

HOUSEHOLD.

Quiet Home Evenings.

The husband needs the companionship of his wife, and a wife makes a great mistake when she does not so arrange her household and so plan for the little children that she can, as a rule, appear rested, bright and genial as the day draws to a close and the tired husband turns his steps homeward. To accomplish this much executive ability is necessary. The babies from their earliest year should be trained to go to sleep in well-aired, quiet rooms instead of being rocked or walked with or tossed about half the evening, to their own injury and to the discomfort of the household. Perfect regularity as to time of eating and sleeping and reposeful mothers work like magic with the little folks, and lessen to a great degree the care and worry of the mother or nurse.

We once met at a summer hotel a sweet young mother, whose entire days and nights were given to the care of the first baby, who was a weak and sickly child, and a poor sleeper. The devoted mother was unconsciously doing all possible to make the child nervous and sickly. She walked with him every morning and again every night for one or two hours to get him to sleep, or to speak more correctly, to keep him awake. She put him on her shoulder, she sang lively songs, she told him little stories, she tossed him up and down, she grew irritated and scolded and he grew irritated and more wakeful. His little bare legs dangled or twitched nervously continually, and he seemed most uncomfortable. After an hour or more of this treatment the child, utterly exhausted, would fall asleep, but his nerves were so worn he would twitch in his crib and awake often during the night, crying to be put through this same process again by the patient father or mother. Consequently his digestion was impaired and his strength was waning.

We asked the privilege one evening of relieving the mother and getting the baby to sleep. 'You go down to the parlor with your husband and let me take your place,' we said. The mother with reluctance consented. Smilingly, she said, as she left the room: 'You will soon get tired of your undertaking and call for me.'

With warm water we bathed soothingly the little fellow's hands and feet, talking to him calmly and pleasantly meanwhile. Next we wrapped a large square of light flannel pretty closely about him, folding his little hands together on his breast, and, in a low voice, with reposeful manner, we sang or crooned a slow, monotonous tune. The little fellow whimpered for a few moments—we sang on in the same composed manner. He tried to disengage his hands; we pressed them gently and still sang on in an undisturbed manner. He cried again for a moment, then succumbed. His little chin dropped, his eyes closed peacefully; the new treatment seemed grateful to him, and in five minutes he was sound asleep. We laid him on his side in the crib and went down to the parlor. Both mother and father were amazed.

'You must have a magic charm,' the mother said, 'and I must learn it.'

The next night, unobserved by the child, she watched the process. There was no whimpering, no struggle whatever. The baby really seemed grateful for his reposeful environment. In five minutes again he was asleep.

From that time the mother had no trouble with him; he slept all night; he began to eat well and to digest his food, and mother and father ate and digested theirs better than they had done for weeks. Their evenings became restful, their nights peaceful. They had learned that mothers and fathers must be reposeful themselves or they cannot beget repose in their children.

We well remember the advice given to a young mother by a lady who had brought up eight children, and whose home was a model one for regularity in all its work, and for comfort, and peace, and enjoyment. She said: 'I determined when my first baby came (and I have carried out that determination with all my children), that my evenings, after the early bed time for them, should be planned for my husband. So between the hours of five and six o'clock I have taken the trouble to regulate the household, to see that the tired little folks were well cared for, to look after

the attractiveness of my dinner table, and to appear well dressed and cheerful and at ease when my husband came in. I was often obliged to retire to the nursery for a half hour after dinner, but the evenings we have enjoyed at home, or with our friends, or at church, or at some entertainment, in whatever way we desired, for all these twenty years.'

That woman had acquired the art of being a true wife, and she possessed a just idea of proportion in the time she devoted to husband, children, the household and outside duties and pleasures. The children never for a moment drove the thought of her husband out of her mind. He was always first. In like manner, the mother was first with him. She was the centre, the inspiration of the household. On every matter concerning home and children and their life generally there was freedom of consultation and perfect unity. The baneful plan of running the house entirely for the children never prevailed there.

A New Use for Old Pictures.

(Edward H. Chandler, in 'Congregationalist'.)

One suggestion for the profitable use of old missionary magazines is offered as the result of an interesting experience.

It occurred to the father of an active little girl that her interest in missionary work might be developed by the construction of a missionary scrap-book. So he suggested to her one day that she amuse herself by cutting out of this file of old magazines such pictures of the people and the scenes of foreign countries as most interested her. A suitable scrap-book was procured. The pictures were arranged according to their subjects.

From week to week the collection has steadily grown, and the youthful maker of it has learned to recognize with interest the different national costumes and characteristic scenes, although unable to read the printed titles of the pictures. Occasionally there is a portrait inserted of some prominent missionary worker, whose face and name soon become familiar. Some pictures suggest stories of dramatic or humorous scenes which the father tells as the picture is pasted into the book. Some of the pictures deal with religious habits and customs, and reveal the contrast between the practices of foreign peoples and the ideals of Christianity. It is not essential that there should be long descriptions or missionary lectures in connection with the making of this scrap-book, for the pictures tell their own story. The discarded magazines have really become useful, and a young child has developed easily and naturally a considerable interest in the missionary idea and the need for the spread of Christianity.

PATENT REPORT.

Below will be found a list of patents recently granted by the Canadian Government, through the agency of Messrs. Marion & Marion, patent attorneys, Montreal, Canada, and Washington, D.C. Information regarding any of the patents cited will be supplied free of charge by applying to the above-named firm.

Nos. 87,047, George A. Daigneault, Marieville, Que., washing machine; 87,058, Alphonse Poirier, Normandin, Lake St. John, Que., clover hulling machine; 87,062, Richard Michell, East Selkirk, Man., potato seeder; 87,063, George Makinson, Brigus, Nfld., heating device; 87,104, David G. Buchanan, Montreal, Que., advertising device; 87,133, Patrick Kenahan, Montreal, Que., waggon attachment; 87,136, Richard H. Rusden, Rossland, B.C., miner's candlesticks; 87,162, Arthur E. Vance, Forest, Ont., fastening device; 87,187, Eugene E. C. Nautre, Montreal, Quebec, suspender; 87,212, Stanislas M. Barre, Winnipeg, Man., milk heater and cooler; 87,215, Frederick S. McKay, Sherbrooke, Que., clothes drier; 87,276, Elzear Michaud, Montreal South, Que., improvements in beds; 87,319, Paul d'Aigneaux, Montreal, Que., chemical process and compound.

Selected Recipes.

White Fruit Cake.—Rub one cup of butter and one cup of sugar to a cream. Take a pound of figs, one pound of dates, one pound of raisins, three-fourths of a pound of citron and a pound of almonds, chop each separately and rather coarsely, then mix them all together lightly with the fingers. Measure two and one-half cups

of flour and sift some of it over the fruit. Add two teaspoonfuls of baking powder to the remainder and again sift the flour; then add it to the butter and sugar and stir in the fruit and lastly fold in the whites of seven eggs beaten to a stiff froth. Pour the batter into two medium-sized loaf tins and bake in moderate oven for one and one-half hours.

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