

## HOUSEHOLD.

## Keep Close to Your Children

(Mrs. Eva W. Malone, in 'Nashville Advocate').

We love our children—aye, how tenderly we love them only our own locked hearts can disclose. Every impulse which spurs us on is inspired by a desire for their welfare; and if we strive to fill our coffers, is it not that our children may be rescued from the power of want? But in our providence for their material welfare do we not cheat them of those finer issues bound up in our loving companionship? What do we know, what do we take time to know, of that mysterious, ever shifting panorama of soul-life which goes on in ceaseless progression within the breast of the young creatures whose destiny we must make or mar? Does your child find in you a ready sympathy with all its vague, self-tormenting dreams? and is that sympathy supplanted by wisdom which directs the scarce-formed impulse into the paths of righteousness? More than half-strangers to our children, can we hope to enter the shekinah of their inner being?

'Oh!' wailed a mother whose daughter had wrecked her own young life and broken her parents' hearts by a secret marriage with a man in every way unworthy of her—'Oh, if she had ever told me that she loved, or even thought of this man. I could have shown her his true character; but I never dreamed that she cared for him until she was his wife!'

Ah, mothers, beware how you let slip the golden days when the child is wholly yours. If the little one learns that 'mother is too busy' to heed its baby woes or share its baby joys, instinctively it seeks sympathy elsewhere; and how perilously that sympathy is found, mothers who sit amid the ashes of dead hopes too surely and sadly attest!

Said a bright little girl of her busy, care-burdened father: 'I know my papa must be a lovely man, if we could only get acquainted with him.' And that father thought he loved his children with a perfect love, and would have been appalled to learn that he was withholding from them their most precious heritage—himself. Fathers, you have not fulfilled the measure of your duty when you have given your children a costly home and supplied all their physical wants. You owe them something which your gold can never buy, something for which, perhaps, their hearts are hungering to-day. Let the holy name 'father' mean to them something nearer, deeper than one who holds the purse-strings, and is solicitous for their material prosperity.

If it is essential that we keep close to our children in their earthly plans and hopes, how much more imperative that the bond of spiritual sympathy be strong and steadfast! The child should realize that the parent holds its spiritual weal as paramount to all earthly concerns; for, after all, are not spiritual things the real things? Parents who watch the health of their children's bodies with painful anxiety are oftentimes in absolute ignorance as to the health of their souls.

'Is Clara a Christian?' I asked of a zealous class-leader in whose young daughter I was greatly interested.

'Why, y-e-s, I suppose she is. She joined the church a year or so ago, but I've never talked to her of her personal experience. I wish you would speak to her about it.'

And it seemed but a natural consequence when I learned that this young 'member of the church' was then, and had been for months, in spiritual darkness, and had come to the conclusion that she had never really been a Christian.

Christian parents, we who talk glibly enough of religion to the children of our friends, dare we thus abandon our high prerogative of leading into 'ways of truth' our own tender lambs?

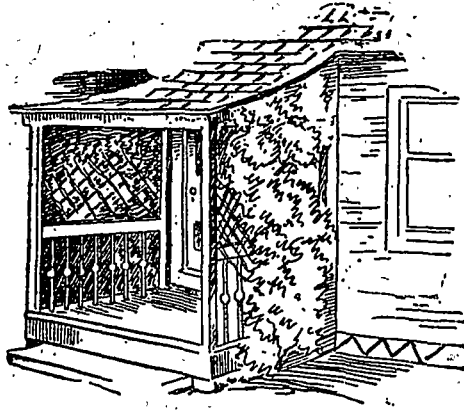
A minister, a saintly man, to whom religion was as the breath of life, with sadness confessed to the writer: 'It has long been the subject of deep pain and heart-searching to me that I can not talk to my own children of their souls' salvation with

the freedom I feel with others. I long to enter closely into their religious life; but something seems ever holding me back.'

How many of us is this 'something' holding back, while, perchance, our children are treading the tortuous paths of worldliness and sin? Let us awake from our lethargy, let us gird up our loins, and begin the battle of the Lord at our own hearthstones.

## Shade For the Kitchen Door.

A veranda alongside the eil of the house is a great comfort in summer, but it is too often wanting. A simple and inexpensive little porch can be put up over the kitchen door, however, that will not only add to the coolness of the interior, but will also add not a little to the looks of the house from



an outside point of view. The cut shows the porch and tells its own story of construction, even to the vines that run up over wire netting on either side and make a charming little arbor within. The curved roof, continuous with the house roof, gives a very pleasing effect to the whole. Such a porch would cost little save the two days' labor of a carpenter.—'N. E. Homestead.'

