

fry to a rich brown. (2) Make hash—very different from the old watery kind—as follows: Mince the meat, and season with salt, pepper, and herbs, or onion juice, as preferred. Mix with a little water or gravy, and brown in the oven. If you choose, you may mix the minced meat with an equal bulk of mashed potato, then bake; or mix it with chopped vegetables, put a little water over, simmer until cooked, then season, and thicken slightly, if necessary with flour. Last of all, cover with a pastry made like baking-powder biscuit, and bake in the oven. (3) Scraps of cooked meat may be put through the grinder, mixed with dressing, and served as a meat salad for tea, or may be mixed with chopped apples, fruit juice, spices, sugar and vinegar, and made into a sort of mince pie for dinner.

5. To keep carrots, etc., firm and appetizing for winter use, pack them in boxes of sand. Keep onions in crocheted twine bags, hung in a cool place.

6. If milk has become slightly sour, do not waste it. Stir in a pinch of soda, and the acid will be counteracted.

7. It is said that good baking powder can be made much more cheaply than you can buy it, as follows: Take half a pound bicarbonate of soda, 1 lb. 2 ounces cream tartar, half a pound flour of starch. Dry each ingredient in separate dishes; sift together five times, and put in tin boxes with tight covers.

8. If a loaf becomes very stale, don't give it to the chickens. Dip it in water, and put it in a hot oven in a basting-pan for a while, or wrap it in a towel and steam it. It will be nearly as good as a fresh loaf.

9. Mix scraps of cooked vegetables, potatoes, baked beans, etc., with salad dressing, and serve as a vegetable salad.

10. Steam stale cake, pour a pudding sauce over it, and use as pudding; or crumble it up, pour any odds and ends of fruit juice over, then cover all with a soft-boiled custard, and serve as a trifle, or instead of fruit for tea.

11. You may make your own vinegar at home as follows: Fill a jar half full of apple or peach parings. Add half a cup of molasses, fill up with clean soft water, tie cheesecloth over, and set in a warm place. When in vinegar, strain off. Vinegar may also be made of cider, of corn, and potatoes, but the method is slightly different.

12. There are many other items for which we have not room to-day, and very many more of which we may know nothing, but which may be old stories to you. If you can call to mind any which have been of especial use to you, we hope you will not forget to send them to "The Farmer's Advocate." In conclusion, then, of this department of household economy, may we just remind you that all food, to be economical, must be cooked with the aim of giving the greatest possible nourishment to the body at a minimum of expense. You may take cheap parts of meat, and, if you know how, make most appetizing and nutritious food of them. On the other hand, you might take the best sirloin or porterhouse steak and cook it until it would be hard and useless, almost as leather. The body can derive little strength or energy from such food, which is, therefore, practically wasted. . . . In the same way, care must be taken in the preparation of all other foods as well as meats. Oatmeal, for instance, requires long cooking, three or four hours at least. It should be boiled the day before using, and simply reheated in the morning. Otherwise, if simply cooked in a hurry before breakfast it may fill up, but will not, assuredly, give the same strength and energy to the human body that it would if properly prepared.

This question of foods is, in short, a broad one, and one which requires much more attention than has as yet been given it. It has been found advisable to study the feeding of stock, but there are all too many housewives who seem to consider that the feeding of the human animal is scarcely worth attention. It will be the aim of this department of "The Farmer's Advocate" to select recipes for nutritious, appetizing, economical (from the food-value standpoint) food, and it is hoped that "About the House" will become, more than ever before, helpful to those who have the preparing of the nutrition of the country in their hands. M.

## Children's Corner.

### RIDDLES.

1. Why are apples like printers' type? Ans.—Because they are often in pi(e).
2. What is it which will be yesterday, and was to-morrow? Ans.—To-day.
3. Why is a washer-woman like Saturday? Ans.—Because she brings in the clothes (close) of the week.
4. What is worse than raining cats and dogs? Ans.—Hailing omnibuses.
5. When is a bonnet not a bonnet? Ans.—When it becomes a pretty girl.
6. What is most like a hen stealing? Ans.—Why, a cock robin.
7. Why does the sun rise in the east? Ans.—Because (y)east makes everything rise.
8. What did Queen Elizabeth take her pills in? Ans.—In cider (inside her).
9. Why is eternity like a circle? Ans.—It has neither beginning nor end.
10. What are we all doing at the same time? Ans.—Going round.
11. When has a man four hands? Ans.—When he doubles his fists.
- 12.—Why is a horse like the letter O? Ans.—Because G(ee) makes it go.
13. What comes after cheese? Ans.—Mice.
14. What four letters would scare a thief? Ans.—O, I, C, U.

