Feminine Fancies and Home Circle Chat

Human Failings

Every one who is human has a failing, though they may not know it, but naturally some failings are more conspicuous than others. One human failing, and certainly a very conspicuous one, both in our minds and our houses, is that we store up from time to time an incalculable amount of rubbish. It is, generally speaking, that most amiable class of people who call themselves thrifty that display this particular weakness. The cynical and careless among us turn over their effects, both mental and material, lightly and take little heed of either for future reference. Those thrifty-minded people, though, from quite early childhood, have a tendency which becomes almost a mania for thinking that everything fits, or will fit at some future time, into life's general scheme. This is the person who regards his mind as a lumber room, just as one would consider a place reserved for the storage of all those things which must find their way into every house, and which no unpaid person could be persuaded to remove again. Rags and bones are useful, but is it worth while to hoard them for a few cents we may get in exchange from the rag and bone man? To look higher in our calculations, is it worth while to hoard up in our minds such facts that if so many shillings were turned out of the mint in a year, they would reach to the top of Westminster abbey. Why should one tax one's brain with such paralysing facts as these, when we should keep it clear for other matters of far more importance to the interests of life? Then, again, with material things. How many people are there who cannot literally bring themselves to part with any object which has come into their possession, however useless it may be. They say, "Oh, it will come in useful some day." To make a clean sweep would perhaps be heartless, so we commence our task of "sorting out." Clearly all the bills, paid and unpaid, must be kept, the one for safety, and the other for conscience' sake. Thus we go on saying, "I will not part with this just yet"; or "That I know I shall require again." After an hour or so of our industry in "sorting out," and we still find heaps all round us on floor, chairs, and desk of effects which still remain unsorted, our zeal begins to pall, and the whole lot is bundled back into the lumber closet. So for the time being again our worries are hidden away behind lock and key, but they are still there; therefore, surely, apart from the things which sentiment alone forbids us from parting with it is safe to say, "Let your accumulating goods go to the bonfire and do not hoard anything unnecessary, either in your house or in your brain. Of course it is difficult to find a parallel between the mind and the lumber closet, so we will not try, but it is consistent to say that the storing of all facts simply because they happen to be facts, leaves the enormous danger if not absolute certainty of big necessary facts getting left out in the cold.

Fashion's Fancies

Decidedly this is the reign of the blouse—and as favorite fashions are revived at intervals with variations to impart an air of novelty, the separate blouse and skirt has to some extent returned this season, but the kimono braces, now so much worn, have imparted a decided note of unison between skirt and bodice. This is the season when one appreciates lines blouses, so fresh to see, as well as to wear. They are almost, without exception, white, cream or bise and are extremely elegant as well as being easy to clean and are worn by all women desirous of having an appearance of youth and freshness. These blouses are often made of lawn and cambric and are so finely pleated and open-worked and adorned with lace that the blouse alone often costs as much as an ordinary costume. A charming effect is produced by mingling several different kinds of lace. A few days ago I saw a delicious blouse of Irish lace in alternated bands of valenciennes insertion. Such a blouse would go equally well with the most simple skirt or with the richest evening skirt and could be worn at the theatre or at a dinner. Small buttons are much worn now on blouses. The prettiest being in mother-of-pearl, studded with sapphires or rubies. Another charming revival of the separate blouse and which hails from Paris is the blouse of soft white chiffon, much tucked, with elbow sleeves, in tucked puffs, banded with guaged ruffs below the elbow. Over this came a bolero, very exquisite in black net, elaborately inlet with black and white guipure and fine silver embroidery. The superbly cut skirt for this blouse was a soft, dull satin and entirely plain, worn with an all black hat, long white gloves and a white ostrich boa. This formed a most effective toilette. Another instance of the separate blouse and skirt on a fair woman, illustrated the charm of a creamy white silk powdered with groups of blurred colored flowers. The skirt long and limp, with a highly swathed belt of the same silk. The blouse was soft and full and made in creamy white silk muslin. This was worn with a big hat of white crinoline. The crown completely hidden with a wealth of purple and mauve convolvulus. Closely fitting blouses of heavy lace, all very smart with sleeves clasping the arm closely and firmly, with a white point over the hand, completed with well-draped bretelles and kimono oversleeves in a pretty silk. The effect is chic in the extreme. Quite plain skirts are to be much worn and these invariably mean an elaborate blouse or bodice.

