DOYLE

h would have been the fate of
ranger, as of so many cavaliers
him, had Nigel not chanced to
se upon his heels. In an instant
ers had burst through the
who struck at the prostrate
and in another two of the rob-
had fallen before Nigel's sword.
ar rang on his breastplate, but
blow shore off its head, and a
d that of him who held it. In
hey thrust at the steel-girt man.
word played round them like
ing, and the fierce horse ramped
wooped above them with pawing
hod hoofs and eyes of fire. With
and shrieks they flew off to right
eft amidst the bushes, springing
boulders and darting under
hes where no horseman could
them. The foul crew had gone
piftly and suddenly as it had
and save for four ragged figures
d amongst the trampled bushes,
gn remaining of their passing.
el tethered Pommers to a thorn-
and then turned his attention to
jured man. The white horse had
ed his feet and stood whinnying
as he looked down on his pros-
master. A heavy blow, half
n by his sword, had beaten him
and left a great raw bruise upon
rehead. But a stream gurgled
gh the gorge, and a capful of
dashed over his face brought
nses back to the injured man. He
a mere stripling, with the deli-
eatures of a woman, and a pair
at violet-blue eyes which looked
esently with a puzzled start into
s face.

o are you?" he asked. "Ah,
call you to mind. You are the
Englishman who chased me on
reat yellow horse. By our Lady
ocamadour, whose vernicle is
my neck! I could not have be-
that any horse could have kept
heels of Charlemagne so long.
will wager you a hundred
s, Englishman, that I lead you
a five-mile course."

y," said Nigel, "we will wait till
an back a horse ere we talk of
it. I am Nigel of Tilford, of the
of Loring, a squire by rank and
on of a knight. How are you
young sir?"

lso am a squire by rank and the
a knight. I am Raoul de la
Pierre de Bras, whose father
himself Lord of Grosbois, a
vasor of the noble Count of
se, with the right of fossa and
ca, the high justice, the middle
e low." He sat up and rubbed
s. "Englishman, you have saved
e as I would have saved yours.
been such yelping dogs set upon
of blood and of coat-armor. But
am yours, and what is your
will."

en you are fit to ride, you will
back with me to my people."

s! I feared that you would say
ad I taken you, Nigel—that is
name, is it not?—had I taken
would not have acted thus."

r then, would you have ordered
" asked Nigel, much taken
the frank and debonair manner
captive.

ould not have taken advantage
a mischance as has befallen
hich has put me in your power.
d give you a sword and beat you
fight, so that I might send you
e greeting to my dear lady and
nor the deeds which I do for her
ake."

eed, your words are both good
air," said Nigel. "By Saint Paul!
hot call to mind that I have ever
man who bore himself better.
nce I am in my armor and you
ut, I see not how we can debate
hatter."

rely, gentle Nigel, you could doff
armor."

n have I only my underclothes."
y, there shall be no unfairness
for I also will very gladly strip
underclothes."

el looked wistfully at the
hman; but he shook his head.
it may not be," said he. "The
ords that Sir Robert said to me
that I was to bring you to his
for he would have speech with
Would that I could do what you
for I also have a fair lady
om I would fain send you. What
e you to me, Raoul, since I have
no honor in the taking of you?
is it with you now?"

(To be continued.)

's Dictum

e and white dimity trimmed
in one piece with the dress
s ties are of the striped
green linen with collar and
e tabs which turn over are of

Feminine Fancies and Home Circle Chat

Water as a Beautifier

This is the season of the year when your great-grandmother brought out the bottle of sulphur and molasses. All sorts of bitter nostrums were the accompaniment of first spring days. The spring doctor's bill was almost inevitable. Druggists did a brisk business from the moment that March went out like a lamb, and "spring fever" made itself felt.

Today the up-to-date girl fights spring fever and kindred ills with water, cheapest and safest of all remedies. She uses it plain in the form of baths, external and internal, and mixed with some mild home remedy, to fight various small ailments.

Here is a water cure admirably fitted to the slim girl who needs building up. The few exercises which accompany the baths will reduce the waist measurement and increase bust and chest, and incidentally improve the carriage.

