

THE HOUSEHOLD.

CHRISTIAN TRAINING OF CHILDREN.

Be with your children; reign in the nursery. Receive all their little experiences of joy or sorrow. Bring the thought of God's love and interest into their most common, everyday life. Never let them grow shy of religious conversation. Make it easy and natural to talk together, both of God and to Him. Secure to them a comfortable place for daily devotions. Be sure that the Sabbath is the brightest day of all the seven. Have books, toys, Noah's ark, Scripture plays and puzzles reserved especially for it. Give them little rewards for good lessons, and orderly habits practised during the week. Take them early to church, and be watchful lest the service, so sweet to you, become a weariness to them.

Save your Sabbath afternoons for home instruction. The "Peep of Day" series will be of the greatest help. But study the Bible together; search it; there is no other work more delightful. Keep the fingers busy. Let the children build the tabernacle with their blocks till they know its structure and contents by heart. Help them write out Bible chronology and commit it to memory. While you read they can draw maps of Bible lands, trace Christ's tours and Paul's journeys. Teach them the books of the Bible, the Commandments, the Sermon on the Mount, some of the Psalms, the dear old standard hymns, and whole gospels and epistles. It is wonderful how fast little efforts count up and accomplish great things. Do not omit this course when the duty of example may seem to demand your children's attendance upon the church and Sabbath school. Know what they are taught there, and the influences surrounding them, and make sure that the home school is the pleasanter of the two.

And, secondly, in these precious Sabbath homes, awaken their interest in work for others. Tell them of the needs of the wide world. Twenty cents will secure the "Mission Day-spring," full of pictures and incidents of the work in foreign lands. If it comes to one of the little ones in her own name it will be doubly prized. Let them draw maps of mission stations, build mission houses and fill them with the proper workers of the station represented.

Nothing will so strengthen their interest as praying and giving, not in the mass, but for specific objects. Devise ways in which they can earn the pennies they wish to contribute. One cent a week for putting away the playthings before supper, another for freshening hands and teeth after each meal, or for lessons well learned and stints accomplished cheerfully, will make a child quite a capitalist in the course of a year. Some little ones have begun with much less than this would amount to. Having only sixty cents in each purse, they printed with as lead pencil little notes to the secretaries of six benevolent organizations, enclosing ten cents for each cause as a Christmas gift to the dear Lord who gave Himself for them. Every succeeding Christmas season has been celebrated in like manner, though the purses sometimes contain a score of dollars each, and the letters have increased from six to a dozen and more. Let me add that these six little notes, the first efforts in systematic beneficence, were so kindly responded to by the care-burdened, yet child-loving men who received them, that each officer is held as a warm personal friend, and his name is a household word, often following an emphasized adjective of affection.

Let the children work, too, with their unskilled fingers for the sick and needy. If there is no mission band in your church, form one. If too isolated for that, have one at home.

Two little bags, each containing a Testament, book mark, needle-book, thread, buttons, tape, thimble and wax, always with a little note of loving interest, have gone each Christmas for ten years to Dr. S. H. Hall, of the American Seaman's Friend Society, to be given to sailors just leaving the port of New York. Responses have been received from all parts of the world, with such expressions of help received, courage strengthened, faith increased and promised prayers for the givers, as surely must enrich any life. A mission circle, auxiliary to the Woman's Board of Missions, though never having more than four working members, and two of them non-residents, and not active, has contributed in six years, \$550 to

the Boston treasury. If it were asked, "How could two children secure that sum?"—the answer would be—"They never had a sale or fair or entertainment; they never asked any gift but from God; yet He constantly opened hearts and hands for their help, even strangers over the seas becoming friends and co-workers." The truth will always hold, that a worker for God is a worker with God, and "He is able to do exceeding abundantly above all we can ask or think."—*Pulpit Treasury.*

FUSSINESS.

There is no foe to domestic peace and comfort like that of fussiness. It arises largely from a lack of system or plan and from too great attention to minor details. Some housekeepers have the habit of stirring up every thing at once. They begin their day's work anywhere without any relation to what is most urgent or necessary to be accomplished. They lose sight of the always excellent rule—one thing at a time, and that first which is most important. It is a good plan to sit quietly down at the beginning of each day and take a survey of the domestic field. Decide what must be done, and what in case of lack of time, or the intervention of other duties, may be put off, and then set to work without undue haste to perform necessary duties. Learn to do it quietly, without noise. Be careful to take no useless steps. There is a vast amount of strength expended in this way, and nervous energy wasted.

I know a young housekeeper who accomplishes more in one day than the majority of women do in two. She never seems to be in a hurry, never gets into a "stew" but she works as noiselessly and steadily as the sunlight. What she has to do she accomplishes without any indirection. She has no cross purposes to contend with. She aims right at the mark through every movement of her hand and by every footstep. If she has house cleaning to attend to she doesn't commence by tearing up every room in the house, and putting the entire establishment in a chaos of confusion. But she takes one room at a time, has it cleansed and purified and put to rights again before there is any farther upheaval. The usual spring cleaning comes and goes in that family without producing any discomfort, or any great amount of inconvenience.

