

Woman's Page

Household Hints, Well-tried Recipes
and Useful Helps to Homekeepers

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ANOTHER CHRISTMAS PASSED

Another Xmas has passed. The Merry Christmas alas; not of our youth, but the happy calm Xmas of our maturer years.

It is not so many years ago since we joyfully hung our stockings near the mantle on Xmas eve, then went to bed in the firm faith that Santa Claus squeezed himself down the stove pipe with his pack of toys.

In those days the joy of Xmas was almost a pain. The sun shone bright, the sleigh bells rang music; the snow fell softly.

The church service of Xmas morning was the most blessed service of the whole year. The story of the Herald angels singing on that first Christmas morning, the gifts of frankincense and myrrh, brought by the wise men, to the Infant King, the church trimmed with its evergreens and the singing of the choir, all blended together in our childish minds, till those far away days of our Saviour seemed one with the present. To this day, when I smell evergreen, I can shut my eyes and feel again the joy of those exquisite old Christmas mornings. To those early Christmas days, I must confess it, do I owe much of my present faith.

We should see to it that we make merry the Christmas of our children, for who of us shall say of a truth, that this may not be a better way of impressing the birth of our Saviour King upon the childish mind, than long prayers and much preaching.

THE HOUSEKEEPER'S WEEK

Marion Harland has written yet another book, which she calls "The Housekeeper's Week." What it costs I do not know. It is published by the Bobbs-Merrill Co., Indianapolis. The new book is, to my mind, the best book that Marion Harland, (pen name for Mary Virginia Terhune), has written; that is saying a good deal, for we women all know what a splendid cook-book she has edited, and have read with pleasure many of her practical treatises on housekeeping, domestic science and kindred subjects. This new book "The Housekeeper's Week," is well worth the study of those of us who are interested in home-making in all its branches.

The most experienced house-keeper among us can gain yet more knowledge from this unique book. It deals with everything in the line of housekeeping "from washing to the destruction of vermin, the cleaning of gloves and the practice of domestic gymnastics."

Any girl who gains the knowledge which this book imparts may well consider herself a practical housekeeper.

The Divided Skirt

Fashion correspondents from Paris inform us that the divided skirt has come at last. It is seen quite commonly in the Bois, that promenade of fashion.

It is not the divided skirt of usual design, hanging full from the waist which common sense dress reformers have so often tried to introduce. No indeed; this divided skirt is first cousin to the direst, whose complete lack of fullness and clinging folds have made easy its coming. It is in reality only the direst skirt divided, leaving indeed small fullness for each division, making in fact this new style of dress resemble in point of fulness a man's garment.

Fashion can do more than a whole army of reformers, so, perhaps, we are at last to have sensible dressing for women. The disappearance of the long skirt with its germ and dust collecting tendencies and underskirt of like ilk would be hailed with delight by many of us. We hardly dare to hope for the universal use of this new styled dress.

Fashions come and go with such rapidity in these days. Who can say for certainty that before many months pass, we women kind may not be wearing hoops as enormous as those of the early Victorian age?

The Sudden Change in Style

The new styles have come upon us so suddenly that we have to stop short and take a good long breath, to make ourselves realize the fact that every art-

ticle of our wearing apparel is as hopelessly out of fashion as if it had been designed twenty years ago.

A new era has dawned; tight sleeves; long coats, narrow skirts, even the high ruching for our necks, which we were all adopting, are vanishing again.

It seems as if Dame Fashion was determined for once in her life to have a complete revolution in dress. Not content to have a new design in hats, this season she demands that every thing from milady's hat to her shoes, shall be of a new type. This is rather hard on those who are not prospective brides and are not planning for a complete new outfit.

We will have to ply our needles very industriously, or with this sudden change of style the cut of our garments will savor of the ark, when viewed by the eye accustomed to the new order of things.

WELL TRIED RECIPES

Cocoon Pudding

Materials:—1 cup butter, 3 cups sugar, 1 cup milk, 2 eggs, ½ cup shredded cocoon, 1 teaspoonful soda. Flavor with extract of lemon, and add flour enough to roll out.

