

Scientific and Useful.

TO RESTORE CRAPE.—Skim-milk and water, with a bit of glue in it made scalding hot, will restore old rusty black crape. If clapped and pressed dry, like fine muslin, it will look as good as new.

COCOANUT CAKE.—One and a half cups of sugar, half a cup each of butter and milk, one cup of cocoanut grated fine, two cups of flour, three teaspoonfuls of baking powder. Bake in pans, with dry cocoanut sprinkled over the top.

SCALLOPED POTATOES.—Scalloped potatoes make a nice dish for tea. Prepare in this proportion: Two cups of mashed potatoes, two tablespoonfuls of cream or milk, and one of melted butter; salt and pepper to taste. Stir the potatoes, butter, and cream together, adding one raw egg. If the potatoes seem too moist, beat in a few fine bread crumbs. Bake in a hot oven for ten minutes, taking care to have the top a rich brown.

STEWED TONGUE.—Cut up a slice of bacon as for larding; sprinkle the pieces with salt, pepper, chopped parsley and a little allspice. Lard an ox-tongue with these, and lay it in a saucepan with two slices of bacon, four small bunches of parsley, two sprigs of thyme, two carrots cut into small pieces, two small onions, a few cloves, salt and pepper. Cover with stock to which has been added a glass of sherry. Simmer five hours, keeping the saucepan well covered while serving. Strain the sauce over the tongue.

SOFT SOAP.—To one pound of potash add three gallons of water. Boil the potash until it is all dissolved, then add three pounds of any kind of soap-grease—the cleaner the better—to the lye, and set it to boiling; it usually becomes soap after boiling from one to five hours. Let it boil slowly, so that it will not boil over. If it boils down before it becomes soap, add sufficient water to keep the same quantity in the kettle until it is soap, then add nine gallons of water, and stir well together. When cool, this will be beautiful white soap if the grease was clean.

CHEESE FRITTERS.—Put a pint of water into a saucepan with a piece of butter the size of an egg, the least bit of cayenne and plenty of black pepper. When the water boils, throw gradually into it sufficient flour to form a thick paste; then take it off the fire and work into it about a quarter pound of ground Parmesan cheese, and then the yolks of three or four eggs and the whites of two beaten up to a froth. Let the paste rest for a couple of hours, and proceed to fry by dropping pieces of it the size of a walnut into plenty of hot lard. Serve sprinkled with very fine salt.

BREAD PLUM PUDDING.—One pound of bread crumbs, one pound of raisins, one pound of currants, one pint of milk, six eggs, four ounces of butter, and one pound of sugar. Pour the boiling milk on the bread crumbs, cover with a plate, and let it remain for an hour; then add the butter, currants, raisins (stoned and cut a little), and the sugar; mix all well together, adding candied fruit, a little grated lemon-peel and spice and the eggs well beaten; boil four hours in a buttered basin or mould, and serve with sweet sauce. If it be requisite to add a little flour, boil an hour longer.

BLACK BEAN SOUP.—Black bean soup is made of one quart of black beans and three quarts of water. Wash the beans, then boil them until they are tender; take from the stove, turn off the water, and throw it away; rub the beans through a colander, put them back in the soup kettle, add one quart of fresh water and some stock made the day before; add pepper and salt, and any herbs you choose for seasoning. Put the herbs in a little clean cloth bag. Hard-boiled eggs cut in thick slices, and dropped in the soup just before serving, are thought to be a welcome addition; little balls of chopped beef, put together with flour, and fried brown in butter, can be dropped in, in place of the eggs.

MUTTON CUTLETS, STEWED.—Cut a quantity of carrots, turnips, and potatoes, all to the size of olives. Trim some cutlets, and toss them in butter, with a sprinkling of pepper and salt till they begin to colour; put them in a stewpan with the carrots, about a pint of stock (free from fat), a spoonful of French tomato sauce, and a faggot of sweet herbs, and let them stew gently for fifteen minutes, then add the potatoes, and lastly the turnips; let the whole stew gently till the meat and vegetables are quite done; add a piece of butter rolled in flour, a small piece of glaze, and more pepper and salt. Remove the sweet herbs, and serve the cutlets round the vegetables, with as much of the gravy as is required.



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