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Easy Washing.

(Mrs. M. H. Estep, in 'N. E. Homestead.')

I will endeavor to show how I make my washing comparatively easy, and save the clothes at least one-half. After wetting the clothes, I soap all soiled places quite freely, then roll them snugly and drop into a boiler of cold soft water, and soak over night, being careful to so place them that they will remain rolled, as the soap stays where it will loosen the dirt instead of spreading out into the water. Next morning I set the boiler on the stove and let it gradually heat until it becomes as hot as I can bear my hands in, stirring occasionally; then I remove the clothes to a tub with enough of the water to wash thoroughly, and add to that which remains a second 'batch' that were soaked in the same way as those in the boiler. As these are more soiled than the others, I allow them to boil a short time. It is not necessary to use a washboard for the white clothes, as squeezing them about in the hot water is all that is needed.

After washing them in the suds I put them through a soft water, as is usual in regular washings, and then rinse through the blue water. And here let me say that it would be better if no blueing were used than to add as much as most people do. I prefer just enough to tint the water a little. After I have put the second 'batch' through the same process, I proceed to soap the colored ones and roll in like manner as the first ones, and let them remain in the same water through which I washed the white ones, while I hang out the latter, then I add more warm suds and wash with board. Of course I select cleanest and lightest colored ones for the first washing, and continue in this manner until all are washed. If any one will try this mode of washing, she will be astonished to find how quickly the work can be done, and how well. The colored clothes will not fade nearly as much as with hard rubbing. Soaking and heating the white clothes purifies them sufficiently, although a slight boiling will do them no harm, save for the fact that it will retard the work by waiting for the suds to cool sufficiently to handle the clothes. The flannels can be washed in the same way, but of course clean suds will be needed. Usually there is a sufficient amount, as there will be that in which the clothes were first rinsed. Any good washer knows that they must be washed quickly and with suds as hot as can be borne, and dried rapidly, after putting them through a second water which is even hotter than the first.'

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All business communications should be addressed 'John Dougall & Son, and all letters to the editor should be addressed Editor of the 'Northern Messenger.'