

## HOUSEHOLD.

## Home Work.

How to Teach the Children.

(Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher.)

By early instructions in domestic duties, the mother has taken the only way by which the child will, as she gradually grows toward maturity, learn to find real pleasure in such duties. If the instructions are given pleasantly, half playfully, just a little at a time, there will be no wearisomeness, but, after a while, much pleasure in it. As soon as the little girl sees satisfactory results springing from her small efforts, she will begin to take delight in the work, and without urging, of her own will, she will reach out after trials of her skill. So, step by step, she learns that useful work is no burden. Having been easily and pleasantly taught to do each thing perfectly, even though she may be obliged to try several times before the wished-for results are attained; once conquered, she will have no reluctance in attempting a little more.

The first attempt may be a failure, not once, or twice, but often. It would be incredible if it were not. But the gentle, loving way of a mother's teaching will prevent it from being disagreeable or a thing to shrink from trying once more. Explain in words easily comprehended by a childish mind, where and how the mistake was made and how to remedy it. Then send the little damsel off, with gentle words, to play, or for some little errand easily comprehended, and after a time let her try again. Give full and loving praise for the very smallest improvement at the next trial, and show her just how she made the advanced step. It will not take many lessons in such little duties or work as a small girl is able to perform without the slightest injury, to make her fully equal to the effort; only be very sure, no matter how often the lesson requires to be repeated, that it is perfectly learned at last. Accept no work that is only half done or carelessly gone through with. That would be an injustice to the child; but, though firm, be a patient, cheerful, smiling teacher. One will be astonished, after having succeeded in reaping satisfactory results after some mistakes, to see how far the capacity for doing is developed.

We once knew a little girl two years old, who always wanted a needle, thread and bit of cloth whenever her mother sat down to sew. The mother after a little reflection, concluded that if she took a fancy to a needle and thread, it would amuse her just as much, probably a good deal more, as she showed her how to do the work correctly—just as well as mamma did! She had 'played sew,' but never yet had threaded her needle; therefore, if she wished to imitate mamma, threading the needle was the first step; and seated on her mother's lap, it was, as people often say, 'as good as play' to see the little midget trying to hold the needle steadily and pass the thread through the eye. But she succeeded before she had time to get at all impatient or weary, and was so proud and excited that she wanted to try it again. But that was judiciously put off for awhile. After some time spent in play, she came of her own accord and wanted to 'do some more.' At the second attempt the object was easily accomplished, and then came the trial of taking the first stitch. Usually, little girls are allowed to proceed as they please, pushing the needle through regardless of how much or how little cloth is taken up. That would be easily done. But no; it must be well done. A little square of blue calico and another of white, not two inches across, were basted together; and the little one, again in her mother's lap, was shown how to take up just a little of blue and just the same of white and sew them together. Every stitch that did not come up to the exact standard was taken out, and it was several days, after many trials and mistakes, before that little square of patchwork was completed. But the second was much more quickly done, and, courage growing with success, the child decided that she could make a doll's bedspread. Her mother consent-

ed to furnish the squares all ready for sewing, but only with the distinct understanding that every stitch must be as perfectly taken as in the first square. The child was never allowed to sit long at a time over this work, and was thus kept from becoming tired and disgusted with her occupation. Her mother was looking forward to the future, and that which was but child's play for the little one was, through discreet and careful management, laying the foundation for a useful, capable woman. The doll's bedspread grew into one large enough for her own bed, before she was four years old, and under it have all her children slumbered.

Now there is nothing wonderful in this, nothing more than every little girl can be taught to do by a wise and judicious mother, who, while she will not allow an imperfect stitch, gives her instructions and points out all the mistakes and sees that they are rectified, hiding the firmness under such playful, gentle words and caresses, that amusement and instruction are closely blended. This incident is told simply to show that in all first lessons, if the child is not allowed to take the second step until the first is properly mastered, she may, even in her play, be quite unconsciously learning to perfect herself in all womanly duties, besides learning also to do it so easily that when she steps into full womanhood she will find the 'yoke easy and the burden light.'

## The Kitchen Kingdom.

Some Wise Words From an Authority on This Home Department.

Mrs. Elizabeth O. Hiller, principal of the Chicago Domestic Science Training School, and one of the leading authorities of the country on domestic science, says, in the 'Housekeeper,' that the kitchen should be made one of the most attractive rooms in every house.