The first thing on rising in the morning she drinks a glassful of cold water. This is not taken fast, but with deliberation.

Next comes her bath. If accustomed to the cold plunge, she takes one quick dip in the cold water and is ready for her rubdown. If not inured to this heroic treatment, it is safer for her to enter the tub with the water tepid or even comfortably warm, gradually cooling it off until she realizes that it is as cold as she can stand it. The girl who is really ambitious to secure results from the water regimen will not go down before a few chilly sensations, and may depend upon her feelings in deciding upon the temperature she can stand. No one—not even an experienced physician—can determine the amount of endurance against cold or heat, but nature will cry "Enough!" This graduated bath should take at least eight minutes, and in time the patient will find herself ready for the cold plunge.

Where the use of a bathroom cannot be secured every day—and many young women who board face just this proposition—let her invest in a heavy bath mat, made from Turkish toweling and, standing on this, take a quick sponge.

After the bath and rubdown, there may still remain chilly sensations. The natural tendency is to dress as rapidly as possible, but the real water cure girl is now ready for her first exercise, which employs the towel with which she has been rubbing down. Grasp the towel, drawn taut like a rope, in both hands. Raise it over the head, and drop it behind the neck, with the hands as close together as possible. Throw back the head, hold the body straight, and see-saw the towel from right to left, keeping the arms stiff, and breathing deeply. At first it will require much effort to keep the head erect and the hands close together, but the result of perseverance will be a supple waist, *straight shoulders, flesh on the shoulder blades* and a more erect carriage.

Next, slip the hands out to the ends of the towel, or if the towel is very long, as far as the hands can be stretched and still have a solid grip. Then stand on tip-toe and, breathing deeply, swing the arms, which must not bend at the elbow, in a see-saw motion from right to left.

Third, lie flat on the floor, face downward. Bend the knees so that the feet are up in the air. Taking the towel in either hand, fling it back, so that it catches around the ankles. The head and feet are now in the air, the arms and the legs turned backward, and the body forming a fair representation of a cradle, with the abdomen resting on the floor. Now rock back and forth gently, with the abdomen as the base of the movement. One or two motions will suffice for the initial trial, and the worker should relax completely before trying it again. This stretches the muscles, and increases the height, but it must be practiced with discretion, and the patient should not exhaust herself.

If there exists the slightest tendency to catarrh, she is now ready to treat her nostrils and throat with water from which the chill has been removed. If the tendency is not pronounced she uses pure water or salt and water. If she is suffering from chronic catarrh or an acute attack, she uses a soothing disinfectant in the proportions of one teaspoonful of the disinfectant to one cup of water. The atomizer or syringe is no longer used in flushing the throat and nose, but there comes a small glass nasal douche which can be purchased from any druggist, that is safer and more effective than the old-fashioned instrument. A small air-chamber presses out the water, when the douche is applied to the nostrils, and there is no sudden shock to the delicate membrane of the nose and throat, but a gentle flushing.

And now the patient is ready for her second glass of cold water, which she drinks while dressing. At intervals during the rest of the day she will drink six more glasses of water, making eight in all.

—Katherine Morton.

Novelties in Handkerchiefs

The subject of handkerchiefs is an unusually interesting one this season. Here, as in every other accessory of woman's costuming, novelty presents itself in the most fascinating guises.

It is the colored handkerchief, strange as it may seem, which claims first place; and this too, with the smartest dressers. The old prejudice against the handkerchief carrying even the slightest suggestion of color has been entirely forgotten, and by those, too, whose exclusive tastes permitted in the old days the selection of only the neatest hemstitched and most unobtrusive embroidered pure white affairs.

These new affairs are absolutely irresistible in their dainty colorings and designs. The linen is of the finest, and the designs the most artistic. The Japanese tendency which dominates the costume world is traceable in many of the best designs.

The majority of these handkerchief novelties have a narrow colored hem in pink, blue, green or yellow, in the palest tint. Some show border effects in conventionized flower designs, the flower centres a bit of delicate hand embroidery executed in finest cotton or linen threads. Clusters of tiny diamonds, polka-dots and squares in one or two colors alternate inside of the colored hem, with embroidery dots usually in white, though sometimes in color. Then there are the plaid handkerchiefs, with and without a plain-colored hem. These are more often in two-tone effects, and show a bit of fine handwork in a corner design in the form of a tiny flower spray in the place of the initial.

