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FOUND OLD FRIEND ON BOARD

Hope Followed Despair When Returning Doughboy Discovered Copy of Famous Sea Story.

I came aboard the transport reviving my luck, says Robert Palfrey Utter in the Review. My locker and bed roll were in France and I had neglected to bid them good-by; I had nothing but musette and kit bag, in which I had been living for a month. The limping old Mudjokeewis was the shabbiest tub in the service, slow, devoid of comfort. Her engines took a day off every week. Her smoking room was given over to clacking typewriters which manufactured colored tissue paper orders for the decoration of the main companionway. The white-and-gold music room was no place for one who was constitutionally unable to derive solace from craps or poker. But when I discovered that the ship's library had survived the ravages of war, I began to see the hand of providence. As I reviewed the backs of the 50-odd most respectable volumes in tough brown calf, my locker and bed roll "fell from my back and began to tumble, and so continued to do" till I thought of them no more. I was free as air in spite of the livery I wore. I tossed a polished copy of "Mr. Midshipman Easy" into my berth, cast off my shining greaves and brass-mount ed regalia, chinned myself on the T-iron that ran across the top of the state room, swung my legs over the edge of the berth and dropped after them. I opened the port hole to the deck and the summer night, disposed tobacco and other necessities in the wall pockets, started the fire in a well-crusted briar bowl, and forthwith I was in company with an old friend whom I had not seen for years—"By 9 o'clock that evening Mr. Jack Easy was safe on board his majesty's sloop Harpy."

WILL BE BOON TO INVALID

Independence, Comfort, and Exercise
All Provided in New Chair Propelled by Electricity.

A new era of independence, comfort and exercise is promised to invalids in an electrically-propelled chair that is now being made by a firm of surgical engineers in London.

In appearance it is little more than a very comfortable, luxuriously-suspended bath chair or invalid's carriage. The propulsive motion is electricity. It is silent, travels a distance of over twenty miles on a single charge and has four speeds, ranging from a crawl up to five miles per hour.

The control is said to be so simple that any person, no matter with what disabilities, can sit in the carriage and start right away, and it is fitted with reverse on all speeds. It is only necessary to hold the steering lever with the left hand and gently push over the controller handle with the right hand. The use of the carriage renders an invalid independent of chair man or attendant, and the cost of upkeep is said to be trivial.

Jason a Legerdary Character.

Jason was the leader of the Argonautic expedition in Greek legend. The equivalent of his name in Greek is the healer or atoner. Jason was tutored and brought up under Chiron, a Greek myth renowned for his wisdom and skill in medicine, hunting, music and prophecy. Jason's greatest exploit was his expedition with the Argonauts in quest of the Golden Fleece. Jason secured this by the aid of Medea, a sorceress who fell in love with him. She protected him from the bulls breathing fire and hooped with brass which he was obliged, in order to obtain the fleece, to yoke to the plow. She also protected him from the armed men who sprang up from the dragon's teeth which he was required to sow in the fields. Medea fled with Jason and the fleece and married him. Ten years later Jason abandoned her after she had murdered Creusa, whom Jason had determined to marry.

Lesson in Dietetics.

What bread needs to make it a perfect food—a perfect food is that which contains protein, carbohydrates, and fat in certain definite proportions—is something with fat in it. Hence bread "and butter," and bread "and dripping," and bread "and cheese." Pork and beans pair quite properly, because the beans supply the absent protein. When you eat beef and potatoes, or roast beef and Yorkshire pudding, the pairing makes a perfect food. The pairing of condiments is not a matter of taste alone. Cabbage is peppered because it was discovered that pepper discounted the excessive action of greenstuff on the bowels. Mustard goes with beef, but not with mutton, because mutton is much more easily digested than beef, and mustard is a first-class digester.—Montreal Herald.

Birds That Burrow.

Persons are not accustomed to think of birds as burrowing animals, but the puffin answers to that description. It is a chunky little fowl, less than a foot high, with a large and powerful beak. For a home it scratches a hole in the ground sometimes as much as four feet deep. To capture a puffin one must go digging. It is rather a job; and, inasmuch as the bird bites and claws fiercely, one is likely to suffer in the process. Thus the creature has maintained its numbers on many a lonely rocky, where other species of wild fowl have been killed off and exterminated.

Spiders as Companions.

Of all creatures to choose as pets spiders seem to be the strangest. Yet many famous men have formed real friendships with spiders. Beethoven, when studying the violin at the age of seven years, had a spider so accustomed to him that it would crawl on to his arm while he was practicing. Of Paganini it is said that whenever he played a certain air on his violin a spider approached him and stood still listening until he had finished. Gaetly, author of "Richard Coeur de Lion," tells of spiders that used to perch motionless upon the piano while he played.

Snakes Friends of Farmer.

A correspondent who is interested in snakes as well as flowers and birds and the other more popular things in nature writes that he has gratifying success in locating snakes by merely listening for their rustling in the dry leaves. If one's ears are specially trained for snake noises there is no good reason why this method should not be really practical. Unquestionably the majority of wood wanderers are almost blind in this matter of snakes. Unless we almost step on him we seldom know that he is lurking near at hand and remaining very still in the hope that he will not be noted. All our snakes are practically defenseless. They are not only inoffensive and timid creatures, but also highly useful friends of the farmer. Possibly the baby snakes are in less danger than the adults. The little fellows are less conspicuous, and, as before noted, they can hide in very small refuges.

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