The afterpage package*

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This package implements a command, `\afterpage`, that causes the commands specified in its argument to be expanded after the curent page is output.[1]

1. Sometimes LaTeX's float positioning mechanism gets overloaded, and all floating `figures` and `tables` drift to the end of the document. One may flush out all the unprocessed floats by issuing a `\clearpage` command, but this has the effect of making the current page end prematurely. Now you can issue `\afterpage{\clearpage}` and the current page will be filled up with text as usual, but then a `\clearpage` command will flush out all the floats before the next text page begins.

2. An earlier mechanism to help with float placement was the optional argument `[H]` (meaning **HERE!**) which was originally added to the standard floating environments by `here.sty`, and is now provided by `float.sty`. However some `[H]` users have commented that they did not really mean 'Here!' They actually wanted 'Somewhere close'. This can now be achieved by
   `\afterpage{\clearpage\begin{figure}[H] ...\end{figure}}`
   This ensures that the figure is at the top of the next page. (The `\clearpage` stops any other figures drifting past the `[H]` figure.)

3. Floating longtables. `longtable.sty` provides the `longtable` environment, a multi-page version of `tabular`. Many `longtable` users have told me that it is difficult to set the text surrounding the long table, and that they wanted a 'floating' version. As, presumably, `longtables` are long, they are probably too large to hold in memory, and float in the way that the `table` environment is floated, however if the table is in a separate file, say `ltfile.tex`, you can now use one of:
   `\afterpage{\clearpage\input{ltfile}}`
   `\afterpage{\clearpage\input{ltfile}\clearpage}`.
   The first form lets text apear on the same page as the end of the longtable, the second ensures that the surrounding text starts again on a new page.

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[1] This is really a pre-release, to see whether people like the idea of a command like this. This implementation is *not* particularly robust. This implementation does not work in two column mode, and can get 'confused' by LaTeX's floating environments.