Initial handkerchiefs, by the way, are still good style, but they come only in the plain whites, and not in novelty colored affairs.

Some very pretty patterns show the colored printings in corner and border design, embroidered over with tiny dots, and naturally the more embroidery these handkerchiefs carry the higher they are marked in price.

Another novelty shown among the most exclusive patterns has the daintiest finish imaginable in the form of a very narrow lace edge, handmade lace, by the way. These, of course, are more or less expensive, but the clever and ingenious girl may buy the plain handkerchiefs and set on the lace herself with very gratifying results, both as to effect and price.

Polka-dots are well represented, doubtless because of the prominence given this design in dress fabrics this season.

Checks also are not without favor, so the summer girl will find little difficulty in matching her dainty frocks with handkerchiefs, complementing them in both color and design.

For the Busy Housewife

Roll sausages in flour before frying. It will prevent breaking and also improve the flavor.

Wash over the undercrust of a pie with the white of an egg, not beaten to prevent its being soggy.

Salt toughens meat if added before it commences to cook.

Several thicknesses of newspaper laid between the bed spring and mattresses are equal in warmth to another mattress.

Never beat or stir cereals or rice with a spoon. It makes them pasty. Use a plated silver fork.

For mixing flour and water use a fork or egg beater to make it smooth and free from lumps.

A little flour, if spread over the tops of cakes before they are iced, will prevent the icing from running off the cake.

Pecan and English walnuts chopped and halved and laid over the top of a pumpkin pie just before it goes into the oven makes fine seasoning.

Seen in the Shops

Trimmings of linen on tailored cloth costumes are a feature of some of the smartest models from abroad. The natural color linen in a rather coarse weave is most often used. Paquin shows a splendid example of this novelty trimming in a natty blue serge costume, the kimona sleeves of which are finished with a plain linen, while the fronts are faced with the same material in a pink and white candy stripe. Add to the jacket smart touches of black and gold braid and brass buttons, and the result is an effective combination of colors.

The coral faddist will add one more piece of jewelry in the latest novelties to add to her collection. This is the coral horseshoe to be worn with the stiff embroidered collar and the smart lingerie tie or bow which fashion so highly approves this season.

Lingerie hats of dyed laces, pale pinks, blue, greens and yellow, to match other accessories of the dainty summer frock, such as the colored silk slip, the ribbon girdle or gloves, are classed as a novelty in the millinery department.

Ostrich feathers treated so as to resemble long sprays of grasses are a new and novel trimming on many of the dressy summer hats. These are especially beautiful in white and light colors, as are also the large feather centred velvet roses, which bank the crowns of some pretty mushroom shapes.

Colored Hosiery in plain and novelty effects is displayed conspicuously in all of the smartest metropolitan shops. Among these are some smart checked designs for wear with the jumper frock of checked gingham or silk. Black shoes will naturally accompany such hosiery, for where a colored shoe is worn the hose match the shoe.

A pocketbook to delight the heart of the fair autoist is a vanity bag of goodly size, equipped with the necessary toilet accessories, on the top side of which is a mount in silver or gilt taking the form of a touring car, in the front seat of which is seated the chauffeur, who, to all appearance, is trying his level best to break all previous records.

Matching purse and belt are new and attractive novelties in the leather goods department. Sometimes the belt is wide and again it is narrow, but it invariably fastens with a harness buckle, and the bags or small hand purses are of the plainest mold, and in keeping with the severity of the tailored frock with which they are worn.

The secret of the grace with which those wide velvet ribbons bow themselves on broad crowns, and drape in streamer fashion down the back of the summer chapeaux is the new backing of a soft chiffon taffeta, which makes these ribbons as soft and capable of artistic arrangement as their taffetas and satin neighbors.

Neck ruches of finely pleated lace two inches in width, finish the collars of many of the newest frocks. Sometimes this ruche extends around the back half of the collar only, this being more becoming to some faces than that which encircles the neck.