VICTORINE.

1. Why is a fretful man like a loaf of bread baked too much? Ans.—He is crusty.
2. Where was the first nail struck? Ans.—On the head.
3. What were the first words Adam said to Eve? Ans.—Nobody knows.
4. If a wife objected to her husband's moustache, how could she tell him so without offending him? Ans.—By setting her face against it.
5. Why do we go to bed? Ans.—Because it won't come to us.

Bright, Ont. LOTTIE BLAIR.

What is it that is more afraid of a hawk, and a hen than a dog and ten men? Ans.—A grasshopper.  
What is it that has no back? Ans.—A broken chair.  
What relation is the threshold to the door mat? Ans.—A step fa(r)ther.  
Why is a soldier's ammunition like a country road? Ans.—Because it is full of cartridges.

HELEN ANDERSON.

Port Dover.

### THE LETTER BOX.

Dear Cousin Dorothy,—My sister wrote a letter last week, but she has gone home to Toronto, and I am staying at my uncle's, on a farm. I go to Shirley St. School. Our examinations weren't very hard this year. We had reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling and composition. I expect to pass into the Junior Fourth? I think this is long enough for the first time. EVA BURKINSHAW (age 11).  
Agincourt, Ont.

### Books to Read.

Dear Cousin Dorothy,—The other day I saw in one of the last "Advocates" that you wanted more letters for the Corner. I wonder if any person has read any of the books that I have. I have read Ramona, Odd Made Even, On the Edge of a Moor, Teddy's Button, The Woman of Babylon, Tom, Dick and Harry, The Man from Glengarry, Glengarry School Days, and The Four Girls from Chataqua. I am thirteen years old, and I passed the Entrance examination this summer. Do any of the readers take the Mission Worker? I do. ELIZA HAY.  
Ayr, Ont.

Dear Cousin Dorothy,—This is my first letter to the Corner, and I hope it won't get into the waste-paper basket. So far, I have spent my holidays at home, helping mother with her work, and learning how to bake. I passed into the Senior Fourth Class this midsummer. I have one brother, who passed into the High School. We have a cat and a dog for pets; they are called Mr. Dooley and Clover. Father is in Scotland now, and intends to bring some ponies out, so I expect to get one. MOLLIE HASSARD (age 11).  
Millbrook, Ont.

### Address Wanted.

Dear Cousin Dorothy,—The summer vacation is nearly over, and I am a little bit sorry, but not much. We have a new teacher. I received some post cards from Wabash. If the one who sent them would kindly send me his or her address, I would return the favor. I will close with some riddles:

If the clock strikes six in thirty seconds, how long will it take to strike twelve? Ans.—Sixty-six seconds.

What cat is it that is eaten? Ans.—Catsup.

Why doesn't Sweden send her cattle abroad? Ans.—Because she keeps her Stockholm.

What tree is it that every boy dreads? Ans.—Birch.

Twelve eggs in a basin, twelve men in a room, each takes an egg, and there is still one egg in the basin. Ans.—The explanation is that the last man took the basin as well.

When to-morrow is yesterday, to-day will be as near to the end of the week as to-day was when yesterday was to-morrow. What day is it? Ans.—Wednesday.

When is it easy to read in the woods? Ans.—When autumn turns the leaves.

When is a boat not a boat? Ans.—When it's ashore?

HATTIE BORROWMAN (age 12).  
Auld, Ont.

Dear Cousin Dorothy,—May I come in again? I stayed away as long as I possibly could, but now I must write. I wonder how many different ways the cousins spent their holidays. I was down near a lake for one whole week, and enjoyed myself immensely. One forenoon I took a book, and my cousin took her fancywork, and we went to the beech woods. In the afternoon, we took the double-seated carriage and went to the races. My cousin, a gentleman, and myself sat in the front seat, while my cousin's mother and the gentleman's wife sat in the back seat. Both were very stout ladies, one weighing two hundred pounds. We hadn't gone very far before one of the wheels sounded as if it needed greasing. So we stopped in front of a livery stable. The hostler came out, and after looking at it, said earnestly, "A pretty heavy load on there!" After a while we reached the race course. The magnificent horses came from all parts of Canada, and there was one from New York. The race began, showing off the well-developed limbs of the intelligent creatures. They were very much discouraged by being called back to begin again so many times. One horse got its foot badly cut, there having been foul play. However, a large fine and the prize made up for it.

