

In the Realm of Women--Some Interesting Features



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The most strenuous advocates of civil service reform are the men who receive a fat state or federal salary. A belief that narrows a man's ideas ought not to be honored by being called religion.

The RED HOUSE MYSTERY

by A. A. MILNE

BEGIN HERE TODAY

Who had shot and killed the near-do-well ROBERT ABLETT, within two minutes after his arrival at The Red House, the country estate of his wealthy bachelor brother, MARK ABLETT? Robert's body was on the floor of the locked office. Mark was missing and, in the opinion of Inspector Birch, it was clear that Mark, who had looked forward with annoyance to the return of his brother from Australia, had shot Robert and then disappeared.

But there were mysterious circumstances. The shot was fired a few moments before

GO ON WITH THE STORY

"We shall have to take every blessed book down," Bill said, "before we can be certain that we haven't missed it."

Antony's pipe was now going satisfactorily, and he got up and walked leisurely to the end of the wall opposite the door.

"Well, let's have a look," he said, "and see if they are so very frightful. Hello, here's your 'Edmonton.' You often read that, you say?"

"If I read anything."

"Yes," he looked down and up the shelf. "I like books of travel, don't you?"

"They're pretty dull as a rule."

"Well, anyhow, some people like them very much," said Antony reproachfully. He moved on to the next row of shelves. "The Drama. The Restoration dramatists. You can have most of them. Still, as you well remark, many people seem to love them. Shaw, Wilde, Robertson—I like reading plays. Bill, there are not many people who do, but those who do are usually very keen. Let us pass on."

He went to the next shelf, and then gave a sudden whistle. "Hallo, hallo!"

"What's the matter?" said Bill rather peevishly.

"Stand back there. Keep the crowd back, Bill. We are getting amongst it. Sermons, as I live, Sermons. Was Mark's father a clergyman, or does Mark take to them naturally?"

"His father was a parson, I believe. Oh, yes, I know he was."

"Ah, then these are Father's books. 'Half-Hours with the Infants'—I must order that from the library when I get back. 'The Lost Sheep,' 'Jones on the Trinity,' 'The Narrow Way,' being Sermons by the Rev. Theodore Usher—hallo!"

"What is the matter?"

"William, I am inspired. Stand by." He took down the Reverend Theodore Usher's classic work, looked at it with a happy smile for a moment, and then gave it to Bill.

"Here, hold Usher for a bit."

Bill took the book obediently.

"No, give it me back. Just go out into the hall, and see if you can hear Cayley anywhere. Say 'Hallo' loudly, if you do."

Bill went out quickly, listened, and came back.

"It's all right."

"Good." He took the book out of his shelf again. "Now then, you can hold Usher. Hold him in the left hand—so. With the right or dexter hand, grasp this firmly—so. Now, when I say 'Pull,' pull gradually. Got that?"

Bill nodded, his face alight with excitement.

"Good." Antony put his hand into the space left by the stout Usher, and fingered the back of the shelf. "Pull," he said.

Bill pulled.

"Now just go on pulling like that. I shall get it directly. Not hard, you know, but just keeping up the strain." His fingers went at it again busily.

And then suddenly the whole row of shelves, from top to bottom, swung gently open toward them.

"Good Lord!" said Bill, letting go of the shelf in his amazement.

Antony pushed the shelves back, extracted Usher from Bill's fingers, replaced him, and then, taking Bill by the arm, led him to the sofa and deposited him in it. Standing in front of him, he bowed gravely.

"Child's play, Watson," he said; "child's play."

"How on earth—"

"Oh, my dear Bill!" He smoked silently for a little, and then went on. "This passage has been here for years, with an opening at one end into the library, and at the other end into the shed. Then Mark discovered it and immediately he felt that everybody else must discover it. So he made the shed end more dif-



place, knocked out the ashes of his pipe, and turned back to BILL. He looked at him gravely without speaking.

"What are you going to say to him?" he said at last.

"How do you mean?"

"Are you going to arrest him, or help him to escape?"

"I—I—well, of course, I—" began Bill, stammering, and then ended lamely, "Well, I don't know."

"Exactly. We've got to make up our minds, haven't we?"

Bill didn't answer.

"You know, you can't just say, 'Oh—er—hallo to him,'" said Antony, breaking rather appropriately into his thoughts.

Bill looked up at him with a start.

"Nor," went on Antony, "can you say, 'This is my friend Mr. Gillingham, who is staying with you. We were just going to have a game of bowls.'"

"Yes, it's dashed difficult. I don't know what to say. I've been rather forgetting about Mark." He wandered over to the window and then turned back to his friend.

"All the same," he said, "you wanted to see the passage, and now you've found it. Aren't you going into it at all?"

Antony took his arm.

"Let's go outside again," he said. "We can't go into it here, anyhow. It's too risky, with Cayley about. Bill, I feel like you—just a little bit frightened. But what I'm frightened of I don't quite know. Anyway, you want to go on with it, don't you?"

"Yes," said Bill firmly. "We must."

"Then we'll explore the passage this afternoon, if we get the chance. And if we don't get the chance, then we'll try it tonight."

"Do you really think we might find Mark hiding there?" asked Bill.

