

HOME.

DESSERTS.

Plum Sherbet.—To four quarts of water add four-pounds of granulated sugar, juice of eight lemons, one quart of green gage plum juice, whites of five eggs, beaten to a froth, strain through a fine sieve and put in freezer. This quantity will serve about 25 persons.

Apricot Sherbet.—Take half of 5 cent can condensed milk, dilute with one and one-half pints water; add and mash fine one-half dozen ripe apricots; stir in one and one-half cups sugar. Put all in freezer and add one pint rich milk. Freeze as ice cream. Makes two quarts and total cost is 20 cents.

Prune Loaf.—One pound of best prunes, one box of gelatine, juice of rind of one lemon, one cupful of seedless raisins, two cups of white sugar, one-fourth teaspoonful of cinnamon, a pinch of salt, and one-half cup of chopped English walnut meats. Stew prunes about one-half day in a little water until done, slip pits out. Soak gelatin in two small cups of lukewarm water, chop raisins fine, mix with raisins, prunes, and prune juice, sugar, salt, lemon juice and rind, cinnamon, with a generous quart of boiling hot water. Mix all together and mold well. Serve in slices when cold with whipped cream.

Frozen Dessert. Hint.—Use pail in the fireless cooker, instead of ice cream freezer to pack mousses. Put whipped cream, sweetened and flavored, fruits if desired, in baking powder cans or small pail, pack with ice and salt and it will freeze in two and one-half or three hours.

Bisque Tortoni.—One-half pint whipped cream, four tablespoons sugar beaten with yolks of three eggs; beat whites to a stiff froth; add two tablespoons of rum and five cents worth of stale macaroons rolled to a powder, mix well and put in freezer without dasher, let remain three hours in chopped ice and a lot of salt; one-half cup of maple syrup can be used in place of rum.

Dainty Dessert.—Place two tablespoonfuls of apricot jam in dessert glasses and heap over it the whites of one egg beaten stiff to which has been added one-half dozen macaroons cut fine, one tablespoonful powdered sugar, and vanilla to taste. Whipped cream may be substituted for the beaten egg if a richer dessert is desired.

Lemon Souffle.—Put in a double boiler the juice and rind of two lemons, one tablespoon butter, and two tablespoons sugar, the yolks of four eggs. Stir till thick, then fold in lightly the stiffly beaten whites. Pour in a well buttered soufflé dish and bake fifteen minutes in a moderate oven, sprinkle with sugar, and serve.

PRESERVING.

Leftover Fruit.—When there is a dish of or a few berries left over from a meal, do not leave them sitting around waiting for some one to eat them up, but put them in a sauce pan with a little sugar and cook down. Then pour into a jelly glass and let cool. You will have a good jam made from fresh fruit, whereas before your berries would have been wasted. Both kinds of raspberries, dewberries, and blackberries may be used this way at little labor and expense.

Watermelon Sweet Pickles.—Layer of grape leaves, layer of rind; sprinkle teaspoonful of alum, cover with water, and let simmer on stove until clear. Set aside to cool. To one pound of rind take one pound of sugar, one-half pint vinegar, six cloves, four sticks of cinnamon and a small piece of white ginger root. Boil rind and syrup thirty minutes and can while hot. **Canned Green Beans.**—One-half gallon beans, one teaspoonful sugar, one teaspoonful of salt; one-half cupful of vinegar. Cover with water and boil for twenty minutes then can.

PEACHES.

Peach Fritters.—Four peaches, one-third cups flour, two teaspoons baking powder, one-fourth teaspoon salt, two-thirds cup milk, one egg. Mix and sift dry ingredients, add milk gradually, and egg well beaten. Cut peaches in small pieces, dip in batter, and fry in deep fat. Drain, sprinkle with powdered sugar, and serve.

Dainty Dessert.—Take five large peaches that have been preserved, or boiled in a syrup till clear; remove the stones and place between each two halves a thick layer of ice cream. Add a pint of red raspberries that have been mashed to the peach syrup, then pour it around the peach halves, and cream and serve at once.

