

THINGS USEFUL AND AGREEABLE.

*Have a clear minded perception of rectitude.* Be sure you are right, and then set your face resolutely towards the "shining light." Heed not frowns or cold looks from those you love; affection must bend to duty; tenderness to unflinching integrity. The honest man is often deeply tried, but his course leads most surely to happiness and peace.

*It takes many streams flowing together, to fertilize a country; so individual influence and individual energy are all required to carry on plans of public improvement.* It is clearly the duty of each citizen to have an opinion on questions relating to the general weal, and maintain that opinion, just as much as it is that of the Statesman in the halls of legislature, or the Lawyer explaining the statute-book.

*Key West.* A military station on the East coast of Florida, near the Southern point. The United States' Government regard this as an important post, and large stores of ammunition and naval equipments are kept here, and a garrison is maintained. From its position it commands the entrance into the Gulf of Mexico on the American side; and revenue cutters and cruising clippers rendezvous here when returning from look-out excursions. The coast is rocky and dangerous, and sailors always feel relieved when their ship or "fast sailing brig" clears the narrow pass, and enters the *gulf stream*. The rocks near the station are piled up quite regularly, and an opening between them is called "the hole in the wall." Years since we looked upon that lone fortress with the greatest interest. Certain youthful fancies, and warm imaginings coloured everything we saw, even to grey stone walls, and well we remember how we watched the waves that dashed then, as now, upon that barrier, and felt braced by the breeze that at once crested, and curled their mountain summits, and bore our vessel quickly away.

"A mistress rebuked her servant girl for not dusting the furniture. 'These things are very dusty—look.—look!' 'If you please ma'am,' said the girl, 'it's not the things that's dirty, but that nasty sun that comes in and shows the dust on things.'"

"A Quaker was once examined before a Court, and was asked by the presiding Judge, 'Pray, Mr. —, do you know what we sit here for?' 'Yea, verily, do I,' said the Quaker, 'three of you for two dollars a-day, and the fat one on your right, for one thousand dollars a-year.'"

"Robert Burns, on his way to Leith, one morning, met a country farmer; he shook him earnestly by the hand, and stopped to converse awhile. A young Edinburgh blood took the Poet to task for this defect of taste. 'Why you fantastic gomeril,' said Burns, 'it was not the great-coat, the scone bonnet, and the saundacer boot hose I spoke to, but the man that was in them; and the man, sir, for true worth, would weigh down you and me, and ten more such, any day.'"

"On Sunday, a lady called to her little boy, who was shooting marbles on the pavement, to come into the house. 'Don't you know you should'nt be out there, my son? Go into the back yard, if you want to play marbles,—it is Sunday,—'Well, yes. But ain't it Sunday in the back yard, Mother?'"

RECIPES.

SELECTED.

*Wheat Muffins.*—One pint of milk, and two eggs. One table spoonful of yeast, and a salt spoonful of salt. Mix these ingredients with sufficient flour to make a thick batter. Let it rise four or five hours, and bake in muffin rings. This can be made of unbolted flour, adding two great spoonfuls of molasses, and it is very fine.

*Corn Muffins.*—One quart of Indian meal, sifted. A heaping spoonful of butter. One quart of milk, and a salt spoonful of salt. Two table spoonfuls of distillery yeast, and one of molasses. Let it rise four or five hours. Bake in muffin rings, or in shallow pans.

*Mahogany furniture* may be beautifully polished thus:—rub it with cold drawn linseed oil; wipe off the oil, and polish by rubbing smartly with a clean dry cloth. Marble may be cleaned thus:—pound, very fine, a little stone blue with four ounces of whiting; mix them with an ounce of soda dissolved in a little water, and four ounces of soft soap; boil all fifteen minutes over a slow fire, carefully stirring it. When quite hot, lay it on the marble with a brush, and let it remain half an hour; wash it off with warm water, flannel, and scrubbing brush, and wipe it dry.

*Liquid Blacking.*—Mix and stir well together four ounces of ivory-black, six gills of vinegar; two spoonfuls of molasses, and one of sweet-oil.

*Superior Writing Ink.*—Mix with a gallon of pure soft water, and stir in well, twelve ounces of coarsely-powdered Aleppo galls, six of chipped logwood, five of protosulphate of iron, five of gum-arabic, and two of dry muscovado sugar.

Wood that is straight and solid, makes more in a load, and it is most profitable. A cord of small crooked sticks does not contain half the wood there is in a load of solid logs.

The best wood for fires is the hickory, hard maple, white ash, black birch, yellow birch, beech, yellow oak, and locust. The best are named first.