FORREST HOUSE ing so innocently to him for protection. The two ladies did not like Jose

phine, though they

very

admitted

and

beautiful

BY MARY J. HOLMES. CHAPTER I.

TWO LETTERS.

The first, a small half-sheet, enclosed in large thick envelope, and addressed in a child ish, unformed hand, to Mr. James Everard directed in a plain round hand to J. Everard Forrest, Esq., Ellicottville, Mass., with the words "in haste" written in the corner. Both letters were in a hurry, and both found their way together to a brown haired. brown-eved. the hour 10 a. m. of a sultry July day. At that young Forrest from Amherst College, first it was almost too much exertion to break who had boarded at the brown heuse for a reat, Jr., toyed with the smaller envelope of there so often since.

the two, and studied the handwriting. "I may as well see what Josey wants of

"DEAR NED : You must come to-morrow on the four o'clock train. Everything has gone sixes and sevens, for just at the very last Mrs. Murdock, who has been dving for very little to say. You can learn it all in fifteen minutes, but you must come to-morrow so as to rehearse with us once at least. Now. don't vou dare fail. I shall meet vou at the

"Yours lovingly. JOSEPHINE FLEMING.

"P. S.-Do you remember I wrote you in my last of a Dr. Matthewson, who had been in town a few days stopping at the notel? He has consented to be the priest on condition that you are the bridegroom, so do not

fail me. " Again, with love, JOR." "And so this is my lady's great haste," the young man said, as he finished reading the letter. "She want me for her bridegroom, and I don't know but I'm willing, so I guess I'll have to go; and now for Rossie's inter-esting document, which must be 'forwarded immediately.' I only wish it may prove to have money in it from the governor, for I'm

etting rather low." So saying he took the other letter and examined it carefully, while a smile broke over

his face as he continued : "Upon my word, Rossie did not mean this to go astray, and has written everything out in full, even to Massachusetts and Janior. Good for her. But how crooked; why, that junior stands at an angle of several degrees above the Mr. Rossie ought to do better. She must be nearly thirteen ; but she's a nice little girl, and I'll see what she says." ing manner with which she greeted him, and carried him off towards home. She was so glad to see him, and her eyes looked at him so softly and tenderly, and she had so

What she said was as follows :

FORREST HOUSE, July 14. Mr. Evarard Forrest: "DEAR SIR: Nobody knows I'm writing

all, and the brown house overgrown with hopvines was so cool and pleasant, and Agnes had such a tempting little supper prepared to you, but your mother has been worse for a few days, and keeps talking about you even for him on the back plazza, that Everard noyed her dreadfully." felt supremely happy and content, and "How could he," the doctor asked, and in her sleep. She did not say send for you, but I thought if you knew how bad she was, felt supremely happy and content, and once, when nobody was looking on, kissed the blue eyed fairy flitting so joyously around "How could he," the doctor asked, and Everard replied : "I hardly know. I believe, though, it was you would perhaps come home for a part of your vacation. It will do her so much good him. to see you. I am very well and your father too. "I say, Josey," he said, when the So no more at present."

tea-things had been removed and he was lounging in his usual lazy attitude Yours respectfully, "ROBAMUND HASTINGS."

"P.S.-Miss Beatrice Belknap has come home from New York, and had the typhoid upon the door step and smoking his cigar. 'it's a heap nicer here than down in that hot close hall. Let's not go to the rehearsal. I'd fever, and lost every speck of her beautiful rather stay home." "Bat you can't do it. You must go, You don't know how funny she looks hair.

She offered me fifty dollars for mine to make Josephine replied. "Tou must rehearse and learn your part, though for to night it doesn't her a wig, because it curls naturally, and is just her color, but I would not sell it for the world; would you? Inclosed find ten matter. You can go through the marriage dollars of my very own money, which I send coremony well enough, can't you?" you to come home with, thinking you might "Of course I can, and can say." "Of course I can, and can say, 'I, Everard, take thee, Josie, to be my lawful wife,' and, need it. Do not fail to come, will you?

"Rosamon." by Jove, I wouldn't care if it was genuine. Everard read this letter twice, and smoothed Suppose we get a priestand makea real thing out the crisp ten-dollar bill, which was care of it. I'm willing, if you are."