"It's possible," said Antony. "Either Mark or—" He pulled himself up quickly. "No," he murmured to himself, "I won't let myself think that—not yet, anyway. It's too horrible."

THE WHOLE ROW OF SHELVES SWUNG GENTLY OPEN TOWARD THEM.

scult by putting the croquet-box there, and this end more difficult by—" he stopped and looked at the other—"by what, Bill?"

But Bill was being Watsoish.

"What?"

"Obviously by re-arranging his books. He happened to take out 'The Life of Nelson' or 'Three Men in a Boat' or whatever it was, and by the merest chance discovered the secret. Naturally he felt that everybody else would be taking down 'The Life of Nelson' or 'Three Men in a Boat.' Naturally he felt that the secret would be safer if nobody ever interfered with the shelf at all. When you said that the books had been rearranged a year ago—just about the time the croquet-box came into existence—of course I guessed why. So I looked about for the dull-est books I could find, the books nobody ever read. Obviously the collection of sermon-books of a mid-Victorian clergyman was the shelf we wanted."

"Yes, I see. But why were you so certain of the particular place?"

"Well, he had to mark the particular place by some book. I thought that the joke of putting 'The Narrow Way' just over the entrance to the passage might appeal to him. Apparently it did."

Bill nodded to himself thoughtfully several times. "Yes, that's very neat," he said. "You're a clever devil, Tony."

"Well, come on, then," said Bill, and he got up.

"Come on where?"

"To explore the passage, of course."

"Suppose we find Mark?" said Antony quietly.

"I say, do you really think he's there?"

"Suppose he is?"

"Well, then, there we are," Antony walked over to the fire-

loops ran through a large wooden bead (which was placed about halfway up the loop.)

"Persian Design Card-Table Cloth: The plain black sateen cloth was made exactly like the one just described, except that at each corner, concealed in the hem, was a round lead weight such as are used in the hems of tailored suit-coats. The black cloth was decorated as follows: Embroidery silk, in the three colors seen so constantly in Persian rug—central pink, pale blue and jade green—was used directly around the hem (over the black silk stitches of the hem) in a French-knot border. The French knots were put on so closely together that they touched each other, and the colors were alternated, not two knots of the same color touching each other. This gave a very queer, Persian effect. In each corner of the cloth were three small, symmetrical flowers (only the heads—no stems) exactly like a fourleaf clover; each flower was done in a separate color (coral pink, pale blue and jade green) its four leaves being worked in a solid mass of French knots. In the middle of each flower was a yellow French knot. Long silk tassels, composed of embroidery silk in the three colors mentioned, were attached at each corner.

Applique Design Card-Table Cover: This was made on the general order of the two described above, except that the edge was worked in a buttonhole stitch (completely around the cloth), old-blue linen thread being used; and in each of the four corners were two flowers made of old-blue and old-rose chambray linen appliqued onto the black sateen with the buttonhole stitch in the same

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TO-DAY'S FASHION

By Vera Winston.

Crossing Green and Red Lines Check This Smart Blue Serge Frock.

Utter simplicity marks many of our smartest new fall models. This almost severe line is effective in plain materials, in stripes or in checks, and a very smart use of the latter is shown in the sketch above. Fine navy serge is the medium and

is checked in crossing green and red lines. The blouse portion is made so that the lines are on the bias, and it is collared and cuffed in white organdie. She wears with this frock a simple blue, cloth-wrapped turban.

in unfriendly position, and Uranus wields a feebly adverse influence. Those whose birthday it is may meet with business or financial reverses unless they exercise the utmost caution in the handling of their money and are particularly discreet in the signing of all letters, agreements and documents. A child born on this day may be unreliable and extravagant unless given the strictest training in its early youth.

To Speak on Child Welfare. Peter Bryce, president of the Ontario Child Welfare department of social service work, Toronto, is to be the speaker at the weekly luncheon of the Kiwanis Club in the Hotel Frontenac on Monday. Gen. Sir Archibald Macdonald will be the booster.

It is always well to keep an eye on the man who talks much of the dishonesty in the community.

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MADE IN CANADA

Efficient Housekeeping

By Laura A. Kirkman

The Newest Thing in Bridge Cloths. For the sake of my readers who do fancy work (and I am sure that is a large percentage) I am publishing suggestions for the making of pretty card-table covers.

Women card players of to-day have universally accepted black sateen as the ideal cover for their bridge tables. Such a cover not only throws the cards out in sharp relief, but also saves much laundering. I have recently seen covers made as follows:

Indian Design Card-Table Cover: The piece of black sateen which made this cover was a yard square, with the edge turned under in a narrow hem. Completely around this hemmed edge, ran three rows of worsted stitching, the top row being of sage green, the middle row of dark red and the lowest row of tan worsted. The rows were near together and consisted simply of long, bold stitches in and out of the goods. In each of the four corners was the following decoration: three small Swastika designs done in beadwork—one Swastika of tan, one of sage green and one of dark red. The beads were placed close together and sewed on the cloth one by one, so as to form a solid mass in each of the four arms of the Swastika design. The red Swastika design was placed across the extreme corner, with the



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masks the perfect appearance of her complexion, arranged and temporary skin blemishes are effectively concealed. Moderns universal color and corrects every skin blemish. Highly antiseptic. Sold 15c. See Price Book.

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