A very favorite material at the present minute is a kind of Chinese satin, being soft and with a delicious opal sheen. Very fashionable are those gowns made of embroidered nainsook and embroidered "toile a' voile" as are also the tailor-made gowns with rounded off coatees. Stripes and checks are still frequently met with, but it seems to me that it is the plain one which is most fashionable. At this time of year the woman who is wise will thoroughly overhaul her wardrobe and plan out her dresses for the autumn days, which, alas! will soon be upon us. Probably she has a lot of odds and ends. The result of attending the summer sales, and now is the time to decide what she will do done with them. Velvet is a most useful acquisition and does wonders to show us the charm of the plainly gored skirt. Small lengths of velvet can all be made use of and utilized for almost any article of attire. Lengths too short for say a tea jacket, can make up into a charming toque, or muff, for winter wear.

A charming costume for early autumn wear is one composed of toile in a violet red shade, with embroideries of the same hue arranged to form a band round the foot of the skirt. The same trimming is used to cover the seams of the jacket, which is wide and long, with large Louis XIV pockets, which give a most becoming appearance. From the sleeves fall a double frill of valenciennes and a beautiful frill of the same lace should appear on the front of the corsage. This costume is worn with a large velvet in the same tone and trimmed with bunches of ribbon velvet in front.

Extraordinary prices have been paid for hats this season and in Paris even more than in London has been noticeable the vogue of wearing a hat that costs far more than the dress to which it is the finishing touch. The tailor-made gown of severe simplicity and the hat that is grotesquely large and bizarre, have been during the French season the rule and not the exception.

Of course the accessory of the season is the all important veil. The best kind of veil to wear with the sailor hat is a large square chiffon, one which can be bought ready made, but is far less expensive if made by yourself. There is nothing easier than to make an automobile veil. Buy about a yard and a quarter of veiling, hem it at one end, through this run half a yard of hat wire, then shape it round and join the ends and you have an automobile veil for just half the price you would pay for a ready-made one. Brown is now the fashionable color for veiling and is more youthful looking than black.

High, turnover collars of cluny lace and torchon lace over stiff bands, are worn with silk ties—of a color to match the skirt or suit which they accompany. It is the little accessories of the toilet which are so valuable and count in fashions and without which the most elegant and expensive tollette is incomplete. Nothing dates a costume so quickly and so surely as its accessories.

"Extravagance"

There is always a great deal said and written about "Women's Extravagance." And according to an old joke, a married man is supposed to always look shabbily dressed and have a broken-down appearance. The explanation being that it practically takes all his money to keep his home going. Naturally a single man must have more money to spend on himself and his clothes, but for all that, it is quite an erroneous idea to suppose that the married man does not value his appearance quite as much as the single man and very often even more, as a woman naturally likes to see her husband's attire is a credit to the establishment, and even if his inclinations turn to becoming slovenly, she "keeps him up to the mark," and the result is that majority of married men can hold their own with a single, well-groomed man. But to return to the subject of extravagant women. Extravagance is not always blameworthy, far from it! A rich woman is a benefactor to society generally, who can freely afford to spend money, and who does so with a generous spirit. Of course there are many people in the world that are never satisfied whatever their neighbor does. And such people are ever ready to say It is better to give in charity than to spend extravagantly—quite forgetting that this is entirely a question for the individual and that a rich woman, who, perhaps, does apparently spend extravagantly, is putting money into circulation and providing employment for less fortunate men and women. Of course a girl with a certain dress allowance cannot afford to be extravagant and should be taught how to spend her money to the best advantage in this present age of trash, sham and rubbish, as many young girls are always so inclined to exaggerate the fashions and to go to extremes, and so many mothers are really to blame for this, as they allow their young daughters to go their own way and seem to have no means of combatting their extravagant ideas—often ideas far beyond their means—instead of instilling the idea into them that finery, instead of being of importance, is the most vulgar and also the ugliest thing in the world. Parents should assert their authority and instil into their children the principle of thrift —never yet did dress (as well as adornment) or extravagance in any form, which one cannot afford, make any man or woman either respected or particularly successful in any walk of life—and certainly wastefulness is one of the saddest phases of present-day life among all classes of society.