A pretty neckdressing which has come to take the place of the Elizabethan ruff is a scarf of coarse crossbar net bordered with a double fringe of chenille in self-color. These scarfs are about a yard in width and from two to four yards long. The longer ones are wound twice around the neck very careless, one end dropping to the waistline, while the other falls almost to the skirt hem.

Outing sets of scarfpin and cufflinks are novelties at the jewelry counter in a Broadway shop. They are intended for wear with those natty tailored waists collared with a trig ascot tie.

Jam pots of white and delicately tinted glass, usually red, set in silver filigree holders, are a nuance in table furnishings. They are round in shape, about four inches in height, and the holder has three tiny feet and a convenient handle.

Dressy Lingerie Gowns

"April showers bring May flowers"—and summer frocks, too; and how many of us will be prepared for summer when it really does come. Those of us who journeyed southward in the early weeks of the year, escaping the delayed and the more unwelcome rigors of the late winter need but the cleaner's services to freshen the wardrobe which has paraded itself on the broad piazzas of the fashionable hotels and along the flower-scented paths which make for much of the charm of life in the sunny Southland.

But the stay-at-homes—those are the girls this scribe aims to help in the selection of an appropriate summer wardrobe. And, by the way, girls, don't put it off another day. Didn't you make some such a remark last year, "Summer will never catch me unprepared again?" And, if you will start right in now, you will be.

The all-important Easter bonnet and Easter frock are things of the past, so far as your worries, doubts and fears as to their success are concerned. That which should claim your attention now are those summer frocks—principally the lingerie frocks intended for dressy wear. The variety of new and fetching effects in this class of costuming is legion, but it should be noted that the novelty is more in the development than in any newness of materials. All the old favorites, French and Persian lawns, batistes, mulls, swisses and numerous other soft and beautiful materials, are made use of, in company with an almost endless yardage of fine laces and exquisite embroideries.

The princess mode lends itself readily to these fabrics, and is to be found in many delightful variations, cleverly modified to suit the different figure types. The jumper or pinafore model is also successfully expressed in many instances, these however, employing the heavier linens in their making.

Paris is not making many lingerie frocks of essentially lingerie materials this season; but, despite this fact, we on this side of the water go merrily on creating new and beautiful effects for our American girls, with a confidence born of the simple beauty and becomingness of these creations.

Returning dressmakers from their annual trips abroad bring back the tidings that Paris is expressing the lingerie frock in net this season, and colored net, at that. Plain, fine, soft net finds first favor, though some very pretty dresses of figured and dotted net are shown by high-class couturiers.

The patterned nets run more to polka dots than floral designs. As a matter of fact, these latter are rarely seen nowadays. In the dotted nets, as in the soft summer silks and mulls, the dots are frequently arranged quite close together and in rows without alternating the dots, as is usually the case, this giving the effect of stripes and checks.

A rather novel feature in point of development in the new lingerie frocks is a robe skirt of French batiste inset with Valenciennes entre deux and finished with a deep foot flounce of blind and English eyelet embroidery joined to a waist made entirely of lace insertions, each joining frilled with a narrow lace edging. Embroidery medallions outline the round yoke, a similar effect being repeated in the wide lace belt, shaped so as to form a shallow yoke to the skirt, giving the dress its title—"a baby princess."

The heavier linens, in full and half bleach pale blue, green, yellow and pink, find their best use in smart jumper frocks and those two-piece suits of coat and skirt formation. In these the skirts are either circular or plainly gored, so as to admit of trimming, except those severely tailored pleated models which accompany a smart box or cutaway coat, following the lines of the serge or novelty suiting walking costume.

A distinctly new feature in washable frocks is the extensive use of cotton and linen soutache braiding. This is so marked as to seem almost an epidemic. We have seen the steadily increasing use of silk soutache on broadcloth, then on silks and even on chiffons, but all this hardly prepared us for the veritable crazes for the braid on everything from thin mulls to heavy figures.

Quite the most novel use of the braid is on English eyelet embroidery, the soutache applied to the wide embroidery bands so as to almost entirely cover the muslin. And then, if this is not novel enough in itself, use your band of heavily braided holes as an insertion in a thin mull frock. Surely sartorial wonders will never cease.