Peach Cream.—Twelve peaches pared and sliced, three eggs, and the whites of two more, one-half cup powdered sugar, two tablespoonfuls cornstarch, wet in cold milk, one tablespoonful melted butter, and one pint of milk. Soak the milk, stir in the cornstarch, and when it begins to thicken take

from the fire and stir in the butter. When lukewarm whip in the beaten yolks till all are light. Put the peaches into a dish, strew the sugar over them, then pour over the creamy compound. Bake in a quick oven ten minutes and spread with a meringue made of five whites beaten stiff with four tablespoons powdered sugar. Place in oven till firm. Eat cold with cream.

POTATOES.

Potato Salad.—To one quart of mashed cold potatoes, slice one cucumber, one green pepper, and two small onions, add one-half cupful of chopped celery, two small radishes chopped; mix with mayonnaise dressing and serve on lettuce leaves.

New Potato Hint.—Don't stain your fingers scraping new potatoes. Put in cold water for a few minutes, then rub with a small piece of burlap or coarse cloth, which removes every particle of skin.

WORTH KNOWING.

Burn a paper in the refrigerator and it will remove all odors.

In the making of hot starch soapy water should always be used. This gives the necessary shine to the linen, while it prevents any change of the article.

Excess of potatoes should never be put in the mouth at the same time as fish, especially by children, or it will be difficult to detect bones in the fish, and they may be swallowed by mistake.

To make a good starch for curtains, mix a large cupful of flour with a little water and beat by hand to a smooth cream; then add boiling water to required consistency, stirring vigorously the while. To purify the air of a cellar and destroy parasitical growth, place some roll brimstone in a pan, set fire to it, close the doors and windows as tightly as possible for two or three hours, repeat every three months.

To clean and polish old copper coins which have become badly coated with dirt and oxide, boil them in a strong aqueous solution of caustic soda, rinse in soft water, and polish with a little putty powder, rouge or tripoli.

To remove a bad corn make a poultice of bread soaked in strong vinegar, and put it on the corn at bedtime. After a few nights the corn can easily be removed. This is a simple remedy, but it persevered with never fails.

When boiling milk for a custard powder, sprinkle the bottom of the saucepan with sugar; this dissolves and forms a layer, and so prevents the milk from burning, no matter how long it boils. It applies to any sweetened milk.

A waste-paper basket should be part of the nursery furniture and the children should be taught to use it for its proper purpose. The habit may be formed of putting in it scraps of paper and other rubbish which would otherwise litter the floor.

When putting down your new linoleum or oilcloth have strips of moulding nailed about the linoleum where it comes to the board. This prevents dust from getting underneath, and also preserves the edges from moisture under the floor covering.

To prevent curtains from blowing against the screen take two tapes, nail one on either side of window, six inches above window sill; take a piece of twine and fasten it to the tacks, stretching it firmly across the window.

A kitchen table covered with zinc is a great labor saver. It is easily cleaned and saucepans may be stood, and vegetables, etc., cut up upon it without injuring it. The zinc costs little, will last practically a lifetime and can easily be nailed on the table by any home carpenter.

The following mixture is recommended for cleaning and bleaching straw hats. It can be used on expensive Panama straws without injuring the material: Sodium bisulfite, 5 drams; tartaric acid, 5 drams; borax, 5 drams. Moisten a small quantity of the powder and apply it with a tooth brush to the hat. First remove the band.

To Keep Milk and Butter.—Place butter in a bowl or small jar and cover with a saucer; set this and the bottle of milk in a rather deep pan and pour in enough cold water to half fill the pan, then fold a linen towel or piece of tablecloth twice, dip in cold water, and spread dripping wet over the bottle and bowl, with the edges of cloth in the water. Set the pan where the air can circulate. The milk will keep sweet all day and the butter will be nice when wanted even in the hottest weather.

An easy way to hang a skirt when you are making one at home is to lay on the floor a book, the thickness of which is the desired distance of your skirt from the ground. Then put on the skirt, and just it firmly at the waist, and stand beside the book, so that the material touches or lies over on it, and turn slowly around. It is then an easy matter for a second person to turn up the hem or cut off as may be desired at the line indicated by the edge of the book and you will find your skirt perfectly level.

PHOTOGRAPHIC PLATES.

Discarded Ones Make Business For Old Negative Man.

There are people in every large city who make a business of buying up old used photographic plates, cleaning and reselling them. They get their supply mostly from the photographers who make a specialty of commercial or newspaper illustration. No one knows how many thousands of these squares of glass are sold every week, but the number must be enormous in the aggregate.