Letter Writing Forgotten Art

It now-a-days is a well known fact that letter writing is a thing nobody who is anybody does. I wonder why? Yet, nevertheless, we consume untold quantities of nibs and ink, and our stationery bill is by no means the most modest of our ever increasing expenditures. Yet we never do more than "scribble off notes" to answer invitations, or dash off a line of congratulation or sympathy as the case may be, to forcibly but briefly express dissatisfaction with our tailor or surprise at his bill. On the rare occasions when fashionable people happen to remember that there are such things as absent relations and chance to think existence worthy of notice, our love is sent to them on a post card with the interesting details of the weather being so summerlike, don't you know, or really too hot to breathe, or something else equally idiotic or vague, and generally ending in "frantic haste," writing soon with all news. It seems a pity does it not? However, such is the case. But if there is a decline in private letter writing, there is a distinct increase in the popularity of the letter in fiction. Really the recently published books of real interest, in a large percentage, have been in this form. It is in fact a case of the letter ousting the diary. In the latest edition of a one-sided correspondence in fiction (which style at the moment seems far and away the most popular as the replies are left to the imagination) is one entitled "The Letters of One." The letters are those of a man who describes himself as "a thing too weak for the complex world," and whose conduct is sufficient evidence of the truthfulness of the description. He is in love with the woman to whom the letters are addressed, but according to the preface, just as their engagement was supposed to be going to be announced he disappeared. His excuse in his letters to her is that in order to write "a perfectly sincere, human, true, tender book," "he must deprive himself of the pleasure of marrying her." He is not made for marriage, he tells her; "the wear and tear of life, the daily intercourse, the anxieties would make havoc of our love." He begs her not to see him, "it upsets him too much." In this particular case the man was wise to realize his mistake, which their marriage would have been, as surely there is nothing that would tire a woman sooner than to have to be a mother to her husband. Nevertheless if this particular man's letters were unconvincing the letters themselves are full of much literary charm and are full also of human interest. Surely then if such readable letters, kind and gracious, can be written for the sake of fiction, does it not truly seem a pity that we should not try to cultivate this art of letter writing for the pleasure of our many friends and relations? Possibly some of them living many thousands of miles away, who can hardly be expected to be unduly elated by receiving a nondescript picture postcard sent in "frantic haste."

This little girl wears a frock made of white lawn and plaid gingham. The skirt is gathered and buttoned on to the waist and the buttons concealed by a sash of the white lawn, which ties in a knot in the back. The gingham collar is edged with embroidery and detachable from the waist.

Toilet Talks and Health Notes

Few people understand the benefits to the skin from proper bathing and massage. For improving the skin of the face and neck wash in tepid water before going to bed, making a good lather of Castile soap, and rubbing well with a middling stiff brush. Rinse and rub thoroughly with a coarse towel, until in a glow. Then take some cocoanut palm oil and rub thoroughly over the surface, massaging the face and neck. Work over from the nose and mouth with finger and thumb. One of the surprises will be the amount of dirt removed even after the previous washing, when the face is rubbed dry with a soft, clean towel.

