

THOSE DIMPLES AND MOLES

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SALLIE BETH'S eyes strayed across the counter of the circulation desk of the big city library to the open doorway through which a steady stream of borrowers had filed all morning. He had not been among them, however, and Sallie Beth wished that today were not her half-holiday. She'd almost rather miss it than miss seeing him. For months now his almost daily visit had come to be her chief source of pleasure. She liked the little humorous crinkles near his deep-set brown eyes. The little chats that had started as mere "shop talks" of books and more books, which they both loved, and broadened of late to include personalities—had become more delightful and more interesting each day. For, though a newly ordained minister, and the assistant to the rector of staid old St. Stephen's, Peter Thorne had not seen fit to lay aside the boyish candor and keen sense of humor that made him so attractive to all the younger set in his church, and most of all to Sallie Beth Withers, who found his books for him day after day.

She had almost despaired of seeing him when she heard a voice at her elbow.

"Check me up, please, before you go. I'm in a rush," he begged. Then, as she slid his books back across the desk, "Are you leaving now? Let me carry your books out to your car."

He deposited the load on the seat of the little coupe under the biggest elm by the side door and waited, smiling, as always, it seemed, when he looked at her, and Sallie Beth grabbed her courage by the forelock and yielded to a sudden inspiration to prolong the encounter.

"Can I—can't I drop you where you want to go?"

He hesitated a moment.

"I was going away out to West-haven—to the university," he began slowly.

"Let me take you. It's a glorious day. I'd love it." All the enthusiasm of early twenty was in her voice, and she was grateful for the enthusiasm of early thirty that rose to meet hers.

"No argument against it that I can think of—or would I if I could," he said gratefully, and with a quite unclerical grin as he climbed in. "And you needn't take me too seriously about being in a rush," for she was stepping hard on the gas. "This is quite the most pleasant thing I've done today and you needn't exceed the speed limit unless you're in a frantic hurry yourself."

There was silence for a time after that. The little car threaded its way through the congestion of downtown traffic and came finally into the open rolling country.

"Do you know," he was saying, "there's a little girl in St. Stephen's choir who looked a little like you. Her hair isn't bobbed, though, nor nearly as light as yours"—hatless Sallie's short locks were blowing in a golden riot around her head—"and she has a most fascinating dimple on one cheek that matches a mole on the other—the most intriguing mole you ever saw."

"And you like her?" Sallie hid the trepidation she was feeling under a flippant query.

"I don't know. I've never really seen her. She's so little I can't see anything but her cap in the choir stalls, and I've never caught more than a fleeting glimpse of her, you see."

"But you'd like to—"

"Very much—she sits at the end of the first row opposite the soloist—you know the one I mean?"

"I think so," Sallie's tone was dryly noncommittal. "She is rather attractive—she might be much more so if she just wouldn't wear her hair so—so terribly prim—she's awfully old-maidish, don't you think?"

Peter Thorne's brown eyes snapped their disapproval of such heresy.

"No, I don't," he defended quickly—"moreover, any one who ever saw that dimple in good working order could never accuse her of being prim and old-maidish—you know—I saw her the other day as she passed my study window, Sunday morning it was. She was laughing and that dimple and the mole together—well, I—"

He left the rest hanging in mid-air.

Driving back to town alone, Sallie decided to give that mole a run for its money. Peter Thorne liked her—he always acted as if he did, anyway—but what chance had one with a man who'd been snared by a dimple and a mole? Sallie rubbed her own unblemished left cheek and smiled wickily, as she vowed a mental vow that she, Sallie Beth Withers, could and would prove herself as interesting and attractive to Rev. Peter Thorne as any prim, closely coiffed singer in

his choir had never thought of being. A phone call that night set her heart to thumping.

"Thursday night? Yes—I'll be there. Yes. All right—"

On Monday morning she waded an atry hand as Thorne came through the sunlit door.

"Did you ever see such a morning? Doesn't it make you glad just to be alive?"

