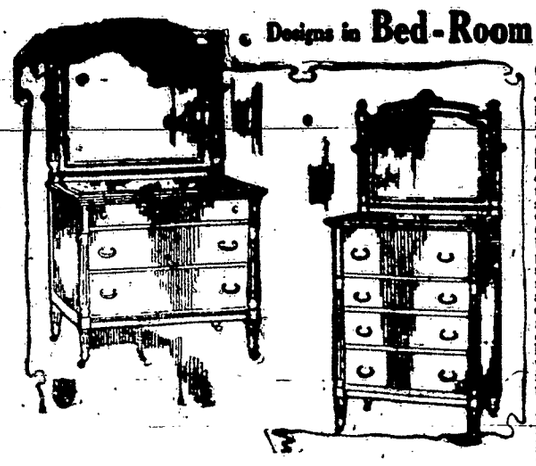

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An Inadvisable Place of Deposit

By GEORGETTE MALLORY

I am a woman and a librarian.

There are stories in the printed lines of the books I handle, and there are often stories between the leaves. What I mean is this: First, persons are prone when laying down a book they have been reading to use anything that comes handy between the pages for a bookmark, and, second, persons desiring to put away something temporarily are liable to slip it between the leaves of a book. There are many other reasons why things get into books, but these are the principal ones.

One morning when I went to the library to open it for the day I found a young girl waiting for me. She looked very anxious. As soon as I had unlocked the door and we were inside she asked eagerly if "Bleak House" was in the library.

I replied that I would find out for her, and, going to the shelf where it was kept, I looked. The book was there, and I gave it to the girl. Without a word she shook it, holding it open, evidently that anything between the leaves might drop on the floor. Nothing came from it, and after running the leaves rapidly between her thumb and fingers she sank into a chair and covered her face with her hands.

"What's the matter?" I asked.

We all like to have some one to help us bear our troubles, and the poor girl poured hers out to me without restraint. Hearing that her lover had jilted her, she had written him a very strong letter—such a one as she should not have written in any event—and had delayed sending it till she should have cooled off. Her brother had been reading "Bleak House," and the book lay open on a table. Called away suddenly, she had put this letter, sealed, stamped and addressed, in the open place and closed the book, intending to return for it. Learning that the story she had heard about her lover's unfaithfulness was untrue, she intended to destroy her letter, but in her happy relief had forgotten it for several days. When she remembered it her brother, who had already finished reading the book, had returned it to the library. She asked me if "Bleak House" had been since taken out. I looked at the date stamped on the paper used for the purpose pasted in the book cover and informed her that the book had been out a few days.

"Have you heard from your lover lately?" I asked.

"No," she replied bitterly, "and I never expect to hear from him again. He will ignore me from now on."

"You can write him that you wrote the letter under a mistake."

"That will do no good. It is having written such a letter at all that has done the mischief. He is a very self contained person and has always feared that I am too fiery to suit him."

At this juncture some girls on their way to school came in to return books, and I was obliged to leave the poor girl, who departed looking the picture of despair. I inwardly determined to try to follow up "Bleak House" and see where it had been, with a view to getting some definite information as to what had become of the missing letter. But the book after its return by the girl's brother had been given out by one of the other girls employed in the library, and, though she remembered having done so, she could not tell to whom she had given it. Another girl had taken it when it was returned.

Miss Wainright, the girl who had written the letter, came into the library every day for a week and asked if any one had left the letter at the library, but as I continually disappointed her she finally gave the matter up. She told me that she had not heard a word from her lover, and she had concluded that he had dropped her.

A month passed, and Miss Wainright came into the library one day looking so thin and pale that I believed she was going into a decline. Wishing to end her suspense, I urged her to write to her lover and have the matter over with. She shook her head. During our conversation I got her to give me his name and address without her suspecting I was inquiring for it especially, and I made up my mind to write this gentleman stating that a letter had been misdirected to him and ask him if he had received such a letter.

As soon as I got time I wrote the letter and put it aside—not in a book—till I should leave the library in the evening, when I proposed to mail it.

Just before I left one of the girls came to me with the missing letter. She had gone to the place where Dickens' works were kept and, taking out a book from the lowest shelf, saw something white on the floor behind it. Taking it out, she found that it was an unmailed letter. It had doubtless dropped out of "Bleak House" after the book's return to the library by Miss Wainright's brother.

I called up Miss Wainright and asked her if she could come over to the library. She joined me there, and I handed her the letter.

It would be impossible to describe her expression of relief.

She at once wrote her lover to know why he had been silent so long, and he replied that since she had not replied to his last letter he had concluded she had grown tired of him.