An excellent face cream may be prepared as follows: Two ounces of best sweet oil (almond oil is best), quarter of an ounce of spermaceti, one large teaspoonful lanolin, a lot of white wax. Melt together, and when dissolved and removed from the fire, add gradually two ounces of orange flower water, and four drops of oil of rose. Apply with the finger thoroughly, and afterwards wipe off with a soft cloth, or the cream may be left on the face for a time before wiping. This makes a delightfully refreshing preparation for the face.

Dandruff is a most annoying affliction, and difficult to treat with women who are blessed with an abundance of hair. A good wash for the scalp is made of equal parts of pure alcohol and English soft soap, obtained from the chemist. A spoonful applied to the scalp with soft warm water will yield a good lather and thoroughly cut and clean off the dandruff. A little perfume added to the mixture will remove the disagreeable odor of the soap. A lotion which may be rubbed into the scalp by the fingers after the hair has been well dried is as follows: Six ounces of pure alcohol, an ounce and a half of tincture of cantharides, three drachms glycerine and two drachms resorcin. Mix thoroughly and apply as directed.

The eyebrows should receive as much care as the hair, and should be regularly washed and brushed. It troubled at all with dandruff, treat exactly in the same way as described above. They should be regularly brushed with a stiff brush, first upwards towards the hair, and then down. They will soon develop not only lustre and grace, but growth.

Court plaster is a necessary thing to have in the house, but few people seem to know that great care should be employed in using it. If a cut is very slight it can, of course, be applied, without much possibility of any harm arising, but if the cut be at all deep never use the plaster to entirely cover the wound. Simply cut long narrow strips and apply them across the cut in order to bring the edges together. Never apply court plaster to a bruised wound, as it may easily become a painful sore by being covered with the plaster. The whole use of court plaster is to bring together and hold together the edges of a cut, or to keep the air and dirt away from a slight abrasion.

There has been of late much discussion about the use of sulphur in throat troubles, especially those of a diphtheritic character. It is by no means a new remedy, having been used as a throat disease panacea for many years in many homes. As soon as inflammatory symptoms make their appearance, the throat should be thoroughly dusted with sulphur, this treatment being repeated every hour if the case is severe. As only good can come by swallowing the sulphur, it may be used safely with the greatest of freedom. One of the very best preparations for throat affections is equal parts of sulphurous acid and glycerine. This should be mixed to a half of a tumblerful of water. The throat may be brushed with it, or it may, if preferred, be used as a gargle. Freely applied, it will usually relieve all unpleasant symptoms at once and persisted in, it rarely fails to cure the most obstinate cases of sore throat.

To look young, one must be young, not in the sense of youth, but by being sprightly in disposition and cheerful. One of the greatest secrets of youth is to keep a light heart and to look on the brightest side of things, and not to brood over every little annoyance that comes into our daily life, in fact, not to make mountains out of mole-hills." There are many women of fifty who are far younger than many girls of twenty, both in minds and bodies. None can remain young who cultivate selfishness and moroseness. There are many aids to beauty, and a girl may improve her physical charms, and has only herself to blame if she is unattractive in personal appearance, but the keynote to health and beauty is to take care of the body, and an interest in other people, if they want to be happy, and not constantly thinking of themselves. This is the reason why we meet so many jaded girls. To be unselfish and thoughtful for others helps to keep one young, and alert, and to retain the charm of youthfulness which no artificial aid can give.

This sketch shows a sage green voile, trimmed with darker silk, and having a yoke and undersleeves of allover lace. The skirt and waist are separate, the latter ending at the lower edge of the girdle and closing with the buttons at one side. The fancy edge seen at the waist and sleeves is brilliantly colored Persian ribbon.

From Sundry Sources

A delightful surprise it was to everyone when the queen appeared at Sandown, for she had not visited the pretty race course so conveniently near London since she was Princess of Wales. It was by her particular desire that the King and the Prince of Wales wore the country clothes which would have been their choice if she had not been present. The King always makes a point of wearing a frock coat and tall hat at any race meeting honored by the presence of the queen. Their majesties motored down to Esher about an hour before lunch. The Queen, who seemed to be quite well again after her recent indisposition, wore a becoming dress of black and white striped muslin and a white lace hat, with black and white feathers. Princess Victoria looked very graceful in champagne colored muslin, with a rose pink hat. The Princess of Wales also motored down, and looked handsome in a pretty blue and white foulard dress, and a white hat with tulle and pink roses.

