

said to me, 'Do not meddle with the curtain, youngster, for the cane hurts!' Here is your pardon, signed by the Lord Protector; but in my turn I say to you, 'Do not take up arms against the Parliament, for Cromwell is not easy to deal with.'"

USEFUL INFORMATION.

GREASE IN PAPER.—Take either whiting or bath-brick, and mix with water about the consistency of cream. Spread this upon either rag or blotting-paper, one or both sides. When dry, place upon the grease spot, and upon that a warm flat iron; repeat until removed. Finish by rubbing down with the crumb of a rather stale penny roll.

HOW TO SOFTEN WATER.—Distillation is not necessary to softening water rendered hard by lime or magnesia dissolved in it by excess of carbonic acid, for it may be softened by simply adding to it as much lime as will combine with the excess of carbonic acid. By adding a pint of lime water to about fourteen pints of spring water, most of the lime in it is converted into nearly insoluble chalk, and the water very much softened; the remainder of the lime, which is chiefly sulphate, may be removed by adding a little oxalate of soda.

COUGH SYRUPS.—We give two excellent recipes: 1. Take one tea-cupful of flaxseed and soak it all night. In the morning put into a kettle two quarts of water, a handful of liquorice root split up, and a quarter of a pound of raisins broken in half. Let them boil until the strength is thoroughly exhausted, then add the flaxseed which has been previously soaked. Let all boil half an hour or more, watching and stirring, that the mixture may not burn. Then strain, and add lemon-juice and sugar. 2. Boil one ounce of flaxseed in a quart of water for half an hour; strain, and add to the liquid the juice of two lemons and half a pound of rock candy. If the cough is accompanied by weakness and loss of appetite, add half an ounce of powdered gum-arabic. Set this to simmer for half an hour, stirring it occasionally. Take a wineglassful when the cough is troublesome.

SOIL FOR FLORICULTURE.—Most flowers, if not all, succeed best in