

THE HOUSEHOLD.

KEEPING SUMMER BOARDERS.

BY HELEN MARSHALL NORTH.

It is comparatively easy to secure summer boarders. People who have vacations are always watching the papers for advertisements of new places, and making inquiries of their friends about their summer experiences. A clothing house in New York displays the sign: "Our best advertisement is a well pleased customer," and summer landlords and landladies can find no better principle in their line of business.

"We were at Shattuck's, last year," says a lady, at a luncheon party, "and we have our rooms engaged for this season. The table was really good. There was no rich food, but good bread and butter, fresh berries and cream—don't laugh. I know you are thinking that country landlords have strange ideas about city people's ideas of cream, but this was genuine, as good as we can buy in the city. The meats were well cooked and neatly served; we had fresh napkins every other day, none too fine, but they were white, clean and dry, and did not suggest the laundry by smelling of yellow bar soap.

"Then we always had fruit for breakfast, and it was not the easiest thing to manage, either. I heard Mr. Shattuck tell some one that his boarders liked fruit in the morning and they paid enough to have it, even if it did cost him some trouble. No one gave us a cross look if we asked for a second pitcher of milk, and the cart from the cheese factory never stopped at our door all summer, to take away what was needed in the family. Then the front yard was kept clean, and the lawn smooth, and the children were not allowed to play in it. They could go to the big orchard at the side of the house, or across the road to the grove. The result of this slight restriction was that when we had visitors, we could take them out under the trees without stumbling over hobby horses and express-carts, doll's furniture and croquet mallets. And the hall and large old-fashioned parlor were kept in beautiful order in their cool summer furnishings.

"The rooms are large, but as plain and old-fashioned as possible, and the beds are not too easy. But the wash-tables are really tables, broad and long enough to hold one's toilet articles comfortably, instead of those disgusting little 'stands,' just big enough for the bowl, which are found in so many country houses. The pitchers were filled twice a day with sweet, pure spring water, and the towel rack was abundantly supplied. Best of all, there was a generous bath room with a great tub fitted with hot and cold water faucets. The landlord said that the bath room brought him countless boarders. And there are transoms over all the doors.

"There isn't a luxury in the house, unless you except the transoms and the bath room, but there is no end of comfort for people who must avoid the extravagant life of fashionable hotels, and who want plenty of fresh air and fresh water, two things that are generally denied one in a country boarding house."

Long before the lady had finished speaking, several address books were out and the question was waiting to be asked: "Where is Shattuck's?" And all that summer Mr. Ready-to-Grind, who kept boarders on the next farm, wondered how it was that Shattuck's was always full, while his rooms were constantly being vacated.—*New York Observer.*

THE BEST PICNIC LUNCH.

Meats for sandwiches, writes Mrs. A. G. Lewis in a seasonable article on "Lawn Parties and Out Door Fetes," in the July *Ladies' Home Journal*, should be boiled the day before; then after removing bone, skin and gristle they should be put in packing tins, heavily weighted, and set in a cool place over night, and then cut in very thin slices.

Bread one day old is best, and a very sharp knife is needed for cutting it into thin slices not over three inches square. These, buttered slightly, may be daintily filled with ham, salad, sardines, tongue, or whatever one likes.

Then cut pieces of confectioner's paper just large enough to cover the sandwiches neatly. Place them side by side, closely

packed, and they will preserve their shape without breaking. The paper is not to be removed until served.

Cakes must also be one day old, and for picnic use a little extra flour in stirring, and an extra five or ten minutes in baking will ensure a firmer crust. Frosting, if put on hot, does not crackle and fall off. Cookies are more desirable than loaf cake, as are, also, cup and gen cakes. Jelly and cream confections are seldom nice for picnic serving.

Pies made of jellies, fruit or sweets are best cooked turnover fashion, the pastry covering the filling entirely. Lay them in paper covers, and they serve thus very conveniently.

Lemon, orange, strawberry, raspberry or currant juices should be extracted, then sweetened, and when well dissolved, bottled. Drinks can then be prepared by adding two tablespoonfuls of the liquid to a tumbler of ice water. All these juices combined make a delicious drink.

Strong coffee or tea may also be prepared and served in the same way. Bright tin mugs are more convenient than tumblers, and there is no danger of breakage.

Hampers, with several trays, are more desirable for packing. Ordinary lunch baskets are a difficulty. White confectioner's paper should be used for lining the basket and for separating the different kinds of food; also for covering neatly individual pieces. Cookies and crackers must be put in tight boxes. Plates are too heavy, but bright, new biscuit tins—the square shapes are best—are very useful in packing, and with fringed napkins laid inside, they serve well for salvers in handing the food around. Paper napkins are best.

Whatever is to be eaten last should be packed at the bottom of the hamper, and that to be served first at the top. Fruit, pickles, olives and cheese must not be forgotten.

CHANGE NECESSARY.