Tuesday she missed him. What a dull endless day. Wednesday. Had he remembered that she always had late duty on Wednesdays? He came during the quiet hour when all the world was at dinner. There was no one save themselves in the long, book-lined room. He seemed rather quiet at moments, Sallie thought, wondering—wondering—

"A penny for your thoughts," she dared after a noticeable lapse in the conversation. Then she added, impulsively:

"Still dreaming about a dimple—"

She knew he was watching hers—and a mole?"

He started a bit guiltily at that.

"It's quite beyond me—the something that keeps me remembering her."

Sallie Beth leaned forward eagerly.

"Peter Thorne, that is real honest-to-goodness, all-wool-and-a-yard-wide romance and to dreamers such as you the gods are always good."

She stopped then for Peter was looking at her with a queer arrested look on his face. He didn't stay long after that, but Sallie Beth's heart sang all the next day.

The parish house reception rooms were humming with the chatter of many voices as the young curate came in somewhat late the next night. He seemed to be looking for some one and his face lit up in a smile of expectation as the familiar, closely coiffed head of the littlest choir member swung around to meet his gaze. But it was the face of the little librarian that was lifted to smile back at him from the depths of the big chair under the tall lamp. As he leaned over and drew her to her feet, Sallie found herself somehow following him through the long window on to the shadowy balcony.

"It was you all the time." The half question, half assertion held a note of contentment. "But the girl in the library never had a mole?"

"It was only a beauty patch," Peter Thorne, Sallie explained (removing the tiny bit of plaster and holding it for him to see. "Sister's baby scratched me one Sunday morning—and—eye bobbed hair can look prim and old-maidish when choir laws require it—see?" She released the gold bobbed tresses with a tug at her hairnet and laughed tremulously as she shook the curling mass back from her face.

"Do you know," Peter said after a long contented silence, "that girl in the choir had me caught, bound and tied, but the girl in the library never would quite fade out of the picture. I'm glad—that I never really had to choose between them. And anyway, the dimple was real, wasn't it?"

"And beauty patches are very inexpressive, Peter."

Tears From a Tree

In the Canary islands there is a tree that sheds tears. It is of the laurel variety, and frequently rains down in the early morning a copious shower of tears or water drops from its tufted foliage. This water sometimes collects at the foot of the tree, and forms a kind of pond from which the inhabitants supply themselves with a drinking beverage that is absolutely fresh and pure.

The water comes out of the tree itself through innumerable little pores situated at the margins of the leaves and known as water stomata—minute apertures or slits in the skin of the leaves and shoots.

These are somewhat different from the almost similar little holes in the surface of the leaves, whose function is to regulate the constant passage of the air to and from the inside tissues.

—Baltimore Sun.

Pays to Advertise

Emperor Asoka carried his advertisements throughout the length and breadth of India. There is one in the mountains near Manschra relating to the right treatment of animals which we do not yet follow in this enlightened age. The Egyptians were public people. Pompeii is full of posters. Charles II advertised for his strayed spaniels. Where would Coeur de Lion have been without his press agent, Blondel?—London Spectator.

Stone Formation

Stones are fragments of rocks, while soil represents the complete disintegration of rock by the processes of weathering. Hence, stones are not formed by soil. However, the stones and the soil of a certain region may have the same rock as ancestors. Stones are transported from one place to another by water, in which case the soil and the stones bear no relation to each other.

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Another Earthquake Disaster Takes Heavy Toll of Life in Japan.

