

## HOUSEHOLD.

## A Test of Good Breeding.

'I can always judge pretty accurately about the training of a child by the way in which it comes into the room, takes its seat and arranges its books,' remarked a teacher, whose long experience gave her opinion great weight. 'Observe that boy who is just coming in. He drags his feet, kicks against the matting, shambles against the desks and flings himself into his seat, banging his books and clattering his feet—not quite loud enough to receive a reprimand, although he knows he richly deserves it. That boy's home life is something to make the angels grieve. From his earliest years he has been kicked and banged about, literally that, blows and beatings, and more than once he has crept into a corner of the shed behind the house and wrapped himself in old blankets and carpet that he has concealed behind the wood pile and among some old boxes for this purpose. He has become sullen, stupid and slouching, and has more than once threatened to run away. He will unquestionably end his days in crime or degradation; for every bright and manly idea and inspiration has been warped and crushed out of his nature.'

'What a contrast to this lad who is just entering. A fine, frank, noble little fellow. He has the marks of a good and happy home life about him, and has evidently been trained by a careful and judicious method. He comes in gently and at a moderate pace, makes no noise, sits quietly down and places his books on the desk without noise. His face and manner command respect and it is plainly to be seen that he respects himself and his surroundings.'

'No one can overestimate the importance of good home training, and the women of to-day who fail to comprehend and appreciate the object and scope of this great work are woefully lacking in a proper sense of the appropriate sphere and mission of womanhood. To make a home and a good and beautiful one is unquestionably the highest ambition of every normal specimen of femininity in the whole human family. To have and preside over her own kingdom, to feel that she is the light and the life, the sun and the centre of a realm that she can mold and manage as she will, is something that appeals to all of the womanly instincts and ambitions.'

'And when, in addition to this, she gathers about her a little company of bright young faces, all her own to train and educate and mold into beautiful symmetrical and brilliant men and women, she has an added incentive and a grander aim. All learning, all wisdom, all achievement make her better able to train her family, more capable of ordering her home and more likely to do it judiciously than the woman who half knows a few things and dabbles in a few others in an amateurish and uncertain fashion. Knowledge gives the power to command and control, and happy is the woman who has wisdom and discretion and tact enough to acquire the solid information and the gift and grace to take on the ornament and purely decorative and make it like the morning glory, the woodbine and the eglantine—fit material wherewith to beautify a home.'—New York Ledger.

## Care of the Kitchen.

About the sink and range there is a great amount of strength wasted in many kitchens, despite the many labor-saving devices that are called into use.

One should reduce the work about sink and range to a minimum; leaning over a sink is not the easiest position to be had, but those who have large quantities of dishes to wash should think to bend from the hips, instead of curving the spine; this does not tire the back. Do not think of scraping away at sticky kettles when by using a little forethought you can clean them in a twinkling; that is, fill them with cold water as soon as emptied and set them upon the back of the range, where, while the dinner is being discussed, the scrapings will become loosened.

When cleaning the sink, sprinkle a little pearline about, pour on some boiling water, then use a stiff bristle brush, costing five cents. A few vigorous strokes, and all is clean; finish by pouring down some boiling water, which rinses it clean, and also serves

to dislodge any greasy accumulations in the spout and about the trap. It is a wise precaution to sift a little chloride of lime down the pipe every few days.

Do not laboriously polish the range every morning; once each week is sufficient with the daily washing off with a wet cloth, followed by a dry one; this will keep a range neat and shining as I have demonstrated by experience; of course, I do not mean the high lustre which results from patent blackening, but a good clean surface. It is better to put some of one's extra time in keeping the oven tank and tea-kettle clean.

An oven will get foul from dust, ashes and charred food, so that when the door is quickly opened the draught sends the unwholesome particles into your eyes or deposits them upon the custard pie or meringue covered dessert; wash the oven with suds once each week, grates and all. Your drinking water is filtered so you think the tea-kettle well kept by being simply emptied and refilled with fresh water; pass your finger-tips over the bottom of the inside; you will see a dark smooch upon them, caused by gradual accumulations; to prevent this wash it out often with strong suds; treat the tank in the same way.

The nickel exteriors may be kept brilliant without the aid of chamois and patent paste if you wash them in strong pearline suds, followed by a dry absorbent cloth. This economises in two ways, strength and paste, for these patent compounds count up rapidly.