fully wrapped in a separate bit of paper. It There was a pretty blush on Josey's cheek fully wrapped in a separate bit of paper. It was not the first time he had received money in his sore need from the girl, for in a blank book, which he always carried in his pocket, then hurried in moff to the hall, where the then hurried black were several entries, as follows: "I an. 2, from Rosamond Hastings, five dollars; March 4th, two dollars; June sth, one dollar," and so on until the whole amount was more than in his character as priest. He had gone out twenty dollars, but were several entries, as follows: "Father was gone, and this wretch, who itself. Dr. Matthewson was not forthcoming. in his character as priest. He had gone out twenty dollars, Hastings was fainting for the hurried in the fath, where the "Father was gone, and this wretch, who must have been in liquor, was bullying my Half an hour before Everard had gone with the Doctor to the bar and taken a glass of wome, which was beginning to affect his twenty dollars, but never before had she sent of town, and had not yet returned; him so large a sum as now, and there was a other took his place in the marriage scene, moisture in his eyes and his breath came where Everard was the bridgroom and heavily as he put it away in his purse, and Josephine the bridge. The play was called d: There never was so unselfish a creature effective with the full glamor of lights, **ч**егу as Rossie Hastings. She is always thinking and dress, and people on the ensuing of somebody else. And I am a mean, con night; and Josephine declared herself satisfied temptible dog to take her money as I do : but with the rehearsal, and sanguine of success, then. I honestly intend to pay her back tenespecially as Dr Matthewson appeared at the fold when I have something of my own." Thus re-assuring himself, he put his purse last moment apoligizing for his tardiness, and assuring her of his intention to be present the into his pocket, and glancing again at Rossie's letter his eye fell upon Miss Belknap's name, next evening. He was a tall, powerfully-built man of thirand he laughed aloud as he said: "Poor bald Bee Belknap. She must look comical. I can imagine how it hurts her ber hurts her comical. I can imagine how it hurts her ber hurts hurts hurts her ber hurts hurts her ber hurts eye, and in the smile which habitually played comical. I can imagine now it nurts her eve, and in the smile which nontually played pride. Buy Rossie's hair, indeed 1 I should about his mouth. Still, he was very gentle think not, when that is her only beauty, if I manly in his manner, and fascinating in his except her eyes, which are too large for her conversation, for he had travelled much, and face; but that will round out in time and seen everything, and spoke both German and Acosic may be a beauty yet, though not like French as readily as his mother tongue. Josey; no, never like Josey." With Miss Fleming he seemed to be on And that brought the young man back to the most intimate terms, though the intimacy Miss Fleming's letter, and its imperative re-quest. Could he comply with it now ! Ought he not to go at once to the sick mother, who was missing him so sadly, and who had riage," where John Murdock was to have asked made all the happiness he ever known at officiated. home? Duty said yes, but inclination saying gallantly that he preferred to be the drew him to Holburton and the fair Jos bridgeroom, and asking who the favored in-ephine, with whom he believed himself to be, dividual was to be. continued : dividual was to be. "Mr. Everard Forrest, frem Rothsay and with whom he was, perhaps, as much in love as any young man of twenty well can be Southern Ohio," Josephine replied, with a Perhaps Rossie had been unduly alarmed conscious blush which told much to the exat all events, if his mother was so very sick perienced man of the world. "Forrest ! Everard Forrest !" the doctor his father would write, of course, and on the whole he believed he should go to Holburton his mouth was more perceptible. "Seems to me I have heard that name before. by the afternoon train, and then, perhaps, go home. And so the die was cast, and the young Where did you say he lived, and where is he man walked to the telegraph office, and sent now ?" Josephine replied again that Mr. Forrest's across the wires to Miss Josephine Fleming he three words : " I will come." home was in Rothsay, Ohio, at a grand place

tender towards the helpless creature appeal believed in honest labor, but that she traded Nothing would put father in such a passion away, as did Mathewson's concluding words; lark, and he felt a great deal better, and rest. You are tired, and worn, and pale on her daughter's charms, and brought her as for me to make what he thought a mes-up in utter idleness, while Agnes, the child of alliance.

THE MOCK MARRIAGE.

The long hall, or rather ball-room, of the

complexion which never looked red or tired.

And never was real bride more transcend-

ing the last touches to her bridal toilet.

that her husband's first marriage, was made a sty-very drudge and slave to the young beauty, " Yes, I see, and yet-The doctor did not finish the sentence, but der." lish, in her blue muslin and white chip hat was urged against her as a serious wrong, with the long feather drooping low behind, and, except as the keeper of a boarding house, looked instead down into the garden where Josephine was flitting among the flowers.

too pretty by far and too much of the fine in which capacity she excelled, the Widow "Miss Fleming is a very beautiful girl," lady, they said, for a daughter of the widow Fleming was not very highly esteemed in Hol Roxie Fleming, who lived in the brown house burton. All this Dr. Matthewson learned and heartily: on the Common, and sewed for a living when then he was told of young Forrest, a mere "Yes, the handsomest I ever saw." Forrest, Junior, Elicottville, Berkshine County, Massachusetts, with the request in the lower lest hand corner for the postmaster to forward immediately; the second, a dainty little per-fumed missive, with a fanciful monogram, directed in a plain and sewer for a hving when then, as the best of women will sometimes of the scandlous way she had of flirting with directed in a plain a nonogram. every man in town, of her airs and indelence, directed in a plain a nonogram. every man in town, of her airs and indelence, directed in a plain a nonogram. every man in town, of her airs and indelence, directed in a plain a nonogram. every man in town, of her airs and indelence, directed in a plain a nonogram. every man in town, of her airs and indelence, directed in a plain a nonogram. every man in town, of her airs and indelence, directed in a plain a nonogram. every man in town, of her airs and indelence, directed in a plain a nonogram. every man in town, of her airs and indelence. the landlady's words, 'made a dead set,' and succeeded, too, it would seem, for if they were not engaged they ought so be, though it was too bad for the boy, and somebody ought to tell his father. which they called laziness, and wondered i were true that poor old Agnes, her half