After the Queen's visit to Cowes, she will proceed to Balmoral for about three weeks, after which her majesty is going to Norway and Denmark, and will be absent from Great Britain until the end of October. The Princess of Wales has also left London for the season, and is spending a few weeks in Germany and Switzerland. The Prince of Wales has sent a letter of congratulation to Mr. A. C. Johnson, R. N., who lives at Dartmouth, and who has just attained his eightieth birthday. Mr. Johnson was senior naval instructor to H. M. S. Britannia when the prince was a cadet.

Princess Patricia, the Duke of Connaught's daughter, has been very greatly admired during her season in London, and was considered quite one of the prettiest girls of the season. She is certainly the beauty of the royal family.

A poor little waif, who was taken one summer to the seaside together with some fresh-air-fund children, had wandered away alone to a quiet place, and was surveying the ocean with great interest. "Why, little girl," said the philanthropist who had planned the outing, "Why are you all alone? Don't you want to play with the other children?"

"No, sir," the little girl replied, "I'd rather look at the ocean, there's such a lot of it, and it's the only time in my life I've ever seed enough of anything."

The Princess of Wales would have a very difficult task before her, namely, that of succeeding our Queen in the affections of the English people. But she has long since won for herself the most loyal affection and appreciation of all classes by her unfailing goodness and kindness of heart to one and all.

No day seems too long or no task too heavy for her Royal Highness if any good cause can be served thereby. In her two long tours, although of great interest, involved months of separation from her children to whom she is a most devoted mother. Also no small matter is the fact that the Princess is the poorest of sailors she has certainly had to undergo some tests of her devotion to duty. A thousand instances of her Royal Highness's infinite kindness of heart and thoughtfulness for others could be given, but the greatest tribute of all is, the fact that she is worshipped by all who serve her. She is one of the easiest of Royal guests to entertain, having countless resources within herself. She has a fondness for housekeeping and takes the greatest interest in every domestic detail. The Princess is unlike most of the other royal ladies in having no love for outdoor games. Her favorite occupations are plain sewing, embroidery and knitting.

The Princess Royal, who since her marriage has done no yachting until a few weeks ago, is keenly enjoying her experiences in northern waters. Like all the daughters of the King and Queen, and unlike the Princess of Wales, she is an excellent sailor and the cruise has already done wonders for her health. Her Royal Highness and the Duke of Fife before their departure talked of returning at the end of the month, but in view of the trip being so beneficial to the Princess Royal their holiday will be probably prolonged. The "Catania" will take them to Scotland on their return to spare the Princess the long and tiring train journey.

The Queen has recently given sittings for her portrait in red chalks to Mlle. Marie d'Epinay, a clever young French artists whose work has attracted the special notice of King Edward. Mlle. d'Epinay was delighted to be summoned to Buckingham Palace where Queen Alexandra showed her every kindness and was graciousness itself. Though the portrait was completed in three hours, it proved an excellent likeness. King Edward specially complimented the artist on the way she caught the expression of her Majesty's mouth. The Queen is depicted as wearing the picturesque and becoming Gainsborough hat in which Her Majesty appeared at Ascot.

The Dowager Duchess of Saxe-Coburg Gotha, accompanied by her daughter Princess Beatrice, left Charing Cross, London, on Monday for Coburg.

The King and Queen of Spain and the Prince of the Austurias have arrived in San Sebastian, and are expected to arrive in England towards the end of October.

What to Do In Emergencies

For severe cuts, until you can get a doctor, first bathe the cut with warm water which has boiled, let it bleed a little to wash away any foreign matter, then hold the cut together, cover it with a soft piece of perfectly clean cloth and either put on a bandage or hold it on firmly until the doctor comes to put in the stitches.