While it is the custom for photographers to preserve carefully all plates that they think may be of future value, they discard a great many more than they keep. A firm of newspaper photographers, for instance, will send out several men to get pictures of snow scenes or of spring in the suburbs or of summer at the seaside. Each will bring back half a dozen view. Only three or four will be selected as being worth preserving. The other twenty or thirty plates will be dumped into a big box with the other discards to await the coming of the glass man.

The average selling price for the plate of ordinary size is \$3 a thousand. These plates cost the photographer originally about 80 cents a dozen. By means of an acid bath the dark covering is quickly removed, and the glass becomes as clear as though it had never been used. Some of these plates are sold to manufacturers to be used once more in photography. A far greater number, however, are disposed of to dealers, who sell them to people who are fond of making pastime pictures. Still more find their way to greenhouse men and those gardeners who have acres of "cold frames" where vegetables are propagated under glass. A few are used as decorative or protective pictures around flower beds in suburban estates.—Harper's Weekly.

The Structure of Ferns.

When flowering plants usually make seed, that is generally the last effort for plant life. The seed is the beginning of the life of the new plant. Ferns, however, only produce spores for reproductive purposes. These spores germinate and go through the same process subsequently that flowers go through in the production of seeds. The spore expands, and a germinating time comes and form a flat, green membrane. What are then really the flowers appear on this membrane. As a general rule after these fern fronds have matured the membrane dries up and disappears. In one family of ferns, however, natives of New Holland, named *Polypodium*, this green blade is permanent and continues to enlarge, becoming really a portion of the plant. Every year a new blade is formed, which spreads over the old one, and the large plant is of a totally different character, having the fronds of ordinary ferns.

Told Him the Secret.

Herman, the dramatist, who in *Little Lord Fauntleroy* had a high character, once called to give evidence regarding a certain brand of wine. As he testified that it was totally innocent of grape juice the merchant was severely fined. On coming out of the court the defendant asked him: "How is it that you were able to swear so positively that there is no grape juice in that stuff of mine?"

"Because if there had been any 'n' combination with the other elements, you know, it would have formed tartaric acid on the barrel."

"Thank you ever so much," replied the enlightened auditor. "You'll find some on the barrel next time."

A Little Absentminded.

The other day Dixon came out of his house, walked to the edge of the pavement, threw his right leg into the air with a vaulting movement and fell to the ground.

A friend who came along in time to witness the singular performance said to him:

"Why, Dixon, whatever do you mean by such a performance?"

Dixon got up, brushed the dirt from his garments and, rubbing his bruises, said:

"I thought I was getting on my bicycle. I forgot that I didn't have it with me."

Solubility of Gold.

Gold is one of the group of metals soluble only in that mixture of nitric and hydrochloric acids known as aqua regia. It has been found, however, that the presence of certain organic compounds renders gold soluble in hydrochloric acid. Thus a mixture of this acid and chloroform is found to be a solvent. Ethyl, ordinary alcohol, methyl alcohol and amyl alcohol are among the other substances which give to hydrochloric acid the power of dissolving gold. The solution takes place slowly in the cold and more quickly on heating.

Cheap Lending.

"One day," said a Parisian, "I arrived with my wife at an inn in the lower Pyrenees. It was during an electoral campaign. The place pleased me. Two days passed. At the moment of departure I asked for my account. The innkeeper responded: 'You owe me nothing. The Count de V., who is in this district for fifteen days, has paid for you.'"

"So I remained at that inn fifteen days without paying a sou."—Cris de Paris.

Bound to Be Ladylike.

Ethel—What did you do when Gus proposed to you?

Mabel—I was so surprised I pucker up my mouth to whistle, but then I remembered that would be unladylike, so I bit my lip and pressed my lips to his to keep from whistling.

Not a Characteristic.

"That was your wife with you at the railway station, wasn't it?"

"What makes you think she was my wife?"

"Well, she gave you such a short answer."

"That wasn't my wife."

FEMALE PIRATES.

Only Two Known Became Heroines Among Crew of Their Ships.

