## Meadow Brook

MARY J. HOLMES

One bright morning, about the middle will say she has literally thrown herself of January, Herbert announced his in- away." ance had just commenced practicing rying into one of the first families in there, it would be a good opportunity for Boston." them to go over the building. To this my aunt made no objection, merely propos-I remembered the peculiar look in Her-bert's eye as he replied. "Oh, fy! moth-A deep groan came f er, Ada's nerves are not strong enough of my aunt, and for the first time since

Anna went up to her roam to make the "Rosa, Herbert is my child, my boy, and had he brought his bride, my gentle necessary preparations for her ride, while it becomes not a girl of your age to speak mother, and on the rough bark of the I stood by and gave her whatever assist- thus of him in the presence of his moth- towering maples, by the side of his own ance she needed. I observed that every er." article which belonged to her was put in for their return. Seven, eight, nine, ten had rung from more than one church which we might be desirons of knowing. dome, and then we gave them up, for | "When will Herbert come home?" was and after a few weeks' preparation, one the shrill whistle of the last train on my sunt's first question, her whole man- bright June morning, when the flowers long since sounded in our ears.

They must have stayed somewhere; don't you think so?' said my aunt, adis tired of the city, he says, and besides when the blue sky bent gently over us,
dressing her husband, who, man like, that he wishes to avoid the unplensant we bid adied to the spot, looking back conning his evening paper, nearer asiesp | occasion.

"Of course they have," said he, lookcome in this storm, if I were in their tered Ada.

That night I watered my pillow with of desolation, as if Anna was gone from sen part of New York." me forever. The pert day came and went, but it brought no tidings of the ed Ada. "That Lee girl is just calcumplace of the violets and daisies which missing pair, and half unconscious of lated for a farmer's wife." what she was doing, my aunt went from again brightening up, as she enumerat-

whom she knew to be engaged?"

"The preference was mutual," I reeffort, she said, "Of course I mean Anna,
as her child?

arose more from a sense of mortification than from any real love which she bore for Herbert Langley, and so I did not pity her as I should otherwise have done. The next morning at breakfast both the If neither had slept at all during the night. My uncle, on the contrary, seemed unmoved. He probably had an opinon of his own, but whatever it was he kept it to himself, merely saying that if Eastern mail brought no letter he would go in quest of them himself. I knew I could not study in my present excitement, and so I asked permission to Femain at home. Stationing myself at the window, I watched anxiously for the return of Herod, who, as usual, had been bringing his pocket full of letters, two of which were for me, one postmarked Sunny Bank and the other Albany. With s trembling hand I tore open the latter, in my sister's handwriting. Glancing at the signature, my fears were "Anna Langley" in Herbert's bold, dash | with the

The letter contained no apology from either for what they had done, but merein Worcester, they had gone straight to Albany, where in less than hour they were husband and wife;

Of his mother he wrote differently, and gh there was no cringing, no ac-wledgment of wrong, he spoke of her

said of her, neither was it necessary, guessing the truth from my face, came up softly behind me, and look, over my shoulder, read every word is she came to the message intended her. Then stamping her little foot, exclaimed passionately, "The villain, issuit me thus! As if I, sprung from best blood of Georgia, would stoop to me, a rival of that low-horn country! Ro! By this act Horbert Langley hown that he is all unwethy of me, if exicles in my except, while I give two daughters. Ellen and Theodosia."

They were proud, haughty girls, and evidently looked upon us, their country cousins, with contempt, only tolerating as ree I could not tell Ada what

to our home at Sunny Bank, where they

and as a young physician of his acquaint- laborer will object to his daughter's mar-

"He isn't a poor laborer," I replied, "and even if he were, he would object to

Accordingly, when breakfast was over, grily, but in trembling tones she said:

Its proper place, but I gave it no further shout her neck, I asked forgiveness for the head, though I did wonder why she kiss the harsh words I had spoken, and she learned the use of kulfe or hammer. No ed me so often, turning back even after forgare me, for she meant to do right, wonder, then, that his head grew dixty she had reached the door to bid me an and if sometimes she erred, it was owing and his heart sick as he thought of leav-other good-bye. Slowly the day passed more to a weakness of the fiesh than an ing it forever; and when at last the trysway and night came on, dark, cold and unwillingness of the spirit. In the midst ing moment came, when with trambling stormy. I listened to the sound of the of our excitement Tom Wilson was ush- hand he signed the deed which made him sleet and hall, which drove past the ered in. He had returned in the same homeless, he laid his weary head upon window, where I had watched so long train which brought the letter, and had the lap of his aged mother and wept like come to give us any further information a little child.

which they would be likely to come had ner indicating how much interest she feit we had watched over and tended with

was not in the least alarmed, but sat remarks his elopement will necessarily with wistful eyes until every trace of

ducing his bride into society, which he now other footsteps tread and other chiling up at his wife's inquiry. "I wouldn't knows has no wish to receive her," mut dren play than those of "anid lang spile."

tears, scarcely knowing why I wept, his money from the bank, and with it he as well as to us. "The meas-covered save that I felt oppressed with a sense intends purchasing a farm in the west backet which hung in the well" has been

Taken alone, there was nothing pur- thistie and the burdock now are growroom to foom, sometimes weeping and neularly disagreeable in the three words ing, and the white rose bush by the door, "that Lee girl," but spoken by Ada Mon- from whence they plucked the buds which ed the many things which might have tress they sounded insultingly, and every strewed the comin bed of our baby broth prevented their return. At evening Ada time she uttered them I felt my blood or, is dead. Weeds choke the garden came in, and my aunt immediately be boil, for L too, was a Lee girl, and I walks, and the moss grows green and can urging her to spend the night. This was sure she included me in the same domp on the old stone wall. Even the the she did willingly, seeming very anxious contemptuous category. As Herbert lad brook which ran so merrily past our door of tell you, i call it a shame that we girls to love him, no' I fink I'll take him dainty of the spread. Said, I did not think the disappointment has been stopped in its course, and its ear't go in to the city, as we always have abouts than I chose to tell, for once, then, that most of her feeling arcse from the mortification of knowing that a "poor when we were alone, she turned toward me and very haughtily asked if "I had any idea where they were?"

"None whatever," said I, and she continued:

"Year point, and I delive now, as I did then, that most of her feeling arcse from the mortification of knowing that a "poor though memory still turns fondly to the spot which gave me birth, I have learned to love another home, for where my preferred to herself. For half an bour or more Tom Wilson and my aunt continued:

"Never mind," answered Robbie, gravely, inspecting his foot with interaction of a huge sawmill with a low make him a good Forf o' July. I don't fink it will hurt my shoe.

"Well, you know we can't, so what's the use of scoiding all the time about it, and the use of scoiding all the time about it, spot which gave me birth, I have learned toward the mortification of knowing that a "poor country girl," as she called Anna, was preferred to herself. For half an bour or more Tom Wilson and my aunt continued:

"Well, you know we can't, so what's the use of scoiding all the time about it, and she then softly cushioned couch in the use of scoiding all the time about it, and she continued."

"Well, you know we can't, to blame for though memory still turns fondly to the spot which gave me birth, I have learned toward the mortification of knowing that a "poor country girl," as she called Anna, was poor which gave me birth, I have learned toward the mortification of knowing that a "poor country girl," as she called Anna, was poor which gave me birth, I have learned toward the mortification of knowing that a "poor country girl," as she called Anna, was poor which gave me birth, I have learned toward the more than the little to make him a good Forf o' July.

"Well, you know we can't, so what's the use of scoiding all the time about it, and the little the mortification of the more poor in the mortification of the more poor in the more poor in t feeling, I was sure, a little suspicious would break her heart. She was too an sparishing waters, bereft of freedom, now hefore!" said Jack Foster, discontents come posies an two hooful freerackers versed together, she asking him at least me. By her side there is, I know, a "Has it never occurred to you that a dozen times "if he did not think Her- vacant chair, and in her heart a lonely this Anna Lee manifested altogether too bert could be induced to return." At void; but while she lives can I not feel "Herbert liked Anna, and Anna too, when I speak of Herbert's return. and Herbert."