In burns, which naturally are very painful, apply grease as soon as possible, wrap up the burnt place in soft cloths to exclude the air and renew the grease often, as it dries quickly. Carron oil or vaseline are about the best to use, but if you cannot get these quickly put on lard or butter, lard preferably, as the salt in the butter will smart on a raw surface. Alcohol is also good for burns, wrapped in with soft cloths and covered with a dry bandage.

In fainting, lay the person down and have the head low, so that the blood can get to the brain. It is the absence of blood from the brain that causes faintness. If there is no place to lay the person down, if you bend the head over lower than the heart they will soon revive. It is useless, if it is a woman, to undo her dress or take off her collar; simply lay them out straight or get into the fresh air, so as to restore equal circulation.

A simple remedy for a severe headache is to take a cathartic and also have a hot foot-bath containing a cup of mustard to a bucket of water. Put cool cloths on the head and have plenty of fresh air in the room.

When a child is suffering from convulsions put it at once in a hot bath containing mustard, and to prevent another convulsion give it a dose of castor oil.

The World Would Be Better

Do any of us ever seriously consider what a benefit would be conferred upon the world at large if we could leave our neighbors and their affairs alone and be content to let each other grow in our separate, several ways. The world would be a vastly more amusing and interesting place than it is if only there was a little more variety. So few of us have much (or any) genius, but we make ourselves far less interesting and intelligent than we need do. For instance, because our neighbor two blocks away has been bullied by a shopman into having pale green curtains for her establishment, and has boasted of them ever since as the latest thing from Paris, we feel also that we must at once have bilious green curtains too, not at all because we like them, but because Mrs. de Vere Smith has them, and we must keep in touch with our neighbor. Then, again, you meet a woman in a hat that doesn't suit her in the least, and which looks as if some plump person had sat on it. Why does she wear it? Simply because "It must be fashionable as my neighbor, Miss Brown, has got one exactly the same from London." Oh, what a small mind this shows! And really, during the holidays it would not be a bad experiment (while we have the time) to try to be unlike other people. And thank heaven they are not like us. We all want in our hearts to be "somebody," but nobody can ever be anybody who does not first take care to be himself. And above all things do not make yourself into a replica of your next door neighbor.

A useful hint to those who suffer from unduly moist hands in warm weather, should bathe them frequently in warm water, to which a little alum or vinegar has been added.

Household Hints and Recipes

Instead of a dinner menu I propose to give a few recipes for afternoon teas this week.

Egg and Tomato Sandwiches.
Shrimp Sandwiches.
Montreux Sandwiches.
Auckland Cake.

Coffee Sponge Cakes.
Macaroons.
Curd Cheesecakes.
Sultana Cake.

Egg and Tomato Sandwiches—Required: Three hard boiled eggs; tomato puree; parsley; half an ounce of butter; pepper and salt. When the egg and butter are blended, add enough thick tomato puree (sold in bottles as "Conserve") to taste and make all a nice rich color. Chop the whites of egg roughly and add to the mixture also a little finely chopped parsley. With thin bread and butter make the above into sandwiches and arrange in a circle on a dainty d'oyley.

Shrimp Sandwiches—Required: One pint of peeled shrimps; three ounces of butter; cayenne pepper; thin brown bread and butter. When you have picked all the shrimps carefully allow three ounces of butter for every pint; dissolve this in a saucepan; add the shrimps—with cayenne pepper to taste, and let all get quite hot. Turn all into a deep plate, smooth flat and when set, use for sandwiches with thin brown bread and butter.

Montreux Sandwiches—Required: Two hard boiled eggs; teaspoonful of capers; teaspoonful of parsley; cayenne pepper; anchovy sauce; one ounce of butter; thin bread and butter. Boil two eggs till hard and pound in a mortar with one ounce of butter, sufficient anchovy essence to make all a good pink color; a teaspoonful of chopped parsley and the same quantity of capers chopped after measuring; when well pounded, spread on slices of new bread, cover with a thin slice of bread and butter, stamp in fancy shape and arrange daintily.

