

## House and Household.

### THINGS WORTH KNOWING.

That in putting away gowns and coats the sleeves should be filled with crushed tissue paper.

That the closets and trunks in which clothing is to be packed away should be cleaned and aired.

To make ice last as long as possible wrap it in newspapers before putting it in the refrigerator.

A gas jet burning low quickly impoverishes the air of a sick room. Sperm candles are preferable.

That alcoves and recesses for beds are abominable. There cannot be proper ventilation to keep the mattresses sweet.

That ammonia used in hair wash not only pales the hair and dulls the color, making it lustreless, but also renders it brittle and rough.

That for slight cuts and abrasions of the skin nothing is better than glycerine, into which a few drops of carbolic acid have been poured.

That as far as possible sleeping rooms should be selected that are daily purified by the sun's rays. Fresh air is all right, but it needs to be supplemented by sunlight.

To take grease stains out of leather use the white of a fresh egg, and apply a small quantity of it to the stain. Dry it in the sun. Repeat the process until the grease is removed.

That while a tea gown is a pretty and appropriate costume to wear while receiving afternoon callers in an informal fashion, the tea jacket for such a purpose is quite out of place.

That light undressed kid gloves, if not too badly soiled, may be cleaned by preparing a generous quantity of cracker crumbs, buttoning the gloves on the hands and rubbing thoroughly with the crumbs.

### USEFUL RECIPES:

#### THE BEST EYE-OPENER.

A pint of hot water with a squeeze of lemon or grape juice in it is the best eye-opener, the cheapest cock-tail, the finest breakfast appetizer and the most harmless to the list of morning drinks. It will not cure a bad stomach, liver or complexion at once, but it may in time. Illness develops by degrees; remedies operate the same way.

#### THE PEANUT A BLESSING.

The peanut is said to rank in its composition with dried beef, as it has much the same nutritive value as flesh of the ox. The attention of European scientists is said to have been drawn to it, not only for its value as food for animals, but for the purpose of adding to the list of articles available that it will take high rank as an addition to the rations for armies and navies.

#### THE SECRET OF WHITE BREAD.

I sat one morning in the bright clean kitchen of a lumber camp, watching the cook make bread. After kneading the bread he took enough for a loaf and drew it out again and again, rolling it up each time as we would puff paste. Then he set it aside to rise, repeating the process before putting it into the pans. This he said was the secret of white flaky bread.

#### FASHION AND FANCY.

Braiding still appears on many smart cloth gowns. Green velvet braided in black and used to trim a blue cloth dress is only one of the fashionable tri-colored combinations in this sort of trimming.

Black and Lincoln green is a favorite combination of the season that has about it an especial dash and style. An appropriate trimming for a gown of this scheme is jet passementerie studded with emeralds in the new jewelled effects.

The new godet pleats for sleeves give to those already mammoth affairs an added touch of amplitude. The pleats stand out in three straight loops from the shoulder, their size being in many cases only limited by ability to buy material.

A lovely dinner gown in the touse of white satin.

cade, with a bodice of white accordion-plaited chiffon, trimmed with white crystal palette embroidery and a sash of bright rose-colored watered silk. A tea gown in the same trousseau was of white cashmere trimmed with rose velvet.

Buttons have taken inches, and, it may be added, dollars, too. Six or eight large buttons trim a bodice, four being used in front, two set on the semi-postilion back, and often two more in the scarf or hand which finishes the wrists. These buttons come in sets, some of them exquisitely painted by hand, in Dresden effect, others richly jewelled, all costly.

Black velvet shoes with tiny paste buckles are worn with black velvet gowns. A feature of London shoes is the broguing, which is holes punched in the leather in a pattern. This season a color to match or harmonize with a costume is introduced under the broguing. White shoes for dress wear are being made in a white and silver brocade on the supposition that the pattern of the brocade breaks the unbecoming whiteness of plain kid or satin.

### ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH.

The organist of St. Anthony's, Miss Donovan, is indisposed and will probably be unable to preside at Midnight Mass to night. In that case Mr. Maurice Reyner will take her place.

The children of St. Anthony's Catechism class were very happy yesterday in possession of their Christmas prizes. The last term has been a very successful one and the children have made good progress.

The net sum realized at the five o'clock tea recently given by the ladies of St. Anthony's Church was \$604.

### LECTURE BY MR. HALLEY.

There was a good attendance at the lecture delivered in St. Anthony's Hall on Tuesday last, Dec. 18 Mr. E. Halley, the lecturer, handled the subject, "A Tour in Ireland" very cleverly and the pleasure of the entertainment was much

increased by the splendid stereopticon views managed by Mr. J. Halley. During the progress of the lecture, songs appropriate to the subject illustrated were sung by the following gentlemen: Messrs J. M. Ryan, C. J. Hamlin and A. M. Rice. A recitation was given by Mr. J. Doyle.