A fine white piqué imported by one of our fashionable dressmakers for her very most chic client (no well-conditioned dressmaker has customers nowadays—only clients—mind you) had a box-pleated skirt, with broad-braided at knee height. The coatee was loose and straight, with the inevitable Japanese sleeve and big armhole, and was one solid mass of soutache braiding.

So we may look to see the piazza workers turn from the shadow and eyelet embroidery of yesterday to the less trying and more effecting soutache braiding of today.

Dame Fashion's Dictum

A misses' suit of red, blue and black in the military style so popular at present, the suit being of navy blue with bright red cloth used for the vest and to trim the coat. The red on the coat is bordered by a band of black silk military braid, and crossed by black soutache. The cuffs and collar facings are black silk and the buttons of bright gilt.

Health and Beauty

In many cases a wonderful improvement in the complexion may be obtained by merely washing the face several times a day with the following lotion, leaving it on till it dries: Take half an ounce of glycerine, and mix with it half a pint of orange-flower water. To this add a tablespoonful of powdered borax.

To keep the hair fluffy and free from oil give it an egg shampoo every two weeks. The egg shampoo cannot possibly hurt the hair; the eggs contain sulphur and iron and act as a tonic and hair grower.

A liquid powder that will whiten the neck in effect, is made of one ounce of pure oxide of zinc, one dram of glycerine, four ounces of rose water, and fifteen drops of essence of roses. Dissolve the zinc in enough of the rose water to dissolve. Mingle the essence with the glycerine, adding the remainder of the rose water. Then combine the two mixtures. Apply with a piece of gauze, shaking before using.

New York Fashion Letter

New York, April 6.—Although most of the dressmakers and their clients seem satisfied with the present style of skirt there are rumors of the sheath skirt to be tried as an experiment, indeed, the designers are trying all sorts of experiments with the skirts and yet no mode has been so well adapted to all needs and has such style as the present models, but we all know that to let well enough alone is not good for trade. So far and probably for some time there will be radical change in cut and material—smoothly fitting at the hips, with a wide flare at the bottom is the characteristic mode of the spring skirt. The tendency is to pleat the back as well as the front now; the style of the two gores being almost identical. Just below the knees these pleats are released and help to make the fulness at the bottom. Until the close skirt does come, or some other invader, the graceful flowing skirts such as are worn now, will continue in vogue. A new idea developed from an old one, is the new polonaise effect, ending in deep points at the sides.

An imported tailormade just over from the other side is of checked tweed in dull periwinkle blue, heliotrope and just a touch of navy blue. The facings are of heliotrope, broadcloth and the only trimmings flat rosettes of the same cloth, each centered with a small tassle.

A few of our large and more select shops are showing a new material that Paris is said to have taken a great liking to; it is called Bengalinette, a silk surface material ribbed. It is brought out presumably as there is a demand for a material somewhat heavier than the chiffons, and this new goods seems to meet the requirements. It is to be had in all colors with pale green and old blue as leaders. Green is a color that is particularly well liked for second empire style, indeed green is a favorite color.

Jackets of cloth or of orange alone have the revers of the vest either stripped or checked, while the jackets in plaid or stripes are simply trimmed with bands of straps. One still sees long fitted jackets or coatcloth or with large revers and displaying various trimmings which may form a small vest or outline a short bolero. This is only good when the trimmings match in one tone the materials. It is necessary to renounce absolutely guady pipings or ideas for buttons of another shade, which slash disagreeably with the color schemes and always have a strimsonn appearance. The sleeves are main short, or half length, embroidered on the cuffs, some closed all round, others very much slashed. It is most unnecessary to add that the cuff trimmings should match that on the jacket; only the collar can be entirely different.

A novel bolero, combined the shoulder strap and kimono shaped sleeve effect, it was developed from almond green velvet, embroidered in green and gold and was intended for wear with an almond green crepe de chine gown. This jacket was made after one of the two pronounced fads in the cutting of coats—the cutting of the sleeves and body part in one piece, such as is done with the kimono; the second fad is the emphasis put upon the armhole as described above.

