

## HOUSEHOLD.

## Brothers and Sisters.

(Lily Rice Foxcroft, in the Boston 'Congregationalist'.)

Life is to be passed among our contemporaries, our own generation. If we cannot live happily and usefully with them, we cannot be happy and useful at all. A boy's conduct towards his mother is often spoken of as if it were an indication of what his conduct towards his wife would be. His conduct towards his sister is far more significant, for in age and strength and general outlook on life there is more correspondence. Almost as soon as he can toddle he can be taught to wait on his sister, to carry her bundles, to run errands for her, to proffer her all sorts of small courtesies, while she, in her turn, can do numberless little feminine offices for him.

Families differ very much in the extent to which the boys and girls share each other's play. Outside circumstances, of course, have their influence, but the mother's tact and insistence—'authority' is obsolete, but 'insistence' will perhaps be allowed us for a few years yet—can effect a good deal. For little girls, especially, the companionship of a brother who lures to out-of-door pleasures at the age when the doll-house is almost too fascinating is very wholesome. Later, when tennis and golf, and croquet again, and wheeling, are inducements enough in themselves, mamma can see her girls set forth with a much lighter heart if their brother goes with them. In the choice of friends a brother of nearly the same age is of the greatest possible service to his sisters, and parents would often do well to pay more heed to the opinion which their boy has of his sisters' boy friends.

As to the matters of decorum, too—not the niceties of table etiquette, but the larger principles which have to do with amusements, escorts, evening hours, and the like—a boy is often a better judge than his sisters, because he hears more of that rude outside comment and criticism which proves the necessity for caution. Usage varies so much with the locality that parents are often at a loss to know what to sanction, but a boy's judgment is always pretty safe for his sisters to follow. And in the matter of dress—absurd as it seems—a brother's taste is often better than his sister's, especially when new, startling, and ultra masculine styles are in question. On all these delicate points—needless to say—it is the advice of one's own brother and not some other girl's brother that is really useful.

About school work, also, a boy may be of the greatest service to his sisters and they to him. Home tutoring, though it stands modestly in the background now-a-days, like most amateur work in the presence of professionalism, is still very useful, and one wonders that families of moderate means do not make more account of it. If there is any natural superiority of the masculine mind along any lines of study, the home is an excellent place for it to be displayed. As to reading, library statistics will bear the boys out in claiming a capacity to digest more of the solid and substantial than their sisters. A habit of sharing each other's books would be helpful to the girls. Here again the advantage of equality in age shows itself—a girl is not ashamed to confess indifference to the sort of reading her father and mother enjoy, but she does feel some mortification if her taste is obviously inferior to her brother's.

## A Priest in His House.

(H. C. K., in 'Congregationalist'.)

Our pastor received a call one evening from a young man whose face he remembered to have seen in his Sunday congregation, but whose acquaintance he had not yet made.

'I have come to live in town,' said the young stranger, 'and have taken a seat in your church. I ventured to call now in consequence of a letter from home upon the desirability of joining the church.'

'By letter?' said the pastor.

'On profession of my faith,' was the reply.

The pastor was taken by surprise. With no associates, no appeals, no 'revival interest,' no spiritual drumming of any kind, as the pastor put it to himself, here was a young stranger asking to enter the church.

'Yes, yes,' he answered hurriedly; 'yes, yes, by all means. I see you have an excellent mother.'

'I have,' was the quiet reply.

'And her faithful letters are telling on you. That is right. That is right.'

'It is a letter from my father,' said the young man. 'We are a family of rough, overgrown boys. I am afraid poor mother would have made little headway with us. My older brothers united with the church before leaving home—they are noble Christian fellows.'

'And are you a converted young man?' said the pastor hesitatingly.

'I have not much experience to speak of,' his visitor said, slowly, 'if that is what you mean. I was brought up in a Christian home. Father always talked to us as if we loved God. He always called us children of the church. The night before I left home father came to my room and said, "Arthur, shall we kneel down together and will you distinctly consecrate yourself to the Lord?" I did. It was a great help having father by my side. He seemed to seal my poor prayer by his great heart of prayer. I can't say whether I'm converted or not, but I feel certain,' he stopped, 'certain that I feel towards God as I feel about father—I want to do as he would like me to do above all things else.'

'You have a good father,' said the pastor, feelingly. 'He is a true priest in his house.'

