

HINTS FOR THE HOUSEHOLD.

To remove spots from furniture, take four ounces of vinegar, two ounces of sweet oil, one ounce of turpentine. Mix and apply with a flannel cloth.

MUCH sickness is caused by the odour arising from decaying vegetable matter in cellars beneath living-rooms of the house. It should be removed at once, and the windows and cellar door be thrown open daily with the temperature is above the freezing point. It is cheaper to do this than to pay doctors' bills.

To make good sticking plaster, put two spoonfuls of balsam of Peru to six of isinglass, melted with very little water and strained. Mix these well together in a small stone jar over the fire. Pin out some black Persian or sarsenet on a board, and dipping a brush into the mixture, pass it over the silk five or six times, then hold it to the fire, but not very near, and it will soon become black and shining.

BITTER milk is a matter of frequent occurrence every fall and winter, or soon after the cows are off from grazing. It is caused first by bitter herbs in the hay—such as Mayweed, Johnswort, etc., and also by the use of too much over-ripe food, such as straw, corn stover, or late cut hay. It never occurs when cows are fed on good food, and are thriving, or even holding their own, and are kept comfortably warm.

A FAVOURITE dish in some parts of Scotland, as in Athole and other semi-Highland districts of Perthshire, is made by toasting oatmeal—round oatmeal, not fine—on a toaster before a bright fire, occasionally stirring it till it is thoroughly browned, then adding some fat of beef or mutton, with a little salt and pepper, and onions chopped small, after which the whole is further toasted. It is one of the most palatable preparations of oatmeal, and is a very wholesome and nutritious article of food.

The following rules to test good flour are given by an old dealer. First, look at its colour. If it is white, with a slightly yellow or straw-coloured tint, it is a good sign. If it is very white, with bluish cast or with small black specks in it, the flour is not good. Second, examine its adhesiveness. Wet and knead a little of it between the fingers; if it works dry and elastic, it is good; if it works soft and sticky, it is poor. Flour made from spring wheat is often sticky. Third, throw a little lump of dry flour against a dry, smooth, perpendicular surface; if it adheres in a lump, the flour has life in it; if it falls like powder it is bad. Fourth, squeeze some of the flour in your hand, if it retains the shape given by the pressure, that, too, is a good sign. It is safe to buy flour that will stand all these tests, and they are simple.—*Rural World.*

THE shape of the new spring bonnets is medium. No bonnets so tiny as the small capotes which have been popular this winter are shown, and no huge pokes like those of last season are thus far imported. The new bonnets are ornate with flowers and a plentiful mixture of gold tinsel. Coloured straws in every shade and tint are shown in profusion. A season of flowers is predicted and the dandelion is the flower of the season. Little clusters of the blossoms are mounted on the top rim of the bonnet, mixed with pompons and ribbon, or two shades of the flower in ribbon—the pale, lemon-like tint of the edge of the petals and the darker orange shade of the centre of the blossom are used. An exquisite little cottage bonnet of Havana brown straw is trimmed on the brim with a mass of gold-coloured pompons, ostrich tips, dandelions, flowers, buds and leaves, and a rosette-like bow of gold velvet at one side. Strings of gold velvet two inches wide finish the bonnet.

CREAM.

A LADY who owned a retriever
Shot ducks on the lake of Geneva;
She bagged seven hundred,
But blushed so and blundered
In telling it, none would believe her.

AT what time was Adam born? A little before Eve.

LET no one overload you with favours; you will find it an insufferable burden.

PLACE before your children nothing but what is simple, lest you spoil their taste, and nothing that is not innocent, lest you spoil their heart.

Sweeter tis to harken
Than to bear a part;
Better to look on happiness
Than to carry a light heart;
Sweeter to walk on cloudy hills,
With a sunny plain below,
Than to weary of the brightness
Where the floods of sunshine flow.

—Alford.

