

how to do things so well themselves, and are so anxious to have them done well, that they cannot bear to have their daughters making experiments, which in the beginning, of course, means a good many mistakes and a good many failures. Again there are foolish mothers who will wear their fingers to the bone that their daughters may have soft white hands.

**The Czarina of Russia** is the daughter of a poor German duke. When she was a girl at home, she and her sisters were kept respectably dressed only because her mother, the Princess Alice of England, cut, made, turned out and repaired their garments with her own royal hands. Queen Victoria had taken care that all her daughters should learn to use the needle. This is something which every mother should teach her daughters, if she knows it herself; if not, she ought to get some one else to teach it to them.

**Mothers are committing a very grave mistake,** and worse than a mistake, when they do not teach their daughters all that they know themselves about housekeeping. A girl that is a perfect mistress of plain cooking and plain sewing is far better equipped to be mistress of her own house than if she could play two or three instruments and sing in two or three languages. But first of all, in the natural order, parents should teach their boys and girls habits of cleanliness, order, neatness and carefulness. This means that you should be cleanly, orderly, neat and careful yourselves, and then that you should bid your children to follow your example.

It is your duty to provide for your children; and you cannot provide for them as you should, unless you keep your affairs in order and