'Oh, father, sir, he always helps us just where boys need help. We were always free to talk with him. If it had not been for father—'

We believe in such fathers, fathers who do not believe that providing for bodily wants embraces the whole duty of man, fathers who do not leave all counsel and correction of the children to mothers, who do not wait to be summoned in great discipline crises only, but whose wise and firm government control and bless every day. At the family altar, the daily meals, the evening hours, the ever-shifting scenes of work and play are the real opportunities for sowing the seeds of the kingdom of heaven in young hearts and exercising that spiritual husbandry which will nurse their growth and mature their fruit.

## Indian Meal Pudding.

Sprinkle carefully one cup of Indian meal into one pint of hot milk; cook in a double boiler for about twenty minutes. Take from the fire. When partially cool, add a tablespoonful of butter, the yolks of four eggs, mix thoroughly; stir in the well-beaten whites of the eggs, turn into a baking-dish, and bake in a quick oven for thirty-five or forty minutes. Serve hot with liquid sauce. —'Ladies' Home Journal.'

## Sample Copies.

Any subscriber who would like to have specimen copies of 'Northern Messenger' sent to friends can send the names with addresses and we will be pleased to supply them, free of cost.

## NORTHERN MESSENGER

(A Twelve Page Illustrated Weekly).

One yearly subscription, 30c.

Three or more copies, separately addressed, 25c. each.

Ten or more to an individual address, 20c. each.

Ten or more separately addressed, 25c. per copy.

When addressed to Montreal City, Great Britain and Postal Union countries, 52c postage must be added for each copy; United States and Canada free of postage. Special arrangements will be made for delivering packages of 10 or more in Montreal. Subscribers residing in the United States can remit by Post Office Money Order on Rouse's Point, N.Y. or Express Money Order payable in Montreal.

Sample package supplied free on application.

JOHN DOUGALL & SON,

Publishers, Montreal.

## Advertisements.

USE BABY'S OWN SOAP

## Advertisements.

Rain and sweat have no effect on harness treated with Eureka Harness Oil. It resists the damp, keeps the leather soft and pliable. Stitches do not break. No rough surface to chafe and cut. The harness not only keeps looking like new, but wears twice as long by the use of Eureka Harness Oil.



Sold everywhere in cans—all sizes. Made by Imperial Oil Company.

## SHREDDED WHEAT

THE IDEAL FOOD.

## A FATHER'S TESTIMONY:

'We may be pardoned for our enthusiasm concerning your food product in view of the fact that we have three healthy children who live practically upon Shredded Wheat Biscuits. The baby is particularly an amiable child, no doubt largely due to the food she subsists upon.' EDWIN B. MAYNARD, Real Estate Broker, Mt. Vernon, N.Y.

Drop a Postal for our Cook Book containing 262 Receipts for preparing and serving healthful dishes.

## THE NATURAL FOOD CO.,

61 FRONT ST., EAST, TORONTO.

Shredded Wheat for Sale by all Grocers.

**FUR RUFF**  
FREE Earn this handsome Fur Ruff 29 inches long, made of selected skins, a perfect imitation of the finest sable, with real pretty head and tail by selling, at 15c. each, only 15 Gold finished Rings set with superb sparkling imitation Rubies, Turquoise, Emeralds, etc. They would sell easily at 60c. each. At our price, only 15c., they are going like wild-fire. Write for Rings. Sell them return the money and receive this warm stylish Ruff postpaid. Order to day and be the first to sell our Rings in your neighborhood. The Best Co., Box 1777 Toronto.



**MAGIC LANTERN**  
with powerful adjustable lenses, showing 72 comic views of boys and girls, men and women, wild animals, etc. Given for selling at 10c. each only 2 doz. gold-topped, ivory backed lever Color Buttons. They are easy to sell. Everybody needs them. Write for Buttons. Sell them, return the money, and receive this splendid Magic Lantern and outfit, all charges paid. You can make lots of money giving Magic Lanterns shows. THE GOLDALOID CO., BOX 1773 TORONTO, Ontario.



**SILK**  
We have purchased the entire output of pieces from the Leading Silk Houses of Canada, and are mailing them in packages each containing a choice assortment of finest silk, in newest patterns and brilliant colors, enough to cover over 300 square inches. Nothing like them for fancy work. Mailed for 15 cents silver, 2 for 25 cents. Johnston & Co., Box 92 Toronto.



THE 'NORTHERN MESSENGER' is printed and published every week at the 'Witness' Building, at the corner of Carleton and St. Peter streets, in the city of Montreal, by JOHN Redpath Dougall and Frederick Eugene Dougall, both of Montreal.

All business communications should be addressed 'John Dougall & Son, and all letters to the editor addressed Editor of the 'Northern Messenger.'