

foolish idolaters at the shrine of beauty! Know you not that hundreds of husbands are made miserable by handsome wives, and that thousands are happy in the possession of homely ones? homely without, beautiful within. Alas! what is beauty? It is a flower that wilts and withers almost as soon as plucked—a transient rainbow—a fleeting meteor—a deceitful will-o-the-wisp—suffumigated moonshine. The kind of wife you want is one of good morals, and knows how to mend trowsers—who can reconcile peeling potatoes with practical or fashionable piety—who can waltz with a dash-churn and sing with the tea-kettle—who understands broomology, and the true science of mopping—who can knit stockings without knitting her brows, and knit up her husband's unravelled sleeve of care—who preters sewing tears with a needle to sowing tares by scandal with the tongue. Such is decidedly a *better* half. Take her if you can get her, when you find her—let her be up to the elbows in suds of a wash-tub, or picking geese in a cow stable.

My hearers—our text speaks of a lady before a tub. You may think it absurd, but let me assure you that a female can be a lady before a tub or in the kitchen, as well as in the drawing room or parlor. What constitutes a lady? It is not costly dress, paint for the cheeks, false hair, and still falser airs, but it is her general deportment—her intellectual endowments, and that evidence of virtue which commands the respect and silent admiration of the world.—She would be recognized as a lady at once—it matters not where, or in what situation she may be found.

#### Social Kindness.

How sweet is social affection! When the world is dark without, we have light within. When cares disturb the breast—when sorrow broods around the heart—what joy gathers in the circle of love! We forget the world, with all its animosities, while blest with social kindness. The man cannot be unhappy who has hearts that vibrate in sympathy with his own—who is cheered by the smiles of affection and the voice of tenderness. Let the world be dark and cold—let the hate and animosity of bad men gather about him in the place of business—but when he enters the ark of love—his own cherished circle—he forgets all these, and the cloud passes from his brow, and the sorrow from his heart. The warm sympathies of his wife and children dispel every shadow, and he feels a thrill of joy in his bosom which words are inadequate to express. He who is a stranger to the joys of social kindness, has not begun to live.

I have known one or two doses of jalap to relieve hens entirely from a desire to set; and

in my opinion, it is far better for the purpose than the cold water cure. I have known English fowls to lay in three weeks afterwards.

#### The Charm of Cleanliness.

“A white-yellow shirt on a man, said William Cobbett, speaks at once the character of his wife; and be you assured, that she will not take with your dress pains which she never takes with her own. Then the manner of putting on the dress, is no bad foundation for judging,—if it be careless, slovenly, or if it do not fit properly. No matter its mean quality; mean as it may be, it may be neatly and trimly put on; and if it be not take care of yourself, for, as you will find to your cost, a sloven in one thing is a sloven in all things. The country people judge greatly from the state of covering of the ankles; and if it be not clean and tight, they conclude that all out of sight is not as it ought to be. Look at the shoes; if they be tottlen on one side, loose on the foot, or run down at the heel, it is a very bad sign; and, as to slipshod, though at coming down in the morning, and even before daylight, make up your mind to a rope, rather than live with a slipshod wife.”

#### Coffee.

“Coffee as a beverage is either incomparably excellent or incomparably vile. Its quality depends upon the method of its preparation. Roast the berry to a dark brown. Never allow it to become black. During the process of roasting, let it be constantly stirred; so that the whole mass shall be equally roasted. After this process its flavour diminishes. A small quantity, therefore, should only be roasted, for family use, at any one time; not more than enough for two or three days. The berry should be ground rather coarsely. Then by the application of boiling water in the ordinary way, its properties will be extracted in a few minutes. The *coffee grec*, or biggin, is the best article in use for this purpose. The water filters through the grounds of the coffee quickly, and a pure, strong, and delicious drink is thus obtained. The better preparation of coffee is that which is made very strong, and then reduced by the addition of an equal quantity of new milk of the cow. The milk should be added when hot.”

To the above by the editor of the Popular Cyclopædia of Domestic Medicine we can add our full assent. The latter clause, directing the use of hot milk instead of cold, is worth remembering. It bears trial.

INCOMBUSTIBLE WASH.—Slack stone lime in a large tub or barrel, with boiling water,