mended her clothes, and waited upon her tell his father. such was in substance the story told by saw he had gone far enough, and having the hostess of the Eagle to Dr. Matthewson, learned all he cared to know, he arose to go generally as if she were a princess, and toiled, way together to a brown-haired, brown-eyea, brown-faced young man, who sat under the shadow of the big maple tree on the Commonin Ellicottville, lazily puffing his cigar and fan-ning himself with his Panama hat, for the the mometer was ninety in the shade, and thermometer was ninety in the shade, and the hour 10 a.m. of a sultry July day. At that young Forrest from Amherst College, brown faced and the shade and the hour to a method act the brown house forrest House. CHAPTER III.

When Everard came and was introduced to the seals, and for a moment J. Evarard For- few weeks the previous summer, and been him after the rehearsal, there was a singular

expression in the eyes which scanned the young man so curiously; but the doctor's "A well-mannered chap as you would wish "I may as well see what Josey wants of me in haste," he said at last, and breaking the seal, he read : HOLEUKTON, July 15. "Drug Name : Worm was compared to see," one of them said, "with a civil word the see," one of them said, "with a civil word to see," one of them said, "with a civil word the seal, he read : HOLEUKTON, July 15. "Drug Name : Worm was compared to its utmost the speaker lowered her voice, as she con-upon him at Mrs. Fleming's early in the ware to help buy a fire-engine, the whole the speaker lowered her voice, as she con- upon him at Mrs. Fleming's early in the

"Only he does look a little fast, for morning, and in the course of an hour estabtown was interested, and the whole town was tinued : sinuea: "Only he does look a little fast, for morning, and in the course of an hour estable town was interested, no decent behaved boy of twenty ought to have such a tired, fagged look as he has, and they do say there were some great carousin's at Widder Fleming's last summer, which is the bare of the source of the star of the source of there. First on the programme came tab-leaux and charades, interspersed with music from the Ellicott band, and then there was a twenty years or more, must really die, and the Murdock boys can't act, so you must take the Character of the bridegroom in the play where I am to be the bride. You will have very little to say. You can learn i take vide world, cost of some great more of mis is introver than a year. Everard never, phine herself knew after an acquait or phine herself knew after an acqu voice was a whisper-"they had a pack of cards, for Miss Murdock saw them with her would be heir, as he was the only child. He he where the dressing and powdering, and mask-ing and jesting were all going on promiscu own eyes, and young Forrest handled them did not know how much his father was worth, ously, Josephine Fleming was in a state of he said, as his fortune was estimated at va. great excitement, but hers was a face and

as if used to the business." he said, as his fortune was estimated at va-"Cards ! That settles it !" was repeated by rious sums, but it didn't do him much good, She was, perhaps, a shade paler than her wont, and her eyes were brighter and bluer as she stood before the little two-foot glass, givthe second woman, with a shake of the head, for the governor was close, and insisted upon which indicated that she knew all she cared knowing how every penny was spent. Con-to know of Everard Forrest, but her friend, sequently Everard, who was fast and expen who was evidently better posted in the gossip sive in his habits, was, as he expressed it, al of the town, went on to ada that "people said ways hard up, and if his mother did not ocfather was very rich, and lived in a fine old his father he would be in desperate straits, for she stood at last ready and waiting to be

father was very rich, and hved in a fue old ins father he wolld be in desperate strains, for place somewhere west or south, and had a fellow in college with the reputation of be owned negrees in Kentucky before the war, and was a copperhead, and very close and proud, and kept colored help, and would not what she had sent him, but he could not ing the had sent him, but he could not what she had sent him, but he could not ing him a strain of the sent him in the could not ing him a strain of the sent him ing him a strain of the sent him in the sent him ing him a strain of the sent sent sent him is dark, boyish ike it at all if he knew how his son was flirt- speak of that to this stranger, who sat smil ing with Josephine Fleming." Then they talked of the expected enter-

tanment at the Village Hall the following night, the proceeds of which were to go towards buying a fire enof by Dr. Matthewson. en-**Rossie!" Who is she? Have you a gine, which the people greatly needed. And tone, "Rossie !" Josephine was to figure in most everything, sister?" "Ob, no. I told you I was an only child.