Women have succeeded in passing themselves off as men not infrequently, but so far as known, there have been but two women pirates—Anne Bonney and Mary Read—who were captured something over a century ago in the Caribbean sea, charged with having "piratical intentions," says a writer in *Harper's Weekly*. It was not known at the time that they were not men, and accordingly they were sentenced to meet death in the manner generally meted out to gentlemen of their profession, when they confessed their sex and they were in due course punished less severely.

The woman Bonney was the daughter of a Carolina planter, who had disowned her by reason of her marriage with a sailor. Even at that time Anne had a predilection for man's attire, inasmuch as the hour of her elopement she employed it for the purpose of evading her angry parent. Eventually she shipped with her husband and shared in his piratical adventures. Among her shipmates, who were ignorant of her sex and also of her relation to the captain, Anne attained a reputation for courage.

Now, curious as it may seem, the ship wherein this female pirate practiced the arts of the freebooter was one day boarded by sea robbers, among them another land pirate of the name of Mary Read. It followed that the women became fast friends, though at first each was ignorant of the sex of the other. The discovery that each was a woman came about through the declaration on the part of Mary of a romantic attachment for the Bonney parent.

Shortly after the two women met they became widows, and naturally began their lives together in a buccanier crew. Both were admired for the courage they evinced in their unusual calling, and both were greatly loved by their seamen. Mary Read was an expert swordsman and fought more than one duel. She died in prison. Anne Bonney was in due time restored to her family.

Classified.

Custom house stories are always interesting. The hero of this one, a Swiss missionary, was returning to Basel, Germany, after having been spending a few days in the parish, an ancient Patagonian burying place. At the frontier the authorities insisted on inspecting his trunk. They classified the skulls as "bones of animals" and demanded duty at the rate of a penny a pound. The missionary protested, and it was presently agreed that as the skulls were for scientific purposes they must be allowed to enter without payment.

The only question was how to classify them for the purposes of the Swiss statistical bureau. This problem was debated at great length, but ultimately the skulls went through as "personal effects" already worn.

What Puzzled Louis.

Louis Philippe was a wit. What he especially excelled in was the clinching of an argument, such as, for instance, his final remark on the death of Talleyrand. He had paid him a visit the day before. When the news of the traitor's death was brought to him he said:

"Are you sure he is dead?"

"Very sure, sire," was the answer.

"Why, did not your majesty himself notice yesterday that he was dying?"

"I did; but there is no judging from appearances with Talleyrand, and I have been asking myself for the last four and twenty hours what interest he could possibly have in departing at this particular moment."

Parthenon and Pantheon.

The Parthenon and Pantheon are far from being in the same class. The first is the finest building in the world, unapproached and probably unapproachable in its simple yet superlative beauty. The second is, apart from its dome, by no means wonderful. Everybody going to Rome sees the Pantheon, of course, but thousands go to Athens from the ends of the earth for the sole purpose of seeing the Parthenon, the "finest building on the finest site in the world." Even in its ruins it appeals to the mind of man as no other creation of art does, and the world would doubtless consider it a sacrilege to have any other rival near the throne.

Michelangelo.

Michelangelo while painting "The Last Judgment" fell from his scaffold and received a painful injury in the leg. He shut himself up and would not see any one. Baccio Rontini, a celebrated physician, came by accident to see him. He found all the doors closed. No one responding, he went into the cellar and came upstairs. He found Michelangelo in his room, resolved to die. His friend the physician would not leave him. He brought him out of the peculiar frame of mind into which he had fallen.

Seven Wonders of the World.

Authorities differ as to what were the seven wonders of the world. Antipater's list is the walls of Babylon, the Colossus of Rhodes, the pyramids of Egypt, the mausoleum at Halicarnassus and the temple of Artemis at Ephesus. Pseudo-Philo combined the hanging gardens and the walls under one head, adding to the list the lighthouse of Alexandria. Others made further substitutions, among which is included the temple of Jerusalem.

Saw His Finish.

"Oh, oh," exclaimed impatient Mrs. Naggs, "I've bitten off the end of my tongue!"

"Well, I certainly feel sorry for my self," rejoined the heartless Naggs. "Hereafter there will be no end to your tongue."

His Interest.

Gertrude—You say you've only been there two weeks and have an interest in the business?

Vansant—Yes; I was two hours late this morning, and the boss told me I'd better take some interest in the business in the future.

BIRD ARCHITECTS.

Is There a Human Living Who Can Build Like Birds?

