

THE HOUSEHOLD.

ATTRACTIVE HOMES.

Let us who are mothers and sisters, while we are honestly endeavoring to throw good and lasting influences around the young entrusted to our guidance, not underrate the value of an attractive home.

Most of us have at times been sojourners in houses that looked so prim and precise in all their appointments that we could scarcely breathe freely until we had gone out, and closed the door carefully behind us, almost fearing that the evil spirit of the place would follow us home.

A house where the chairs all stand stiffly against the wall—perhaps covered to keep them from injury—where the sunlight must not come for fear it will fade the carpet, where no papers must be left in sight, and every book must be in the book case, this is the house where the little ones have to sit still in stiff backed chairs with the injunction, "Don't put your feet on the rounds," and where the little ones wonder what makes the time pass so slowly, and what makes mother so cross. How they wish they could have a jolly time like the little ones over the way, whose mother is always preparing some pleasure for them, if only a cheap picture in a home-made frame, or a pretty plant or two for them to admire. All children love to look at flowers, and there are many men and large boys who profess to care for none of these things, yet feel their influence, and only know that home is the best and brightest place of all.

A boy not long since said to his mother, "I don't know why it is, mother, but our rooms look so much better than Mrs. B's. Her house is much finer, and her furniture prettier, but I like the looks of our rooms the best."

In the house he mentioned were no little knick-knacks—no pretty grasses and flowers to brighten up the rooms—nothing but the necessary articles of furniture. 'Tis true that there were handsome vases on the mantel, but most of the time these were very clean and empty, and seemed more like sentinels guarding the rooms than things for its adornment.

Gather the pretty grasses that abound in the fields—bring in the wild flowers. Search for the vines with bright berries, and pretty mosses. Decorate the mantels and brackets with them. Put them on the dining table. Even boughs of cedar and branches of evergreen will brighten up a room if we have no flowers. Make home look bright, and all will seem more cheerful. The young people will love their home, and the mother's influence will be more powerful for good. Try the experiment this winter and see the result.—*Vick's Monthly.*

FAMILY TRAINING — INDULGING APPETITE.

BY A CHRISTIAN MERCHANT.

This is an age of luxury and indulgence, and there is probably more physical as well as moral harm done by parents providing for the wants of their children, rather than their needs, than ever before. If parents would have more firmness in looking after their children's food and gratification of appetite, and see that a liking is cultivated for simple and nourishing articles of diet, their children would be mentally and physically much stronger than they are, and then there would not be that craving for stimulants which does so much to cause the drunkenness and intemperance of all descriptions that prevail so largely in society at the present time. One great reason why the children of well-to-do parents so often prove failures in life is that the cravings of appetite for rich, highly-spiced, and stimulating articles of food and drink were indulged in childhood, and they cannot now relish nor enjoy Nature's best gifts as they come from the hand of the Creator. They must have an expensive and luxurious kind of food, or be discontented and dissatisfied men and women. If their parents, on the contrary, had judiciously directed that only a limited amount of candy, pastry, cake, &c., should be given them, and that only food that was nourishing, healthy and easily digested was allowed on the table where the children were to eat, their enjoyment of life would be much greater. There is hardly anything so much needed in society at the present time as self-denial, and the ability to control the cravings of appetite. We want men and women whose judgment has greater influence over their lives than is exercised by their

animal appetites and desires. And we should train up the rising generation so that mental and moral culture should be considered much more important and enjoyable than luxurious living or gratification of appetite.

I knew a young lady who was an only child of an over-indulgent mother in poor circumstances. The daughter was beautiful in form and feature, but the mother knew no law superior to the daughter's wishes for the gratification of appetite. They lived part of the time in the family of the mother's sister, who had a large family of children of her own. The petted and indulged daughter of the poor dependent mother could not eat the food prepared for her cousins, so, rich, highly-seasoned dishes were prepared for her especial use; and her mother considered that because it was her child—who, in her own opinion, should be allowed to dictate just what she should or should not eat—her sister's children should be irritated by seeing their cousin at their own table luxuriating on meals composed of puddings, pies and cake, when they had to live on bread, meat, &c. I suppose it is hardly necessary to say that the daughter after having numerous admirers, whose attentions were of very short duration, died at twenty-five, of disease caused by her mode of living, and the mother has been heart-broken and disconsolate ever since; whereas if she had brought up her daughter to eat only that which was conducive to health and had trained her to habits of self-denial and consideration for the rights and feelings of others, I know of no reason why she should not have become a happy, useful member of society. If she had lived she would have expected to have her appetites gratified, her whims humored and a degree of attention bestowed upon her that would have made her a burden on her friends and life a disappointment to herself.

The temptations to luxury and sensual enjoyment are increasing on every hand, and parents must see that more watchfulness and care are shown in order that their children may be equipped with sufficient resolution and habits of self-denial and economy to become what every parent so much desires—intelligent, healthful and trusted, as well as honored members of society.