In face, outside of the truly tailormade wraps and fancy coats are very whimsical, fussy, coquettish and too much betrimmed to the last degree. Any woman who wishes to wear such wraps should first study her figure and style or be one of the eyesores one is seeking every day just because of this lack of thought. Thre are a number of women who should never attempt the fancy or much trimmed styles, they look their best when gowned in the tailormade or plain dressy gown; the dressy does not mean over trimmed.

CATHERINE MANN-PAYZANT

Household Recipes

Apple Pie

After lining a plate with pie paste, put in a small cup of sugar, two heaping teaspoonful flour, a little salt, a teaspoonful of caraway seed—or any spice preferred. Mix these ingredients lightly with the fingers, and spread all over bottom of plate. Add a few dots of butter, and fill plate with sliced apple, over which pour a little molasses, and cover with top crust. Bake slowly for an hour or more, and you will have a delicious pie.

To Fry Eggs Without Turning

Just before lifting the eggs from the frying pan, dash in a little hot water and cover with a tin lid. The steam generates from the water and will nicely cook the eggs on top and make them white, soft and fluffy.

Egg-O-See Cookies.

One egg, one cup sugar, onehalf cup lard, one-half cup sweet milk, one teaspoon cassia, one saltspoon salt, one teaspoonful soda, one cup chopped raisins, two cups sifted flour, two and one-half cups Egg-O-See. Drop by teaspoonful on to greased tin and bake in medium oven.

Rolled Oats Cookies.

One cup of granulated sugar, one cup of butter and lard mixed, two eggs, one teaspoonful of soda dissolved in a little hot water, two cups "rolled oats," two cups flour, one cup chopped raisins. Add nuts if you wish.

To Cure Hams and Shoulders

To one hundred pounds of meat, two quarts of fine salt, three ounces saltpetre, five ounces granulated sugar, half-pint molasses. Take all of these ingredients and put them in a wooden vessel; mix thoroughly with the hands until the product looks like a very light brown sugar. Have a board or table and sprinkle lightly with coarse salt. Take each piece of meat and rub well on both sides with the prepared mixture, rubbing well into the joint. Lay skin down on the board and sprinkle with salt. This will use a little more than one-third of the mixture. Save the remainder, and rub meat again in seven days. And in seven more days repeat the process, making three rubbings in all. When the salt is all absorbed, meat is ready to hang up to dry.

Economical Soup

Put into a saucepan one-pound pieces of stale bread, three large onions sliced, a small cabbage cut fine, a carrot and turnip and a small head of celery or the remains of any cold vegetables, a tablespoonful of salt, a teaspoonful of pepper, a bunch of parsley, a sprig of marjoram and thyme, a bay leaf and a half a clove of garlic. Put these into three quarts of any weak stock (the liquor in which mutton has been boiled will do) and let them boil for two hours rub through a fine hair sieve, add a pint of new milk, boil up and serve at once.

Bean Soup

Soak one cup of dried beans over night in cold water to core; in the morning put them in three quarts of cold water with a thick slice of salt pork; cover the kettle and let simmer until they are tender; rub them through a fine strainer into a bowl; put this pulp and the water which the beans were boiled in over the fire; cook two level tablespoons of flour together and stir into the boiling soup, stirring until it thickens, and when it boils add one tablespoon of salt, a little pepper and one teaspoonful of sugar; let boil five minutes; if too thick add boiling water; serve with croutons.

Puree of Lentils.

Two quarts of stock broth, one quart milk, one quart of lentils, two onions, one head of celery, a little grated nutmeg, two ounces of butter and a little roux. Wash well and pick the lentils, then place them in a stewpan with two quarts stock broth and some seasoning. Let them simmer gently into a pulp, then add the milk. Cut up the onions and celery into small pieces, place them in a stewpan with two ounces butter and fry them a light brown. When sufficiently cooked add them to the lentils in the stock broth, boil together 20 minutes, then add a little roux and a little grated nutmeg; let simmer one-half hour and strain through a fine hair sieve, bring to a boil and serve.

Cream of Carrot Soup.

