

An Unfortunate Bed-Warmer.

Getting into a cold bed, in a cold room, on a cold night is very discouraging to one possessed of sensitive nerves; and if the luxury is persisted in for weeks in succession it becomes as monotonous as getting up cold mornings. A Third Ward girl, who had been suffering from this kind of unpleasantness, resolved to make her resting place more tolerable by introducing a little artificial heat. A lady friend was visiting her on that cold and blustering day, and as the storm was very severe in the evening, the friend was induced to remain all night. Our hostess disliked to tender her visitor the cold comforts of a pair of congealed linen sheets, and for a long time worried herself over the problem of getting the bed warm without getting into and warming it with her own sweet self. The ancient warming-pan is an obsolete institution and was not available; the comfortable soap-stone was snugly stowed away in the bed down stairs, and doing duty as a foot warmer for her beloved parents. But our Third Ward girl was equal to the emergency, and the mercurial problem was solved as she thought of the gallon jug in the kitchen and the hot water on the stove. To fill one with the other was the work of a moment, and wrapping a piece of flannel around the jug, she bore it triumphant to that cold room, and turning down the covers she soon had the bed as warm and inviting as could be wished. Then placing the jug at the foot of the bed, to keep their "footsy-tootsy" comfortable, the girls dozed and retired. All would have been well had our hostess not neglected a very important matter—she didn't put the cork in the jug tight enough. The girls did not immediately go to sleep, but told their little stories—of the past and of the to come—illustrating with sundry references to certain pieces of broadcloth which are in the habit of calling around occasionally. In a fit of paroxysmal excitement, the visitor gave the jug a somewhat vigorous kick, which loosened the cork, and they struck water immediately. The girls didn't comprehend the situation for a moment, but the liquid, finding its level toward the middle of the bed, soon forced them to believe the Hengen canal was in active operation, and "that" fed her a grand success. To get out of that was the work of a moment, but the drying off operation was slow. Drying their day-clothes, the girls took position by the kitchen stove, and sat it out. The next time they warm the bed with a jug of water they will pay especial attention to the cork—and not kick.—*Stirling Gazette.*

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