



ton
me better." She was
shaking. "It's all in the
as a novice mother with
business, terrified of doing
ified that Mum would
ink what to say, that is, I
but there was a lump in my
I about to budge. "Thank you."
instant response and at the very
for the other and held on tight

THREE



MALDEN, APRIL 20, 1940

By cold winter, spring had arrived with
itself was perfect, a fact Percy couldn't
from God. Then and there she became a
llage church, at the far end of the family
igned and William Morris had carved.
vicar, pronounced Harry Rogers and
The entire experience had the vaguely
though it was possible the quantity of
ned beforehand was playing its part.
ride and Percy was struck again by how
onventional sense, neither devilish nor
was handsome because he was good.
even when she was a little girl and he a
er came to the house to attend the clocks for Daddy.
something about the way he carried himself, the unassum-
dness, that marked him as a man whose self-opini-
Moreover he was possessed of a slow,
romantic but spoke of