

HOUSEHOLD.

A Mother's Words.

When the elder children were round me,
 And needed my every care,
 Noisy and rough with cloth rent knees
 And tumbled, wind-tossed hair;
 I often thought when they were grown,
 How free my life would be;
 Then I could rest, and they would work,
 And lift all care from me.

But now, my boy so bearded
 I hardly seem to know,
 He's half ashamed to kiss my cheek,
 And afar in the world must go;
 My girls, though loving in their way,
 Have grown so very tall—
 And seem so strange—I often sigh
 And wish that they were small.

Ah! mothers when you are weary
 And the children seem to crowd,
 When they seek you in their troubles,
 Or their glad tones are too loud.
 Think not of that far future,
 When they may help you rest,
 Enjoy the present, happy days,
 While they love mother best.
 —Selected.

Early Home Training.

A pure and happy childhood home ever abides in one's memory, and helps to hold the life to that which is good and true. Those, therefore, who have the moulding of the home should make it attractive and loving.

The 'Watchman' well expresses the idea in the following paragraph: 'More of the evil in the world than often we think for can be traced back to the lack of home-feeling in childhood days. Where that does not exist, the young man or woman loses the invaluable consciousness of the solidarity of the family. They come to feel that they stand only for themselves, that they need not consult the interest of others, and they miss that happy restraint of affection for those with whom God united them in the closest ties.'

'In spite of all that is said about the misdoings of the children of devout parents, we believe that it will be found almost universally true that the children of happy Christian homes turn out well. They have a special guard in their hearts against the seductions of evil. They do not sin against the home, and the memory of their own happy households weaves an ideal of the homes that they desire to build, which keeps them brave and pure and human.'

'Provide good reading, and cultivate a taste for it by reading with your children. A cheerful home, with the spice of a common interest in some good cause, is a blessed safeguard to the young.'—'Sunday-school Journal.'

A Happy Bedtime.

It is very desirable to bear in mind the fact that children should go to bed happy; tired it may be, but with something pleasant lingering on the brain, the little one should nestle into the bed-clothes and fall asleep.

Just picture what is likely to happen in the reverse case. The brain, its mind filled with the haunting recollection of a severe scolding, or a promise that a punishment of some kind will be meted out to it in the morning, is not likely to have refreshing slumber to build up the waste of material which has occurred during the day. Its sleep is uneasy, the brain does not obtain the required repose; the child talks in its semi-conscious state and awakes in the morning with its nervous system impaired (more or less) by shock. This is absolutely a wrong condition of things.

A fault should not be allowed to go without correction, or a misdeed without punishment, but by all means avoid scolding or whipping just before bedtime. In the case of a child who has been scolded earlier in the afternoon and is still suffering mentally from it, the mother should improve the occasion by gentle forgiveness and soft words that will make the little one feel happy and look for-

ward to being still happier on the morrow.

It is unwise to excite a child by romping games; undoubtedly the games will make it happy, but they will have the undesirable effect of inducing an exalted mental condition that will deprive slumber of much of its proper benefit.

Make the children happy at bedtime! Even when they are growing up, the 'tucking-in' by mother, the assurance that she will have another look at the bairn before herself retiring, and the simple joke of father that will amuse the child—these things have an advantage not easy to set down in words. There is no need to descend to the stage of foolish coddling; let the actions be simple and loving, and your children will be all the better for those little attentions.—Selected.

Are you a Good Listener?

No one need even think that they are well-mannered unless they can listen well—ears, eyes, brain. Have you tried to excel as a listener?

A good listener never lets her eyes wander about the room when someone is talking to her; she never seems conscious of anything but that she is being entertained.

A man likes a woman with a limited perspicacity; he likes to feel that he is telling her something that she does not already know. Were she less tactful, she would assert herself and give information rather than receive it.

Men, women and children are prone to flattery, and the art of listening is but flattery disguised. Every human being likes to feel that someone is interested in what he has to say, and when he finds a person who will listen, and seemingly enjoy listening, he seeks her out again.

To listen alone is an insufficient art. It must be practised in conjunction with a good knowledge of tactful questions which will start the conversational ball rolling along the right channel.—'The Globe and Commercial Advertiser.'

Homemade Refrigerator.

In a large drygoods box place sawdust a foot deep. Inside the large box place one a foot shorter on every side. Fill the space between with sawdust. On the bottom of the smaller box lay a removable crate of slats or lattice work, below which the ice is to be placed. Removable shelves are set on cleats on all four sides, and the refrigerator is ready for the lid, or cover with hinges. When space in the cellar is limited, this box may set in a cool place outdoors. In towns or villages where the ice man calls every day, or in the homes which store their own ice, shelves and slat-bottom may be removed to receive fresh ice every day. If it be kept outside, padlock the heavy lid.

Clean out the refrigerator at least three times a week.

Selected Recipes.

Astoria Potatoes.—Whip mealy boiled potatoes to a powder with a fork, add one teaspoonful of butter and one-half cup of hot cream or milk, or more if needed to make a

creamy paste, then the beaten yolks of two eggs, one teaspoonful of salt, one-half salt-spoonful of white pepper, and at the last whip in the stiffly frothed whites. Heap on a buttered pie plate, wash over with a little melted butter and brown lightly on the upper grating of the oven.

Ragamuffins.—Into one pint of sweet milk stir one egg, one tablespoonful of sugar, one-half teaspoonful of butter, softened. Sift two level teaspoonfuls of baking powder with one quart of flour twice, stir in the milk mixture and roll out quickly with as little handling as possible; roll to about one-half inch thickness, spread over with one tablespoonful of butter, sprinkle thickly with light brown sugar, and grate one-half of a nutmeg over all; roll as you would a sheet of music, and cut one-half inch thick; flour a large biscuit pan, lay in the muffins flat, and bake in a quick oven fifteen minutes. Serve warm with sifted sugar, or they are equally nice cold for S... bath evening tea.

Rice Pudding with Eggs.—One quart of milk four eggs, half a cupful of rice, three-fourths of a cupful of sugar, one tablespoonful of butter, and a handful of seeded raisins. Soak the rice in a pint of milk one hour, set the saucepan containing it where it will slowly heat to a boil. Boil five minutes, remove, and let cool. Beat the yolks, and add the sugar and butter, the rice and the milk in which it was cooked, with a pint of unboiled milk, the beaten whites and raisins. Grate nutmeg on top, and bake three-quarters of an hour. Eat cold.—'Good Housekeeping.'

Blackberry Pudding.—One pint of milk, three and a half cupfuls of flour, two heaping teaspoonfuls of baking powder, three eggs, one tablespoonful of salt, one pint of blackberries. Beat the eggs until light, then add the milk, next the flour and beat until smooth. Next add the melted butter, salt and baking powder. Wash and dry the berries, roll them in flour and stir into the pudding. Turn it into a well-buttered pudding mould, cover and place in a kettle of boiling water; boil for three hours. Serve with a good sauce.

Baked Eggs.—Beat smooth a cup of bread crumbs, seasoned to taste, with one-half a cup of milk. Spread on the bottom of a baking dish, break on top as many whole eggs as you require, and set in the oven a few minutes. Be careful not to spoil the shape of the eggs, and remove from the oven as soon as they are set.

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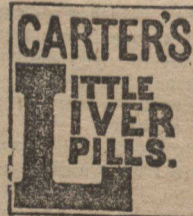
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