suggested, and Everard replied : "Yes ; married a man much older than

much to tell him, and was so excited with it she had another terror in the shape of his news iconsing as Evenand, but he spore take the first shaft west, which dot is another to Josephine, feeling that here would be of two hours, and Josephine's eyes instantly noved her dreadfully." standing with her arm linked in Everard's, and at Dr. Matthewson's words she lifted her

about some house or piece of land, of which Mrs. Hastings held the deed for Rossie, and said : "Wouldn't that be capital, and shouldn't

said : doctor said interrogatively can keen it a secret

mother pulled her down to her seat, and in a larly of Agnes, except, indeed, as low whisper bade her keep quiet. And so the play went on, and was over at last; the crowd dispersed, and the tired ac-tors, sleepy and cross, gathered up the para-phernalia scattered everywhere, and went to their several homes. Everard and Josephine were the last to leave, for she had so much to young girl to Everard's cheek, but elicited no reply, for there was beginning to dawn upon were the last to leave, for she had so much to peculiar appearance; and the impression he the chairs. I did it myself, hoping you'd find say, and so much to see to, that it was after had of her, if any, was that she was unfortunate it pleasant, and stay home all the vacation,

had come down to the play. It had been arranged that young Stafford gone, and Mrs. Fleming and Josephine had ing modern or expensive in it, looked cool should pass the night at Mrs. Fleming's, and for a moment left him alone in the room, she and pretty, with its clean matting, snowy bed, when the party reached the cottage they came to him and putting her hand on his, fresh muslin curtains, and new blue and white is a line in the room, she in the room, she is a line is a line in the room, she is a line is a line in the room, she is a line is a line in the room, she is a line is a line in the room, she is a line in the room, she is a line is a line in the room, she is a line is a line in the room, she is a line is a line in the room, she is a line is a line in the room, she is a line is a l ard's spirits began to rise, and when at last time. Say you didn't mean it! Say you won't her best to make Mr. Everard's a blue room with his friend to his room, he was much like out. I can help—weak as I am. It is a pity, the tidies and toilet set and last the come way too, though she had nothing to do it with except to different and the provided of the come way too.

the tidies, and to liet set, and lambrequins made bad state of affairs, after all, if it should prove She was looking fixedly at him, and he saw of plain white musia bordered with strips that Josephine was really his wife. It would be so romantic and unusual. brightness or sunshine in all the wide world, cost of some personal sacrifice; and when it

"Perhaps you'd better read this first," Stafford said, handing him a telegram. "It came this morning, and I brought it with me, but would not give it to you till after the play, for fear it might contain bad news." Now young Stafford new perfectly

satisfied; only it must be a secret for a long, long time. Remember that, and your promise ence between Josephine and all his early asthe nature of the telegram, for he had been in the office when it came, and decided not to tell." "Yes, I'll remember, and may God help anything at the Forrest not to deliver it until the play was over. It was from Everard's father and read as fol-

WWS: "To J. EVERADD FORREST, JR -Your Come Immediately.

them and said: "I feel I shall be doing wrong to let this go He only knew that he wished he had gone her, will you ?"

Josephine was to figure in most everything, and they presumed she was now waiting for some chap to come on the train. For once they were right in their conjec-ture. She was waiting for Everard Forrest, and when the train came in he stepped upon the platform looking so fresh, and cool, and hades almost forgave Josephine for the gush-ing manner with which she greeted him,

suggested, and Everard replied : "Yes; married a man much older than herself, who abused her so shamefully that she left him at last, and sought refuge with my mother. Fortunately this Hastings died we make this marriage real? What do you golden hair, and her blue eyes full of tears. soon after, so she was freed from him; but say?" she had another terror in the shape of his "He was looking at Everard, but he spoke told her of the telegram, and said he must take the first train west, which left in about not quite smother the fear and dread in the shape of his "He was looking at Everard, but he spoke

"I am so sorry for you, and I hope your mother will recover. I have always wished blue eyes coyly into her lever's face, and to see her so much. Would you mind telling her of me, and giving my love to her ?"

about some nouse or n

Matthewson and asked :

night?

paper

treme.

Something in his manner must have com

be expelled, and father would never forgive

He was as near crying as he well could be and not actually give away, and Matthewson

was regarding him with a cool exultant ex-

Very briefly Dr. Matthewson explained the

matter to her, and laying his hand on Eye-

There was a gleam of triumph in Mrs.

ished and indignant that her daughter should

was perhaps already sorry for. "You are mistaken," Everard said, and

his young manhood asserted itself in Joseph-ine's defence. "Your daughter was not more

rard's arm, said laughingly:

"According to the authority vested in watched Mrs. Fleming and Agnes as they Are you sick?" and she looked anxiously me, I pronounce you man and wife. What signed their names to the certificate, and into the handsome face, where even she God has joined together let no man put asun-der." How real it seemed to the breathless audi-of pity for him, she left the room and his life.

