

The Winnowing Fan.

In India, after the corn or rice has been well trodden down by the oxen, it is taken to a waste piece of ground outside the village. Having spread a sheet or piece of matting on the ground, to receive the falling grain, the labourer stands up with a tray made of bamboo in his hands. He puts a certain quantity of the bruised grain on this tray, then, holding it as high as he can, he shakes it so that the grain falls on the sheet. If there is enough wind, the chaff is blown away as the heavier grain drops to the ground.

Sometimes there is not sufficient breeze for this; then another man comes to help. Armed with a good-sized fan, also made of bamboo, the assistant produces a strong breeze by waving it up and down as fast as he can over the falling grain. The good grain is then carefully gathered up, while the chaff is either scattered over the surrounding country or burnt.

The British Admiral in New York.

Behind the back of Vice-Admiral Sir John O. Hopkins, K.C.B., it is quite proper to say something that could not be said gracefully to his face, for the reason that it would make that gallant sailor blush as red as one of his own lobster marines.

Sir John captured New York, and held the people of this town captive as long as his ships swung to the North river tides. His courtesy, his tact, his unfailing disposition to please and be pleased, and above all, his unmistakable true-blue stuff and manliness, completed the conquest that was begun by the admiration compelled in impartial minds by the appearance of the splendid sea-going and sea-fighting machine which Sir John commands.

Good luck attend the Blake, the Australia, the Magicienne, and the little Tartar! Good luck to their commander, and to those under him. The British admiral has done more than any other visiting Englishman in recent years to create and cement friendship between the two English-speaking nations.—*N. Y. Sun.*

Ward off disease by taking K.D.C. It restores the stomach to healthy action; a healthy stomach tones the system. Try K.D.C.

Olive Tree.

The olive was to the Jews an emblem of prosperity for the following reasons. The tree yields fruit abundantly, the fruit is very valuable for different purposes, and the plant itself is very easily propagated.

A striking instance of the latter quality was noticed by Mr. Jackson when travelling in Morocco. He observed an olive plantation, and was struck with the odd manner in which the trees were planted. On inquiring into the matter he found that one of the Sultans having encamped at the spot with his army, the cavalry cut sticks from the olive trees to make pegs to which they could fasten their horses. These pegs being left in the ground on account of the sudden departure of the troops, took root, and so formed the oddly-arranged plantation.

The olives were formerly shaken off the tree or beaten down with a long stick; the latter custom still prevails in many parts of the East. What remained on the tree after the first collection was always left to be gleaned by the poor.

"It is a remarkable fact," says M. Chasseaud, "and one which proves the very ancient standing of the habits and customs of these people in Lebanon, that when a man has once descended from a tree, having shaken off as much fruit as his strength permitted, he will upon no consideration shake that tree again, however much fruit may have adhered to the boughs. What is left is considered as the portion of the poor and the gleaner; in this instance the Druses, in common with all classes inhabiting Syria, act in strict accordance with the law contained in Deuteronomy: 'When thou beatest thine olive tree, thou shalt not go over the boughs again: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow.'"

Dr. Thomson thus points out the deep meaning conveyed by David, when he compared the children of the man who fears God to olive plants:—

"Follow me into the grove, and I will show you what may have suggested the comparison. This aged and decayed tree is surrounded, as you may see, by several young and thrifty shoots, which spring from the root of the venerable parent. They will in time uphold, protect, and embrace it. We may even fancy that they now bear the load of fruit which otherwise might be demanded of the feeble parent. Thus do good and affectionate children gather round the table of the righteous. Each contributes something to the common wealth and welfare of the whole."

Servants.

In Egypt, Turkey, and Persia, the servants pay the most profound respect to those whom they serve. As a rule, they stand near the door, when in attendance, with their hands crossed or clasped, and their eyes intently fixed on their master or mistress. Every command is given them in silence, and they obey the slightest signal.

As the Eastern servant in silent reverence stands with folded hands, attentive eyes, and ready feet, to do his master's commands, and is in all things submissive to his will; and as the maid, in like manner, regards the motions of her mistress's hand; so does the man who loves God, stand ready to obey his heavenly Master's commands, with profound reverence, a patient mind, and ever-obedient hands and feet.

After the grip, when you are weak and "played out," Hood's Sarsaparilla will restore your health and strength.

The Pelican.

This large bird, which feeds upon fish, is seldom seen except in solitary places. The word "wilderness," used by David, does not necessarily mean only sandy spots without water, but merely a broad open place which is uncultivated.

A peculiarity about the pelican is that it stores great quantities of fish in its pouch, and then disgorges them to feed its young. The fact that the bird presses its bill against its breast in order to disgorge the fish, and that the bill itself is tipped with red, led to the fable that the pelican fed its young with its own blood. This bird is mentioned amongst those declared to be unclean.