[Written for THE TRUE WITNESS.]

### THE HOLY BABE OF BETHLEHEM.

Though countless stories have been told,  
And myriad anthems written, sung,  
Of how Our Lord in days of old,  
A child, His children came among,  
The Christian student now, always  
Will never tire of hearing them,  
Nor of bold Herod's plot to slay  
The Holy Babe of Bethlehem.

O wondrous tale! our heart it thrills,  
As we recall that blessed night,  
When o'er Judea's lonesome hills  
The mystic star shone out so bright  
Above the place where Mary kept  
Close vigil near her precious Gem,  
While He, her Son and Master, slept—  
The Holy Babe of Bethlehem.

O scene sublime! on Fancy's wings  
We backward go through time and space,  
To see once more the Kings of Kings  
And Man-made Saviour of our race;  
Reclining in His crib rude-wrought,  
A sovereign with no diadem,  
Whom from afar the Wise Men sought—  
The Holy Babe of Bethlehem.

We turn from this and swiftly glide  
Along the years to Calvary,  
Where, on the cross, He meekly died  
That erring mankind might be free.  
In awe we pause to contemplate  
This dreadful deed by sons of Shem,  
Who soon avenged in their own fate  
The Holy Babe of Bethlehem.

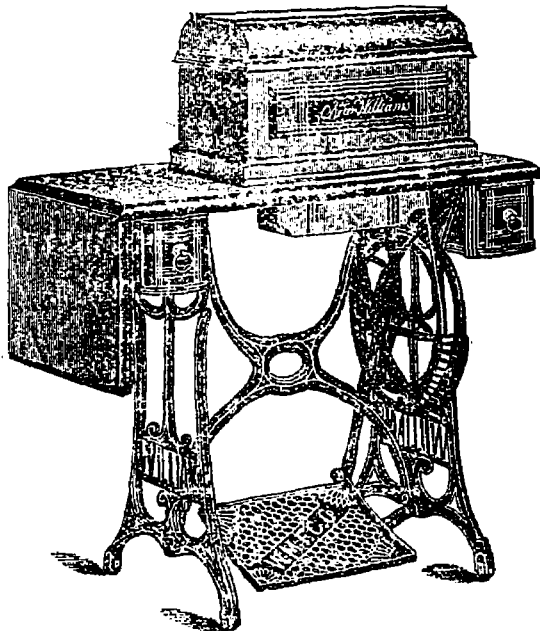
Our feeble minds in vain essay  
To fully grasp His act divine,  
And will till time has passed away  
And light eternal on us shine;  
How'er we try as best we can  
Sin's ever treacherous tide to stem,  
For love of Him who drew life's plan—  
The Holy Babe of Bethlehem.

We hear the Christmas bells again  
Ring out in joy for Jesus' birth,  
And "Peace on earth, good-will to men,"  
Is chanted round about the earth.  
Meanwhile we moulder to youthful whim  
Loved legends of Jerusalem,  
And pray to dwell at last with Him—  
The Holy Babe of Bethlehem.

ANON.

Music of the season—Sounds from the light catarrh.

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### SIR JOHN'S FUNERAL

ARRANGEMENTS BEING MADE IMPERIAL TROOPS TO TAKE PART.

A despatch from Halifax dated Saturday 8:38:—

Messrs. Caste and Dodwell waited on Gen. Moore to-day, and it has been decided that the body of the late Premier will be brought from the Benheim to the Ordnance wharf, where it will be received by a guard of honor of Imperial troops and placed on a gun-carriage, drawn by four horses, and accompanied by a military cortege will be taken to the provincial building, the streets being lined with Imperial troops.

The body will lie in state on New Year's day, and on Wednesday morning will be quietly removed to St. Mary's Cathedral. There will be a guard of honor at the church during the service, after which the body will be moved to the funeral car, the procession formed and proceed to the cemetery, via Pleasant, Inglis and South Park Streets, which will be lined with the militia and troops, and there will be a guard of honor from the regulars at the cemetery from the entrance to the grave.

R. P. Greenwood has designed the funeral car, which is to be built here, and, if the design is carried out, will be a magnificent affair. The car itself will be draped in black velvet, trimmed with silver fringe, from the upper portion of which will be suspended black tassels. The space for the coffin will be covered with black silk, with silver trimmings, surrounded by Corinthian festooning. Four Corinthian columns, with plants entwined, will support the canopy, which is to be of black silk, trimmed with black and silver cord, the base surrounded by pompoms, and the whole surmounted by a silver cross, with large pompoms at either side.