Birds are by no means the only creatures that build nests, but it is with them that the term nests is inseparably connected. They build everywhere and in every conceivable situation, from the surface of the earth and beneath it to the tops of the tallest trees. Everywhere they are to be found by him who knows the habits of their builders.

No one, upon examining a bird's nest, can help being struck with the beauty of its symmetry and the intricacy of its structure, and when we stop to consider that it is all done by two little creatures with no other appliances than their feet and bills, the wonder is not alone that the finished article is so perfect and of such beauty, but that they can do it at all. Where is the human being, with all the tools and appliances which he can bring to his aid, who could reproduce the abode of even those species that build the simplest type of nest?

The nest-building of a bird is a business, a necessity, and beauty is by no means the end for which they strive in their architectural designs, for to say that the birds are influenced by the desire for the beautiful in their nest-building is to attribute to them an aesthetic taste trained to such perfection as to govern the principal action of their lives, to the exclusion of all other considerations, which they are very far from possessing. The nest is built primarily from a strictly utilitarian standpoint, and it is in the building of it such material is worked into its construction and it is formed in such shape as to give it beauty in our eyes, it is a matter of accident rather than design. The one and only object for which the birds aim is to erect a structure in which may be combined the greatest amount of security with the greatest amount of comfort for them and their offspring.

Two Strong Reasons.

A certain Scotch minister in a west Highland parish has never yet been known to permit a stranger to occupy his pulpit. Lately, however, an Edinburgh divine, calling on his way to another parish, was spending a few days in the parish, and on the Saturday he called at the manse and asked the minister to be allowed to preach the following day.

"My dear young man," said the minister, laying a hand gently on the young man's shoulder, "gin I let ye preach the morn and ye gie a better sermon than me my fowl wad never again be satisfied wi' my preaching, and gin ye're nae a better preacher than me ye're nae worth listening to."

Mark Twain's Choice of Authors.

When asked to choose a library made up of twelve authors only Mark Twain replied: "In my list I know I should put Shakespeare and Browning and Carlyle (French Revolution only); Parkman's Histories (a hundred of them, if there were so many); The Arabian Nights; Johnson ('Boss' well), because I like to see that commonplace old gasometer listen to him talk; Jowett's 'Plays' and 'Pops'; and 'Diary' (the condensed edition). I should be sure of these, and I could add the other three, but I should want to hold the opportunity open a few years so as to make no mistake. Parkman is the only American author included."

Julius Verne's Romance.

The story of Jules Verne's courtship and marriage is a most romantic one. Verne was a shy young fellow who had a great dislike to the society of women, and it was only his affection for his brother which led him to go to the latter's wedding. Verne, however, arrived too late and found that the whole bridal party had left for the church with the exception of the bride's sister, a charming young widow, who explained the matter. The friendship thus accidentally begun rapidly developed into a warmer feeling and ended in a marriage which may be described as ideal.

Haydn's Unhappy Match.

Among the unhappiest marriages ever recorded was that of Haydn. His wife was extravagant, a scold and utterly impossible as the spouse of a musician. We are assured that she indulged herself in fits of rage where she would destroy the master's written musical scores, using them to make curl papers. Haydn appears to have borne this state of affairs for about thirty-two years, when he became exhausted. In London he wrote a friend: "My wife, that infernal woman, has written me such horrible things that I will not return home."

Time Hung Heavy on His Hands.

A Chinese laundryman recently had his troubles with a watch that habitually lost time. So he took the time-piece to the nearest watchmaker. "Watchee no good to Charlie Lee," said he briefly, pushing it across the counter. "You fixee him, eh?" "Certainly," said the watchmaker. "What seems to be the trouble with it?"

"Oh, him too muchee by 'n by," said Charlie Lee.

Pictorial Wash Lists.

Fewly old inventors are our modern wash lists. The old German housewife had an odd way of keeping track of the garments she gave out to be washed. She had a picture of each article and wrote down the number of everything opposite to it with a piece of chalk, which was rubbed out when the article was returned; to be used again the next week. It was really a pictorial and perpetual wash list.

What Wen Her.

"I thought she was going to marry me."

"No, Jack."

"Why, she told me you was willing to do for me."

"Sister, she was only making a good thing bad."

NEW AIR WIZARD.

Inventor of the Gyroplane Promises Wonderful Things.