## Table Cheer.

I once knew a family who made it a rule that at dinner each member should relate some experience he had had, tell of some thing he had seen, heard or read about during the day; and thus a pleasant conversation was carried on at the table. Happy thoughts and cheerfulness are the best aids to digestion and appetite. When guests are at our table, we always aim to entertain them as best we can. Why not do the same for our loved ones? Not only in speech; but if the table is brightened with a bunch of flowers or a piece of embroidery or any dainty change, it would be appreciated. Many wonder how to make home pleasanter. These hints may be helpful.—'The Occident.'

## Selected Recipes.

Old-Fashioned Apple Pie.—Fill a deep, yellow pie dish with pared apples sliced very thin; then cover with a substantial crust and bake; when browned to a turn, slip a knife around the inner edge, take off the cover and turn bottom upward on a plate; then add a generous supply of sugar, cinna-

## NORTHERN MESSENGER

(A Twelve Page Illustrated Weekly).

One yearly subscription, 30c.  
Three or more copies, separately addressed, 25c. each.  
Ten or more to an individual address, 20c. each.  
Ten or more separately addressed, 25c. per copy.

When addressed to Montreal City, Great Britain and Postal Union countries, 52c postage must be added for each copy; United States and Canada free of postage. Special arrangements will be made for delivering packages of 10 or more in Montreal. Subscribers residing in the United States can remit by Post Office Money Order on Rouse's Point, N. Y. or Express Money Order payable in Montreal.

Sample package supplied free on application.

JOHN DOUGALL & SON,  
Publishers, Montreal.

mon and cloves to the apples; mash all together and spread evenly on the inserted crust. After grating nutmeg over it the dish is served cold with cream.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

## "In His Steps."

## SHELDON'S GREATEST BOOK!

Thrilling, Inspiring, Forceful.

EVERYONE IS READING IT AND TALKING ABOUT IT.

FOR ONLY ONE NEW SUBSCRIBER.

Sunday-School Teachers would do a good thing by putting this book into the hands of each of their scholars. It will exert a tremendous influence for good upon every member of a home.

Given only to 'Messenger' subscribers for one new subscriber at 30c.  
Sold singly or in lots at 15c per copy.

## 'MESSENGER' PREMIUM.



## Rodgers's Jack Knife.

This Boy's Knife will give great satisfaction. The blade is 2 1/4 inches long and made of the very best of steel, being by the celebrated Joseph Rodgers & Sons, of Sheffield, cutlers to Her Majesty, etc., etc.

Given only to 'MESSENGER' subscribers for two new subscriptions at 30 cents each.

For sale, postpaid, for 80 cents.

## 'MESSENGER' PREMIUM.

## MAPLE LEAF Blouse Sets.

Including One pair of Maple Leaf Cuff Links, Three Maple Leaf Front Studs, and One Plain Collar Stud.

Very patriotic and very dainty. Made entirely of Sterling Silver, decorated with Pure Gold. A lady who has seen these sets gave her opinion that they would bring \$5 in the city stores. However, with our special arrangements we can afford to give them to 'Messenger' subscribers who will send us eight strictly new subscriptions to the 'Messenger' at 30c each; or for sale, postpaid and registered, for \$1.50. Cash with order.

Our premiums are described honestly. If they be not considered to correspond with the descriptions they may be promptly returned and money will be refunded.

JOHN DOUGALL & SON,  
Publishers, Montreal.

## USE BABY'S OWN SOAP



YOUR NAME neatly printed on 20 Rich Gold Edge, Fancy Shape, Silk Fringed, Envelope Verse, Florals, etc., Cards. This gold Plated Ring and 25c present all or 10. Samples, outfit and private terms to Agents, 3c. Address STAR CARD CO., Knowlton, P. Q.

THE 'NORTHERN MESSENGER' is printed and published every week at the 'Witness' Building, at the corner of Craig and St. Peter streets, in the city of Montreal, by John Redpath Dougall, of Montreal.

All business communications should be addressed 'John Dougall & Son, and all letters to the editor' should be addressed Editor of the 'Northern Messenger.'