Modern travellers mention the pelican as one of the most miserable-looking birds you can find. After gorging itself with fish, it will sit for hours, or perhaps days, with its bill resting on its breast, a very picture of misery.

Pearls.

In all ancient times, pearls were more highly valued than any other ornaments. Jewish women, before the time of Christ, were very eager to possess them; and when the Romans came to Judea, they rather increased the fashion of wearing them.

So in the time of our Lord, the searching for pearls and the sale of them was an important branch of commerce. Vast sums were often given for pearls of large size or fine lustre; and such an action as that which Christ describes may often have been done to secure a valuable specimen.

"Pearls" are a common metaphor amongst Easterners for describing good sayings or well-chosen words. The Arabs, for instance, would call a short poem full of wise thoughts, "a string of pearls."

Taking off the Shoes.

When God appeared to Moses in the burning bush, He told His awe-struck servant to take his shoes from his feet, because the ground on which he stood was holy.

This mark of respect was regarded as the right of a superior, because it was not considered proper to approach him with the feet soiled with dust. Hence it was that the Jewish priests always went into the temple barefooted. The same custom is still continued in Eastern countries: neither Arabs nor Turks enter a mosque without putting off their

shoes. If a poor man wishes to ask a favour or receive an order, he stands barefooted, with bare head, often smiting his breast as a sign of humility, like the publican in the parable.

Hints to Housekeepers.

VASELINE FOR SHOES.—Vaseline is growing in favor as an emollient for shoes. Take a pair of shoes, especially the shoes worn by ladies, and when they become hard and rusty apply a coating of vaseline, rubbing well with a cloth, and the leather will at once become soft and pliable, and almost impervious to water.

STUFFED EGGS.—Boil eggs fifteen minutes, remove from fire and let cool. Remove shells, cut in two. Take out yolks, put into a bowl and add salt, pepper, mustard, and some minced ham, tongue or corned beef, with a little vinegar. Cut off a little of the whites from the ends, so that they will stand on a platter, and fill with prepared yolks. Garnish with parsley.

CROQUETTES.—Chop fine any pieces of cold meat, add half as many bread crumbs, an egg, pepper and salt. Make into balls and fry in a little butter.

POTATO STUFFING.—Take one-third boiled potato (mashed), two-thirds bread, butter size of an egg, pepper, salt, one egg, and a little ground sage.

GRAHAM BREAD.—Two cups buttermilk, one-fourth cup of molasses, one heaping teaspoon soda, a little salt and graham flour to make a stiff batter.

MILK FROSTING.—One cup white sugar, five tablespoons of sweet milk; boil together four or five minutes, stir hard until cold and spread on cold cake.

TO REMOVE INK STAINS.—Ink spots can frequently be taken from white cloths by rubbing on common tallow, leaving it for a day or two, and then washing as usual.

FOR PACKING WOOLLEN GARMENTS.—A delightful mixture for perfuming clothes that are packed away, and which is said to keep moths out also, is made as follows: Beat to a powder one ounce each of cloves, caraway seeds, nutmeg, mace, cinnamon, and Tonquin beans, and as much orris root as will equal the weight of the foregoing ingredients put together. Little bags of muslin should be filled with this mixture and placed among the garments.

Moths prefer garments that are filled with dust, and for this reason every housekeeper should use extra care in thoroughly brushing everything and in throwing away all discarded articles which would otherwise afford nests for the pests.

A HOUSEHOLD CONVENIENCE.—A great convenience when cleaning house is a stick with a notch cut in the end that will lift the picture cords off from the hooks without so much stepping up and down.

A PROMPT CURE.—*Gentlemen*,—Having suffered over two years with constipation, and the doctors not having helped me, I concluded to try B.B.B., and before I used one bottle I was cured. I can also recommend it for sick headache.

ETHEL D. HAINES, Lakeview, Ont.

NETTING FOR WINDOWS.—If you have not wire screens for the windows, but use netting, the black looks best, or at least most like the wire. Tack it outside, leaving room for the window to slide up and down.

TAKE A PLEBISCITE.—Should a plebiscite be taken it would be found that Burdock Blood Bitters is by long odds the most successful and popular cure for dyspepsia, headache, constipation, biliousness, bad blood, etc. It is purely vegetable.

A HEALTHY AND DELICIOUS BEVERAGE.—Menier Chocolate. Learn to make a real cup of Chocolate, by addressing C. Alfred Chouillou, Montreal, and get free sample with directions.

THE CHOLERA SCARE.—Fear kills more than cholera. Severe diarrhoea, purging, colic, cramps, etc., are often mistaken for choleraic troubles. A few doses of Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry will remove both the disease and the terror it inspires.