

HOUSEHOLD.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Thrift.

There is still a good deal to say on the subject of thrift, for besides thrift 'in food,' there is thrift in dress, in household management, and in time—so we will this month consider these and take for our motto, 'Take care of the pence, and the pounds will take care of themselves.' There are so many ways of waste caused by thoughtlessness. For instance, you kneel down to scrub the floor; then you hear Mrs. Jones's voice next door talking in the garden. 'Oh,' you say to yourself, 'I must go and ask her how her sick baby is getting on.' Up you jump, leaving the soap and brush in the hot water; by the time you come back the soap is half melted away and the scrubbing brush spoilt and made soft by soaking, so that in that quarter of an hour you have wasted three things: time, soap and scrubbing brush. Then again, how often do we see a candle left flaring and guttering in a draught. Shut the door, or blow out the candle while you are out of the room; turn down the gas (if you have it) quite low when not wanted. I know a man who saved many hundreds a year to a large railway company by this one thing, insisting that the clerks in the offices should turn down the gas when they went away for meals, or were not using it. Then again, don't waste wood in lighting fires; half the quantity properly arranged will do just as well. Do not always strike a match when you want a light; keep a little vase full of paper lighters and use them instead.

Eating new bread is a most unwholesome and extravagant habit, and makes the difference of one loaf in five. If you can bake at home it is a very great saving, and the bread is much more wholesome and nourishing. Never waste food; save all the broken pieces of bread for puddings, all the bones for soup. Do not peel potatoes; you waste half of them, and lose all the flavor, which is just under the skin; scrub them well and peel after boiling. Sift your cinders carefully. Keep a box for pieces of paper which come round parcels, and a bag for pieces of string. 'A place for everything and everything in its place.' All these seem such little things to talk about, and no doubt most of you have thought of them for yourselves, but it is 'many a little that makes a mickle.'

There was once a French boy, the only son of his mother, a very poor widow. He tried hard to get work, but could find nothing; there seemed too many boys in the world all wanting work. At last, quite downhearted and footsore, he turned into the vast courtyard of the greatest bank in Paris. There were big iron gates, and the house looked most grand and imposing, so the poor boy felt very small and nervous as he walked up the great stone steps and asked if they had any work for a boy to do, in sweeping or cleaning even. 'No, no, go away, nothing for you.' He turned and walked away sadly and slowly; as he crossed the courtyard he saw a pin between the stones, stooped to pick it up, and stuck it in his coat. The great banker happened to be looking out of the window. 'Fetch that boy back,' he said; 'he must be worth something if he will stop to pick up a pin.' So the boy was called and given some menial work to do, but by thrift and industry he raised himself higher and higher, till he became a great banker himself, Lafitte, of Paris.

'Thrift' in dress is a very important subject. Never buy anything you don't want merely because it is cheap, and when you do want anything never mind about the trimmings and finery, but buy a good, strong, useful material, that will not shrink with the rain, and will look well till the last; choose colors that will not fade, and in buying print dresses those that you know will wash well. Plain materials last better than those with a pattern, as you can turn and alter them more easily, and they are not too smart to come down to everyday wear and cut up afterwards for the children. Avoid staring patterns and flimsy things, which look smart for a week and shabby for a year.

If you run the heels of your stockings before wearing them, they will last twice as long without holes; and so will your boots if you can manage to buy them and put them by for a month or two before use, as it gives time for the leather to harden.

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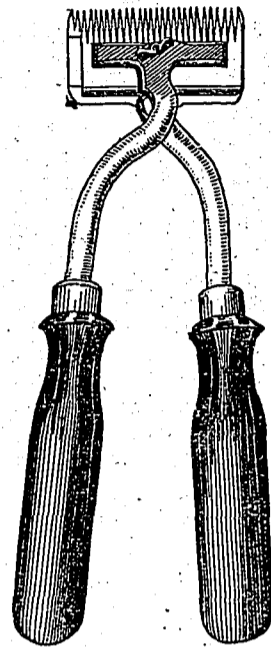
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gy; in fact, it makes us better able to spare a little for those who are worse off than ourselves.

Domestic economy means domestic happiness; it means order, thrift, cleanliness and health, besides the feeling that you have done your duty to the best of your power in the state of life in which it has pleased God to place you.—'Dawn of Day.'

Mother's Moods.

The household barometer is always to be studied in the mother's face. Others in the home may have moods, but she cannot afford to indulge in such a luxury; for her province is to regulate not alone the weather, but to fix the climate, and ordain the atmosphere which shall prevail in the nursery, at the table, in the parlor and over the whole house. 'What is mother about?' inquired a big boy of his sister, as he came home from the shop where he was learning how to be a business man. 'Making sunshine for everybody, as usual,' was the reply. When we think how the mother's looks and tones affect the babies, how early the little ones begin to reflect her in that soul-likeness which shines out in the face, we cannot overestimate the importance of her self-control. She must be amiable, whoever else frets. She must be brave, whoever else is cowardly. She must be tender, though others are brusque. Because she is a mother, and, therefore, the arbiter, under God, of her children's destinies, the former of their characters, she must abide with Christ, deriving daily strength from communion with Him.—'Christian Intelligencer.'

Selected Recipes.

Cream Puffs.—One-half cup butter, one cup hot water; put in the stove to boil in a small tin pan. When boiling, sift in one cup flour, stirring all the time; set aside to cool. When barely lukewarm, stir in three unbeaten eggs, adding one at a time. Drop on a well-buttered pan and bake thirty minutes, in a moderate oven. For the cream use one cup milk, one egg, half cup sugar, one tablespoonful corn starch, mixed with a little cold milk, flavor with vanilla, orange or rose; boil in a double boiler. The puffs may be baked two or three days before using, but the cream must be freshly made. Cut a slit in the top of puff and fill.

Baked Bananas.—Strip the skin from one side of the bananas and arrange in a pan. Loosen the skin about them, sprinkle over each a teaspoonful of sugar, and bake in a moderate oven twenty minutes, basting them

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frequently with an orange sauce poured over them, and made with one teaspoonful of cornstarch mixed with a quarter of a cupful of sugar. Press the juice from three large oranges, put it over the fire and when hot add sugar and cornstarch. Stir and cook a moment.

Tongue Toast.—Take a cold smoked tongue that has been well boiled, mince it fine, mix it with cream and the broken yolk of an egg, and give it a simmer over the fire. Having grated, cut off the crusts, toast very nicely some slices of bread, and then butter them very slightly. Lay them in a flat dish that has been heated before the fire, and cover each slice of toast thickly with the tongue mixture, spread on hot. This is a nice breakfast or supper dish.

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