

THE HOUSEHOLD.

KEEPING HOUSE.

To be a housekeeper involves very much more than being able to sweep rooms, and cook the food of a family, and no woman should marry till she is able not only to do this, but to preside over a household with good economy, with forecast and dignity. She must understand the requirements of a family, the price and quantities of expenditure, and she must be willing to keep a rigid account thereof.

Every housekeeper should have an account-book, in which should be carefully noted down every article purchased, with date and price. In doing this a woman will be surprised to learn how much it costs to live, and she will learn also to husband her resources, and to avoid unnecessary expense. She will remember that while all the time and energies of the heads of a family are required to meet daily animal necessities, they are no better than slaves; and hence it seems the fitting province of a woman to see that there is no waste; that what is brought into the house is carefully looked after, made to go as far as possible, made to look as well as possible, made to afford the fullest possible comfort to the family.

For this purpose she must be orderly in her habits, and be capable of planning with judgment. She should know the qualities required, and how to preserve from waste what is over and above the daily needs of the household. She may be pardoned a good deal of girlish vanity in dressing herself, and arranging her surroundings becomingly, in order to set off all to the best advantage; for this is to keep a fresh, cheery house, the delight and comfort of its inmates; but let her never for one moment consider what this or that neighbor will think about his or her little republic of home. If they praise her, very well; if they criticize and sneer at her, very well also—she must be able to bear it.

I think both husband and wife ought to understand thoroughly the theory, at least, of good wholesome cooking, and in cases of emergency, the former should be willing to lend a hand to an overworked wife. It will be no disparagement to his manhood to take hold now and then, if nothing more than to show his entire sympathy with her and tenderness for her; but a good wife, and a good housekeeper, will not tax the good man in these petty household matters; on the contrary, she will so skilfully work the machinery of the house that all will be done, and be hardly known how and when. She will not belittle him and herself by too much talk about annoying details.

It requires great skill and judgment to cook well. A young housekeeper must do nothing without exact rule, weight or measurement, otherwise she will make innumerable mistakes and create much disappointment and discomfort. It is very important that a family should feed well. Health and cheerfulness and good morals are all more or less involved in the way our tables are managed. A bright, happy wife feels delight in serving up delicate dishes for the man of her choice, and a gratified look or appreciative word should not be withheld by him. It seems utterly piggyish to see a man sit down and devour what has cost care and skill and taste to prepare, and never one word of approval or gratification. It is the way of some men, and a most boorish, disagreeable way it is.

While travelling, a few days since, I was detained some days in one of our Western cities. My room overlooked a lane or alleyway in which were several houses occupied by the better class of artisans, and I became much interested in one of these, so much interested that no sooner did I hear a glad shout from a little voice than I knew it was a meal time and "Daddy was coming," and I took up my point of observation in harmless and admiring scrutiny of the well-governed house. On the way in the father raised the rejoicing child in his arms and gave it two or three resounding smacks; another one had crept to the door-sill and this was lifted also and its little cheek laid tenderly upon the shoulder which was hunched up to bring it closer to that of the father's. By this time the wife had brought a bowl of water and a white, coarse towel; then she took the children down, applying also sundry pats, now on the shoulders of the little ones and now on the broad fatherly ones; and now the chairs were placed at the table, and, while the husband gave a last rub

of the hard, rough hands, he stretched out his neck and kissed the pretty, girlish wife, who would be hovering near him. They said grace, they dined at the plain, wholesome board, and more than once I found myself wafting them a benediction with the tears in my eyes. It is so brutish to pass without a word of recognition of the Great Giver.

The husband was a grave man and the wife a lively, cheery woman, neat as a new pin and very chatty. I thought them wonderfully well matched, for there was no moroseness in the man nor levity in the woman, and when Sunday came and the little household, dressed in all their finery, baby and all, went out to church, it was a sight to behold. Theirs was quite model keeping house as far as it went. \* \* \* \* In adjusting the household, I would have the pair mutually helpful; but there are certain affairs that look handsomer in the hands of a woman than in a man. I think he, as a gentleman, who should be independent of all others, ought to be able to broil a steak, mend a rent, or "sew on a button;" but it is more suitably the province of a woman to do these things, the husband being supposed more profitably employed elsewhere.

Every woman should be able to cut and make household linen and garments with economy, neatness and despatch. She should cut her work and always have a piece ready for the needle to husband her time, and avoid hurry and confusion; and lastly my lovely married pair must so manage the needful work of the household, that one hour at least in twenty-four may be devoted to reading and study—good, solid, substantial books, to be read with care, for mutual advancement of thought and solidity of character; poetry and romance, also to elevate and enliven, not forgetting the great store-house of our spiritual ideas, the Bible.