Wash and scrub three medium-sized carrots, slice them thinly; put them in a saucepan with one cup of water, one tablespoonful of butter, one slice of onion and a small bay leaf; cover closely; let simmer until tender; rub through a strainer, reserving the water in which the carrots were cooked; add the strained carrots and the hot water together; return it to the fire; if thick add one cup of hot water; put one and one-half tablespoonfuls of butter in a small pan; when hot add the same amount of flour and stir until smooth; add this to the carrot mixture, stirring constantly until it is thickened; add to this one tablespoonful of salt; one cup milk and one-half cup of cream; all milk may be used, but the soup is richer with the cream.

Cooking Asparagus

Boiled Asparagus, English Style

Cut off an inch from the lower part of the stalk and scrape them from end to end with a sharp knife, taking off the thin outer skin alone, without bruising the rest. All the stalks must be of equal length. Bind them into a bunch and set upright in a saucepan of boiling water slightly salted, just deep enough to leave over an inch of the tips out of water. Lay clean stones about the base of the stalks to prevent them from tipping over. Fit a close cover on the stucepan to keep in the steam, and after you feel that the boil has begun, cook 20 minutes.

Take up the asparagus, drain off all the water, untie the threads and lay the stalks alternately tip to base on a hot dish. Cover with a good drawn butter and serve.

This might be called a "steamed" rather than boiled asparagus, the distinctive feature of the process being that the tips are steamed and thus left plumper and less sodden than if immersed with the stalks in the boiling water. If the asparagus be withered and stale, cook for 25 minutes.

Baked Asparagus, Italian Style

Cut the stalks short, as directed in the last recipe, and cook tender in salted boiling water. Drain and cover the bottom of a buttered bake dish with a layer, arranging in alternate rows of tips to the ends of the stalks. Have ready this sauce: Drawn butter, based upon a cup of hot milk thickened with a roux of a tablespoonful of flour cooked smooth with a scant tablespoonful of butter; the yolks of two eggs beaten light and two heaping tablespoonfuls of Parmesan cheese. Cover the layer of asparagus with this, dust lightly with cayenne, put in the rest of the asparagus, arranged as before; pour the remainder of the sauce on this and sift the crums that have been dried in the oven on the top of all. Bake, covered, for 10 minutes, then brown delicately.

This is a savory entree and much liked by those who have eaten it in Italy. Parmesan cheese must be used in the manufacture; no other kind will give the right flavor.

With a cake cutter cut rounds of stale French bread an inch and a half thick. With a cutter a size smaller mark a circle in the centre of each round to the depth of an inch. Carefully take out the crumb defined by this circle, leaving a well-rounded well, with a thin layer of bread at the bottom. Fry these to a light, even brown in salted fat, and fill with the following mixture:

For filling, cook the tips of a bunch of asparagus tender in water to which you have added a little salt and a teaspoonful of butter. Drain, pepper; mix with a rich drawn butter; return to the fire, and when it simmers stir into it (carefully, not to break the tips) a beaten egg. Simmer for a minute; arrange the hot "cups" on a heated platter and fill them with the mixture.

Serve very hot. You may improve the entree by sifting Parmesan cheese over the filled cups and setting in the oven for a minute. It is very good prepared either way.

A Scallop of Asparagus

Leave but an inch of the stalk below the tender part of the tips. Cook tender in boiling water, salted, adding a bit of butter at the end of 10 minutes. Drain and dispose a layer in a well buttered bakedish. Have ready six eggs boiled hard. Rub the yolks to powder, season with pepper and salt and strew thickly over the aspargus. Dot with butter and put in the rest of the asparagus. Pour over the top a cupful of milk heated to scalding, then thicken with a roux made by stirring together in a pan over the fire a great spoonful of butter with a tablespoonful of flour. Cover this sauce with very thin dry crumbs, stick bits of butter in it, pepper and sift Parmesan cheese over all. Bake for 15 minutes, covered, in a brisk oven, then uncover and brown lightly.

Needlework Notes

To keep ribbon from turning white running it through beading do not remove the ribbon runner from the beading until the last opening is reached.

Needles should never be kept in flannel-lined needle books, as sulphur often enters into the composition of this material. Sulphur invariably rusts the needles in time.