THE earthquake that took a toll of more than 2,000 lives in Japan on March 8 will go down in history as one of the catastrophes of the times. The total number of killed and injured was close to 8,000 people. Dispatches from Ango described the pitiful condition of the refugees, homeless, hungry, and cold. In some places, at the time the disaster occurred, the snow was from one to five feet deep, and hundreds of men, women and children, possessing but a few blankets, found meager shelter behind great snowdrifts. The suffering of women and children was considerable, although the efforts of troops, police, and young men's associations alleviated the misery. Efforts to bring aid to the devastated region were retarded because of lack of railway traffic, only motors and wagons being available, in addition to a few airplanes, which carried some relief supplies. The roads and paths were badly cracked. The number of houses in the district which collapsed was set at 3,529 and the number burned at 3,846. The principal damage took place in the towns of Mineyama, Amino, Kayetsu, and Maitto. The damage and casualties at Miyazu and Kumihama were light. Following the damage by quake and fire, floods added to the misery of the 70,000 homeless people, and seriously interfered with the relief efforts of the government. Warm weather and heavy rains turned the deep snow into raging floods. The waters caused the weakened railway embankments to crumble and prevented the movement of relief trains. The government met the situation by inaugurating trains of pack animals for carrying provisions into the devastated district.

THE Mexican argument continues from week to week, with evidence of a firmer stand on the part of the administration at Washington since the close of congress. The sudden departure of Mexican Ambassador Tellez for Mexico City caused rumors of a diplomatic break, but these were seemingly without foundation. From Mexico City the ambassador said his return to his home was caused purely by personal matters, and that he would again be in Washington within a couple of weeks. On March 9 the State department made public testimony that was given to the senate foreign relations committee in February in which it was stated that 22,000,000 acres of land, much of it owned by Americans, had been seized by the Mexican government. During the absence of Secretary of State Kellogg the Mexican situation was being handled directly by the President.

IN NEW YORK on March 8 Thomas W. Miller, former alien property custodian, was sentenced to serve 18 months in Atlanta penitentiary and pay a \$5,000 fine by Judge Knox in Federal court. Sentence was passed after Judge Knox denied motions of counsel to set aside the verdict and direct a new trial. Miller was found guilty of conspiracy to defraud the government of his unbiased services by a jury which failed to reach an agreement on Harry M. Daugherty, former attorney general, on trial with Miller. The maximum penalty was two years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

IT HAS been practically decided that the President will spend his summer vacation in the West, though the exact location has not yet been selected. South Dakota and Wyoming are bidding for the honor of entertaining the nation's Chief Executive, and it is probable that the summer White House will be either the State Game lodge in the Black Hills, 21 miles from Douglas, or the Coe ranch near Cody, Wyoming, bordering on Yellowstone National park. Political wisecracks see in this move of the President an intention on his part to be an avowed candidate for re-nomination, with the expectation that his visit to the West will go far to offset the dissatisfaction

Treasury Cash Room to Be Made Modern

With the appropriation by congress of \$20,000 to supplement a previously authorized expenditure of \$10,000 for modernizing the cash room of the treasury, which handles more money daily than any other banking room in the world, equipment in use nearly sixty years will be replaced with more efficient up-to-date facilities.

Ever since it was formally opened, March 4, 1869, when the inaugural

ball of President Grant was held there, the cash room has been recognized as one of the most beautiful chambers in any government building, being finished in light kinds of marble and having a solid bronze balustrade midway between floor and ceiling.

At present, the paying teller, who on a normal day must pass out \$1,500,000 to government disbursing officers and local banks, is so cramped he must start work in the morning standing in the midst of great piles

of coins in bags, which litter the floor.

Daily deposits which come to the receiving teller, made up of all sorts of government revenue, such as postal and tax receipts, amount to \$12,500,000, while the change teller handles approximately \$300,000 in units from 1 cent pieces to \$10,000 bills, and the paying teller cashes from 5,000 to 15,000 checks. In addition, about \$5,000,000 of new currency is distributed daily to thirty-five agencies to replace worn-out or damaged money.

PROFITLESS wars is to be the program for France in the future. The French chamber of deputies has passed Paul Boncour's project for the mobilization of every man, woman and child and the conscription of capital in the event of war. Only the communists dissented. Paul Boncour's plan, founded on socialist ideas, calls for mobilization of everybody in France, "without distinction as to age or sex." M. Shaume, Radical Socialist deputy, warned against the danger of this plan.

