

## HOUSEHOLD.

## DAILY WITNESS

From 10 to 24 Pages.

## How About the Cellar.

Dust-laden carpets and curtains, and soiled wall paper, are a menace to health that the housewife 'who looketh well to the ways of her household' is sure to appreciate. But a cellar that is not dry, well ventilated and free from decaying fruit or vegetables, is a far more serious one; and the very first attack in the spring campaign of home renovation should be made against it.

It has time and again been scientifically proved that the quality of the air which is breathed in the first story of a house depends very largely on the condition of the cellar; consequently little benefit can be derived from the most thorough renovation above ground if the cellar is, from any cause, unwholesome.

Have the banking removed from every window and the door, and during the middle or sunny or windy days, when there is no risk of freezing, open windows opposite each other and create a strong current of air that will rout microbes, foul air and dampness. Unless the cellar is an actual disease-breeder, this will insure a fair degree of safety until the weather is mild enough to give it a thorough cleaning and disinfecting.

Choose a sunny day, and have no 'cast-iron' plans that compel you to make a farce of purifying a cellar on any other kind of a day. Have every movable thing, especially every board and stringer that lies on a ground floor, carried out of doors, thoroughly swept and scrubbed on every side, and left in the sun and wind until perfectly dry. Indeed the least thing in decaying wood should not be returned at all. There is no safety in any other course. Thoroughly sweep the ceiling, walls and floor. Give the walls two coats of fresh, strong whitewash, and when the last wash is dry, sweep the floor thoroughly, especially close to the walls, to dislodge any germs that were brushed from the walls in the process of whitewashing. On no account neglect the limewash, for aside from its incomparable disinfecting qualities and attractive whiteness, it kills whatever fungi have formed up on the walls.

Copperas is the best-known germ-killer and deodorizer, and has the added merit of being inexpensive. Dissolve a pound in a large pailful of boiling water and sprinkle it freely under every bin and platform, and in the dark corners. If there is no cement floor, and a board walk is to be laid in the most used places, the entire floor should be saturated with copperas or some other germ-killing solution.

In cleaning the woodwork, use soap and scalding hot water freely, not neglecting an inch of wood that can be reached.

If the under side of damp stationary bins and platforms cannot be thoroughly scrubbed or saturated with copperas solution, fumigate them with sulphur after the rest is clean and before bringing in anything in the shape of edibles.

This is most easily done with sulphur candles, but it is less expensive to use sulphur in bulk and hot coals. Close every window and door (excepting those opening into closets or adjacent rooms where you wish the fumes to enter), set a coal hod in the middle of the room, and if any bins or platforms are high enough to prevent risk of fire, put pans underneath them, cover the bottom of some with live coals, scatter sulphur over and make a hasty exit, stuffing even the key-hole in the door at head of stairs with cotton batting. Keep it closed until the next day; then open the windows and doors and air out thoroughly before moving in.—'The Country Gentleman.'

## A Good Enterprise.

The Clothing and House-Furnishing Bureau, of Pittsburg, is an enterprise founded four year ago by some good churchwomen for the benefit of their poorer neighbors, which other cities may well imitate. Cast-off clothing and second-hand furniture are received from those who have no further use for them, and put into such good condition as is possible, and then sold to wor-

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thy persons who are known to the management and their friends. Mrs. F. A. Sawyer, in her report, says: 'The prices are moderate and the articles are often very good. A bunch of tape for a penny, a cooking stove for a dollar, a bed a hair brush, a wash tub, a suit of clothes, a warm bed comforter, a pair of old shoes, a cradle, a penny bundle of pieces of new cloth, muslin or calico, much in demand, give but a faint indication of the variety sold. The purchasers are needy, and many buy these things who would not seek charity, nor accept it. One mother told the writer that for two years her children could not have gone to school but for the clothes and the shoes she had been able to buy of the Bureau.' The money received from these sales has amounted to nearly \$1,000 in four years, and has been used to give employment to poor women. The store is open every Saturday afternoon.

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Publishers, Montreal.

THE 'NORTHERN MESSENGER' is printed and published every week at the 'Witness' Building, at the corner of Craig and St. Peter streets, in the city of Montreal, by John Redpath Dougall and Frederick Eugene Dougall, both of Montreal.

All business communications should be addressed John Dougall & Son, and all letters to the editor should be addressed Editor of the 'Northern Messenger'.