A correspondent of the *Farm and Fireside* asks:—

Isn't it time that we country women were beginning to look for brighter and better things? In order to be happy we must learn to depend upon what lies within our possible reach. We must learn that working day after day, week after week, without seeking a change, will not create an interest which can be healthful. Every woman, no matter what her circumstances are, can obtain variation if she will. A fifteen minutes' walk will take her away from her work to some new field of interest, if she will only educate herself to be interested in what surrounds her. I have little sympathy for the woman who finds nothing in her neighbors to enjoy; she may not find that congeniality which she so much desires, but she must remember that we are all of one family, and if she cannot find some heart-throb akin to her own, who shall say wherein the fault lies?

Are we willing to be called an ignorant class of women? Are we willing to be satisfied with a knowledge of pots and pans and their uses? Is there anything to hinder us from knowing something outside our own little world? Nothing at all in this day of papers and books, yet we make a sad mistake if we depend entirely upon reading matter for our elevation. It is one of our privileges to be surrounded by bountiful nature, who will give if we will take from her. How many of us find friends and old acquaintances among the grasses, ferns, trees and wild flowers? How many know the birds by their songs and looks? Spend a day or two in a neighboring city, see all you can there, get all the ideas you can, put them into practice, if they are practical for you. Don't think you can't afford it; you are only paying a little of the debt you owe to yourself and family. Don't grow envious, but cultivate a satisfied spirit for the possibilities within your reach.

SOMETHING WRONG.

"It won't go right; it keeps no time; it is quite useless." So said a gentleman who handed his watch to the watchmaker.

"It is a good watch, too," said the tradesman.

"It ought to be: it cost money enough, and for a time it seemed to go well enough, but it doesn't now; there's something wrong."

"It is by one of our first makers," continued the watchmaker, who was closely examining the machinery of the watch: "and there is nothing amiss, that I can see, with the works. It is clean too. It only wants regulating."

"Regulating!" exclaimed the gentleman; "that's what everybody tells me. And the regulator has been altered again and again, but to no good purpose. So I have brought it to you to see what you can do with it."

A week or two later, the gentleman once more stood at the watchmaker's counter.

"We must have a new balance wheel, sir," said the latter: "that's where the something wrong is. It was a good wheel to begin with, but it has, by some means, been magnetised; and that has ruined the action of the watch."

Yes, the owner remembered at last, that some time before he had been experimenting with a powerful loadstone; and possibly the watch might have been near. At all events, could not the wheel be deprived of the influence, without the trouble and expense of a new one?

The other smiled: "Pound the wheel in a mortar," said he; "and every broken fragment and particle of steel will retain the influence. Your watch must have a new wheel, sir."

Your heart is the balance-wheel of your moral and spiritual life. If you have an unchanged heart, it is impossible that your daily life can be satisfactory to Him who has a right to expect from every creature he has formed the most perfect obedience to his law.—*Friendly Greetings.*

STOCKING MENDING.

There is little that can be done to lessen the mending of children's stockings except to darn each small hole, especially in the legs, where the stitches ravel so rapidly, as quickly as possible. The wear on a child's stocking is so even that the lining or running of any part prolongs its career but slightly. Sometimes a piece of another stocking smoothly catch-stitched down on the wrong side of the knees of the every day stockings will be a help when a child is unusually hard upon that portion. But the wisest plan is not to buy stockings of too fine weaving and thread, and then to darn them faithfully. Cheap stockings will need repeated mending, besides being an eyesore, and are always an extravagance. Be careful that the darning-cotton is firm in its dye, for it is annoying to have a good stocking disfigured by a faded darn.

The stockings of adults can be lined at the heel and toe with advantage. Take soft firm pieces of discarded woven undersannels, and fit them carefully to the heel and upper part of the stocking's toe. Do not make any overlapping seams or turn under the edge of the flannel. Place the lining well up on the heel where the shoes work up and down, and catch-stitch the raw edge neatly and firmly with thread matching the color of the stocking. This lining will be unnoticeable on the outside of the stocking, and will not hurt the tenderest foot, unless carelessly put on, while it will double the stocking's usefulness and reduce its mending to a minimum. But such lining should always be put in before the stockings are worn, for, once started on their daily rounds, they may come to grief before the mender has opportunity to fortify them. Heels and toes can be "run" with the darning-cotton; but unless run both with the weaving and across it, the result will not be satisfactory, and it is a laborious process, and more liable to hurt the feet than the lining of woven cloth.—*Harper's Bazar.*

USEFUL HINTS.

POOR RUBBERS are the cause of much canned fruit spoiling.

OLD MATTING may still be serviceable by putting it under carpets.

To BRIGHTEN carpets, wipe them with warm water in which has been poured a few drops of ammonia.

KEROSENE will soften boots or shoes that have been hardened by water and render them pliable as new.

To PURIFY the air of a newly-painted room put several tubs of water in it. The water will absorb much of the odor.

