

HOUSEHOLD.

Summer at the Old Home.

(Lena Griswold Browne, in the Michigan 'Christian Advocate.')

'Tis summer at the old home now,
And o'er my senses steal
The richest, tenderest memories,
That seem a dream—yet real;
The breath of new-mown hay is borne
Across the meadows sweet,
And there I loiter long again
With tired reluctant feet.

'Tis summer at the old home now,
Oh, how my pulses thrill!
I lie amid the fragrant bloom
Beside the waters still;
I wander 'neath the orchard shade
And down the narrow lane
To meet the 'bossies' coming home—
'Tis milking time again.

'Tis summer at the old home now,
And 'neath the attic roof
I list the sobbing of the pines
With haughty heads aloof;
And then a shower of golden rain
Comes pattering overhead,
And 'neath the eaves a callow bird
Is crying to be fed.

'Tis summer at the old home now,
The harvest time is here,
And fields on fields of golden grain
Are waving far and near.
The creaking waggons homeward turn
The wheat is stored away,
And father's voice rings cheerily—
'We've bread for many a day!'

'Tis summer at the old home now—
Alas! I did but dream,
For four square walls and acres broad
Make not a 'home,' I deem;
For home is where the heart is found,
And loved ones kind and true,
And these, alas! all these are gone,
And I have wandered, too.

'Tis summer at the old home now,
But only strangers' eyes
Drink in their fill of beauty
From earth and air and skies;
And father's voice of right good cheer
Is never heard again,
While strangers' hands are gathering in
The wealth of golden grain.

'Tis summer at the old home now—
Ah, friend, you know the scene,
Your brimming eyes the story tell
Of such a home, I ween!
And memory weaves a golden web
While all your pulses thrill,
For heart and ear are hungering
For voices that are still.

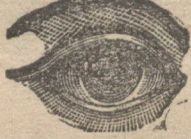
'Tis summer at the old home now,
The sweet home 'Over There,'
For never winter's chilling blast
Sweeps o'er those uplands fair;
'Tis summer at the old home now,
Where 'many mansions' be,
And those long loved and 'lost a while'
Are beckoning you and me.

'Tis summer at the old home now,
We're facing toward the west—
For weary feet await a street
Within the city blest;
Let memory weave the magic spell,
And some glad morn our eyes
Shall catch the glow of pearly gates—
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When Shirring.—The popularity of shirring gives timeliness to the hint of a friendly seamstress. Use two needles, she says, running two rows together. This prevents much handling of the goods, and is more rapid. The same method may be used with success in running a braid flat on a skirt.

Selected Recipes.

Strawberry Saracen.—Take strawberries, thin slices of toast, sugar, butter. Butter the toast generously and line with it the bottom and sides of a china dish which can be set in the oven. The pieces of toast, made of stale bread and cut quite thin, should be very well dried in toasting. Trim them so as to fit the dish nicely. Fill the remaining space with stemmed strawberries, packed closely. Sift plenty of sugar over and among the berries, and set in a moderate oven for thirty minutes or until the fruit has melted a good deal and settled. It will be found that they melt away so much that the dish must not only be packed, but heaped, or it will not look well when done. Serve very cold with thick cream.

Rice Buns.—Cream two ounces of butter with two ounces of castor sugar. Mix together a quarter-pound of rice flour and two ounces of ordinary flour; then add half the flour and one egg, then the rest of the flour, a little vanilla essence, and another egg, and half a teaspoonful of baking powder. Fill well-greased patty-pans two-thirds full with the mixture, and bake in a good oven for a quarter of an hour. These are nice tea table dainties.

Macaroons.—Blanch half a pound of almonds, and dry in the oven; then pound finely, moistening with the whites of egg. When the almonds are in a fine taste, add half a pound of powdered sugar and one lemon (grated); work all till nicely mixed and perfectly smooth. Form the macaroons by dropping pieces the size of a walnut upon a buttered baking-tin. Cook in a moderate oven until they have taken a beautiful tint. Let the macaroons cool before taking from the tin.

Strawberry Sponge Cakes.—Beat two cups granulated sugar and the yolks of six eggs together. Add the six whites beaten stiff, two

cups pastry flour, one heaping teaspoon baking powder, sifted twice, and lastly two table-spoons boiling water. Bake in two long baking tins. Make a soft frosting with one cup granulated sugar, half a cup of milk boiled until it strings. Pour it into a bowl and add one teaspoon flour. Beat until thick enough to spread. Take one cake from the tin, spread with frosting and cover with halved strawberries; dust with sugar, and put the other cake on top. Cover with sugared strawberries.—'New England Homestead.'

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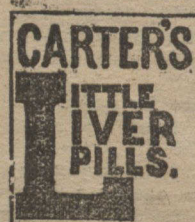


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