

Ironmongery continued.

One iron fish kettle	£	s.	d.
One coal scuttle	0	5	0
Coal hammer	0	2	6
Two trays	0	0	10
Three flat-irons and stand	0	2	0
Toasting fork	0	3	6
Set of scales and weights	0	0	2
Bread pan	0	4	6
Strainer	0	2	0
Mincing knife	0	2	0
Three pie dishes	0	0	6½
Six basins	0	0	6
Coffee mill	0	2	0
Mincing machine	0	2	6
Box larding pins	0	3	0
Two cake tins	0	0	4½
Gravy strainer	0	1	0
Sugar dredger and flour dredger	0	0	6½
Bread grater	0	1	0
Egg-beater	0	0	7
One set of skewers	0	0	6
One frying basket	0	0	2
Three iron spoons	0	0	9
Pepper-box 1d., salt cellars 2d.	0	0	2
Mustard pot 1d., sugar cannister	0	0	3
3s. od	0	3	1
Two coffee cannisters	0	0	1
Two tea cannisters	0	1	1
Rice and sago jars	0	0	1
Two sugar jars	0	0	1
One gridiron	0	2	0
Set of dish covers	0	0	1
	£	5	0

TURNERY AND BRUSHES.

Two housemaids' pails	0	3	0
Chopping board	0	0	9
Paste board and rolling-pin	0	2	6
Carpet broom	0	2	0
Two scrubbing brushes	0	0	1
Wall broom	0	3	6
Four stove brushes	0	3	6

Flue brush	0	1	0
One furniture brush	0	1	0
Paste brush 1d., crumb brush and tray 1s. 9d.	0	1	10
Saucepan brush	0	0	8
Hair brush	0	1	0
Set stove brushes	0	2	6
Two plate brushes at rod.	0	1	8
Long carpet broom	0	3	0
Two soft hair brooms	0	2	6
One kneeling mat	0	0	10
Two hair sieves	0	2	6
Flour tub	0	2	0
Salt box 6d., towel roller 6½d.	0	1	0½
Wire sieve	0	0	10
Knife board	0	1	0½
Six wooden spoons	0	0	8
One jelly bag	0	1	6
Four leathers at rod.	0	3	4
One sponge	0	1	0
Two clothes horses	0	4	6
One pair of seven tread steps	0	5	0
One baize lined plate basket	0	2	6
One cinder sieve	0	1	6
Butler's tray and stand	0	10	6
Knife tray	0	2	6
Six small bedroom hot watercans	0	9	0
Two large ditto	0	7	0
	£	4	8

Hall and staircase	11	1	1
Dining-room	23	3	1½
Drawing-room	48	14	7
Bedroom	26	17	2
Dressing-room (no schedule)	5	8	6
Spare room	22	2	8
Bath-room	1	2	8
Young ladies' room	8	13	11½
Servants' room	5	6	0
Kitchen	2	14	6
Linon (sale prices)	14	14	1
China and glass	7	2	3½

Cutlery	£	s.	d.
Ironmongery	3	2	0
Turnery	5	0	0
	4	8	9

Deduct glass, linen, etc.	189	11	4½
Furniture	£	155	4

I think I have shown that a house with two entertaining rooms, five bedrooms and a bath-room can be comfortably furnished for £155 4s. 3d. If you are content with four bedrooms or can afford £160 you need not lessen the price of anything chosen for the drawing-room. Should you be able to spend £200 on your house, there will be £9 1s. 11d. which can be spent in small silver, after linen, turnery, g'as, china and furniture are paid for. A newly married couple would possibly have small silver given to them.

Half-a-dozen silver tea spoons	£	s.	d.
Six table spoons	1	10	0
Half-a-dozen silver dessert spoons	3	0	0
One soup ladle (plated)	2	5	0
Two silver pepper pots	0	8	6
Two silver mustard pots	2	0	0
Half-a-dozen silver forks	3	0	0
Half-a-dozen plated forks	0	5	0

A smaller sum is allowed for turnery in some cheap estimates, but every item I have included is really necessary even in a small household, and has been carefully priced at various shops.

Strictly speaking the furniture only comes to £136 4s. 3d., if you deduct cushions, curtains, screens, fenders, coal-boxes, etc., which are not usually included in a furniture estimate.

It is always wise to use silver every day, and keep plated for occasional use.

E. H. PITCAIRN.

VARIETIES.

VIRTUE.

"Riches chance may take or give;
Beauty lives a day and dies;
Honour lulls us while we live;
Mirth's a cheat, and pleasure flies.
Is there nothing worth our care?
Time, and chance, and death our
foes?
If our joys so fleeting are,
Are we only tied to woes?
Let bright virtue answer No;
Her eternal powers prevail
When honours, riches, cease to flow,
And beauty, mirth, and pleasure
fail."

BOOK-KEEPING MADE EASY.

A young husband, finding that his pretty but rather extravagant wife was considerably exceeding their income, brought her home one day a neat little account book. This he presented to her together with ten pounds.
"Now, my dear," he said, "I want you to put down what I give you on this side, and on the other write down the way it goes, and in a fortnight I will give you another supply."
A couple of weeks later he asked for the book.
"Oh, I have kept the account all right," said his wife; "see here it is."
On one page was inscribed—"Received from Willie ten pounds," and on the one opposite the comprehensive little summary—"Spent it all."

ARTIFICIAL DUCK-HATCHING IN FORMOSA.

Artificial duck-hatching is a great feature in the local native industries of Formosa. This is how it is managed:—

A long low shed is built, mostly of wattles and mud, with a thick thatched roof. Along the inside walls are arranged rough troughs, which are filled up with grain and roasted paddy-husk, on which the eggs are placed as fast as they are laid.

In the summer no particular precautions are taken, but in the winter the eggs are covered over with quilted coverlets, and far more care is taken to exclude cold draughts than is ever dreamt of in a native dwelling-house.

The grain, which is sprinkled with a little warm water, sets up fermentation, and that with the help of the warm paddy-husk, which is continually being changed, hatches the eggs in about thirty days.

By this simple and inexpensive process the breeder is enabled to sell young ducklings at about a penny each.

Many flocks of ducks, averaging five hundred to the flock, can always be seen feeding on the mud-banks of the river at low-tide. They are attended by a man in a small boat, who occasionally feeds them with winkles, and guides them about from place to place by his voice, and by the action of his boat.

CHARACTER-BUILDING. — Character is made up of small deeds faithfully performed, of self-denials, of self-sacrifices, of kindly acts of love and duty.

"A SOFT ANSWER TURNETH AWAY WRATH."

The famous Napoleon Buonaparte, who was extremely thin in the early days of his generalship, though he afterwards became somewhat stout, was once present at a bread riot during the last days of the revolutionary period.

The mob was led by an extremely stout woman, who, seeing Napoleon and his staff ride up, called out to her companions—

"Down with the shoulder-strappers! Down with those chaps who feed and fatten, while the people die of hunger!"

"Come, come, my good woman," said Napoleon, "look at me and tell which of us two is the fatter."

The laugh which followed disarmed the mob more completely than a cavalry charge would have done.

NO PROGRESS.

Entering the house of one of his congregation, Rowland Hill saw a child on a rocking-horse.

"Dear me!" exclaimed the aged minister, "how wondrously like some Christians! There is motion but no progress."

HINTS.

To learn a girl's character, mark how she takes a favour.

To know your ruling passion, examine your castles in the air.