Dominoes

Have any kind of sponge cake baked in a rather thin sheet. Cut this into small oblong pieces, the shape of a domino. Frost the top and sides of them. When the frosting is hard, draw the black lines and make the dots with a small brush, that has been dipped in melted chocolate. These are particularly good for children's parties.

Lady's Cake

Material:—½ cup of butter, 2 cups of sugar, ½ cup of milk, 3 cups of pastry flour, the whites of 6 eggs; 1 teaspoonful of baking powder, 1 teaspoonful of essence of almond.

Preparations:—Beat the butter to a cream. Add the sugar gradually, then the essence, milk, the whites of eggs beaten to a stiff froth, and the flour in which the baking powder has been mixed. Bake in one large pan or two small ones, and frost or not as you please. If baked in sheets about two inches deep, it will take about twenty-five minutes in a moderate oven.

Delicious Chocolate Cake

Materials:—Custard part. 1 cup of grated chocolate, ½ cup of sweet milk, 1 cup brown sugar, 1 egg, 1 teaspoonful of vanilla. Stir all together in a granite saucepan, cook slowly, put away to cool.

Cake part:—1 cup brown sugar, ½ cup butter, 2 cups flour, ½ cup sweet milk, two eggs, 1 teaspoonful of soda, 1 teaspoonful of cream tartar. Mix the cake well together, then stir in the cool custard, bake in layer tins or as a loaf cake, as you prefer.

Fig Pudding

Materials:—1 cup molasses, 1 cup chopped suet, 1 cup milk, ¾ cups flour, 2 eggs, 1 teaspoonful of soda, 1 teaspoonful cinnamon, ½ teaspoonful nutmeg, 1 pint of figs.

Preparations:—Mix together the suet, molasses, spice and figs cut fine. Dissolve the soda with a tablespoonful of hot water, and mix with milk. Add the other ingredients.

Beat the eggs light, and stir into the mixture. Add the flour and beat well. Butter two small, or one large brown bread mould, turn the mixture into the mould or moulds and steam 5 hours. Serve with a creamy sauce.

Date Pudding

Make the same as fig pudding, but use a generous pint of dates instead of the figs.

To Make a Bouquet of Sweet Herbs

Many of us do not know how to make a bouquet of sweet herbs, we simply add to our soups or stews, sage or parsley or thyme, as our tastes may decide. The French who are noted for their cooking, are past masters in the art of seasoning and flavoring.

A stew or soup, which would otherwise taste flat, will with a little judicious flavoring be transformed into an appetizing dish.

A very good bouquet of sweet herbs,

which can be used in stews, soups, meats, jellies and in the cooking of game, is made in the following way: put two sprigs of parsley on a plate and across them lay two bay leaves, two sprigs of thyme, two of summer savory, and two leaves of sage, tie all the other herbs (which are dry) with the parsley in a thin muslin bag. The addition of one or two cloves, according to some tastes, makes an improvement.

It is of course taken for granted that my lady has her seasonings in separate tin cans with air tight lids, neatly labelled, or better still in wide necked bottles with snugly fitting corks, all on one shelf by themselves, so that she can see at a glance just where the particular spice is that she wants. This saves not only much time when one is cooking but a vast amount of energy as well.

Can You Spell

It is some time ago since spelling bees were popular forms of entertainment in the country, but still one occasionally comes across the very superior person who tells you he can easily spell any word ever printed in a dictionary. If ever you meet this type of man, just ask somebody to dictate the following jumble to him, and see how many mistakes he will make:

"Antinous, a disappointed, desiccated physicist, was peeling potatoes in an embarrassing and harassing way. His idiosyncrasy and privilege was to eat mayonnaise and mussels while staring at the Pleiades and seizing people's tricycles and velocipedes. He was an erring teetotaler, and had been on a picayune jamboree. He rode a palfrey stallion and carried a saleable papier-mache bouquet of asters, phlox, mullein chrysanthemums, rhododendrons, fuchsias and nasturtiums."