"No; I'm just used up, and so hungry," ence - so real that Agnes Fleming, sitting far went back in the hall, in her faded muslin and old-fashioned bonnet, involuntarily rose to her feet and raised her hand with a deprecating and had visited there occasionally, which she had made bright with in he said, as he followed her into the cool fashioned bonnet, involuntarily rose to her Mrs. Fleming's family as a bonnet, which she had made bright with flowers in feet and raised her hand with a deprecating and had visited there occasionally, which she had made bright with flowers in gesture as if to forbid the banns. But her but he had never noted or thought particu-expectation of his coming.

the housevacation.

too, though she had nothing to do it with except the tidies, and toilet set, and lambrequins made st." him feel intuitively that she was a person to always called him, was sure to like it. And "It be trusted even to the death, and had he felt he did like it, and breathed more freely, as if so unhesitatingly; but he had none, and he mosphere than that of the brown house in "I do not wish to get out of it, Agnes, I am "I do not wish to get out of it, Agnes, I am

ence between Josephine and all his early as-sociates and surroundings. She was not like House though she you!" she answered, as she turned away, leav-ing him to wonder at her manner, which puz-fairer than little Rossie, whose white cape

what she had sent him, but he could not speak of that to this stranger, who sat smil sep ys tep until at last Rossie's name did torp from his lips, and was quickly caughtup to me. "Rossie !" Whe is chow, purring
"Rossie !" Whe is chow, purring

It was so hot in the dining room. she said. so when you are gone don't think of me as a brazen faced creature who asked you to marry and Aunt Axie was so out of sorts this morning, that she was going to serve his breakfast her, will you?" What answer could he give her except to assure her that he esteemed her as everything lovely and good, and he believed that he did the the tray of dishes, and creamed his coffee, and

when at last he said good by, and left her sugared his berries, and carved his chicken as kissing her hand to him as he stood in the if he had been a prince, and she his lawful doorway under the spreading hop vine, the slave. summer sunshine falling in flecks upon her At Mrs. Fleming's he had also been treated

like a prince, but there it was lame Agnes who served, with her sleeves rolled up, and So he saw her last, and this was the picture who served, with her sleeves rolled up, and he took with him as he sped away westward Josephine had acted the part of the fine lady. and never to his recollection had she soiled her hands with household work of any kind. How soft and white they were, - while Rossis's not quite smother the fear and dread at his hands were thin and tanned from exposure heart when he reflected what the consequences to the sun, and stained and scratched, with a of this rash marriage would be should his rag around one thumb which a cruel thorn

had torn ; but what deft, nimble hands they were, nevertheless, and how gladly they waited upon this tired, indolent young man, who took it as a matter of course, for had

concurred to Everard to wonder how he knew to smile: "I'd like it vastly, only you see I am not hing to his son. The was wholly unsuspicious, and went on the fatter never would forgive mether into hysterices by coming there is the socke the socthing voice of the destor." "I'd like it vastly, only you see I am not hing to his son. The was wholly unsuspicious, and went on the fatter never would forgive mether into hysterices by coming there is worke the socthing voice of the destor. "Hardly so tad as that, I think," stepmother into hysterics by coming there one day in winter, and demanding first the deed or will, and second his sister, whom he said his father gave to his charge. But I set the bit demanding the south while one of Josephine's hands found its way the worst or the best-whichever way he show the south while one of losephine's hands found its way the worst or the best-whichever way he the bit cepping souther into a single south while down while dow under the circumstances, he turned to Dr. for fifty years, and struck the hour when the mond would think if she knew just the scrape

CHAPTER IV.



CHAPTER II. DR. MATTHEWSON

at Amherst, and was spending his summer racation with a friend in Ellicottville. Yes, I understand," the doctor rejoined

called Forrest House ; that he was a student

bitious for her daughter's future. That she

station of the second second second second

adding, after a moment's pause ; "I'll be the priest ; but suppose I had the power to marry The train from Ellicottville was late that afternon. In fact, its habit was to be late, but on this particular day it was more than you in earnest; what then ?" "Oh, you wouldn't. You must not. Everusually behind time, and the one stage which Holburton boasted had waited more than half an hour at the little station of the out-of-the-very dreadful-and romantic, too," the girl said, as she looked searchingly into the dark way town, which lies nestled among the Berk went on :

