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### BESSIE'S WAY OUT.

A Four-year-old's Solution of a Problem Presented by a Careful Mother.

Bob and Bessie are brother and sister. Bob is 3 and Bessie is 4 years old. They have played together all their short lives, and a perfect good comradeship had been established between them.

Every night before going to sleep Bob rushes into his sister's room for a pillow fight or some other high old time. But of late their mother has thought that, as they are now beyond their babyhood, it were wise to teach Bessie some little reserve. Accordingly the other day she called the small daughter to her and said:

"Now, Bessie, you are growing up to be a big girl, so you must not let your brother see you in your nightgown any more." Bessie looked wise and dutifully promised.

That night Bob was heard vigorously pounding at Bessie's door; to his surprise and indignation he had found it locked, and he made so much noise that it brought his father and mother up to him. "Let me in, Bess," he shouted.

"I can't let you in, Bobbie," Bessie was heard explaining, "mamma says that I mustn't let you see me in my nightgown, but wait a minute."

Her mother, hearing this conversation, felt pleased that her lesson had been heeded. Then the door opened. Bessie stood proudly looking at her father and mother and at Bob. She was receiving in due state. She was not in her nightgown. She had settled that difficulty by taking it off.—New York World.

### An Old Blue Book.

"The 'Blue Book,' as the official register of government employees is known," says an old timer, "becomes quite an interesting book on comparison with the volume of less than 100 pages issued half a century ago. Why, the mere sight of the official register for, say, 1846, and the two large volumes of late years will make an object lesson to young and old, to say nothing of what may be learned by inspection. Where a few hundred officials were sufficient then for the transaction of the business of the government, many thousands now are required. The total force of some of the present bureaus exceeds by hundreds the grand total of that period, and some of the departments could then muster less than half a hundred. The state department at that period included the home bureau of 16 employees and the patent office of 21, and with these had but 45 on the rolls. The postoffice department had 55 employees, the navy department, including 21 at the observatory, 85; the war department, including the pension office of 12 and Indian office of 13, had 113, and the treasury, including 77 in the general land office, 387. The 'home' (afterward named the interior) department had not then been organized, and the patent office and home bureau under the state department, the general land office under the treasury, and pension office under the war department a few years after formed the nucleus of the interior department."—Washington Star.

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### BOSNIA GYPSIES.

The Tribes of the Balkans Are Experts In Stealing Horses.

In Bosnia, as elsewhere, gypsies concern themselves largely with the buying, selling and breaking in of horses. Some strangers in the Balkans call certain gypsy horse dealers. Horse stealers sounds nearly the same and is often an equally true description. An engineer who had made the survey for a projected railroad in Serbia told me of an incident he witnessed at a horse fair. A farmer brought in a fine young horse—far the best animal in the fair—and was very proud of his mount. A gypsy dealer, with one eye screwed up and body bent to the shape of the letter C, criticised the paces, saying at last, "He would be a fine horse if he were not lame." The farmer indignantly denied the lameness.

"Well, trot him out and you'll see," said the gypsy. At the end of this trial the owner cried in triumph, "He could not trot sounder!"

The gypsy firmly repeated: "Lame! Gallop him, and you'll see it surely."

The man galloped his beast.

"Oh, he's lame!" averred the gypsy. "You'd see it yourself if another were on the horse. Let me show you." And the owner alighted. The gypsy mounted, cantered a few yards, quickened the pace, reached the end of the fair green, set spurs to the good horse and promptly disappeared. Neither man nor horse was seen again thereafter.

"But are there no police in Serbia?" I asked.

"The gypsy got across the frontier perhaps."

"And no telegraph wires?" I persisted.

"Not in the forests. And perhaps by night the horse had changed his color. The gypsies will buy your old white horse from you in the morning and sell you a rather spirited young black horse in the afternoon. You will wonder that the new purchase seems to know the road home, but by next day his mettlesomeness will have vanished, and in a little while his black coat will be white again." Accidents happen even to those who are much more acute than the son of the celebrated Vicar of Wakefield.—Catholic World.

### The Coming of Baby.

When a baby comes to the house real happiness comes. The care and anxiety count for nothing against the clinging touch of the little hands and the sound of the little voice. The highest function given to human beings is bringing healthy, happy children into the world. Over thirty years ago the needs of women appealed to Dr. Pierce, now chief consulting physician to the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, of Buffalo, N. Y. The result of his study improved by thirty years of practice is embodied in Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It strengthens, purifies and makes healthy the organs distinctly feminine. It gives weak women the strength and health necessary for the production of healthy children and it makes the bearing of those children easy. It is sure to cure any weakness or derangement peculiar to women; stops pain, soothes inflammation, strengthens, purifies, invigorates.

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