"In mobilizing the entire nation," he said, "we will automatically deprive ourselves of the protection of the international conventions of The Hague and London and give the enemy justification to deport women and children, since they are combatants, or to sink unarmed passenger ships."

The deputies, however, modified the article to read: "Every Frenchman, without distinction as to age or sex, whether combatant or non-combatant, must participate in the country's defense."

DESPITE the failure of the senate to pass the deficiency appropriation bill before adjournment, thus leaving many departments of the government crippled for lack of finances, the President has declined to consider an extra session. The largest items in the deficiency were \$37,200,000 to the pension bureau for pensions to veterans of the Civil and other wars prior to the World war and their dependents; \$35,000,000 for veterans of the World war and \$25,000,000 to the veterans' bureau for loans to veterans on soldiers' bonus certificates.

Announcement was made by the pension bureau that present appropriations will be depleted about May 1, so that it will not be possible to pay during the months of May and June the 500,000 beneficiaries. On July 1, however, when appropriations for the fiscal year 1928 become available, the accrued pensions for a three months' period will be paid. Some arrangement will be made by which veterans receiving compensation under the veterans' bureau will not suffer much inconvenience. As to loans to veterans on bonus certificates, the veterans will have to depend upon the banks until next winter.

FRANCE will make a \$10,000,000 payment on its debt to the United States this year. This does not mean that the French government has accepted the terms of settlement of the debt as proposed by this country. It is merely a temporary agreement pending ratification of the debt accords. The action of Premier Poincare in providing for this temporary arrangement was the subject of a bitter debate in the French chamber of deputies, but was finally approved by a vote of 350 to 180. The socialists and communists voted against it. These annual payments are expected to continue until such time as France ratifies the debt accords.

During February the United States received \$1,430,000 in reparations from Germany according to the agent general for reparations. This brings the American receipts, in the third annuity year, up to \$9,640,000, which is approximately the same as France received in a single month. Germany now has paid, under the Dawes plan, a total of \$862,000,000.

THAT there will be a three power naval parity held on the invitation of President Coolidge is practically assured, Japan and Great Britain having assured the United States that they would accept such an invitation. France and Italy will be asked to assign observers to the conference to be held at Geneva, and it is expected they will do so.

That the President is making concessions to the attitude of Japan was disclosed by the character of the revised proposal of a three-power conference Mr. Coolidge has made to Tokio and London. In this latest overture the President said nothing about extending the 5-5-3 ratio to auxiliaries. He merely proposed that the three powers get together at Geneva to see whether any further naval limitation could be agreed to. In his original invitation to the five naval powers, the President suggested extension of the 5-5-3 ratio to auxiliaries. Japan re-

jected, accepting the invitation, but rejecting the suggestion as to the ratio, clearly indicating that parity with the United States was desired.

AN IMPORTANT decision of the United States Supreme court involving primary elections was handed down on March 7. The decision invalidates a Texas statute forbidding negroes to vote in Democratic party primaries. A negro sought \$5,000 damages from election officials for refusing him the right to vote in the primary of the Democratic party, of which he is a member.

"If the defendant's conduct was a wrong to the plaintiff," said the court, "the same reasons that allow a recovery for denying the plaintiff a vote at a final election allow it for denying a vote at the primary that may determine the final result."

It is believed this decision will have a direct bearing on the defense offered by Smith and Vane in their fights for senate seats. Supporters of Smith and Vane contend that the senate cannot properly exclude them for excessive expenditures in the primaries in which they won their nominations because the federal government has no jurisdiction of primary elections. In support of their argument they cite the Supreme court decision in the Newberry case invalidating the federal corrupt practices act of 1911 in so far as it pertained to primaries.

Senator Borah interpreted the decision as indicating the conviction of the court that the primary is an inseparable and important part of the general election and therefore within the jurisdiction of congress in the case of election of senators and representatives.

