

## HOUSEHOLD.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

## The Bother.

'Dear, dear! what a bothersome baby,  
The care-wearied mother sighed out,  
As she looked at the books and the play-  
things

That were everywhere scattered about;  
At the great, dingy spot on the carpet,  
Where he'd let grandma's medicine fall,  
And the marks that the fat, baby fingers  
Had left on the windows and wall.

'Such a baby for getting in mischief!  
I can't keep him tidy and sweet;  
Though I'm busy from daylight to bedtime,  
The room never seems to be neat.  
I never catch up with my sewing;  
I've never a moment to rest;  
And she sighed as she threaded her needle,  
With life and its worries opprest.

A slow, muffled sound on the pavement,  
She looks through the mist-clouded pane  
And sees, almost under her window,  
A hearse going by in the rain.  
There's a little white casket inside it,  
And then by swift tears it is hid,  
As she thinks of the household whose  
darling  
Lies under the small coffin's lid.

She goes to the bed of her baby,  
And kneels by the sleeper in tears,  
And the prayer that goes up, mute and word-  
less,

The great, loving Father-Heart hears.  
No longer the child seems a bother,  
As she thinks of the hearse in the rain,  
And the mother-arms, aching and empty,  
Where the little dead baby has lain.  
—Eben E. Rexford in 'The Christian.'

## Rag Carpet Parties.

The rag carpet, after many years, has returned. It is once again fairly popular, and the rags that for a quarter of a century have been going to the ragman are now being treasured up, since, if they are of wool they are almost worth their weight in gold. Why the rag carpet ever did go out of style it is hard to determine, and its reappearance in society is not difficult to understand. Properly put together and made of a good assortment of rags it is exceedingly pretty, and withal easy to manufacture, all the knack needed being the skill necessary to cut the rags into strips, sew them together in lengths and wind them into a ball. For a small sum the rag carpet weaver does the rest.

Bathroom and study rugs are the chief uses of the rag carpet of to-day. It is not so much rag carpets, in fact, as it is rag carpet rugs. The rag carpet rug is not large, as a rule. Six feet by three would be quite an extraordinary size. The idea is to have quite a number of them, and these much smaller.

They clean easily and wear like iron. These facts commend them. Then, too, there is much sociability in their making. A rag carpet party is a jovial event, and a 'function' that, long neglected, is coming in again once more. The girls meet in the afternoon and sew rags until five or half-past five. Then the men, especially asked for this hour, begin to drift in, and there is afternoon tea. It is the modernizing of the old time 'sewing bee,' and it works marvellously well as an amusement.—Philadelphia 'Times.'

## Economy Of Motion.

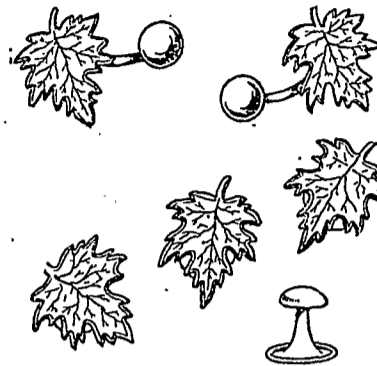
(Ada Melville Shaw in Michigan 'Advocate.')

She was washing my dishes, having taken pity on my 'spell' of rheumatism. We chatted of this and that, but I was studying my helper, wondering how she conquered the piled-up dishes and kettles at least a third faster than I could have done. I found that the whole secret lay in economy of motion. Every stroke of the dish-towel was applied just where it was needed, and only as often as necessary. By rank and file the array of dishes had moved from pan to drainer, and thence to tray. Not a dish was handled once more than was needful. When all was done, the skilled worker had no tension of lips, no furrowed brow, no sigh of wearied relaxation. She had begun, gone straight through and finished, without any waste of muscular motion and related nerve force.

False motions are the enemies that steal

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away the restful comfort of too many homes. The mother comes in from town. She takes off her hat. Bed and band-box are equidistant from her. She lays the hat on the former—a false motion, since the band-box must be visited at last. Thus, unthinkingly, she multiplies by two, three, six, every minute detail of the round of woman-work that is 'never done.'

## A Child's Appetite.

The appetite of a healthy child, as a rule, is quite as susceptible of education, in both a right and a wrong direction, as are its mental or moral faculties; and parents in whose hands this education mainly rests, should give the subject careful consideration, since upon it the future health and usefulness of their children not a little devolve. We should all be rulers of our appetites instead of subject to them; but whether this be so or not, depends greatly upon early dietetic training. Many a loving mother, by thoughtless indulgence of her child, in season and out of season, in dainties and titbits that simply serve to gratify the palate, is fostering a 'love of appetite' which may ruin her child in years to come. There are inherited appetites and tendencies, it is true; but even these may be largely overcome by careful early training in right ways of eating and drinking. It is possible to teach very young children to use such food as is best for them, and to refrain from the eating of things harmful; and it should be one of the first concerns of every mother to start her children on the road to manhood and womanhood well trained in correct dietetic habits.—'Good Health.'

## A Child's Education.

Accustom a child, as soon as it can speak, to narrate his little experiences, his chapter of accidents, his griefs, his fears, his hopes; to communicate what he has noticed in the world without, and what he feels struggling in the world within. Anxious to have something to narrate, he will be induced to give attention to objects around him, and what is passing in the sphere of his instruction, and to observe and note events will become one of his first pleasures; and this is the ground work of a thoughtful character.—'Alliance.'

One who recently visited Mrs. Cleveland was impressed with the extreme simplicity of the children's dresses, which were without ribbon, sash or ornament of any kind. The visitor said, 'I thought what an object lesson this was to tired, worn-out mothers who struggle so hard to ruffle and tuck and furbelow their children's dresses, instead of taking the time to cultivate their minds and hearts.'



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## Selected Recipes.

**Fricasseed Eggs.**—Melt one tablespoonful of butter, add one teaspoonful of chopped onion, two teaspoonfuls of flour, one-half teaspoonful of salt, and one-half salt-spoonful of pepper. Pour on slowly one cupful of milk and stir well. Cut four or six hard boiled eggs in slices and add to the mixture. Heat all together and sprinkle with one tablespoonful of finely chopped parsley.

**Toast and Cheese.**—Soak one cup of bread crumbs in one cup of milk for fifteen minutes. Melt one heaping teaspoonful of butter, add one-half cup of cheese broken in small pieces; stir until melted; add the crumbs with one beaten egg, one-half teaspoonful of salt and a few grains of cayenne. Cook three minutes. Serve on toast or wafers.

**Rice and Hominy Griddle Cakes.**—Mix two tablespoonfuls of flour with two teacups of cold rice or hominy and a little milk; add one or two eggs. Add as much more milk as may be necessary to give the desired consistency when cooked. Too much flour or eggs makes them close.

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