Human beings have not yet reached any very high degree of perfection; even my handsome pair may fall into error, and then the interference of outsiders is very apt to increase the evil, but let them settle the case between themselves, remembering that the greater the fall the greater the need of a dear, loving hand to lift us up, and the worse we may become the more shall we need friends; no true wife will turn from the man of her choice in the day of his adversity, nor in the day of his moral darkness; rather will she love him with a deeper, because of a sorrowing, tenderness, and she will lead him on, step by step, till he more than recovers the ground he may have lost.—*Potter's Monthly*.

WORRY WORSE THAN OVERWORK.

Dr. Granville, in an article in *Popular Science*, maintains that worry breaks down men in the midst of business rather than overwork. We have in mind a citizen who was once a successful practitioner in this city, long retired from practice, and now a millionaire, who holds that worry kills more men than were ever killed by overwork. When people get past middle life the danger of worry becomes much greater. Men die in the midst of some great or imaginary trouble. This wealthy citizen, on being awakened one night by an alarm which was caused by the burning of one of his own buildings a few blocks off, put his head out of the window, surveyed the situation for a moment, and said: "There goes \$20,000. I will go to bed and take another nap." He reasoned that he could do nothing to arrest the progress of the fire. The fire companies were on the ground; if he went out, being a heavy, clumsy man, he could do nothing but get in the way; he had no insurance, but the loss could be made up far better by a man in sound health than by one who had taken a dreadful cold and exposed his life all to no purpose. He refused to worry about it, even made jokes about his loss, pictured to himself a man weighing 330 lbs. going up a rickety flight of stairs into a building filled with smoke, to carry out a \$10 bureau. That citizen, when he drew his head in at midnight and concluded to take another nap was a philosopher who fully understood the danger of worry, and who would not encounter it at his time of life. He took his own medicine and profited by it.

No doubt, overwork does frequently exhaust the reserves, and in that way contributes to a break-down. But worry most frequently goes with overwork, the worker feeling that his position is not comfortable, that if he does not reach great results at once, life will, in some sense, be a failure.

MORNING PRAYER—A WORD TO MOTHERS.

Probably most of us resolve on the Sabbath day, as we listen to the sweet sanctuary songs, and hear the tender beautiful "old, old story," that we will be better, nobler, lovelier as the days roll by. But "though the spirit is willing, the flesh is weak;" and as we lift the burdens of Monday's cares perhaps we have forgotten to put on our armor. What can we expect but defeat if we begin our day unaided from above? If His arm is not about us, His Divine love not a conscious presence, then indeed we must expect much trouble from "multitudinous little things." We need never fear being irreverent by referring to our Father's will on all occasions. He is too mighty and too loving to ever be impatient or troubled with His children's requests. If our Saviour is an indwelling force with us we can conquer all things, including, of course, the many little exasperating trials of everyday life, the constantly-filling mending basket, which has a tiresome way of never staying empty; the overseeing and annoyance of servants, the fretfulness or wilfulness of children, &c.

Morning prayer! what a mighty power it is; a telegram or a telephonic message, as it were, to the Lord of all for help. I was visiting a friend, and as I was about to leave the city I did not know whether or not a gentleman cousin, who lived a few doors off, understood that I wanted a carriage sent at a certain hour. In some anxiety I went to his house, but only to find him gone to his place of business, several miles distant. His wife was absent, and I said to the only servant left in charge, "Maggie, I am worried; perhaps Mr. D. did not know that I wanted to go this evening. Did you hear him say?" "No, ma'am, shure I didn't; but there's no need of worry, ma'am. Just step in the hall, and use the telephone."

Sure enough, there was the telephone in direct communication with Cousin R's office. I said, "Will the carriage call for us at 6?" "Certainly, everything is all arranged. I will accompany you to the boat, and see you safely started; don't feel anxious," came the answer, relieving me of all troublesome thought. Just so we tried and tired mothers (about to start out on our daily road), dropping upon our knees in the early morning, asking for the Almighty arm to uphold us, the Almighty hand to lead us, listening for the quick response, "I will keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Me."—*Christian at Work*.

INJURY TO THE EYES.

It is difficult to restore perfectly the eyesight when it is seriously injured, because of the wonderfully delicate and complicated mechanism of the eyes; and because of the difficulty of securing to them the needed rest. A broken bone may be put in splints or in plaster, and the bone is soon as strong as it was before the injury; but the very light of heaven frets and irritates a weak or inflamed eye, and it is hard to refrain from using it.