I don't know a more dangerous place to leave any article than in a book. Books circulate, and no one can ever tell what is to become of any particular volume.

Swimming With a Cold.

In an address before the leading ear, nose and throat specialists of the country Dr. Hill Hastings of Los Angeles recently called attention to the danger of a person's swimming, and particularly diving, when he has a cold in the head. Comparatively few persons realize that it is dangerous, and many even believe that when they have recovered from a cold and are still annoyed by excessive thick secretions in the nose they can find relief by diving or plunging the head under water. The purulent matter washed out is not only a danger to others, says Dr. Hastings, but the diver himself runs a risk of forcing some of the pus into his middle ear. Most specialists have observed that cases of mastoid abscess are common every summer during the swimming season. At the large ear, nose and throat hospitals it is recognized that the swimming season invariably brings on "a crop of mastoids." The advice to keep out of the water until a "head cold" is entirely cleared up cannot be too strongly emphasized.

Imagination.

The gift of imagination appears to be the peculiar privilege of man. The architecture of the beaver is clever and ingenious, but the work of one beaver differs only from that of his fellow in the shape and nature of the wood at their respective command. The cells of a honeycomb, beautiful and mathematically correct as they are, differ in no particular from those in every other bee's construction. Every village boy knows that one thrush's nest is repeated character for character in that of another. With you it is different; each one of you can put something of himself into his work, and unless he does so he becomes a mere copyist, an echo and not a sound, a purveyor of "white robed innocence" and "flower bespangled meads."—Samuel Johnson.

How War Comes.

The precedents of history show that the great majority of the world's conflicts have been begun before formal declarations of war were made. According to authorities on international law, a condition of war arises in three ways:

First.—Declaration of war.

Second.—A proclamation or manifesto declaring that a state of war exists.

Third.—Through the commission of hostile acts of force.

One authority on international law, describing ways in which hostilities may begin without formal declaration, says, "Acts of force by way of reprisals or during a pacific blockade or during an intervention might be forcibly resisted, * * * hostilities breaking out in this way."—New York World.

Vast Russia.

"It is difficult without a map to give the reader any idea of how far away northeast Siberia is," says an English magazine. "The European imagination travels slowly beyond the Ural mountains into that great frozen plain which embraces nearly the whole of northern Asia and ends at the Pacific ocean. Russia in Europe is vast, but the area of her Asiatic dominions exceeds that of the whole of Europe by more than a million square miles, though this enormous tract of country contains fewer inhabitants than half the population of London."

Giant Spider Crab.

The giant Japanese spider crab is the ugliest looking shellfish in the world. Its body measures about one foot across, and the claws have a "spread" now and then of over twelve feet. These spider crabs inhabit the Japan sea and often live 2,000 feet below the surface of the waves.

Bobby's Reason.

"Why did you spell 'bank' with a capital, Bobby?"

"'Cause pa says a bank ought always to have a good big capital."—Boston Transcript.

Yes, Indeed.

Blobbs—The average wife tells her husband everything she hears. Slobbs—And a lot she doesn't.—Philadelphia Record.

PRACTICAL HEALTH HINT.

Catarrhal Jaundice.

The most common form of jaundice is that known as catarrhal jaundice because it is caused by an inflammation of the mucous membrane of the bile ducts. That affection is usually the result of some indiscretion of diet or of exposure to inclement weather. Sometimes the symptoms are very slight. The patient merely feels a little out of sorts or bilious; he loses his appetite, his tongue is furred, there is perhaps a little nausea, and his bowels are sluggish. He hardly regards himself as sick and is quite surprised to be told that he has grown yellow. The yellow color affects the whites of the eyes as well as the skin, and sometimes it is almost entirely confined to the eyes.

The treatment of this form of jaundice is simple. A light diet, a blue pill or a dose of salts and rest in bed for a day or two will usually suffice. If the symptoms persist consult a physician, for they may be the first indication of some grave liver trouble. Indeed, it is safer to consult a physician at once and let him take charge of the case from the very start.

Head of Coast Patrol Of Submarine Chasers

For some time, as a preparation for possible warfare, the navy department has been enrolling a great "mosquito fleet" of big motorboats. There have been thousands of offers of this type of boats from all parts of the country, and the department listed them for mobilization. Now the navy department has established on an official basis the coast patrol of submarine

Photo by American Press Association.

CAPTAIN HENRY B. WILSON.

chasers, and Captain Henry B. Wilson has been placed in charge. He was commander of the superdreadnought Pennsylvania when assigned to his new duty.

