women's talk. They quize us dreadful ly, and insist that our main topic is bon. the trench down to the sea, which filled thing be more trivial and worthless than

quarium. too disgusted to listen any more. I was There is something and in the transitorian a bad humor, that was certain—one of ness of children's play on the shore; they those moods when only a real tough piece are so eager to build up their sand towers of work can relieve one. I closed the and mounds. When the feeble structure window and drew down the blind, and is finished the little work people give a then armed myself with my pocket dicery of joy, as though some great task tionary. I would write a long letter to were accomplished. Then the wavescreep my mistress, and tell her about our after-

over again—that is, that she considered it beautiful, because it was all about the

I was in a better humor when I had fin-

ished it, and called Hannah.

"Hannah, we shall go on the beach to You can go and have tea with your sister, if you like, and you need not hurry home I am growing far too idle, and I have not half enough to do;" for I wanted to check any expression of gratitude on the girl's part; but a tap at the door silenced us

It was only Miss Cheriton come to wish She smilled and waved her hand to us, me good night. She had a basket of fruit and Mr. Hawtry raised his hat slightly, and a dainty little bunch of roses in her hand.

"I saw the light in your window, and thought of the poor prisoner behind it, and I thought this would cheer you up." laying her pretty offering on the table, "I am going to take you all for a drive to-



Oh, let me give "It sounds much more like Fanny," I In darkest places, for Thy light is mine; turned.
"Oh, do you think so? I will ask Aunt A faithful witness for Thy Truth and Thes. Oh, make me shine

Oh, let me show

AT EASTER.

awake! awake! long fettered earth. The time has come for thee to rise in the new ever wondrous birth Of life from death—O: sweet surprise. When trembling in their beds the Alia Stir faint at first—then singing run. When balmy air and sunshine fills. The land from rise to set of sun. When on the mountains' southern slope,

When on the monatains southern stops, Heneath the shadow of the pines. The starry arbutus do hope—
Spring's first and ever dearest sign—
When through the branches of the trees
Life's ichor once more thrills and flows,
When the pale cowallas on the leas
Argues the coming of the rose. And thou, too, wake, whose weary life so long has wound on in the dark. Full oft from bitterness and strife There starts hope's pure electric spark— That faintly gleams, at first a light, Then, broadening, bursts into a flame— And lot the world grows strangely bright.

Cute Easter Penwipers.

Faston on a paper collar and a necktle, paint a row of buttons down the front, and your penwiper will be a great suc-

A more elaborate way is this. Seleca yellow egg, and paint a face with large eyes put on slanting. First paint the eye solid white, outline with India ink, and afterward paint in the pupil. The mouth should be full, with a mousand the beach, and I do not believe the medows; a warm radiance from the modows; a warm radiance from the modows; a warm radiance from the mouth should be full, with a moundary manual and I.

It was not a long walk to the shore if the had followed the direct route; but I was not a f



You've a better chance for Easter egg-If you've talent enough to keep your legs!

Easter Day. "Hosanna to the Prince of Light, Who clothed Himself in clay. Entered the iron gates of death. And tore the bars away."

With the close of the solemnities of "Holy week" the people of the world, to the extent of their inclinations, enter into the happiness and glory of another Easter Day. Of the teachings of Christ-lanity we have this to say; Regardless of what science has or may be eafter demonstrate, the whole world has been improved and beautified through the efforts and sacrifices made by the followers of the meek and lowly Nazarene. The very buds and blossoms of Springtime tell of His promises, and morality, with law, virtue and self-donial attune their voices in His praise. Holy teachings, and holy actions with holy thoughts emanate from a belief in God. We are His and He is ours, the Holy Bible tells us, and if we believe that we must accept it as the rule and guide to our faith, and through this faith we learn of the Savior. His coming, life, teachings, sacrifices, death, resurrection and ascension will be told to-day in many tongues and in many climes. Rich, fragrant flowers will decorate the temples and music will give its charms to heautify and magnify the loud hosannas of the multitude.

Bright angels, strike your loudest strings Your sweetest voices raise: Let Heaven and all created things. Sound our Immanuel's praise."



EASTER ECCS.

send to a friend instead of the more common card. Beautiful and really artistic results can be achieved with little money and the exercise of taste, care and patience. The first step is usually to boil the eggs hard. They should be put on in cold water, which should be put on in cold water, which should be allowed to come to boil gradually; then the eggs must be removed. A disregard of this precaution is apt to result in cracked or broken shells. Another way is to make a small hole in each end of the egg with a slender darning needle and blow the contents out. These egg shells are much more delicate and easily broken than the first mentioned. Still another method is to remove the con tents and fill the shell with liquid plaster of paris, which soon hardens and makes a very substantial egg. plaster should be mixed with water until it runs easily. If, after some plaster is run in the shell, a few shot are added, the egg will always maintain its

apright position.

The most simple way to color eggs is to sew ribbon or called that will fade around them and boil a few minutes. The skins of the dark red onlons will color beautiful shades of yellow browns. They will give shades of crimson, light or dark, according to the length of time the eggs are left in the dye. Indigo dissolved in water to which ovalic acid is added in the proportion of a teaspoonful to a quart of the dye gives a pretty blue. Names, dates and figures can be put on oggs after they are dyed by tracing the letters or figures with a fine brush or a pen dipped in oxalic acid. To that eggs any shade, use oil paints of various hues. Roll a piece of soft cotton cloth into a wad and with this rub the oil paint on the eggs, being careful to take only a small quantity at a time on the dauber. Cute Easter Penwipers.