The incorporation of an aerial navigation company at St. Louis has revealed plans for a commercial passenger airship that rivals the wildest dreams of Jules Verne. Officials of the company declare that within a year they will have a ship that will carry a hundred passengers in a forty mile wind and at a speed of 100 miles an hour.

The machine is the invention of J. W. Oman, formerly of San Antonio, Texas, but at present at St. Louis. One is in process of construction in the shops of the inventor at St. Louis. The inventor claims that his ship can start either from the land or water. He declares it will ascend straight into the air or can be launched in the manner of an aeroplane.

The new airship is called a gyroplane, so named from the fact that it is a combination of gyroscopes, the helicopter and the aeroplane. Its promoters say it can be built in any size from a two-man runabout or a seven passenger touring car to a monster of the air that will carry fifty or a hundred passengers.

"A thirty or forty mile breeze would be a help rather than a hindrance to our machine," said the inventor the other day. "We will maintain absolute equilibrium in anything short of a cyclone. The usual obstacles that prevent the flight of an ordinary airship will be as nothing to this machine of ours."

It is planned to construct machines that will maintain a regular service between cities and states and even countries.

The gyroscopes and the helicopter are familiar principles in heavier than air navigation, but never before have they been applied in the manner employed by Oman. The model of his ship is fitted with four huge propellers, twelve feet in diameter, which may be used in turn for drawing the machine from the ground or carrying it through the air.

The machine has been inspected by Government engineers and pronounced superior to all others, it is declared. Ten patents have been granted, covering almost every feature of the machine. The machine is to be constructed entirely of aluminum and mechanics and be fitted with four propellers, twelve feet in diameter.

The inventor asserts the machine can be made to stand still at one spot in the air for an indefinite time. "We could drop a thousand bombs on a warship from a height of two miles without moving a foot," he declared. Oman has studied aerial navigation twenty years.

"Natural Life."

A poisoner in a western state has been sentenced to imprisonment for the new dispatches put it. "For the rest of his natural life." That phrase "natural life" bothers some people, who wonder if the law recognizes any "unnatural life." It does not, but the old common law did recognize an unnatural death as well as a natural one. When a man or woman takes the monastic vow people still speak of it as "leaving the world." In medieval times that was considered a form of death, and the phrase "natural life" came into use to describe an existence terminated by the grave, not by the convent or the abbey.

Antiquity of Gold Leaf.

The origin of the gold leaf, like the first use of gold itself, is lost in the mists of antiquity. It is found, for example, in connection with the most ancient known mummies, having been used for covering teeth, tongue, skin, etc. Sometimes it is also found on the tombs and monuments of ancient Egypt. The process of making gold leaf has thus been known since the eighth century B.C. In the eleventh century it seems to have attained as high a degree of perfection as today. The gold leaf on some ancient Grecian pottery indeed is as thin as that now used.

The Wolf's Den.

One of the most gruesome animal homes is the wolf's den. This is simply a hole dug in the side of a bank or a small natural cave, generally situated on the sunny side of a ridge and almost hidden by bushes and loose bowlders. Here the wolf lies snug. In and about his doomy lie the remains of past feasts, while the couple with his own order, make the wolf's den a not very inviting place. Nevertheless there is something so dread and mysterious about this soft footed marauder that it even lends a fascination to his home.

Windmills.

Holland is known to all the world as the land of windmills, but very few people know that the windmill did not belong to Europe in the first place, but originated among the Saracens. There is, it is believed, no instance of a windmill being used in Europe until the time of the crusades. In a typical wind driven flour mill in Asia Minor the planes of the wind wheel are made of a fabric and catch the wind as do the staysails of a sailing ship.

A Hard Law.

A traveler getting outside St. Petersburg discovered when he tried to re-enter the city that he had left his passport in the bedroom of his hotel. The guards refused to let him pass and refused to send for the passport. "According to you," said he, "the only thing for me to do is to show myself in the News."

"No," said the sentry, "suicide in Russia is strictly against the law."

His Standard.

A shoe drummer alighted from the train at Fayette for a moment and took down the street. Presently Yick Yick came along with a bundle of soiled laundry, and the drummer halted him with:

"John, how much of a piece is this here town of Fayette?"

"Sister, it's ev'ly twenty minutes," replied the Chinaman.