"He wore a sibyl's resplendent turquoise paraphernalia, and ormolu yashmak and astrakhan chaparejos. He drank crystallizable and disagreeable curacao juleps through a sieve. He stole some moneys and hid them under a pedlar's mahogany bedstead and mattress."

"Like a fiend in an ecstasy of gayety I rushed after him into the maelstrom, or melee, and held him as in a vice. I could not feaze him however, and he addressed me, with autocracy, in the following imbecile words, which sounded like a soliloquy or a superseding paean on an oboe: 'You are a rateable lunamoth; a salaaming vizier; an equinoctial corpehe and an isosceles daguerrotype.'"

New Style in Hair Dressing

Many of us will be pleased to learn that a new flat arrangement of the hair is to take the place of the huge pompadors which have been so popular. From this follows the obvious fact that the rat that used to bolster up those pompadors will pass to the shades of forgetfulness, where it rightly belongs.

With the introduction of this new flat style of hair dressing, come especially for evening wear, bows of ribbon and wreaths of flowers, mounted on fine silk wire.

WEATHER SIGNS

"The sun is bright, the sky is clear, But grandma says a storm is near; And when I asked how she could know, She said the peacock told her so."

When perching on the old fence rail, He screamed so loud and dropped his tail.

The soot that from the chimney fell, Came down, it seems, the news to tell. The kettle sang the self-same tune, When it boiled dry that afternoon. The grass this morning said so too, It hung without a drop of dew. And then the swallows flying low, Went 'cross the river to and fro."

The Youngster's Opinion

The well-known business man who married the other day for the second time has a bright boy of eleven who should eventually climb to the top of the tree.

On his return from his honeymoon with his blushing but not too beautiful bride, the gentleman in question promptly set out to make the lady and his son acquainted.

"My boy," said he, beaming his best and brightest upon his precious offspring, "this is your new mother."

For a few seconds the youngster subjected the lady to a most critical examination, and then "I say, father," said he.

"Yes, my son," was the reply. "Well, dad," continued the youngster, "it's a fair question, how many coupons did you get her for?"

Don't lay away the things you don't need. Sell them. Put an ad. in the columns of COTTON'S WEEKLY. Somebody else wants them.

Kindness to Animals

There are certain things which all boys and girls should remember:

1. Never to stick pins into butterflies and other insects, unless you would like to have somebody stick pins into you.

2. Never to carry poultry with their heads hanging down, unless you would like to be carried in the same way.

3. Never to throw stones at those harmless creatures, the frogs, unless you would like to have stones thrown at you in the same way.

4. That nearly all snakes are harmless and useful.

5. That earth worms are harmless and useful, and that when you use them in fishing they ought to be killed instantly, before you start, by plunging them in a dish of boiling water.

6. That it is very cruel to keep fish in glass globes slowly dying.

7. That it is kind to feed the birds in winter.

8. That bits should never be put in horses' mouths in cold weather without being first warmed.

9. That it is cruel to keep twitching the reins while driving.

10. That when your horse is put in a strange stable you should always be sure that he is properly fed and watered, and in cold weather that his blanket is properly put on.

11. That you should never ride after a poor-looking horse when you can help it. Always look at the horse and refuse to ride after a poor-looking one, or a horse whose head is tied up by a tight checkrein.

12. That you should always talk kindly to every dumb creature.

13. That you should always treat every dumb creature as you would like to be treated yourself if you were in the creature's place.—Dumb Animals.

Sir A. Conan Doyle, speaking at a bazaar on behalf of Dr. Barnardo's Homes, suggested the establishment of agricultural colleges for poor boys, and that instead of lads being sent away from England hundreds of boys should be placed on the thousands of acres of uncultivated land, and receive a sound farm training, to the great benefit of themselves and the country.

Farmer Medders—So th' bunco man told yew he was a son o' good ole Deacon Perkins, an' yew believed him?

Farmer Snakeroot—Not at first, Si; but when he started in talkin' religion an' tryin' ter pick my pocket at th' same time, by gum! I jes' couldn't help but believe he wuz Deacon Perkins's own son.