I was once a guest in a household where confusion was the law of daily experience. The poor little housekeeper never seemed to know what should be done first, and there was always such an array of things to be accomplished she was never serene, but went about like a small cyclone, stirring up every thing with which she came in contact, leaving things "all in a heap" as she flitted off in the direction of whatever occurred to her as needing attention. Her house was never in order, and she was never at rest. She wanted to do every thing at once, so nothing was ever complete. She charged all along the line, yet never stopped to carry the works at any one point. So she was always routed, and domestic affairs were uniformly in a state of insurrection. As a result she was always "fussing."

System is an essential in the government of the household as in that of the state. Order, promptness, punctuality, industry, and good judgment are the necessary and efficient forces in the home. To these add cheerfulness, patience and a thoughtful care for the general comfort and happiness of its members, and you will avoid all unpleasant friction, and make the home what it should be, the centre of all that is best and dearest to the human heart.—*Household.*

A WARNING TO MOTHERS.

An English physician, in a lecture to a female audience on the use of alcoholic beverages, asserted that the "babes of London are never sober from their birth until they are weaned."

The use of beer and ale among nursing mothers is perhaps not so common in the United States as it is in England, but it is by far too common. How often a friend, and even the family physician, will recommend the use of beer to the mother, not only to give tone to the system, but as a means of nourishing the child.

What a fatal mistake! The eternities with their mysteries alone can reveal the amount of damage resulting from so dangerous a practice. The stimulant thus taken by the mother readily enters into the

food nature has provided for the child, and every particle of nourishment drawn from the life-giving fountain is impregnated with a substance that is not only foreign to the highest physical condition of the child, but is actually poisonous to the system.

The old theory that these drinks are necessary to the well-being of the mother and the sustenance of the child, is thoroughly exploded, and those who advocate the notion are far in the rear of the car of progress. It is a well-established fact, demonstrated by the most logical minds of the day, that the physical system is in the most healthful and natural state when freest from the influence of stimulants.

Besides, the custom being entirely unnecessary and uncalled-for, every mother should take into consideration the future welfare of her child. There can be no doubt but that the appetite for stimulants is often bred and nurtured at the mother's breast. Regarding this as true, how can any mother for a moment listen to the advice of a physician or friend in a matter of such weighty import to her child?

Mothers! in taking that draught that seems so harmless to you, remember you are doubtless paving the way to a drunkard's doom for your darling child.

Beware lest the thing that now appears so innocent and harmless, by-and-by warmed into life by your caresses and grown bold through your influence, should strike at your dearest interests and turn to gall the honeyed chalice of life's purest joys.—*Oregon Temperance Star.*

HOW TO MAKE BREAD.

"An able cook" contributes the following lines to the *New England Farmer*: The duties of housekeeping may seem to some too prosy for rhyme, but if those duties be done cheerfully, they are not so dreadful after all.

Four loaves of bread of dainty mould,
Loaves worth their weight in yellow gold,
Each one for mortals fit to eat,—
I give in rhyme my one receipt:
Six pounds of flour of highest grade,
Clean, pure and white, and careful weighed.
Have for the taste, as for a feast,
Made soft and warm, a cake of yeast
Allowed dissolved in sweetest milk,—
Not water, no, not even silk
Ne'er valued is like milk that's pure,
Cold fact this is, of that be sure,
O'er night 'tis mixed in warmest home,
Morning, when comes, 'tis light as foam.
Proceed at once to gently knead,
Respect for which must be your creed.
Each loaf in pans must rise once more,—
Some say for minutes twenty-four,
Soon as they're round, the oven right,
Each one must bake till very light.
Draw out and lay with tender care
Your shelf upon, and do not dare
E'er loaf to break till they are cold.
And then, if they are not worth gold,
Some fault is yours, not the receipt,
The which no mortal cook can beat.

GIRLS IN AUSTRIA.

Austrian girls are carefully taught in school until they are fifteen years old. They are not during this time kept entirely out of society, but are dressed with the greatest simplicity, never wearing a silk gown until they left have school and attend their first ball. On leaving the school-room they have one or two years' training in the kitchen and pantry, either by some member of their own family, or under a trained cook in another's house. Though they may never be required to cook for themselves, they know exactly how everything should be done, and long before they set up house-keeping on their own account are competent to take charge of a household. They make most affectionate wives and mothers. An Austrian lady is said to be as accomplished and learned as an English governess, as good a cook and housekeeper as a German, as bright and witty in society as a Parisian, and as handsome as an American. In Vienna are found some of the most beautiful women in Europe. Austrian girls are brought up in habits of industry and are rarely seen without some kind of work in the hand. They are famous for their great piles of linen, a certain number of yards of which are every year, from a girl's birth, woven and laid aside for her marriage portion. The grandmothers spend much of their time in knitting for their grandchildren, not only supplying their present need, but laying by dozens of stockings of every kind for the young girl's trousseau. Should we not be spared some just complaints of

woman's unskilled work, were American girls as carefully trained in some respects as Austrian girls are?—*Laws of Life.*

RECIPES.

