

Charley, Oakville.—I like your sensible answers, and have no doubt great benefit is being derived from this department. Will you please tell me if it is proper to eat out of the small dishes containing vegetables that are given at hotels? Ans.—It depends on what the vegetables may be. Potatoes and such things as are generally eaten with meat should be taken on the plate, but soft vegetables, such as tomatoes, may better be eaten from the small dish in which they are served.

RECIPES.

MUFFINS.

Are very nice for breakfast or tea, and are convenient when one has company in the afternoon. To make them, take a quart of new milk, one quart of flour, two eggs and a little salt; beat well into a batter and bake in small earthen cups for one hour; or in tin muffin rings, on a griddle, over a moderate fire.

CHARLOTTE RUSSE.

Line your tin moulds—in the shape of cups that do not flare—with sponge-cake baked either in the shape of lady fingers or in quite thin sheets, which you must split; stick the edges of the cake together with white of egg. Fill these cups with whipped cream flavored with vanilla and made very sweet with fine pulverized sugar. The cream must be thick and cold when whipped, and the froth taken off as it rises and allowed to drain on a sieve, preserving all that drops through for more whipping. This is the simplest and most delicate filling for a Charlotte. If you add the well-beaten whites of eggs in the proportion of two to a pint of cream it improves it. Another method is to make a boiled custard, using two eggs to a half-pint of milk; add three ounces of sugar and half an ounce of Cooper's isinglass, which has been soaking in cold water for two hours. Set the whole over boiling water until a little thickened, then flavor with vanilla and set it aside to cool. When quite cold beat into it a pint of whipped cream and pour into the moulds as before. This makes a more solid but less delicate filling.

ORANGE CAKE.

Orange cake is a very fine thing recently brought to Boston, which will outlive that rather insipid delicacy, angel cakes, which were so popular from the White House down, being Mrs. Hayes' favorite cake, which the lady housekeepers of Washington vied in sending to her daily. Orange cake is a refreshing treat, the flavor and mild sour of the fruit blending with the sweets in a way most grateful to the spring appetite, and the recipe will be welcome to the women who read this paper. It calls for one-half cup of butter, two of sugar, three cups of dried and sifted flour, and four eggs, the yolks and whites beaten separately; with the sugar mix the juice of two fine oranges, and the grated yellow peel of one, then the butter, softened, the yolks and the warmed flour, which should be lightly sifted in, the white of the eggs last, just whisked in, and the cake hurried into the oven. It should be baked in layers three times as thick as jelly cake, which are thinly spread with orange marmalade while hot, and half an inch of finely cut orange pulp lightly sugared placed between two layers, and each cake is frosted with boiled icing flavored with orange juice. The receipt comes from the Isles of Shoals where the women are either born cooks or write poetry.

Sadie.—Our canary sings well during the summer, but is dull and silent in the winter; can anything be done to make him sing? How can lemons be kept during the winter? How should a metallic hair brush be cleaned? Ans.—Canaries are natives of a warm climate and very tender. The fall and winter too is the season for moulting, when they feel too miserable to sing. Give your bird a little opium seed and a few grains of cayenne pepper. Keep it warm, and cover the cage with a piece of flannel at night. Keep lemons in a box of damp sand in a cold cellar during winter. To clean a metallic or bristle hair brush, dissolve carbonate of soda or saleratus in water, and put it in a deep dish; place the brush in this so that the bristles are in the water, but the back will not be touched. Use cold water for bristles or they will become soft. After half an hour strike the bristles on a dry towel to remove the moisture, and put the brush in a cool draft of air to dry.

When I was a young man I was always in a hurry to hold the big end of the log and do all the lifting; now I am older, I seize hold of the small end and do all the grunting.—[Josh Billings.

Management of Children.

The world is more indebted to mothers than to fathers for the characters of its leading men and women. A man or woman becomes good or bad as he or she is well or ill trained. How enormous is the responsibility of a parent, remembering what everlasting and wide spreading results for evil or for good may happen from the management of a child! And yet how much is it made the merest matter of accident and momentary impulse. Of course, much effect is depending upon the character of the parent, but in the main, or indeed with very few exceptions, parents mean well and want to do the best they can for their children. If this is so, what serious mistakes are made by mothers who go about continually scolding and fault-finding, and slapping and punishing their little ones at the least provocation, and without the formality of a thought as to the propriety of the hasty act. Now, every individual charged with wrong-doing should be accorded a trial and even a child is entitled to it, although the accuser should be jury, judge and executioner, too. This trial should be a deliberate weighing of the motives and excuses for the acts complained of; and if these are found to be free from evil intent, violent punishment should be out of the question. It is even worth considering if corporal punishment of any kind could not possibly be entirely abolished in the family, and moral influences brought to bear. A kind and conscientious parent too often feels bitter regret that he or she has permitted annoyances and hasty passion to control the mind, when a child has been punished for trifling faults which happen to be mere errors of immature and childish judgment. This is a subject which appeals very strongly to the most careful consideration of parents, but most especially to the mothers.