Captain Wilson is a native of New Jersey, from which state he was appointed to the Naval academy at Annapolis in 1876. Since his graduation he has served in many capacities in the navy and all with credit to himself and the service. He reached the rank of captain in 1911 and two years later was appointed president of the board of inspection and survey for ships. Captain Wilson is fifty-six years old.

Our Flag and Anthem

It is considered a mark of disrespect to allow the flag to fly throughout the night.

Flags hung against a wall should be straight or flat, not draped, and the Union, or star field, should be in the upper left hand corner to the observer if the stripes are horizontal or in the upper right hand corner if the stripes are perpendicular.

The hymn "The Star Spangled Banner" is the national anthem not by act of congress, but by the recognition given it by the army and navy. Whenever it is played listeners should stand. Rise always for "The Star Spangled Banner."

Mother's Doll Story

The Pillow Fight

There was once a nice pair of rag doll kittens.

They slept in a box at the bottom of their little master's bed, but they always woke up earlier than their master did.

He liked to sleep till his mamma called him three times. So when the rag kittens whispered or called out to each other it made him very cross.

"Hey!" shouted the calico kitten to the gingham one. "Get up or I will hit you over the head with my pillow!"

Now this was just what the gingham kitten wanted. He loved a good pillow fight.

And before either of the noisy kittens thought how much their master wanted to sleep late they were hard at it batting each other with their soft little pillows.

Then a funny thing happened. One pillow broke open and let a lot of feathers blow all over the room. This quite frightened the rag kittens, for they expected to get a good scolding from their master. But instead he just slept on while a lot of little white feathers rested in his brown curls. Of course the rag kittens jumped back into their box and pretended to be fast asleep when their master finally did wake up.

Riddle.

Once there was a little man,
"Catch me, catch me, if you can,"
Thus he sang the livelong day.
While the children were at play,
While they worked or ate or slept,
Blithely forth he quickly stept,
"Catch me, catch me, if you can,"
Ever sang the little man,
Ever, always, just the same.
Time—That was the old man's name.

Home Cookery

Rice Chowder.

Fry two tablespoonfuls of rice and an onion in butter, stirring this constantly till an even brown color, then cover with water and cook about twenty minutes or until soft. In the meantime chop any cold meat you happen to have, put this in with your rice, add half a can of tomatoes and simmer together for a few minutes longer, seasoning to suit your taste. If lacking the meat fry some sliced bacon with the rice and onions, it makes just as good a dish.

Cheese and Rice.

Cover the bottom of a baking dish with a layer of well cooked rice, add a layer of chopped sweet peppers, another layer of rice and cover the whole with milk or cooked tomatoes. Bake slowly for three-quarters of an hour, then cover with a pound of grated cheese and bake for fifteen minutes longer. Serve hot.

Baked Bean Croquettes.

A cupful of baked bean pulp, a teaspoonful of onion juice, half a cupful of white sauce, salt and pepper. Combine the ingredients and allow them to stand for two or three hours. Shape this mixture into croquettes. Roll them in breadcrumbs, beaten egg and crumbs again. Fry them in deep fat.

Potato With Onion Puree.

Press hot boiled potatoes through a ricer, add salt, pepper, cream, butter and one or two hot, cooked onions pressed through a sieve. Mix all together thoroughly and put in ramekins or a baking dish. Brush over the top of the potato with butter and let bake until browned slightly.

Virginia Ham.

Cut slices of ham about three-fourths inch thick. Take a cupful of brown sugar and add to this one tablespoonful of mustard. Spread this mixture on each side of the ham, place in a baking pan, the bottom of which is covered with water. Bake until tender.

Fish Croquettes.

Three cupfuls of mashed potatoes, half a cupful of cracker or breadcrumbs, two eggs and a small can of fish flakes, picked up. Drop in deep fat and fry a golden brown.

Plan Rotation of Crops In Vegetable Garden

By laying out the garden with a definite aim in view and considering carefully the nature and requirements of each plant considerable labor may be saved in the cultivation, while the production of the garden may be materially increased. Before the season of planting arrives a plan should be drawn. Vegetables requiring the most cultivation should be planted at one side, and those needing the same length of time to reach maturity should also be placed together. Garden planning early means economy of time, labor and money in spring and summer.

Plan to keep the garden busy. This may be done by arranging one crop to follow another in close succession. Plant spinach, radishes and early lettuce side by side and set tomato and pepper plants to follow the spring crops. The early crops will be ready to take off before the middle of June and in pulling them out spaces may be made to set the plants while part of the ground is still occupied by the first crop. The early crops may be used until July, and the later crops are at the same time being developed. Early peas will come off the land the latter part of June, and beets for winter use may follow.

Plan successions of such vegetables as peas, sweet corn and snap beans.

Vanished at a Touch