

After dinner was eaten—just as had been hoped—Louey Fair's pony was brought and each child had a ride on its broad, hot back, and then Sister and Brother, being the greatest strangers, were allowed to ride up to the house, where they were to go, to be out of the afternoon sun. Once there a grand romp began in the wide, old-fashioned halls and in the empty rooms, for, as in many another Virginia home, there were plenty of empty rooms in the Fair mansion.

It was a wildly happy afternoon, what with playing "hide and seek" in closets, under stairways, and behind generous doors, races along the porch which encircled the whole house, and "lost my glove yesterday, found it to-day," on the lawn. Indeed the fun grew so fast and furious that Brother lost his head and for the first time in his life did a really bad thing. When he was running around the ring to drop the glove, instead of dropping it in proper form behind Sissie Bel-