There has been an increase of nearly thirty percent in the net weights of letters and postcards transmitted to America since the introduction of penny postage from England to the United States. In the four weeks of September it amounted to 35,600 pounds. In the four weeks of October it rose to 45,340 pounds.

This year's potato crop in Great Britain amounted to 3,919,798 tons, 642,313 tons more than in 1907. The turnip and swede crop amounted to 23,738,207 tons, an increase of 1,652,489, and the mangel crop was 8,987,161 tons, 50,239 more than last year.

"Do you ever do anything to help your wife with her household tasks?"

"Sure I do. I light the fire every morning."

"Ah! And do you carry the coal up?"

"No—no. We cook with electricity."

The Franco-British Exhibition in England buildings are to be reopened next year for an international display of specialties, all the best and most interesting products and manufacturers that can be contributed by the countries co-operating.

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AT DEATH'S DOOR

Doctors had to give her Morphine to ease the pain

Five boxes of "Fruit-a-lives" Cured Her

ENTERPRISE, ONT., Oct. 1, 1908.

For seven years I suffered with what physicians called a "Water Tumor". I would get so bad at times that I could hardly endure the pain. I could neither sit, stand, nor lie down. Hypodermics of Morphine had to be given me or I could never have borne the pain. Many physicians treated me, but my cure seemed hopeless, and my friends hourly expected my death. It was during one of these very bad spells that a family friend brought a box of "Fruit-a-lives" to the house. After much persuasion I commenced to take them, but I was so bad that it was



only when I had taken nearly two boxes that I commenced to experience relief. I kept up the treatment, however, and after taking five boxes I was cured, and when I appeared on the street my friends said, "The dead has come to life." And this seemed literally true because I certainly was at death's door. But now I can work almost as well as ever I could, and go camping and berry-picking with the girls. I will be glad if you will publish this testimonial, if it will further the interests of "Fruit-a-lives." They should be in every household. Yours very truly, Mrs. JAMES FENWICK.

Through the whole country around Enterprise, Ont., people are talking of this wonderful cure. By their marvellous action on the kidneys, "Fruit-a-lives" cured Mrs. Fenwick when the doctors said she could not be operated on and was doomed to die. "Fruit-a-lives" cured Mrs. Fenwick when all else failed. Try them for your trouble. 25c. and 50c. a box, at dealers or sent postpaid on receipt of price. Fruit-a-lives Limited, Ottawa.

PSALMS.

Psalms 21:

The king shall joy in thy strength, O Lord; and in thy salvation how greatly shall he rejoice!

2 Thou hast given him his heart's desire, and hast not withholden the request of his lips. Selah.

3 For thou preventest him with the blessings of goodness: thou settest a crown of pure gold on his head.

4 He asked life of thee, and thou gavest it him, even length of days for ever and ever.

5 His glory is great in thy salvation, honour and majesty hast thou laid upon him.

6 For thou hast made him most blessed for ever: thou hast made him exceeding glad with thy countenance.

7 For the king trusteth in the Lord; and through the mercy of the Most High he shall not be moved.

PROVERBS.

Chapter 11.

27 He that diligently seeketh good procureth favour: but he that seeketh mischief, it shall come unto him.

28 He that trusteth in his riches shall fall: but the righteous shall flourish as a branch.

29 He that troubleth his own house shall inherit the wind; and the fool shall be servant to the wise of heart.

30 The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.

31 Behold, the righteous shall be recompensed in the earth: much more the wicked and the sinner.

Chapter 12.

Whoso loveth instruction loveth knowledge: but he that hatetheth reproof is brutish.

2 A good man obtaineth favour of the Lord; but a man of wicked devices will he condemn.

TO BE CONTINUED.

It Goes to The Home

Our paper goes to the home and is read and welcomed there. If you wish to reach the household, the real ruler of domestic destinies, you can do so through our paper and our Classified Want Ads. form an interesting and well-read portion of it.

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