Notice It.

Notice what? Notice everything that is done by others to contribute to your benefit or happiness. Nothing seems more ungracious than the passing over, without remark, apparently without thought, the thousand and one little efforts and attentions which are intended to sweeten domestic life.

Ingratitude and indifference sometimes mar the character of woman; but are far more frequently observable, we think, in man. A husband returns from his business at evening. During his absence, and throughout the livelong day, the wife has been busy, with mind and hands, preparing some little surprise, some unexpected pleasure to make his home more attractive than ever. He enters, seemingly sees no more of what has been done to please him than if he were a blind man, and has nothing more to say about it than if he were dumb. Many a loving wife has borne in her heart an abiding sorrow, day after day, from causes like this, until, in process of time, the fire and enthusiasm of her original nature have burned out, and mutual indifference spreads its pall over a household.

Often, we think generally, inattention to little acts of thoughtfulness and consideration results from a mere habit of carelessness; but, in its effect upon the happiness of a family, it is a most unfortunate habit. A few words of thanks, of appreciative recognition, are easily spoken, and such words are precious to the soul that hungers for them. They are highly prized and not soon forgotten.

Take notice of what is done for you. Words of merited praise and thanks exert a kindly and beneficial influence upon both listener and speaker. Gratitude unexpressed seems to others to be unfelt.

The newest tea cosies are of black or colored satin made in four pieces, with a pretty floral design worked on each piece. On black satin, myrtle leaves and tiny roses are often seen. The design is sometimes painted, and only the flower worked. This has a very good effect. Other cosies of the usual shape are left open at the top and upper part of the sides, and then filled in with a puff of satin. The puff is often a different color from the rest of the cosy. In black and red or gold and dark blue it looks well. When the puff of satin is inserted, and it should stand up about two inches or so, the sides are a little drawn together by an invisible thread to keep them in place. Large butterflies worked in different colored silk, or beetles with real wings sewed on, a design of lilies of the valley tied with a large bow, or a cluster of cherries with a cherub astride on the brown stalk, are all effective patterns.

Story of Mr. Webster.

Daniel Webster, travelling, had the night stage from Baltimore to Washington, with no companion save the driver, and contemplated that worthy's forbidding visage with a very uneasy mind. He had nearly reasoned his suspicious fears away, when they came to the dark woods between Bladenburg and Washington, when Mr. Webster felt his courage oozing out of his finger ends as he thought what a fitting place it was for a murder. Suddenly the driver turned towards him and roughly demanded his name. It was given. Then he wanted to know where he was going. "To Washington. I am a Senator," said Daniel, expecting his worst thoughts were near realization. The driver grasped him by the hand, saying: "How glad I am, mister, to hear that! I've been properly scared for the last hour, for when I looked at you I felt sure you was a highwayman."

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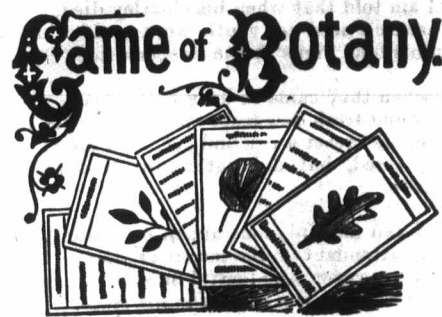
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In April No., "Homeward, or The Cursfew," by Joseph Johns, was described, and a cut but faintly suggested the merit and beauty of the large engraving, 22 x 28 inches in size, now offered; and in May No., 1881, a small wood-cut of the chromo "Balmoral Castle," is given. This engraving, 24 x 30 inches in size, is of elegant finish and design. The last two mentioned were published at Two Dollars each under copyright.

"Lorne and Louise" was fully described in our Dec. No., 1879, and but a few copies remain in our hands.

OUR RULES

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