eyes meeting hers so steadily. Up to that time Dr. Matthewson had taken shire hills, just on the boundary line between the Empire State and Massachusetts. The day was hot even for midsummer, and the but little notice of Josephine, except to retwo fat, motherly matrons, who sat in mark her extreme beauty as a golden-haired the station, alternately inveighed against the blonde. With his knowledge of the world they watched and discussed the young lady whatever position she held in Holburton was to the face of his companion, who, they watched and discussed the young lady due to her beauty and piquancy, and firm re- finding that in dealing with a frank, open heat, and wiped their glowing faces, while and ready discornment he had discovered that they watched and discussed the young lady whatever position she held in Holourton was who, on the platform outside, was walking up and down, seeming wholly unconscious of their espionage. But it was only seeming, for she knew perfectly well that she was an object of curiosity and criticism, and more than once she paused in her walk and turning by her face watched her. through the service, while she whipered and lanched and assed plain, replied : squarely round faced the two old ladies in while she whispered, and laughed, and passed order to give them a better view, and let them notes to the young men in front of her. With see just how many tucks and ruffles and out any respect himself for religion or the see just how many tucks and ruffles and out any respect himself for religion or the puffs there were in her new dress, worn that church, he despised irreverance in others, and day for the first time. And a very pretty formed a tolerably accurate estimate of picture Josephine Fleming made standing Josephine and her companions. After her father, I mean-not that brother." there in the sunshine, looking so articless and innocent, as if no thought of herself had ever greatly interested in everything pertaining to there is the substitute, locating to therself had ever innocent, as if no thought of herself had ever entered her mind. She was a pink and white bloude, with masses of golden hair rip-white bloude, with masses of golden hair rip-usual in such cases, more too. Her mother was in such cases, more too. Her mother was in born in Charleston, and boasts of Southpling back from her forehead, and those usual in such cases, more too. Her mother was dreamy blue eyes of which poets sing, and poor, and crafty and designing and very am

in them a marvellous power to

you are through college, and it would be such

just bade him begone; and when he said to Josephine was still looking at him with those just bade him begone; and when he said to foregoine was sum toosing at him with those per and waited the doctor's answer, which me sneeringly, 'Oh, little David, what do great dreany, pleading eyes, which alcare promptly and decidedly vays affected him so strangely. She was ' Most assuredly she is your lawful wife I have no sling?' I hit him a cut with my very beautiful, and he loved her with all the You took her with your full consent, know-riding-whip which made him wince with pain, strength of his boyish, passionate nature. So ing I could marry you, and I have brought have no sing, riding-whip which made him wince with pain, it is not strange that the thought of possessing will hold." and I followed up the blows till he left the it is not strange that the thought of possessing will hold." offered him." offered him." thouse then ?" the doctor asked. and I followed up the blows till he left the it is not strange that the thought of possessing your certificate, which I suppose the lady companionship than his horses and dogs, and

Mrs. Hastings died he wrote an imperchent incounte, trying to stammer out he hading ink of only iron, in the vinage that at hor letter to father asking the guardianship of knew what, except that it had some reference his sister, but we had promised her mother to his father, and mother, and Rossie, for he solemnly never to let her fall into his hands thought of her in that hour of his temptation. Ohio, to Miss Josephine Fleming of Holor under his influence, and father wrote such and wondered how he could face her with that burton.

or under his influence, and istue where a secret on his soul. "It is all right, I believe, and only neeus never heard from him since, and that is eight years ago. Nor should I know hear them stamping? What are you waiting in the names of your mother and sister as ringe is ever contested," Matthewson said, fed up."

he dup." "And have you no fear of him, that he longed and definite call greeted their ears who was staring blankly at the Josephine's hands, and if it had may yet be reverged ? People like him from the expectant audience. Josephine's hands, and if it had been his do not take cowhidings quietly," the doctor "Yes, let's co," Josephine said, "and pray death-warrant he was reading he could

forget that I almost asked you to marry me scarcely have been paler. he and you refused. I should not have done it Something in his manne " No, I've no fear of him, for what can and you retused. I should not have done it the Mock Mar-or the preset in "The Mock Mar-or the preset in "The Mock Mar-do to me? Besides, I should not wonder if where John Murdock was to have that first the doctor had objected, llantly that he preferred to be the reply, and after a moment his companion in the state of the moment is companion in the more deal. We have never heard of him since that letter to father," was Everard's in the state of the moment is companion in the more deal. We have never heard of him since that letter to father," was Everard's in the more dimension of the former dimens

swimming in tears and lifted so pleadingly your wife ! If you are, I shall wish I was 'And this girl—is she pretty and bright, to Everard's face! It was more than dead!" mortal man could do to withstand them, and Everard went down before them body and he said, "I could not be that; only I am and how old is she now ?" "Rossie must be thirteen," Everard said, "and the very nicest girl in the world but soul. His father's bitter anger, -so sure to so young, and have two years more in as to being pretty, she is too thin for that, follow, his mother's grief and disappointment college, and if this thing were known I should "Forrest I Everard Forrest I" the doctor repeated thoughtfully, and the smile about his mouth was more perceptible. "Seems what is peculiar for such eyes, her hair weighed as nought compared with this to me I have heard that name before which ripples all over her head, is a rich lovely creature with the golden hair and chestnut brown, with a tinge of gold upon it when seen in the sunlight. Her hair is her great beauty, and I should not be sur. "Ill do it, by George !" he said. and