Metal eyes which protrude beyond the edge of the material where a hook and eye fastening is employed, should always be carefully and neatly covered with button-hole stitching.

Bent pieces of whalebone can be strengthened by being placed in cold water for two or three hours. This will make the pliable. They should then be pressed under a heavy weight.

Bolero jackets for spring wear are already being worn at night over lingeric and silk waists, and are made in natty styles that are particularly effective for young girls and matrons. Some of these jackets, are of lace, while others are of linen with hand-embroidered designs down the front, in the back and on the sleeves. The latter are large and flare at the elbow and are three-quarters length.

No housekeeper ever has enough pillows, consequently she is ever on the alert for new ideas for them. One that is particularly striking and up to date is of heavy crash in a deep shade of tan. This is stamped in five large conventionalized flowers of six petals each, three broad and three long and narrow. There is a flower in each corner, with the fifth in the centre. These figures are outlined in point-lace braid, in double scrolls, the second about a half inch in from the edge, but following its general outline. The centre of each petal is embroidered with a heavy silk the dull gray blues, the broad petals being worked in honeycomb stitch and the narrow filled in with French knots. The flowers are connected by an irregular vine-like pattern, done in deep tier stitching in two shades of dark blue. The pillow is finished with a heavy white cotton cord, with a tassel at each corner.

Every mother knows how a baby protests against the putting on of mittens and legging, and how tiresome the operation is for mother, nurse, or elder sister. Here is an experiment which proved useful. Buy two yards of white elderdown flannel. Fold one yard length on to the other and stitch the long edges. This forms a bag-like article, with the mouth open. Find the centre of this mouth and hollow a small round neck back and front, just large enough for baby's throat. Then stitch the remaining edges on either side of the neck. Cut a placket at the back of the neck, large enough for the garment to slip easily over the baby's head. Finish the neck and placket with a white silk or satin binding and make two good-sized buttonholes in the placket lap. Here you have a warm, bag-like coat with hands and feet protected, close and warm about the neck, with no strings to annoy the baby. Nothing could be warmer than this little garment, and it is invaluable in travelling with a young child.

Care of the Eyes

If the eyes receive the care that they should, they will be clear and bright. If they are perfectly healthy, it is not necessary to bathe them continually.

It is essential to keep all strain from the eyes. Many women's eyes suffer much strain from fancy work. Women who are devoted to this sort of "amusement" should work in a good light.

As much care as possible should be taken to protect the eyes from a glare contriving always to have the bright light fall on the work.

When writing let the light fall over the left shoulder, for it is a well-known fact that the pen or pencil casting a shadow on the paper strains the eyes.

Do not lie down to read. This is most injurious. The correct position and arrangement of light is never obtained when reading while lying down. This practice tends to cause headaches, and if the evil result is not noticable at first it will tell on the eyes sooner or later.

Do not look out at the window while on a rapidly moving train. Reading when the train is in motion is not good, but it is less harmful than looking at the panoramic scenery.

If your eyes are weak, veils should not be worn at all. A prominent oculist has said that "every dot on a woman's veil is a dollar in his pocket."

Jeweled Buttons

The jeweled buttons that are being used this spring are costly in the extreme and are not now sold by the dozen or half dozen. Some of these buttons are mounted in delicately wrought gold or silver and set with precious stones, and they are often made to order from specially prepared designs.

Aquamarines, amethysts, garnets and turquoise matrix are favorites for elaborate buttons, while the different colorings of sapphires are used by the few who order regardless of price. Coral and malchite also lend themselves to such uses.

Such buttons are never sewn on a garment but fasten in with a gold button ring, a screw or a tiny gold safety pin, so that the change to another garment is the matter of but a moment.

Nothing harmonizes so well with the fashionable Bordeaux shades the the amethyst, and for this reason there is a great demand for this stone.

Malachite set in antique silver makes an ideal button for a blue and green, while the turquoise matrix is adapted for all sorts of blues and grays.

There is nothing better than massaging with cocoa butter for rough skin of the body.

If the service of a professional manicurist are enlisted frequently for the child who bites her finger nails the habit will soon be broken. The trouble is usually brittle nails, that are continually developing jagged edges. Such nails should be kept short.