She is his wife, you say, and though I might perhaps wish it otherwise, it can mate that liking by a marriage," inter- not now be helped, and if he only would pted Adn.
"I do not know that they have," I re- his sake."

turned: "but such a termination of affairs In my heart I blessed her for these me to come and live with her, I hesitatwould not surprise me."

She was very pale, and there were tears in her eyes; but I thought they arose more from a sense of mortification.

But I blessed her for these me to come and her with her, I hesitation and were did make ed, for to me it seemed much like burying myself from the world, particularly arose more from a sense of mortification.

But I blessed her for these me to come and her with her, I hesitation ed, for to me it seemed much like burying myself from the world, particularly a dreadful lot of, noise if they're propagation and the with her, I hesitation and the with her, I hesitation ed, for to me it seemed much like burying myself from the world, particularly and dreadful lot of, noise if they're propagation and the with her, I hesitation ed, for to me it seemed much like burying myself from the world, particularly a dreadful lot of, noise if they're propagation and the with her, I hesitation and the with her, I hesitation and the world in the world bert was decided, he said. He meant to house was a log one, and that there were be a farmer and live in the country, adding what he knew would silence his mother sconer than aught else he could say, "that temptations for him to drink were and my aunt looked weary and worn, as far greater in the city than in the country, and it was for this reason partly that he preferred living in the latter

And so my aunt yielded the point; but from the day of her son's desertion there oftener was she found in the house of prayer, and less frequently was she seen in places of amusement, while more than once I heard her in secret asking that her ping near us, said, "Here, Richard, is wayward boy might be shielded from the great temptation.

"Sunny Bank Station! Stop five minutes for refreshments." shouted the conductor; and alighting from the noisy crowded care, I stood once more in my of delight upon the hills, dotted over old-fashioned gable-roofed houses, and upon the green, grassy meadow, through which rolled the blue wat ers. I had not stood thus long when a broad hand was laid upon my shoulder, and the next instant my arms were around the neck of my father, who, I thought, had changed much since I las rbert's old comrade, Tom Wilson, ac-apanying them, and being a witness of fancied; and when we at last were on ceremony. What affected me more our way home, I hastened to speak of leasantly than all the rest was the her, and to tell him of the favorable reeive manner in which Herbert spoke port we heard of Herbert. But naught which I said seemed to rouse him; and at "Give her my love," he said, "and tell last I, too, fell into the same thoughtful r sot to feel too badly. I'd like well mood in which even old Sorrel shared, for he moved with his head down. When, secut laws a man can't have two wives, at last, we reached the hill top, from these begins the Mormons. Maybe I which could be seen a long row of apple trees, now in full bloom, I started up, exclaiming, "Home, sweet home! It never looked half so beautiful to me before."

They all had an air of melancholy which puzzled me, and when I was alone with Lizzie, I asked her the cause why they looked so had? Bursting into tears, she replied, "This is not our home any

er style, it was said, than he was note to support. Beveral times had Aunt Harding visited us, together with her two daughters. Ellen and Theodosia. They were proud, haughty girls, and evidently looked upon us, their country cousins, with contempt, only tolerating us because it was pleasant to have some place in the country where to while away.

once, when m, parents visited bish. My father, who was warmly at tached to my Uncle Thomas, lent him money from time to time, and signed notes to the amount of several thousand end he would be ruined, while my uncle, influenced by his more crafty wife, managed in some unaccountable way to maintain nearly the same style of living as formerly, and if his proud daughters ever felt the ille of poverty, it was certainly not apparent in the rich silks and costly furs which they continued to sport:

It was a terrible blow to us all, but upon no one did it fall so heavily as upon tention of going to Worcester with Anna, who, he said, wished to visit the asylum, tically. "It is quite probable that a poor rendering him nearly as powerless as is the giant oak when torn from its parent bed by the wrathful storm. The old homestead was endeared to him by a thousand hallowed associations. It was the home of his boyhood, and around the ing that Ada, too, should go. Afterward his daughter's marrying a drunkard, for cheerful fires, which years ago were kindled on its spacious hearthstone, he had A deep groun came from the white lips played with those who long since bad passed from his side, some to mingle in to endure it. She can go with me some Ada's outbreak, I remembered that she the great drama of life, and others to was there. She did not reprove me and that world where they number not by years. There, too, in his early manhood and his brothers' names, were carved I was humbled, and winding my arms those of his children, all save little Ja-

A small house in the village was hired, care were in bloom, when the robins "Not very soon," returned Tom. "He were singing their sweetest songs, and "More like he wishes to avoid intro-ever to thee, dear old homestead, where The lights and shadows of years have Tom paid no attention to this spiteful fallen upon thee since that summer morn, speech, but continued. "He has drawn and with them have come changes to thee removed; the curb, whose edges were "An admirable plan," again laterrupt worn by childish hands, is gone; while

CHAPTER XIII.