This interpretation would destroy the basis of the arguments in behalf of Smith and Vane that what they did in the primaries is outside federal jurisdiction and control.

THE revolution in Nicaragua goes merrily on. President Diaz has decided the peace efforts were fruitless, and that it will be necessary to fight it out with the rebels outside of the area controlled by United States marines. In the meantime the United States is sending more troops into the country, 1,600 landing on March 7.

On March 4 1,200 United States marines were landed at Shanghai and paraded through the streets. This was the first landing of American forces in China. There has been no formal protest made to the American government by the Chinese because of this action. On March 6 500 Japanese sailors were landed and quartered in the Japanese owned cotton mills.

Efforts to patch up some sort of a peace between the contending Chinese factions have been made during the past few days, but up to the time of the writing of this review they have been fruitless. Chang, acting for the Peking government, offers to consider terms of peace if Cantonese will first oust the bolshevik representatives in an advisory capacity to the Cantonese government.

SENATOR REED, of Missouri, contended in the closing hours of the senate that the life of his slush fund investigating committee did not depend upon the passage of the resolution over which the senate deadlock occurred. After the adjournment of congress he applied to the sergeant at arms of the senate for \$1,000 with which to continue recess sessions of his committee. Senator Henry W. Keyes, New Hampshire, chairman of the committee on audit and control of the contingent expenses of the senate, has refused to allow the expenditure of any money for the purposes of the committee, and thus blocks any further investigation. It was the purpose of the committee to continue the investigations in Illinois and Pennsylvania, and to extend it to other states, especially Colorado.

ONE of the most remarkable fights to save a human life was waged at St. Francis hospital, Evanston, Ill. For 108 hours 80 comrades of Albert Frick, aged twenty-two, stricken with paralysis of the diaphragm and respiratory muscles, labored in pairs in shifts of 15 minutes inducing artificial respiration. Four physicians leading specialists in that type of disease, were in constant attendance because of the desperate fight put up to save the young man's life the case attracted international attention.

Land of the Tiger



The Crowded Hooghly at Calcutta.

(Prepared by the National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.)

BENGAL will ever remain the land of the tiger to the small boy, but it is more properly the land of jute and tea to those who think in economic terms. This large province at the eastern extremity of India straddles the northernmost point of the Bay of Bengal, and stretches northward to the peaks of the Himalayas. Thus it has two totally different sections, the low and often marshy plains of the south, and the rough hills and mountains of the north. It is separated from Tibet only by the diminutive native Indian states of Sikkim and Bhutan.

Bengal is slightly larger than Kansas with as many inhabitants as are found in New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio, Texas and Michigan combined—two-fifths as many as in the entire United States. More than 80 different languages are spoken among the human horde, not to mention the various dialects. That language in India changes every ten miles, perhaps, is not far wrong.

The narrow northern extremity of Bengal resembles that of Idaho, and like our western state, Bengal spreads out as it stretches southward. Below the northern neck the border line of Bengal zigzags in all directions.

Bengal's gateway is its most home-like feature. Those familiar with the murky rivers of the province know when the coast is near, even before land is sighted, for the beautiful indigo-blue water of the Bay of Bengal begins to take on a brownish hue, due to the silt that is brought down from the north by the Ganges and a labyrinth of rivers and creeks that pierces the coast line. Between the banks of the numerous channels are swampy peninsulas covered with malaria-infested jungle land in which roam the famous Bengal tigers, a few remaining elephants, and other wild animals. These wilds and the water-logged lowlands just north of them are called sundarbans.

Farming in Rowboats.

When the Ganges goes on its annual rampage and overflows its banks for 200 miles from its mouth, the sundarbans are almost totally submerged. The less-flooded area is planted in rice and it is an interesting sight to see "rowboat farmers" tending their submarine crops. When the water subsides, it leaves a fertile layer of earth on the lowlands and in the river valleys, making the southern Bengal regions prosperous agriculturally. Jute, rice, wheat and many other products thrive in the newly fertilized earth.