A word about dish cloths; do not have stringy, discolored rags, when one may get crash as low as two cents a yard; one yard will make three; three yards, at a cost of six cents, will make enough to last a year; and a few minutes at the machine will hem them to prevent ravelling. I believe in a respectable dish cloth, and in keeping it in good condition, not hanging it under the sink wet to invite mould and microbes. Boil the cloths occasionally covering them with cold water and sifting in a little pearline; dry them in the sun or upon the hot water pipes back of the range, and they will never become unwholesome.—Mrs. J. W. Wheeler, in New York Observer.

## The Quiet Hour for Mother.

A mother may long to feed both heart and mind, but with the Christian the former takes precedence. After that she may do the best she can with culture of the mind. The quiet hour is necessary to any positive attainments in spiritual life. To recognize this fact and to long for such an hour—these are first steps in arranging it. Some are feebly wishing they could take time to meditate in the midst of busy days, but the unspeakable importance of such meditation has not taken firm grasp upon their minds. It is gain to the mother who comes from her bible, her book of devotion, her prayers, refreshed in spirit and cleared in vision. It is gain to the children who find mother more patient, wise and gentle. I have come to believe in a principle which applies also to the giving of one-tenth to the Lord. Nineteenths go as far afterward as the whole would have gone, even farther: So with the rest of the day, when a morning hour has been given to the Lord. More and better work can be done as the days pass.

There must always and everywhere be sacrifice of material things to secure the best spiritual results. So a mother's domestic and social life may have to be simplified and readjusted if she would have her 'quiet hour.' It is worth thinking over in a business-like way, in response to the question, 'How can I arrange my household work, my sewing, my reading with the children, my shopping, my calling and my benevolent duties, so as to be alone with God to-day for an hour?'

Perhaps the hour may sometimes need to be changed, perhaps it may not always extend to sixty minutes. Nevertheless, barring all hindrances, a quiet perseverance brings its reward. And one reward, quite outside of self, is to hear childish voices saying after a time, 'Mamma, I must have my little time alone.'—Mrs. C. H. Daniels, in 'Congregationalist.'

## Selfishness of Family Life.

Our gentlest and wisest philanthropist spoke sadly the other day, of the growing tendency of selfishness of family life. It appeared to her that the present tendency was to reduce the family to its lowest terms—father, mother, and children. One less immediately related was regarded as a pos-

sible cause of friction, an intruder not to be tolerated in that sacrosanct circle. Grandparents, old servants, poor relations, were to be pensioned off or sent to a home—most of them would prefer the county jail. Here they might bicker and nag each other and fret their hearts out without disturbing the comfort of smug papa, nervous mamma, or coddled children. A valuable discipline, what old-fashioned people used to call a veritable 'means of grace,' was thus lost. It was good for children to run a few errands to spare infirm old limbs, submit to some inconvenience, endure some harsh comment, have daily practice in respect for age, patience, pity, self-control. Good for adults, too.

In her own youth, she said, an old servant had shared the home, past work, perrickety, and domineering. Like most old people, Polly had 'ways' of her own, and hers were 'the waysiest ways,' the children were ever subjected to. All the small, useless treasures that children love, had to be smuggled into the house and concealed from Polly's stern eye. If Polly was left in charge during the absence of the parents, many a cherished privilege was cut off and the strictest discipline maintained. Naturally they had not loved her at the time; she had represented one of the disagreeables of life, like being kept in on a rainy Saturday, to be accepted and made the best of. Now, in maturer years, they looked back with positive affection upon her grim faithfulness, and they recognized that an element of friction might be an important one in the building of character.—Chicago Times-Herald.

## Selected Recipes.

Scotch Pudding.—One quart of stale bread crumbs, grated and seasoned with salt, pepper and powdered sage. Add one pint of minced boiled mutton, one well-beaten egg, one chopped onion and one pint of mutton broth. Bake in a hot oven until firm and browned upon the top. When cold, slice in thin slices. Beef or chicken soup may be used instead of the mutton, but the Scotch recipe calls for mutton.

Veal Fritters.—One cupful of minced veal, one cupful of milk, two eggs, salt, pepper, one teaspoonful of flour, and sufficient bread to absorb the milk lightly. Break bread and milk thoroughly by beating with a fork; stir in the well-beaten eggs and seasoning with the veal and flour. Drop by spoonfuls like pancakes, and fry in hot drippings, or equal parts of butter and lard.

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