Many fears were expressed lest Anna would miss the society to which she had been accustomed; and when after the been accustomed; and when after the cent supply of firecrackers, let alone anyin the neighborhood several buildings of the same material. At last, after many consultations with my parents, I concluded to go, and about the middle of No vember I again bid adieu to Sunny Bank. I had never before been west, and when shout souset I looked out upon the de lightful prospect around Albany, I felt a thrill of delight. In front of us was an unoccupied seat, which I turned toward me for the better accommodation of my bandbox, and I was about settling myself for a nap, when a gentleman and lady came in, the latter of whom stopvacant seat. These folks can't of course expect to monopolize two;" at the same time she commenced turning the sea back, to the great peril of my bonnet.

eyes, but at the sound of that voice I started, and, looking up, saw before me Ada Montrose, and with her the "dark gentleman" who had so much interested me at the theater. Instantly throwing my veil over my face, I watched him with a feeling akin to jealousy, while he attended to the comfort of his com panion, who demeaned herself toward him much as she had done toward Herbert Langley. As the hours sped on, he whereupon she laid her head upon his shoulder, as if that were its natural resting place, while he threw his arm around her, bidding her "sleep if she could." Of course she was his wife, I said, and with much of bitterness at my beart, I turned away and watched the slowly moving lights of the canalboats. Whether Ada liked her pillow or not, she clung to it pertinaciously until it seemed to me that her neck must snap asunder, while lozing occasionally himself.

"Bride and groom," I heard a rough ooking man mutter, as he passed them in fears, I again turned toward the winair might cool my burning cheeks.

Reasonable Inference.

"I have been everywhere," said Diogones, as he wearily set his lantern down, "and I haven't been able to find an honest man. What do you think of

"It merely indicates," answered the plain, every-day citizen, "that you have an undesirable circle of acquaintances." -Washington Star.

Customer-I want something in off for my dining-room. Floorwalker-Do you mean a painting or a box of sardines!-Fliegende

In a Department Store.



AN UNEXPECTED GELEBRATION By Candice A. Bramble.

has between the two dooryards.

salls him away just now," said Gladys Blake in her gentle voice.

"But on the Fourth of July," interrupted her brother Tom, impetuously, "It's too bad for anything. It wouldn't he quite so mean if we had a few fireworks to let off at night; but here we are, almost dead broke, with hardly enough money between us to buy a de-

"Well, never mind," answered Jack, Thursday. Eh, Tom!" and he gave his friend a poke which tumbled him over upon his back in the grass, where h chuckled a delighted "You bet it is, old

"Oh, but we've forgotten all about poor old Mr. Norris!" cried Gladys, remorse-"We can't go to shooting off crackers and making a whole lot of noise, be cause, you know, it will hurt his head cun't indeed Well, I like that!" shouted Tom, as

he glared wrathfully at the big brick house just across the way. "What is house just across the way. "What is Fourth of July for if people are not to make any noise? and, besides, what do we care if we do burt his old head? I'm sure he was never so careful about hurting our feelings. Yes," chimed in Nellie, "he's a dread

ful mean, cross-patchy old thing, Gladys—you know yourself he is—and I don't care if his head does ache a little, and I don't think you ought to, either, as many times he has set his horrid dog on our cats, and you know he never for a ball or anything. 'Yes." chimed in little 3 year old Rob

ble, gravely, "an' he said if I peeked fence any more to see the peacocks he'd turn out an' spank me; an'