To make a very pretty Easter penwiper, paint upon the egg the features of a child. Make a cap with a frill of tissue paper and glue it on, then gine the egg to a penwiper made of several pleces of cloth cut in circles. Crimp some tissue paper and frill it around to hide where the egg is fastened to the cloth.

A very comical penwiper is made by using a large chocolate bonbon for the head, and an egg for the body. With a long darning needle, fasten all three together, using strong cotton. Use beads for eyes, pinch a nose into shape, and paint the mouth. Make a turban of some bright colored bit of ribbon, and wind it artistically around the head. Fasten on a paper collar and a necktle,

For some time before Easter, ask mamms or cook to open the eggs used carefully. This may be done by making a small hole in the middle. Color the two halves of the shell, and when they are perfectly dry, fill them with candy or raisins, or put in a ribbon or some little gift, place the two halves together and hide the place where they join by pasting on a bright picture, or a place of gay paper; then you have a ulce gift for some little friend.



And swimming majesty of step and tread.
The symmetry of form and feature, set
The soul afloat, even like delicious airs
Of flute and barp."

For her matchless look of grace and motion, this regal beauty was indebted to perfect health, restored by the use of that unequaled, invigorating tonic and nervine, Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, which set in healthy action every nervine, Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, which set in healthy action every function and gave purity and richness to the blood. For delicate, feeble, nervous women, it is an inestimable boon, being unequaled as an appetizing cordial and restorative tonic. It is invaluable in subduing nervous excitability, exhaustion, prostration, hysteria, spasms and other distressing, nervous symptoms commonly attendant upon functional and organic disease of the womb. It induces refreshing sleep and relieves mental anxiety and despondency.

"Favorite Prescription" is a positive cure for the most complicated and obstinate cases of leucorrhea, excessive flowing, painful menstruation, unnatural suppressions, prolapsus, or falling of the womb, weak back, "female weakness," autoversion, retroversion, bearing-down sensations, chronic convestion, inflamma-

anteversion, retroversion, bearing-down sensations, chronic congestion, inflamma-tion and ulceration of the womb. It is guaranteed to give satisfaction in every case, or money refunded. See guarantee printed on every bottle-wrapper, and faithfully carried out for many years. Manufactured by WORLD'S DISPENSARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, No. 663 Main Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

Dr. Pierce's Pellets regulate and cleanse the liver, stomach and bowels. One a dose. Sold by druggists.



Boses that blush for shame on Easter morn. At thought of ernel cross and crown of thor Send forth your sweetest inceuse; let it rise To him who ope'd the gates of Paradis:

Pansies who bid us never more forget The stone, the seal, the Roman guard well set try out to all with fragrance laden breath. Where is thy sting, O grave, thy victory, O

O Christ, who died our sinsick souls to save E'en through the shadowy portals of the grave; O'er thorns and stones I'll follow Thee, dear So I but rise with Thee-the Truth the Life,

Easter in the Olden Times.

A great many years ago the churches like theatres, and crowds poured in to see the sepulchers which were erected representing the whole scene of the Savior's entombment. A general belief prevailed in those days that our Lord's second coming would be on Easter Eve. nence the sepulchers were watched through the night until 3 in the morning, when two of the oldest monks would enter and take out a beautiful image of the resurrection, which was resurrected be-fore the worshipers during the singing of procession being formed a canopy of velvet was borne over it by ancient gentlemen. They proceeded around the exterior of the church by the light torches, all singing, rejoicing, and pray-

the anthem "Christus Resurgens." It was then carried to the high attar, and a ing, until coming again to the high altar It was there placed, to remain until As In many places the monks personated all the characters connected with the event they celebrated and thus rendered the scene still more theatrical,



A mouse contented with a shell May keep his Easter very well. And laughs at more pretentious folk. Who think their egg must have a yolk. HALLELUIA! HE IS RIBENI

Dark the night and cold the tomb Where our Saviour lay. But the morning broke the gloom, He rose on Easter Day!

"Never sny dyo," piped a check as he peked his head through the shell of an Easter egg.

CITECTIVES wanted experience was proposed for the particulars to the Great Western Detective forces. Backets Bow, Nebr.



MAY EASTER BRING THEE MANY JOYS. EASTER JOKES

Ease-stir-A nap disturbed. The lay of the land-Easter eggs. "All broken up"-Scrambled eggs Never look a gift Easter egg in the

A national Easter ova coat-A red. white and blue eggshell. Both out of the shell - A spring chicken and an upset sculler.

An Easter Flower-Pot. Gild an empty egg shell that has been opened at one end. Cut it carefully so that it will be about two-thirds its form-

edge with a narrow ribbon, or a strip of

er size and smooth when cut.



bright paper. Get three twigs of the Norway spruce, six inches long, and the them together with a ribbon so as to form a tripod, then suspend the egg from the interior of the tripod by means of colored cord or silk. Fill it with earth or water, and plant in it some tiny vine—wandering Jew, or better still Kenilworth fvy. Another way is to crochet a scarlet worsted covering the size of the egg, slip it over it, hang it up by cords of the worsted, then fill it with earth and plant it.



I WISH YOU MUCH JOY AT EASTER.