

hints and prescriptions are well worthy the notice of those whose farms lie on similar subsoils, and who are farming under similar conditions. Still, it is the very essence of all experiments by which we ask questions of Nature, that her answers are, as a rule, at first, only intelligible locally. It takes time and variety of applications to elicit her positive assurance of the existence of any law.

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## Household Matters.

(CONDUCTED BY MRS. JENNER FURT).

### CUTTING OUT UNDER-CLOTHING.

The necessity that every young person should have a little knowledge how to do this, also some idea of the quantity of material to do so, was brought very forcibly to my mind the other day, on being asked by a young person, how many yards of calico it took to make a nightdress.

She had engaged a seamstress to make some who asked for 15 yards of calico for each two.

Now, this sounded rather a large supply, so I was asked to decide the question which I happened to be pretty well up in; so I could say at once, also show clearly, that there was a clear case of imposition on one who was not so well informed, and showed the seamstress would have a clear gain of 4 yards of calico, 5 yards and a half being ample to cut out any ordinary nightgown.

Take 5 1-2 yards of calico, 36 inches wide, tear off 2 lengths for the shirt which is, with yoke, one yard and a third, without yoke pleated up to the neck must be the depth of the yoke extra, which will be 1 1-2 yards. Now tear off the piece left, 12 inches, to form a gore at each side, which will give 24 extra inches to the nightgown at the bottom and must be cut to taper off, and not go higher than the armpit. This will give a wide skirt without too much bulk round the shoulders.

Take one of the long lengths and cut

down the very centre about 18 inches, on the left side face with a strip of one inch—this is the button-side—on the right side turn in a hem of one inch, which will be of course the button-hole-side as it laps over the left and makes a neat opening by stitching at the end across the bottom, buttons can be put on and button-holes made. At this stage, leave the last top one till the neck is cut out.

Now make just as many small tucks as liked, till the whole is tucked to within about one inch and a half of the selvage, as a little must be allowed to slope out the armhole nicely.

Tuck the back as well, but neither front nor back should be tucked below the bust, or there will be an uncomfortable drag; a half-inch strip of goods on the cross stitched at the end of tucks will give firmness.

Put back and front together on the outside, slightly slope down to the shoulder, open seam and cover with a small band stitched down to cover seam, cut out neck with a little more curve in front than behind, put on a one inch band, trim with lace or insertion round neck and down the front, a nice pair of sleeves with one inch band, slightly gather sleeve on the shoulder. Thus far we have disposed only of 4 yards and half of calico, and got a good nightdress out of it.

### DRAWERS.

A good pair of drawers can be made from two yards of calico, 36 inches wide; they are made about 3-4 of a yard long, as the prevailing fashion, is plenty of width, with deep frills of lace or insertion round the hem. Nobody likes much fullness round the waist, so they are shaped to fit nicely and do not give bulk where it is not wanted.

*How to cut out side-gore from the 12 inches.*