Those persons, therefore, who have good eyes cannot be too careful in guarding them from harm. They need to be the more on their guard, for the feeling is apt to be strong that their eyes can stand anything.

The eyes may be injured by using too little light, whether that of poor oil, or of the twilight; by too much light, as when the sun shines directly on the page which a person is reading. They may also be injured by a flickering or any variable light—the eye becoming exhausted in its incessant attempts at accommodation.

Sudden changes from light to dark, and vice versa—when one who uses a shaded lamp looks back and forth from the bright page into the darkened room—are also injurious. By holding the head down near the book when one is reading, or by reading while in a reclining posture, the minute capillaries of the eye may become congested and the sight deadened.

The eyes may also be injured by using them too continuously without rest; by holding the eyes habitually too near their object, thus giving rise to short-sightedness; by reading in the cars or a carriage, the eyes being wearied, fretted and congested by their effort to follow the lines; by too much reading during the weary hours of convalescence, when the eyes share in the weakness of the body; and by reading fine print, on poor paper.—*Youth's Companion*.

PUZZLES.

CHARADE.

Roman or Grecian, all the same.  
My first is pleased my whole to meet.  
Whether in delicate array,  
Or, like my second always gay,  
Its blooming face we gladly greet.

ANAGRAM—ARITHMETICAL NAMES.

1. A tint? O no.
2. A did, not I.
3. Timon Nature.
4. Pull on at it, Mici.
5. O run! cats bit.
6. I. D. Ivison.

CROSS-WORD ENIGMA.

My first is in death, but not in life;  
My second is in war, but not in strife;  
My third is in love, but not in hate;  
My fourth is in post, but not in gate;  
My fifth is in corn, but not in rye;  
My sixth is in ground, but not in sky;  
My seventh is in fall, but not in rise;  
My eighth is in heart, but not in sigh;  
My ninth is in humble, but not in grand;  
My tenth is in lake, but not in strand;  
My eleventh is in honor, but not in fame;  
My twelfth is in wild, but not in tame.  
My whole is a noted poet's name.

TRANSPOSITIONS.

Entire, a curious little animal.  
Change its head, and it becomes a stick.  
Change its head again, and it becomes a fish.  
Change its head again, and make a place where nothing is.  
Again, and make a part.  
Transpose the last, and form great learning.  
Change one letter, and make the strongest feeling of the human heart.  
Prefix and annex a letter, and make a spice.

PI.

I iknth otn fo woomotr,  
Sti saltir ro tsi stak;  
Tub listl hwti dilikech iptirs,  
Rof treepus ecrimes kas.  
Thiw hacc runnigro nimorgn  
I scat dol ghnits yaaw,  
Selt rygnoje cal freebo em—  
Ym yrapsreisi rof yotad.

A KETTLE OF FISH.

Each of the following puzzles may be answered by the name of a fish. Example: A consonant and a defat. Answer: T-rout.  
1. A measure of distance. 2. An ancient weapon. 3. Two thirds of a phantom. 4. A pronoun and an emblem of eternity. 5. Part of the foot. 6. A consonant, and part of a wheel. 7. A consonant and to dissolve. 8. A farm animal, a consonant, and part of a drum. 9. A girl's toy, and part of a fish. 10. A boy's nickname, a pronoun, and a preposition. 11. Used for polishing silver. 12. An apparatus for illuminating, and what it throws out.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

1. A musical phrase meaning quicker movement.
2. A kind of tree.
3. A kind of tree.
4. To withhold assent.
5. Sick.
6. A part of the body.
7. An animal.
8. An affirmative.

The initials form the title of a short poem; the finals, the name of its author.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES OF APRIL 15.

Enigma.—The letter I.  
Twelve Men of Note.—Simon, Andrew, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, Peter, James, John, Iscariot, Judas, Philip, James.

Cross Word.—Cricket.

Transposed Proverb.—Prov. 20: 13. "Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty; open thine eyes and thou shalt be satisfied with bread."

Four Easy Squares.—

S A R I	E T N A
A G U E	T H E N
R U D E	N E A T
D E E R	A N T S
D I M E	R O M P
I D O L	O V E R
M O S S	M E T E
E L S E	P R E Y

Positive. Comparative.

Lie,	Lyro,
Din,	Dinner,
Show,	Shore,
Tie,	Tyre,
Shoe,	Sure,
Dough,	Door,
You,	Ewer,
Doll,	Dollar,
Crate,	Crater,
Pew,	Pure,
Weight,	Walter,
Fie,	Pyre,

Cross Word Enigma.—Hypatia.