Auckland Cake—Required: Three ounces of butter; four ounces of castor sugar; a few drops of vanilla essence; three eggs; five ounces of flour; three ounces of rice flour; one teaspoonful of baking powder. Cream the butter and sugar and add to it the vanilla essence. Beat the yolks of the eggs and whites separately and add the sugar and butter. Now add (beating all the time) the flour and ground rice, with a teaspoonful of baking powder. Beat all together thoroughly for five minutes and bake in a moderate oven for three-quarters of an hour. Serve this cake the day it is made.

Coffee Sponge Cakes—Required: Four sponge cakes; one gill of double cream; a teaspoonful of castor sugar; two teaspoonfuls of coffee; water icing. Take sponge cakes, which should be stale, and cut each into three. Divide each of these pieces across so as to have suitable pieces for sandwich making. Whip the cream, sugar and coffee together, only discontinue when the mixture is on the point of turning to butter. Spread half the pieces of cake with this mixture and cover with the remainder, lightly dusting the whole with castor sugar. Cover each sandwich with water icing and ornament as desired.

Macaroons—Required: Half a pound of ground almonds, half a pound of fine castor sugar; three whites of eggs; the juice of half a lemon; wafer paper. These excellent biscuits are not difficult to make and when cold should not be crisp. Put the whites of eggs into a basin, add the sugar gradually and stir for some time till the mixture is perfectly smooth, then add the lemon juice, and lastly the ground almonds. Mix thoroughly for about ten minutes, then lay out the mixture in little heaps on wafer paper and bake on a flat tin in a very slow oven till a light golden color. Place in a cool place and when cold cut off any superfluous wafer paper.

Curd Cheese Cakes—Required: One tablespoonful of rennet; one quart of new milk; four ounces of butter; four ounces of sugar; a little nutmeg; two Naples biscuits; one ounce of almonds; two teaspoonfuls of rose water; six ounces of currants; yolks of four eggs; one white of egg; short pastry. Put the rennet into the milk and set near the fire to get quite warm. Break the curd with the hand and drain through a coarse sieve. Put into this the butter, sugar, a little nutmeg, the biscuits, almonds beaten up with the rose wattr, six ounces of currants and the yolks of four eggs, and the white of one. Line patty pans with pastry, half fill with this mixture; put candied peel on the top and bake until set, in a quick oven.

Sultana Cake—Required: Three-quarters of a pound of flour; heaped teaspoonful of baking powder; five ounces of butter; five ounces of castor sugar; tablespoonful of brandy; mixed spice; half a pound of picked sultana as; two ounces of chopped peel; three eggs. Dry the flour thoroughly and then pass it through a sieve with the baking powder and a pinch of salt. Beat together the butter and castor sugar. A teaspoonful of brandy, in which some mixed spice is stirred. Into the bowl put the washed and picked sultanas and the chopped candied peel. By degrees work in the eggs to the butter and sugar. Then the dry ingredients very slowly. Beat the whole for five minutes. Place in a carefully greased tin and bake steadily. Cover with almond paste and ice if desired, or serve with sugar scattered over.

Paint stains on floors may be removed by putting a little drop of benzine on them, letting it dry, and then rubbing the stain with emery paper or powdered pumice stone on a damp cloth.

To clean chased brass trays—Wash the tray with soap and hot water and dry it thoroughly. Cut a lemon in half and with it rub the brass until clean. Then rinse in warm water, dry and polish with a wash leather. The same treatment is right for brass bowls and other ornaments which are now so very popular with artistic folks.

Turpentine should be added to starch. A few drops of turpentine added to cold starch or boiled starch will give an excellent gloss to the linen and will prevent it from sticking to the iron.