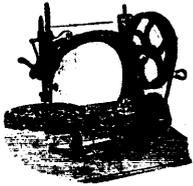


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WASHING the hair with soap always makes it look dull and rough. Use a little mixture of glycerine and lime juice to soften it afterwards.

HOW TO KEEP HENS IN HEALTH.—Their food should be considerably varied. Sometimes, for the want of animal food, hens will pick the feathers from each other and eat them—a harmful practice. This can be checked by feeding them, say three times a week, with any kind of scraps from the table, or with the waste meat which can be obtained from meat-markets, or at the butcher's, at a trifling expense.

FAINTING.—Lay the patient on his back on the floor, without any pillow under his head, and splash cold water vigorously on his forehead; rub his hands and feet, and apply strong smelling-salts to his nostrils. As soon as he is able to swallow give him a little wine or weak brandy and water. Open the window, keep the room cool, and do not let three or four people crowd round him.—*Commonsense Housekeeping.*

COMMON PASTE FOR FAMILY PIES.—One pound of flour, half a pound of butter, rather more than half a pint of water. Rub the butter lightly into the flour, and mix it to a smooth paste with the water; roll out two or three times, and it will be ready for use. This paste may be converted into an excellent short-crust for sweet tart, by adding to the flour, after the butter is rubbed in, two tablespoonfuls of sifted sugar.—*Mrs. Bedon's Household Management.*

THE HANDS AND ARMS.—An embrocation for whitening and softening the hands and arms, which dates far back, possibly to King James' time, is made from myrrh, one ounce; honey, four ounces; yellow wax, two ounces; rose water, six ounces. Mix the whole in one blended mass for use, melting the wax, rose water, and honey together in a dish over boiling water, and adding the myrrh while hot. Rub this thickly over the skin before going to bed. It is good for chapped surfaces, and would make an excellent mask for the face.

My husband and I never allowed a child to be punished by any one but ourselves. I gave my servants to understand, when I engaged them, that instant dismissal would follow a blow given to any of the children. We ourselves never whipped a child for any less offence than deceit or telling a lie. It seems to me such a wrong thing to be constantly boxing a child's ears, the punishment being oftener called forth by the parent's bad temper than by the child's offence. We tried to teach them, too, that they were not to expect to have a share of everything they saw. What was good for them they had without asking; what was not good for them would not be obtained by impertunity.—*How I Managed My Children; in Common-sense Housekeeping.*

THE FOOD WE USE.—The cereals contain lime, soda, silica, and phosphorus. Sage, barley, farina, rice, and arrow-root, are bland, digestible foods, containing little nitrogen, but acting as demulcent nutrients, grateful to inflamed surfaces, they are usually prepared in the form of gruels, and are quickly affected by the digestive fluids. When the condition of the patient will permit the use of gruel made from revalenta, which is composed of finely ground lentils and rye flour, it will be found to yield more nourishment than fresh beef. When only very light nourishment is allowable, toast water will be found sufficiently nutritious. Fresh fruit, such as apples, peaches, pears, grapes, lemons, and oranges are excellent laxatives; dried figs, prunes, and tamarinds possess similar qualities.

FLOWER GARDENS AND LAWNS.—The main work now is to keep everything in order. The lawn mower must be frequently used, and the corners, borders, and out-of-the-way places "trimmed up" with a sickle. Any large weeds that come up should be dug out by the roots. Walks and drives will need an occasional hoeing and raking, and the roller passed over to smooth and harden them. The margins should be neatly trimmed with large shears at frequent intervals. Bedding plants need much care, as they grow rapidly, and unless the knife is frequently used, will get in bad shape, and attractiveness is lost. Dahlias, gladioluses, etc., will need stakes to support them, but simple unnoticeable poles firmly driven into the soil are preferable to painted sticks. Climbers are to be looked to, and care taken that they have ample means of support. Annuals and perennials should have no weeds amongst them. Unless seeds are to be saved cut away the clusters as soon as the bloom fades.