A child who is allowed to gratify every whim at the table—who is allowed to spend every cent that it gets for candy, &c.; who never is taught that it must limit the gratification of its appetites and desires—will, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, grow up in helpless despondency, and be no source of usefulness or happiness to itself or any one else.—*N. Y. Witness.*

A WRITER in the *Scientific American* says: We clean our premises of these detestable vermin (rats) by making whitewash yellow with copperas and covering the stones and rafters in the cellar with a thick coat of it. In every crevice where a rat might tread we put the crystals of the copperas, and scatter the same in the corners of the floor. The result was a perfect stampede of rats and mice. Since that time not a footfall of either rats or mice has been heard about the house. Every spring a coat of the same yellow wash is given to the cellar as a purifier as well as a rat exterminator, and no typhoid, dysentery or fever attacks the family.

MEAT OR SAUSAGE ROLLS.—Make one pound puff paste; roll it out to the thickness of half an inch, or rather less, and divide it into eight, ten, or twelve squares, according to the size the rolls are intended to be. Place some sausage-meat on one-half of each square; wet the edges of the paste and fold it over the meat; slightly press the edges together and trim them neatly with a knife; brush the rolls over with the yolk of an egg, and bake them in a well-heated oven for about half an hour, or longer should they be very large. The remains of cold chicken and ham, minced and seasoned, as also cold veal or beef, make very good rolls.

FISH FRITTERS.—Take the remains of any fish which has been served the previous day, remove all the bones, and pound it in a mortar; add bread-crumbs and mashed potatoes in equal quantities. Mix together half a tea-cupful of cream with two well beaten eggs, some cayenne pepper, and anchovy sauce. Beat it all up to a proper consistency, cut it into small cakes, and fry them in boiling lard.

BAKED APPLES.—Baked apples are very nice filled in with plain custard, also with rice and corn-flour, dressed as for a pudding, and poured in where the cores were; or take a piece of quince cheese and place it in when the apples are about half done. Blackberry jam, also, is very nice, but must not be put

in till the apples are done, or it spreads over the dish too much.

THE OBLIGING DIME.—Lay a dime between two quarters on a table covered with a cloth; place the two larger coins so that a glass tumbler, inverted, may stand upon them. Now ask the dime to come from under the glass to you, and it will most obligingly do so if you scratch the tablecloth with your finger-nail. This may truly be called "coming up to the scratch!"

To UTILIZE the feathers of ducks, chickens and turkeys, generally thrown aside as refuse, trim the plume from the stump, inclose them in a tight bag, rub the whole as if washing clothes, and you will secure a perfectly uniform and light down, excellent for quilting coverlets and other purposes.



PUZZLES.

ALL OF THE FOLLOWING MAY BE FOUND IN THE ABOVE SCENE.

1. Two domestic animals neither dogs nor sheep.
2. Something used for the safety of vessels.
3. Two-thirds of a measure in common use.
4. What Columbus decided to do when he discovered America.
5. Very short breathings.
6. What a doctor should do.
7. Something that Robin Hood carried.
8. What a photographer should do to his sitter when he spoils his picture by moving.
9. A flat fish.
10. A money-raising establishment.
11. Something that is often the best part of an oration.
12. Something between hitting the mark and missing.
13. A slang word for boldness.
14. Something that magpies often do.
15. A number of small swift-footed animals.
16. Something too often found in children's books.
17. What I would be if I were in your place.
18. Something lately abolished in the British navy.
19. Something always present at a military parade.
20. A verb involving the idea of plunder.
21. An island off the coast of Scotland.
22. Something that every carpenter uses.
23. Parts of cutting implements.
24. Where you come on your return.
25. What the man did who dined on nut-ton.
26. An implement used by shipbuilders.
27. Parts of a tree.
28. A part of a ship of war.
29. Weapons.
30. Part of a railway.

31. An edible mollusk.
32. A delicious fruit.
33. Parts of a ship.
34. Sacred buildings.
35. A part of every river.
36. A symbol of royalty.
37. Part of a clock.
38. A number of fish.
39. Something for dinner.
40. Scholars.
41. A favorite essayist.
42. A term used in music.
43. A collection of stories.
44. A common garden flower.
45. Part of a carpenter's tool.
46. A projecting tract of land.
47. Parts of an American cereal.
48. A celebrated metaphysical writer.
49. An instrument used in shooting.
50. Something often found in a paper of needles.
51. Ananias and Sapphira.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES OF SEPTEMBER 15

Word Square in Story.—
W A U L
A C R E
U R G E
L E E R

Four Hidden Trees.—Yew, Willow, Papaw, Cedar.

Beheadings and Curtailments.—Fracas, raca. Heart, ear. Canto, ant. Agatha, Gath. Planet, lane.

Charade.—Insatiate.

Metagram.—Bole, dole, hole, mole, pole, role, sole.

Musical Instruments.—Tabret, psaltery, organ, cymbal, sackbut, cornet, flute, bell, horn, timbrel, trumpet, pipe, harp.