BJORNSTJERNE BJORNSON, the novelist, narrowly escaped having a middle name. His parents intended calling him Bjornstjerne Bjojosjnjonjorjnrnstjse Bjornson, but the "j" box gave out before the third syllable of the middle name was reached.—*Norriston Herald.*

TAKING the human race as a whole, says an exchange, it is observed that races living almost exclusively on meat have been the most savage ones. Nothing is so apt to transform a human being into a savage as to pay thirty cents a pound for a roast and then find it almost as tough as leather.

NOT myself, but the truth that in life I have spoken,
Not myself, but the seed that in life I have sown,
Shall pass on to ages all about me forgotten,
Save the truth I have spoken, the things I have done.

—Bonar.

"WHEN I married," said Boggs to a party of gentlemen who had been bragging of the successful marriages they had made. "I got a fine house and lot." "And I, gentlemen," exclaimed Mrs. Boggs, entering the room just in time to hear her husband's remark, "I got a flat, the top storey of which has always remained vacant."

"JACK," said the affectionate mother of Stapleton, the other morning, "you really must come home earlier nights. Do you suppose Esmeralda likes to have you stay so late?" "I'll tell you how it was," replied Jack. "You see, she was sitting on my hat, and I felt a little delicate about mentioning the fact." "Very well, I'll give you a bit of advice. The next time, don't hold the hat in your lap."

A MATHEMATICAL professor had been invited by a city friend to visit him at his residence in a certain square and had promised to do so. Meeting him some time afterward, the friend inquired of the professor why he did not come to see him. "I did come," said the mathematician; "but there was some mistake. You told me that you lived in a square, and I found myself in a parallelogram, so I went away again."

A LITTLE girl recently went to visit her grandfather in the country. She is fond of milk, but firmly refused to drink any while there, without giving any reason. When she returned she was asked, "You had nice milk there to drink, didn't you?" "I guess I didn't drink any of that milk," she indignantly replied. "Do you know where grandpa got it? I saw him squeeze it out of an old cow."

WHAT is the difference between a carpenter and a judge? A good deal, you imagine, no doubt, but not so much after all. They both work on the Bench one planes and the other explains; one uses sharp saws—the other wise saws; they both occasionally address themselves to a panel; certainly, one is in the habit of chiselling, while the other punishes anything of the sort; but we should auger—augur, we meant to say, that this is awl the difference between them.

NOTHING is rich but the inexhaustible wealth of nature. She shows us only surfaces, but she is a million fathoms deep.

THE Romans held that seed must be sound, plump, and well formed. It was carefully selected in the field, while yet the crop was standing.

EARLY sowing sometimes deceives the husbandman, late sowing never—for the crop is always bad—is one of the most ancient of farm maxims. Pliny interprets it thus: Early sowing sometimes disappoints the husbandman, late sowing does always.

IT is said to be real economy to use entirely fresh wicks in kerosene and oil lamps very often; for, with the best of care, a wick becomes clogged and a poor conductor after a few usings, and much more of the fluid is exhausted in producing the requisite amount of light than if the conductor had been wholly renewed.

THE farmer who has had luck two or three seasons in succession should look well to see that the cause is not in the weather or season, but in the decreased fertility, lack of good cultivation or lack of drainage. It often happens that heavy soils, while new, are kept light and porous by the vegetable matter they contain. They are also naturally underdrained in wooded countries by the channels made by decaying tree roots. As cultivation exposes the soil to sun and air, the vegetable matter disappears. At the same time the plough breaks up the natural drainage outlets, and the owner must lay tile or go West.

IF you examine a common fly under the microscope as he alights upon a piece of sugar, you will see unfolded from the under surface of the head a long organ which looks quite like another leg. It is really his under lip, and is beautifully adapted for licking up fluids and for scratching solids also, being rough like a file. This organ expands at the end into a fan shape, and is supported on a firm tubular framework acting as a set of springs to open and shut the fan. When a fly alights on the hand or face in the heat of summer, to sip the perspiration which oozes through the pores of the skin, the movement of this little file causes a tickling sensation.

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