

chopped pickled cucumber, and the following, tied in a linen rag—a bay leaf, a clove, and a stalk of thyme. Boil gently until the whole is well cooked. If this reduces it too much, add a little warm water or broth. Mustard may also be added, if liked, but only when off the fire. Slices of cold beef may merely be warmed in piquante sauce, and served. The pungency of the onion or shallot, as well as that of garlics, evaporates in cooking. Many deprive themselves of a most excellent and healthful condiment through mere prejudice. If a sauce tastes of onion it is because the onions have not been cooked enough. Such a sauce as the above is very inferior without onions or shallots, as are many others of which we shall speak in future. The pungent taste of the above spices can not be retained in cooking them, even if it were attempted; it is volatile, and the more or longer it is heated, the more it evaporates.

What is left of *stewed beef* is merely warmed over. If found rather dry, a little broth or piquante sauce, or both, may be added, according to taste.

*Fat*.—Many buy inferior meat on account of the waste of the fat that is always found in good meat. When the fat is wasted it is the fault of the cook, who does not know how to use it. Some cooks know how to use it, but will not take the trouble to melt it when the mistress allows as much lard and butter as is asked for. The fat skimmed off the broth or boiled meat, and that coming from the trimming of raw or cold beef, is much superior to lard to fry with. Lard flies all over; beef fat never does when properly melted. To melt beef fat or suet, cut it in small pieces, and set on a rather slow fire, in an iron pan. As soon as it begins to melt, skim the melted part off with a ladle, and turn it into a stone jar, which you cover when cold. Put it away in a cool, dry, and dark place. We contend that a careful cook never needs lard for frying purposes, but always has more fat than is necessary out of boiling or roasting pieces.—*Harper's Bazar*.

## A WORD TO MOTHERS.

BY C. T.

"How shall I train these dear children for a good and happy life hereafter?" This is a question that often arises in a mother's heart.

Many years ago, when my children were young, it was my privilege to hear a sermon from the words spoken by the Princess to the mother of Moses: "Take this

child and nurse it for me, and I will pay thee thy wages." These words, and the thoughts drawn from them by the preacher, were a daily encouragement to me. Every mother may feel that God speaks thus to her, and that if we nurse these precious children He has given us, for Him, He will surely pay us the best wages a mother can desire—the unspeakable satisfaction of seeing them grow up to love and serve Him; He will put grace in their hearts in this life, and give them glory hereafter.

Begin early to teach them to pray morning and evening, and do not doubt that very little children can love the Saviour, and come to Him with childlike trust: tell them how He loved little children, when on earth, and took them in his arms, and put his hands on them and blessed them.

Often take the little ones alone and pray with them, especially when they have grieved and disobeyed you. It is the most effectual way to subdue and soften their hearts; it shows them that you really feel how naughty they have been. Do not punish them in anger; this only arouses anger and resentment in them, but if they see there is justice in their punishment, they will love you the more for it.

Keep fast hold of their hearts, so that to please you will be a powerful motive in all they do, and let their love be very precious to you. Be patient in listening to their little grievances, enter into their plays, and cheerfully put aside books and work to attend to them.

Prize the days and months when your children are around you in the nursery, being moulded, like clay, by your example and gentle words. These happy days pass away all too soon; you will find them grown up before you realize it, and opportunities to make good impressions, or establish good habits, lost, never to return.

While they are young and impressible, give them "line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little and there a little," and never be discouraged, for God will help you; you are doing a noble work, and your wages are sure.

The writer remembers the happy days when her little children were about her, and the joys and discouragements of that period. She can testify that when God promises, He does not disappoint, and she hopes these words may help and encourage young mothers, who are bearing the heat and burden of the day. In all their efforts, they need the sympathy and co-operation of their husbands. With it their task is easy and light, but wanting that, let them not falter, but take their cares to Him, who is so ready to answer with blessings.—*Mother at Home*,