pression in his cruel eyes, when Mrs. Fleming prised if she grew to be quite a handsome the hot blood came surging back to his face. appeared, asking what it meant. " It will be the richest kind of a lark. Very briefly Dr. Matthewson e "Very likely ;-excuse me, Mr. Forrest," Tie as tight as you please. I am more than

and the doctor spoke respectfully, nay, da-| willing." ferently, "excuse me if I appear too fami-liar. We have talked together so freely He was very much excited, and Josephine was trembling like a leaf. Only Dr. Matthew-son was calm as he asked : " Do you really

that you do not seem a stranger, and friendships. you know, are not always measured by mean it, and will you stand to it ?" "Are you ever coming," came angrily this Fleming's eyes, but she affected to be aston- interior adornments was more than made up Everard bowed, and, foolish boy that he e from the manager, who was losing all

was, felt flattered by this giant of a man, who patience. "Yes, I mean it, and will stand to it," Ever-" Possibly this little Rossie may some

ard said, and so went on to his fate. There was a cheer, followed by day be the daughter of the house in ear-nest." "What do you mean ? that my father will deep hush, when the curtain was with drawn, disclosing the bridal party upon the adopt her regularly ?" Everard asked, as he fitted up to represent a modern stage, drawing room, with groups of gaily-dressed people standing together, and in their midst Everard and Josephine, she radiantly

to it or repudiate the act; he, with a face white now as ashee, and a voice which was as if last night had never been. Then, when busky in its tone when, to the question: "Dost thou take this woman for thy wedded you can do so, and acknowledge it to your face was visible for an instant, then disapp scamp. I imagine he is rather proud; your wife ? Dost thou promise to love her, and father."

peared from view, and Rosamond Hastings came out to meet him, looking very fresh She settled it rapidly and easily, and Evercherish her, both in sickness and in health, "Rossie's family is well enough for any-thing I know to the contrary," said Everard. "Father would not object to that, though he is infernally proud. He is a South Carolin-ian, born in Charleston, and boasts of South-ian, born in Charleston, and boasts of South-

like the touch of death ran billough of the smoothed caressingly the bowed near, some direct, some direct, some direct, some direct, some direct, some direct, some direction of the some direction of han, born in Charleston, and boasts of South-ern blood and Southern aristocracy, while to be; it was like some dreadful nightmare, mother is a Bostonian of the bluest dye, and and he could not at all realize what he was both would think the Queen of England honored to have a daughter marry their son. when she too said, "I will," sounded very far the secrecy. After all, it was a pretty nice honored to have a daughter marry their son. when she too said, "I will," sounded very far the secrecy. After all, it was a pretty nice and asleep just now; so come in here and honored to have a daughter marry their son. when she too said, "I will," sounded very far the secrecy. After all, it was a pretty nice and asleep just now; so come in here and honored to have a daughter marry their son. when she too said, "I will," sounded very far the secrecy. After all, it was a pretty nice and asleep just now; so come in here and honored to have a daughter marry their son. when she too said, "I will," sounded very far the secrecy. After all, it was a pretty nice and asleep just now; so come in here and honored to have a daughter marry their son. when she too said, "I will," sounded very far the secrecy. After all, it was a pretty nice and asleep just now; so come in here and honored to have a daughter marry their son. when she too said, "I will," sounded very far honored to have a daughter marry their son. when she too said, "I will," sounded very far honored to have a daughter marry their son. when she too said, "I will," sounded very far honored to have a daughter marry their son. When she too said, "I will," sounded very far honored to have a daughter marry their son. When she too said, "I will," sounded very far honored to have a daughter marry their son. When she too said, "I will," sounded very far honored to have a daughter marry their son honored to have a which have in them a marvelious power to billous for her set and the barders was nother is a Bostonian of the bluest dye, and ing expression, which makes a man very took in set and kept boarders was nothing both would think the Queen of England to her detriment in a village, where the people honored to have a daughter marry their son.

first Forrest, the father of the present pro he was in.

"Were you in earnest in what you said last prietor, brought home his bride, a fair South-ight? Had you a right to marry us, and is prietor, brought home his bride, a fair South-ern girl, who drooped and pined in her North-And why should she not know? Why didn't he tell her, and have her help bin It was the first time he had put it into her native city, Charleston, where she died keep the secret tormenting him so sorely? He knew he could trust her, for he had done words, and as if the very name of wife made when her boy was born. This boy, her dearer to him, he wound his arm around the father of our hero, was chrisso many a time and she had not betraved him, but stood bravely between him and his her and waited the doctor's answer, which tened James Everard, in the grim old came promptly and decidedly irascible father, who, forgetting he once was young, was sometimes hard and severe with "Most assuredly she is your lawful wife! boyhood were passed in Charleston, excerpt on You took her with your full consent, know- the few occasions when he visited his father. his wayward son. Yes, he would tell Ros sie, and so make a friend for Josephine, who lived at Forrest house without other before he had decided how to begin, Rosa mond said :

the bevy of black servants he had brought " I'm so glad you are doing better, for --" from the South. When James was nearly twenty-one his here she hesitated and colored painfully, while