PINE shavings from soft pine wood make

a pleasant pillow. They have special curative virtues for coughs and lung troubles.

IN BUILDING dwelling houses, farmers should plan not only for beauty and symmetry, but for the convenience of the family. Many a farmer's wife has been compelled to lead a life of toil and drudgery by the needless neglect of her husband to make the home convenient.

If You Do Not personally attend to the state of your cellar, and this at periodical intervals, you are not really a good housekeeper. Your table may be exquisitely appointed, your dishes daintily cooked; your parlor may be beautifully furnished, and in every way attractive, but the test of your housekeeping is your cellar. It underlies all. It is foundational. If the family are to be kept in health the cellar must be kept clean, must never foster decaying vegetation or noisome dampness; it must be orderly, and sluiced with fresh air.

SELECTED RECIPES.

POTATO CAKE.—Add two tablespoonfuls of yeast to about a quart of mashed potato, and mix with flour to the consistency of dough; when light, bake in a moderate oven.

LEMON SAUCE.—Boil one cupful of granulated sugar in two cupfuls of hot water; wet a tablespoonful of corn starch in cold water and boil ten minutes. Add juice and grated rind of one lemon and a tablespoonful of butter.

BREAD PUDDING.—One pint of nice bread crumbs, one quart of sweet milk, yolks of four eggs, one heaping cup of sugar; bake a light brown. When done spread jelly over the top. Beat the whites of the eggs to a stiff froth, with some white sugar; spread it on the top, replace in the oven and brown slightly; serve cold.

ANOTHER BREAD PUDDING.—Two large slices of bread crumbed into a quart of milk. Soak so it can be mashed fine. Add three eggs, one large cupful of sugar, and a small lump of butter. Flavor with nutmeg. Bake one hour.

CRUMB PIE.—Ingredients: cold meat, bread crumbs, salt, pepper and nutmeg, gravy and butter. Mince any kind of cold meat very fine, season to taste, and put into a pie dish. Put into the dish any gravy you have, and cover thick with bread crumbs. Lay small pieces of butter over the top, and bake a nice brown. Eat cold or hot.

PUZZLES NO. 17.

DECAPITATION.

Come from the city's busy hum and tread;
Come, ye who labor for your daily bread;
Come, ye fair maids, who beautify the home,
Come, rustic swains, your sister's escorts, come
Hear! the total calls you to join the band,
And drive the cursed final from our land.
Final! final! the blight of home and hearth,
The destroyer, which ravages our fair earth,
Must it flourish? Is there no hope or way
By which its enemies may win the day?
On to battle, with earnest might and main,
Then may temperance the victory gain.

SCRIPTURE ACROSTIC.

1. A piece of pure gold upon Aaron's mitre.
2. That which a Christian should possess. 3.
That which we should not worship. 4. One who
did not look back. 5. It was burnt on Jewish
altars. 6. What figs were once used for.
The initials spell one of the chosen twelve
apostles. EDITH GRAMMIE.

ENIGMA.

My first is in storm but not in rain,
My second is in road but not in lane,
My third is in chair but not in stool,
My fourth is in college but not in school,
My fifth is in tidy but not in neat,
My sixth is in hands but not in feet,
My seventh is in page but not in book,
My eighth is in line but not in hook,
My ninth is in catch but not in throw,
My tenth is in high but not in low,
My eleventh is in harness but not in hitch,
My twelfth is in creek but not in ditch,
My thirteenth is in pain but not in sorrow,
My fourteenth is in to-day but not in to-morrow,
My fifteenth is in lend but not in borrow.
My whole is something which requires some
thought,
But when pains are taken is easily wrought.
M. A. WALKER.

DROP-VOWEL BIBLE VERSE.

Th-s-s my c-mm-ndm-nt th-t-y- l-v-n- n-ther
-s- h-v-l-v-d-y- - EDITH GRAMMIE.

WORD HALF SQUARE.

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1. To immerse. 2. A circle around the sun.
3. A tree. 4. An exclamation. 5. A consonant.

BEHEADINGS AND CURTAILINGS.

1. Behead a flower, and leave a useful liquid.
2. Behead a receptacle, and leave an animal. 3.
Behead a garment, and leave a kind of grain;
again, and leave a preposition. 4. Behead an ad-
verb, and leave a bird; curtail, and leave a per-
sonal pronoun. 5. Curtail an adverb, and leave
an article. 6. Curtail a piece of wood, and leave
a wild animal; curtail again, and leave a reptile;
restore the last two letters and change the first,
and you have a cherished store.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES No. 16.

A RIDDLE.—A draught.
CHARADE.—Whalebone.
WORD SQUARE.— C O M E
O D O R
M O S S
E R S T
AMPUTATIONS.—1. P-otter-y. 2. P-romp-t.
3. T-ouch-y. 4. M-ouse-r.
NUMERICAL ENIGMA.—Lord Fauntleroy.
CHARADE.—New-found-land.