"Oh, Robbie!" returned Gladys, with a reproachful look. "It's a shame for you to say so. Only just think, poor Mr. Norris hasn't any little boys and girls to be good to him, or any one to love him, and he's old and lame and sick, and it's no wonder he's cross. I'm sure

to fret us."
"Well, then, Miss," Tom said, his tone a little less wrathful than before, for he, as well as little Robbie, had been impressed by his sister's remonstrance, "if we're not to fire off crackers, and are to go walking around on our tiptoes all day long, so's not to make any noise, perhaps you'll tell us what we can do next Thursday, if it wouldn't trouble you too

"Yes, I will," returned Gladys brightly, quite unruffled by Tom's sarcasm, "let's take our dinner and go over on the island and stay all day long. Then we'll be so far away that our noise won't trouble Mr. Norris, and I'm sure we'll have lots more fun than we could

The children all realized the truth of The children all realized the truth of this statement, but Tom felt that he must not yield the point too easily, and so objected. "But how do you know mother will let us go?"

"Oh, nonsense, Tom?" cut in Jack, briskly. "Of course she will, and what's more, Gladys is right, and you know it, so don't raise any more objections."

So it was cettled, and from that moment preparations for a very delightful day upon the island went steadily on. The boys creeted a fort and fertifications for

and the girls busied themselves making ready the banquet, which was to be an elaborate affair, while little Robbie importantly gave his aid to every one, help the band of the ground.

"Oh Robbie" cried Gladys in a discussion of the stand on upon the ground.

"Oh Robbie" cried Gladys in a discussion of the ground. ing and hindering as only an active small "Oh, Robidel" cried Gladys in a dis-

ACK and Nellie Foster and their be, and every one was so busy that no lemon pie!"

three young neighbors, the Blakes, one noticed when Robbie stole out into Sure enough



"EAGERLY GATHERED ABOUT THE LIT-TLE PEAST "

boot beels in the hall, and then to see covering. Robbie's face smiling upon him from the doorway.

"I bringed you some flowers," he said, ed. softly, "and two nice firecrackers, too. I couldn't spare any more, 'cause we hasn't got very many. I'm awful sorry dren declared, when tired and hap you's sick, an' we're all going away off separated for the night, that Mr. to shoot our firecrackers, so the bangs won't make your head be worse. Good

So strangely and silently had Robbie come, and so abruptly had he departed, Mr. Norris would have thought it all a dream had he not had tangible evidence of its truth in the bunch of gaudy flowers and the two brilliant firecrackers Kansas.

the bloodless battles which were to be which Robble had left upon the stand

boy can.

At last the morning dawned, bright Bunquet, "what have you done? You and beautiful as a Pourth of July should exceless boy to step in our beautiful

Sure enough, to their great dismay the three young neighbors, the Biskes, one noticed when Robbis access the road and stood looking wistfully children discovered that Robbis had succeeded in planting one dusty little foot were nothing a constant upon scross the road.

"Poor old man?" he said, sofrly, "I'm right in the very center of the tempting "I tell you, I call it a shame that we sorry he isn't got any little boys an' pie which was considered the crowning

"Never mind," answered Robbie, Norris' good-natured coachman appeared before them with an immense basket

"There," he said, setting it down with a thump in their midst, "Mr. Norris sends this, with his compliments, to Master Robbie, and he hopes you'll enjoy it; and I'm to tell you that if you'll come over on the lawn to-night there's be a few fireworks which perhaps you'll like see," and with a kindly nod at his delighted and astounded hearers, Hiram was gone.

"What does it mean? Somebody pinch me, so I'll be quite sure it's not all a dream!" gasped Nellie, after a moment of breathless silence.

"No, it isn't a dream, because here's the basket, and do let's see what is in it," returned Jack, seizing the heavy basket and eagerly tearing away the paper If I should try, I could not tell you

all the goodies which that basket contain-Nor could I describe the beauty and brilliancy of the fireworks upon the lawn that evening. But every one of the chil-dren declared, when tired and happy they was a most delightful person and that this Fourth of July had been by far the best they ever yet had known.-Detroit

The eating of anakes, lizards, scorpions, centipedes, tarantulas and other reptiles is now prohibited by statute in

## BOY'S DREAM OF AN IDEAL FOURTH.