The finish of the woodwork in the kitchen should be without ledge or ornamentation to catch the dust or dirt. Walls may be tiled or ceiled with hardwood, painted, covered with washable paper, or calcimined, if necessary, twice or more a year, at a small cost, and kept sweet and clean. The color is worthy of notice, also, a soft shade of green being most restful to the eyes, attractive, and therefore more preferable.

Floors may be tiled or hardwood oiled, finished with a quarter round at junction of floor and mop boards, thus closing up all cracks and crevices where vermin may lodge and become an intolerable pest. Or, if floor is old and cannot be kept clean without great waste of time and labor, it may be covered with linoleum, which may be selected in harmony with tinting of walls and shades. This is easily kept clean and is not quite so hard to stand and walk upon as either tiled or hardwood floors. The use of carpet in the kitchen cannot be defended.

Washable white sash curtains should be slipped on small brass rods and fastened securely to the window sash, that they may rise with the window, thus preventing them from falling out when raising windows. They give to the kitchen a neat and airy appearance, as well as shutting out view from passers-by.

## SICK HEADACHE

**CARTER'S**  
**LITTLE**  
**LIVER**  
**PILLS.**

regulate the Bowels.

SMALL PILL. SMALL DOSE. SMALL PRICE.

**CARTER'S**  
**LITTLE**  
**LIVER**  
**PILLS.**

Genuine Must Bear Fac-Simile Signature

*Brentwood*  
REFUSE SUBSTITUTES.

Positively cured by these Little Pills.

They also relieve Distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Hearty Eating. A perfect remedy for Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Coated Tongue, Pain in the Side, TORPID LIVER. They

Purely Vegetable.

The Celebrated English Cocoa.

EPPS'S

An admirable food, with all its natural qualities intact. This excellent Cocoa maintains the system in robust health, and enables it to resist winter's extreme cold.

COCOA

The Most Nutritious and Economical.

Tables should be hardwood, or, if old and unsightly, may be covered with white oilcloth, which may save its cost in time and labor in a very short time. This, however, necessitates the use of several hardwood boards, and asbestos mats, on which to set hot vessels used in cooking and in cutting and preparing food, and zinc top saves all this.

The sink should be of soapstone, porcelain lined. Whatever the material, it should not be enclosed. Exposed plumbing, with all pipes painted white, is the only plumbing to be considered.

## Care of Drugs and Poison.

Every little while we read of deaths due to accidental poisoning, where the fatal dose was administered from the wrong bottle, or where some little one had fallen a victim to carelessness. It cannot be too strongly urged that medicines and drugs of all kinds should be kept where the children cannot gain access to them.

If no special cabinet or case can be procured for the necessary and all important household remedies, a cupboard can be made from a shallow box fitted with narrow shelves and with cover fastened on with small hinges. It should be fastened securely to the wall, out of reach of baby fingers, a lock and key will make it doubly safe. The one now in use in our family is made of the case of a square cabinet clock. The works, having fulfilled their mission long ago, were taken out, and the space filled in with shelves which are deep enough to accommodate bottles of common size.

As to marking the bottles containing poisons, in addition to the gruesome labels attached by the druggist, we run a sharp pin through the top of the cork, of each bottle, so that the point protrudes above the top of the cork, about a quarter of an inch. In this way, the bottle is easily distinguished from the others, even in the dark, and no mistake can be made if ordinary care is used.—L. M. Clark, in the 'Homestead.'

## Little Things.

Trifles light as air, but how heavily they weigh upon sensitive natures! In the presence of great sorrows, terrific and destructive of peace, the little things seem as nothing, but in very truth they do make or mar the joy and gladness of human life.

A lady speaking of the trials of her days, said: 'You don't know how annoyed I am every day with one small thing. Cousin Cleanthe persists in feeding the cat at the table. I have begged and pleaded with her to give puss her meals outside the dining-room, but my wishes are calmly disregarded. Madam Puss seats herself expectantly beside Cleanthe. She mews from time to time. Dainty bits are handed her. The rug is spotted with grease, and my temper is regularly upset.'

Now, this was and was not a trifle. In itself, as compared with shipwrecks, cyclones, hurricanes and revolutions, it was a little thing. But life is not composed of great catastrophes. The mistress of any home is within her rights when insisting that certain rules by her making shall be observed by all in her domain. Cousin Cleanthe in her devotion to her pet, and her disobedience to the