Calcutta, capital of Bengal and the largest city of India, lies about 80 miles up the Hooghly. Since it is the only large port at the head of the Bay of Bengal and is easily reached from the interior by numerous canals, rivers, and railroads, Assam and neighboring provinces also use it as their port. Therefore the Hooghly is filled with shipping. The passenger bound for Calcutta is not sorry, for the odd little native junks and large ocean-going vessels absorb his attention from the ugly marshes and thickets on shore.

The first evidence of human existence as Calcutta is neared is the appearance of a few houses and then the tall smokestacks of jute mills that loom up above low brick buildings, where jute sacking is made in enormous quantities, and shipped to all parts of the world. Much of it is used in the United States, particularly in handling our farm products. Little does the cotton picker of the South realize that the more cotton he picks, the more mouths he helps to feed in Bengal, for the cotton-bale wrappers are usually made of jute. Likewise the farmer cultivating his potato fields, does not realize, perhaps, that the size of his crop helps

determine how many natives are to be employed, and that the least failure of the crop affects the jute mill workers. Potatoes are, in the large part, handled in jute sacks. More than \$125,000,000 worth of jute products are exported from Calcutta annually.

Docks of the Hooghly.

A little farther up the Hooghly, the docks which stretch ten miles along the river front come into view. Some of them are the finest in the world, equipped with the latest devices for handling cargoes. They are filled with articles of commerce, and roar with activity. Jute, rice and tea appear to be the staple products for shipment. The tea exports from Bengal help India to keep its reputation as the chief tea exporting country in the world. Perhaps that reputation is, in part, due to the fact that Hindus and Mohammedans are not tea-sippers and nearly the entire production is available for foreign markets.

Calcutta includes Calcutta proper, the trading center, Maldan, the residential section, and Howrah; on the opposite side of the Hooghly, the manufacturing center and terminus of three large railroads. Together they are called Greater Calcutta and have a population greater than that of Detroit.

In sharp contrast to the commercial and industrial districts, Maldan is a place of elegance with beautiful parks and lakes, and fine residences and government buildings.

In the center of Maldan is a park that is one of the few breathing places in the vicinity of Calcutta. It ranges from three-quarters to a mile and a quarter in width and about two miles in length. The palace of the governor of Bengal is at the north end. This is a mansion of white stone, twice as large as the American White House and much more magnificent and impressive.

Maldan's Dress Parade.

New York has its Fifth avenue dress parades and so does Maldan, with the Indian contingent far more rich and colorful. The Maldan parade sometimes includes the vicery when he happens to be in Calcutta. Then there are other high government officials, rich rajahs of the several hundred native Indian states in their gorgeous robes and jewels, and Anglo-Indians, as the offspring of British fathers and Indian mothers prefer to be called.

Calcutta owes its beautiful government buildings to its distinction as the capital city of India prior to 1912 when the seat of government was removed to Delhi.

Nearly all Bengal is a flat fertile plain from the Sundarbans to the foothills of the Himalayas. This foothill country is reached after a day and night of rough train riding from Calcutta. A narrow-gauge railroad is then taken to reach Bengal's roof, Darjeeling, perched 7,000 feet up among Himalayan peaks.

Darjeeling's reception committee consists of an army of porters who take the place of express trucks. They are not men, but Tibetan women who are famous for their strength.

Most of Darjeeling's inhabitants are Bengalese, Nepalese, Bhutanese and Tibetans. All the native women seem to try to "outjungle" one another in wearing ornaments. Even those who look as if they had never had a square meal are bedecked with earrings, anklets, bracelets, and necklaces of silver, glass or turquoise.

Darjeeling is also a trading post between the mountain people and the Bengalese of the lowlands. Sunday is the favorite trading day. Foreigners bring skins, tea, salt, wool, musk and cattle to the Darjeeling market and return to their countries with ivory, indigo, cotton goods, dried fruits and sugar.