One night we went for a drive in the back woods. It was simply splendid. At one part of the wood was a barn with people living in it. We did not relish their place of abode. The scenery was so exquisite that it is hard to express in mere words.

Cousin Dorothy, would it be presuming too much to ask if you ever intend having another debate? The others were such a success.

"One of a Lot," I was awfully glad to see your letter. Do write again soon. Blossom, Bluebell and Marigold, why do you not come back?

There, if anyone reads this letter right through, I won't come back for another four months. I can come back next month, Cousin Dorothy, can't I? At least, keep a little corner in your hearts and minds for—CLEOPATRA.

Come again as soon as you like, but don't forget to write on one side of the paper only, or off you go to the W.-P. B. Of course, we must have another debate, now the holidays are over. C. D.

Dear Cousin Dorothy,—I thought I would try and write a few lines to your corner. We have just been taking "The Advocate" since January, but we like it fine. We live on a farm of seventy-five acres. We are all through harvest and expecting to thrash soon. There are five of us, two girls and a boy. I go to school, and am twelve years old. I have about a mile to go to school. There are about fifty, all in one room. We have a new teacher, and I like him all right. For pets, I have a dog named Rover, and a gray kitten. We have a white horse named Fan. I call her my pet, too, because she is so quiet. I like to

read good books, so I will tell you a few which I have read, and I think they are just fine: Dr. Savoy's Tongues, Arlington Edition, Little Women, Mat and Sofie, Leslie Ross and Little Pansy. I will close with a few riddles:

Why is a pig in the parlor like a house on fire? Ans.—The sooner put out the better.

What goes round and round the house all day, and stands on its head all night? Ans.—Broom. A CORNERITE.

### LAST WORDS ON THE DEBATE.

Should Homework be Done Away With?

#### NEGATIVE.

Dear Cousin Dorothy,—Seeing such a delightful and interesting debate going on, I could not resist the temptation of joining it any longer. I do not think that homework should be done away with; an hour's lessons will not hurt anyone. If there is only one girl, there is plenty of time after the evening's work is finished, and you will get along much faster in school. I do not agree with Marigold as to working harder during school hours if there is no homework to be done, because the less they have to do, the less they want to do.

Another reason, in the towns, villages and cities, it will keep the children off the streets. In a majority of the schools, if the pupils do not get their homework done, there is medicine in store for them the next day; and, rather than be punished, they will do their lessons; whereas, if they had no homework to do, they would run about the streets.

Hoping you will have no trouble in deciding for the negative,—

LIBERTY BELL.

Vineland, Ont.

Dear Cousin Dorothy,—My father has been taking "The Farmer's Advocate" since February, 1875, and we like it fine. I read the debate, "Should homework be done away with," and I do not think it should. Those who like to play after school, may; but if they go to bed about nine o'clock, they can get up early, perhaps six o'clock, and can do their studying then. They feel all the better for it. I do, anyway. I am in the Third Form at High School, and we have quite a lot of homework. Several have not gone to High School, because of the homework, but if they liked the school-work, they should not mind it.

I love to read. Some books I have read are: Three Mildred books, "Pilgrim's Progress," "Black Beauty," "Kenilworth," "Ivanhoe," "Talisman," "Two little Maidens," "Little Wives" and several more.

I took up a course of music called the kindergarten, and I have taken a quarter since then. I like music very much.

Wishing "The Farmer's Advocate" every success, I remain,—

FERN (aged 13).

Dear Cousin Dorothy,—I have taken great interest in reading the letters you have had on the subject, "Should homework be done away with." I have read Marigold's and Bluebell's letters, and I also agree to what they have said. I do not think a teacher should give one homework, when they have worked all day at school. One may have to do homework when it is near time to try the Entrance. Some children may have to help their mother do the work, if there are no others to do it; and, after the work is done, who feels like staying up late to do homework. I know I don't. School starts to-day. I do dread going; it seems as if we haven't had enough holidays, although we have had from the first of July to the nineteenth of August. How many of the cousins have ever seen the Rittenhouse School? It is a lovely school. It has a library, and also another little room that they have animal heads and many things of the olden times in. The floor is covered with linoleum. The school is heated by a furnace. They teach the boys carpenter trade, and the girls have little flower gardens. The yard looks beautiful, with flowers and shrubs. Across the road from the school is the Victoria Hall, a place where concerts and school entertainments are held. Before I close my letter, I would like to ask one request of the cousins:—Would some of them please write to me? Will return