GERANIUM CAKE.—Whites of three eggs, small half-cup butter, full half cup milk, one and one-third cups sugar, nearly two cups flour, one teaspoon baking powder. Line the tin with paper, under which place two sweet-scented geranium leaves.

HERMITS.—One and one-half cups sugar, one half cup butter, one cup chopped raisins, two eggs, one teaspoon soda, two tablespoons sour milk, one teaspoon cinnamon, one of cloves, and a little nutmeg; mix stiff with flour, cut with a scalloped cookie cutter, or in "lady fingers." Bake quickly.

SUET JOHNNY CAKE.—Take one cup beef suet chopped fine, one cup maple sugar, one and one-half cups Indian meal, and one-half cup flour; mix with the flour two teaspoons cream tartar; after mixing the above ingredients add a cup of milk in which is dissolved one teaspoon soda; mix thoroughly, pour into a baking pan and bake in a quick oven.

FAMILY PIE CRUST.—One coffee cup lard, sweet and firm, four coffee cups flour; work the lard into the flour until it is as fine as sand; sprinkle over a teaspoon salt, and bind together with ice water. The water should be put in slowly and carefully, and in quantity only enough to bind the flour into a stiff paste. Handle it lightly, and when mixed roll out to a quarter of an inch in thickness.

QUEEN OF PUDDINGS.—One quart of milk, a pint of bread crumbs, soak the bread perfectly in the milk, grate a lemon with it, putting in all but the seeds, beat the yolks of three eggs, and two or more tablespoonfuls of sugar with them, mix with the pudding and bake it. When done beat the whites with sugar and frost the pudding with it, baking slightly.

A MILK PUDDING.—Put one quart of milk on the range where it will cook slowly. Wash half a teaspoonful of rice and stir into the milk, and occasionally stir this until twenty minutes before using; then put a tablespoonful of sugar and a small piece of butter, and bake twenty minutes. This, sometimes called poor man's pudding, is wholesome and palatable. It is better to be three hours in cooking.

GEM PUDDINGS.—One cup of flour, pinch of salt, one cup of milk and one egg. Add the milk slowly to the flour, stirring until smooth. Beat the yolk separately and add to the flour and milk, or batter, then put in your white of the egg, beaten to a froth. Now bake at once—twenty minutes will usually bake them. For a sauce I take two great spoonfuls of sugar, piece of butter size of the yolk of an egg, and mix smoothly; add a teaspoonful of flour, have a cup of scalded milk, and pour the mixture into it, stirring all the time until smooth. Flavor with lemon or anything you like.

PUZZLES.

FINAL CHANGES.

1. I am a jump.
2. Change the final letter of the jump, and I guide.
3. Change the final letter of the guide, and-I am part of a tree.
4. Change the final letter of this part, and I am a hole.
5. Change the final letter of the aperture, and I am faithful.
6. Change the final letter of the true, and I am thin.
7. Change the final letter of the thin, and I am a fabulous King of Great Britain, celebrated by Shakespeare.

NUMERICAL ENIGMA.

- My 1, 3, 4 is caused by the sun.
My 9, 7, 5, 8, is an important aid to cleanliness.
My 2, 10, 6, 11, is the way an English cockney would pronounce a certain personal pronoun.
My whole is the title of a well-known poem by a deceased American poet.

ENIGMA.

- My whole is a word of nine letters.
My 9, 1, 4 is a bird.
My 8, 7, 6, 5 is a baby insect.
My 9, 1, 7, 5 is a plant.
My 5, 1, 4, 2 is to incline.
My 9, 3, 2, 1 is to conceal.
My 2, 3, 7, 1 is dreadful.
My 8, 3, 4 is a spirit.
My 8, 6, 4 is an instrument of war.
My 9, 3, 4, 8, 1 is a way of fastening.
My 5, 6, 4, 8 is a cork.
My 5, 6, 4 is a kind of pastry.
My 5, 3, 4, 2 is to close up.
My whole is a famous town in the British Isles.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES IN LAST NUMBER.

RIDDLE.—Badger.
SQUARE WORD.— D e n
E v e
N e d

ENIGMA.—Snowdrop.

ANSWER TO "GEOGRAPHICAL DOUBLE ACROSTIC.—
N o assa U
O tterbur N
R odon I
T ren T
H avr E
A ucklan D
M auritlu S
E veras T
R oce A
I ngolstad T
C arenn E
A nde S
NORTH AMERICA—UNITED STATES.