Everard said : "Well, go on. What is it ? Do you mean father died and then the house was closed until the heir was married, and came to it with a sweet, pale faced Bostonian, of rare the governor rides a high horse on account

culture and refinement, who introduced into of my misdemeanors ? " "Yes, Mr. Everard, just that. He is dread her new home many of the fashions and comful when you write for more money, which he forts of New England, and made the house ful when you write for more money, which he very attractive to the educated families in the says you squander on cigars, and fast horses and fine clothes, and girls ; he actually said neighborhood. girls, but my, ----your mother told him she

Between the lady and her husband, however, there was this point of difference ;... knew you were not the kind of person to think while she would, if possible, have changed of girls, and you so young ; absurd ! " and improved, and modernized the house, he And Rossie pursed up her little mouth as if

and improved, and modernized the house, he it were a perfectly preposterous idea for Ever-Josephine's hands, and if it had been his clung to everything savoring of the past, and though liberal in his expenditures where his table, and wines, and horses, and servants. The young man laughed a low

The young man laughed a low musical laugh, and replied, "I don't know about that. were concerned, he held a tight purse-string I should say it was just in my line. There when it came to what he called luxuries of any kind. What had been good enough for are ever so many pretty girls in Ellicottville his father was good enough for him, he said, and Holburton, and one of them so very when his wife proposed new furniture for the rooms which looked so bare and cheerless. with and marry her. What would not diverge the source of the source o

For the moment the matter-of-fact Rossie for his muddy boots and muddier dogs, while looked at him curiously, and then replied : curtains and shades were nuisances and only "I should thing you crazy, and not through served to keep out the light of heaven There were blinds at all the windows, and college. I believe your father would disinherit you, and serve you right, too. "And you, Rossie; wouldn't you stand by if his wife wished for anything more she

could hang up her shawl or apron when she was dressing and afraid of being seen. me and help me if I got into such a muss? He did, however, give her five hundred dol-lars to do with as she pleased, and with that and Rossie spoke with all the "Never! decision and dignity of thirty. "It would kill your mother, too. I sometimes think she "It would and her exquisite taste and Yankee ingenuity she transformed a few of the dark, musty old means you for Miss Belknap; she is so hand

rooms into the coziest, prettiest apartments some this summer !" imaginable, and, with the exception of abso- "Without her hair?" Everard asked, and Rossie replied, "Yes, without her hair. She has a wig, but does not quite like it. She lutely necessary repairs and supplies, that was the last, so far as expenditures for furniture "I have the honor of presenting to you your son, who, I believe, acknowledges your claim upon him."

means to get another." "And she offered fifty dollars for your ard, jr., was born, so it was now when he was twenty years old. But what it lacked in its hair I" Everard continued, stroking with his hand the chestnut brown tresses flowing down Rossie's back

"Yes, she did; but I could not part with ished and indignant that her daughter should in the grounds, which covered a space of three have lent herself to an act which Mr. Forrest or four acres, and were beautiful in the exmy hair even to oblige her. Of course I should give it to her, not sell it, but I can't spare it."

Here the Judge lavished his money with-What an unselfish child she was, Everard out stint, and people came from miles around to see the place, which was at i's best ine's defence. "Your daughter was not more to blame than myself. We both knew what that warm July morning when, tired and golden-haired Josephine, who would make to blame than myself. We both knew what that warm July morning wneu, there and fun of such a plain, simple, unformed girl as for the trouble in which it would involve me tered the highway gate, and walked up the life it were known at once that I was married." road to the house, under the tall maples and countrified; and perhaps she was all these, but she was so good, and pure, and these house to our which formed an arch over his head. truthful, that he felt abashed before her and shrank from the earnest, truthful eyes that rested so proudly on him, lest they should read more than he cared to have them.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

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heautiful, with a look of exultation on the selves," Mrs. Fleming answered quickly. It was very still about the house, and two face, but a tumult of conflicting emotions in "What is done cannot be undone, but we or three dogs lay in the sunshine asleep her heart, as she wondered if Dr. Matthewson can make the best of it, and I promise that on the piazza. At the sound of footnature like Everard's he must speak out "I mean, perhaps you will marry her." "I marry Rossie! Absurd! Why, I would had told the truth, and was authorized to the secret shall be kept as long as you like steps they awoke, and recognizing their marry her really, and if Everard would stand Josey will remain with me as she is, and young master, ran toward him, with a bark as soon think of marrying my sister," Everard laughed merrily at the idea. as soon think of marrying my and

"Such a thing is possible," returned the doctor, "though your father might object on the score of family, if that brother is such a