

HOUSEHOLD.

Economy and Thrift.

We think it is true that nine out of ten young married couples pay far too little attention to economy and almost none at all to thrifty savings for many years, unconsciously perhaps feeling that salaries or incomes will materially increase, and there is no need of economy. Too many start out with such ideas and find to their surprise that they are soon living beyond their means. Possibly a few words on this subject may set some of the recently married to thinking and to save them from some embarrassment if not from some trouble. The wheel of fortune turns so often, and there are so many emergencies in life, so many unexpected needs for extra money, that carefulness and thrift when everything is prosperous will bring gratitude and satisfaction later on, when unforeseen needs appear.

The experiences of those who are fifty, sixty and seventy years old, who in their early married lives did not save as they might, were untaught in the matter of thrift, and had little idea of economy, who when along in years find their incomes small and live to regret their want of thrift and economy, should be an example and a stimulus to younger married people.

George Eliot once wrote to a friend, 'Yes, I certainly care a great deal for the money, as I suppose all anxious minds do that love independence.' How few there are who do not love independence, and love it more and more the older they grow. In the words of a very practical old man, all will find that as years advance a dollar is a 'mighty good friend.'

If our young married friends, even those whose incomes are considerable, would occasionally bring before them the pictures of happy, comfortable, well-to-do old people, who after years of service for their families and others can enjoy their old age in independence and ease, and then contrast this with the picture of other old people, or of aged widows who have no homes of their own, who if not 'in corners thrown,' have 'cozy corners' allotted to them and have become dependent, they will surely strive in every way while enjoying the comforts of life and the pleasures of home and friends, to practice with 'dignified cheerfulness' that economy and thrift which while requiring some sacrifices now will bring them great comfort by and bye.—'Standard.'

For the Lover of Dark Cake.

(Miss Laura E. Hutchinson, in the New York 'Observer.')

'In spite of its name, I think "Devil's Food" heads the list of cakes,' remarked the guest as she took a piece of the chocolate-colored layers set off by the snow-white icing between them.

'I quite agree with you,' replied the hostess, 'as it is my favorite cake, also, and in fact I prefer any kind of dark cake to the delicate ones. For that reason I am always on the lookout for recipes along that line, and I have gathered some that I like very much.'

'I wonder if I might ask the privilege of copying them,' said the guest, in rather a hesitating tone. 'I have few in that line, and I am sure they must be worth having if they are all as delicious as this one is.'

'You are entirely welcome to them,' was the reply of the one who, as soon as the meal was over, produced her book, and the friend copied from it the following tested recipes:

Devil's Food, First Part.—One cup of brown sugar, one cup of grated chocolate, one-half cup of sweet milk. Cook these ingredients together until dissolved, but do not boil.

Second Part.—One cup of brown sugar, one-half cup of butter, scant, one-half cup of sweet milk, yolks of three eggs, and one teaspoonful of soda. Add the first part before stirring in two cups of flour. Bake in two or three layers and put together with thick boiled frosting.

Spanish Bun.—Two-thirds cup of butter, two cups of brown sugar, four eggs, saving whites of two for frosting, one cup of sweet milk, two teaspoonfuls of cinnamon, and one of cloves, one cup chopped raisins, two and

three-fourths cups flour, and two teaspoonfuls of baking powder. Bake in dripping pan. Half of this will make a good sized loaf.

For the frosting boil together two cups of brown sugar and two tablespoonfuls of water until it spins a thread, then beat it into the well-beaten whites of two eggs. Place in the oven till a delicate brown.

Spice Cake.—One cup of brown sugar, one-half cup of molasses, one-half cup of butter, one-half cup of sour milk, two and one-half cups of flour, yolks four eggs, two teaspoonfuls of baking powder, and one teaspoonful each of cloves, alspice and nutmeg. Bake in moderate oven.

Date Cake.—One cup of brown sugar, one tablespoonful of molasses, one-half cup of butter, one egg, one cup of sour milk, one cup chopped dates, two cups of flour, one tablespoonful of soda, one-half teaspoonful of cinnamon and one-fourth of cloves. Grate in half a nutmeg.

The Abuse of Shade.

For our hot summers, shade around the house seems to be an absolute necessity. It is well to remember, however, that, like most other good things, we may so use shade that it becomes absolutely harmful. It has often been observed that while a home is new and has little shade it is healthful, but after the house is buried under trees the family begins to suffer from various diseases, which when the trees were small and cast little shade they were entirely free from.

The explanation is this: When a house is buried in shade it becomes dark and damp. Darkness and dampness are both favorable for the growth of molds, mildews and disease germs. Sunlight dries the house and kills outright the germs of most of our formidable diseases. Rheumatism and consumption both thrive especially in dark and damp houses.

Shade should be around the house, not over it. Let there be open places all around the house, so that the sun may shine directly upon it. This will then keep it both dry and wholesome.

Another evil which comes with too many trees is the shutting off of the current of air so necessary when it is very hot. Heat is much more endurable with plenty of moving air than it is when there is no circulation whatever. Plant trees; plant them in abundance, but not too close to the house, and when they become too dense cut them out.—G. G. Groff, in New York 'Tribune.'

Selected Recipes.

Cherry Dumplings.—Prepare a rich baking-powder biscuit dough as for shortcake; roll out half an inch thick and cut into squares. Place in the centre of each square of dough a tablespoonful of pitted cherries; fold the corner of it over, wetting the edges; press them together, folding from opposite corners. Place in the steamer with tight-fitting cover and steam one hour, or bake in the oven in a dripping-pan, surrounded by three-quarters of a cup of sugar and two cups of water, basting several times while baking, which will mean about twenty minutes in a hot oven. Serve with cherry sauce.

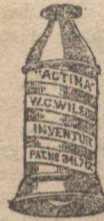
Snow Jelly.—Half a box of gelatine, half a pint of cold water, eight tablespoonfuls of

boiling water, half a cup of sugar, the whites of two eggs, juice and grated peel of one lemon. Dissolve the gelatine in the boiling water. When cool, add the other ingredients, except the eggs. When the mixture stiffens, add the whites of egg beaten to a froth, and beat all together until light like new fallen snow. Make a custard with half a pint of milk and the yolks of the two eggs, a little sugar and grated lemon peel, and pour all around the snow jelly.—The 'Presbyterian Banner.'

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