

HOUSEHOLD.

Show me the Path of Life

- A little cradle near the chair,
- A little lad with nut-brown hair,
- A little fur-lined shoe, a hat,
- A little dimpled face and fat;
- A little room with playmates four,
- A little room with playmates four,
- A little toy upon the floor,
- A little satchel filled with tools,
- A little time spent at the schools;
- A little winsome maid to chide,
- A little walk at even tide;
- A little cot, with garden round,
- A little family springing round,
- A little older than before,
- A little added to his store;
- A little silvery-crested hair,
- A little rest from toil and care,
- A little arm-chair, near the fire;
- A little hymn by homely choir;
- A little group around his bed;
- A little hair-tress from his head:
- A little journey down the lane,
- A little church-yard, quaint and plain;
- A little fresh-made mound, and tall,
- A little weeping,—that is all!

—J. Parkes.

A Neglected Virtue.

(Frank E. R. Miller, in the 'Standard'.)

Hospitality is one of the first virtues as well as one of the finest courtesies of life. One can do nothing better for a friend or confer a higher honor upon a stranger than to throw open the doors of his house with a generous invitation to join the family circle for a time. In the construction of a modern house a blunder fully as serious as the omission of a bathroom or a heating plant is the failure to provide one room more than the family will ordinarily need a guest chamber. As an aid to culture and refinement, as a means to the proper training of the children in good manners and self-respect, there is nothing more effective than a wise and liberal hospitality. To the fact that his parents kept open house for the circuit preacher, the occasional sojourner, the visiting friend from the old home in the East, many a young person in the middle and western part of the country owes his early and useful knowledge of the ways of the world, his ease in society, and a fund of information gathered from the conversation to which often he has listened in breathless interest.

Hospitality is only one degree less valuable as an educational measure than travel. Next to seeing all lands and peoples and customs is to meet those who have travelled in distant parts and brought back in their conversation specimens of what their faculty of observation picked up, understood and retained. It is true that 'as iron sharpens iron so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend,' the parent who denies himself and his family of growing children the benefit and pleasure of an occasional guest must be regarded as stupid and stingy and selfish.

But this virtue should find its spring not only in the fact that a guest in the house is a source of inspiration, that he leaves behind him the influences of his individuality that the Scripture enjoins hospitality on the ground that we may be entertaining angels unawares, but also in the truth and obligations of brotherhood.

Emerson in his essay on 'Friendship,' says; 'We are holden to men by every sort of tie, by pride, by blood, by fear, by hope, by lucre, by lust, by hate, by admiration, by every circumstance and badge and trifle, but we can scarce believe that so much character can subsist in another as to draw us by love. Can another be so blessed and we so pure that we can offer him tenderness?'

Yet this is the very thing men need. When they come on voyages of discovery in our neighborhood they do not relish a flight of poisoned arrows, but they seek the gold and silver of our hearts. In some directions mankind is not slow to recognize and act upon the fact. The sick are visited, the dead are buried, the orphan is housed. In these matters benevolence lies in actions, not in feelings and sentiments. Are we aware that the possession of the capacity of hospitality carries with it an obligation of use?

Who is not acquainted with a substantial

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two-storey dwelling, planted firmly and attractively on a little natural terrace that fronts on a fine residence street in his town? Neatly kept, its outbuildings screened from view by a stone wall or a painted fence it meets the approval of one's eye and inflames his pride in the town of which it is an ornament. But one day when a sight-seeing stranger asks, 'Whose house is that?' the resident is astonished to find that he has little more to say than, 'Why, that—that house over yonder?—that's old Scroogeley's place.' For he remembers that he has never been invited to step within its doors, that he has never seen its curtains up at night and cheerful light within, that he has never heard of a generous feast being spread upon its board or a visitor being conducted to its guest chamber from one year's end to another. Somehow he is sorry that the stranger ever saw that house at all. Turning to the sight-seer he says: 'But, have you seen Mr. Greatheart's cottage? It isn't much of a place architecturally; but it's a fine place to visit.'

Is the reader sure that Scroogeley is a non-professor of religion and that Greatheart is a deacon in the church! Where is the pastor who does not sigh for householders who are given to the cultivating of the neglected virtue of hospitality?

The More Punctual Sex.

An unfounded prejudice exists to the effect that women are the less punctual sex. I hold that this is a mistake, says an exchange. They are more punctual, except in the keeping of business engagements, in which they have had imperfect training, than men are. Women are usually ready first, if it be a question of keeping a social engagement. For a journey across town, or a trip in the country, mother and the children are completely ready; bags are packed, gloves are on, everything is done before father decides that it is time to move. Women have a deep-seated aversion to arriving at a train without a broad margin for buying tickets and checking baggage. Men like to catch a train on the exact minute that it is pulling out of a station, which is not punctuality, but recklessness. On the score of tardiness, when women acknowledge it, must be pleaded a great many little things which use up time and make no show.—'Morning Star.'

Selected Recipes.

A Vegetable Salad.—Cold cauliflower is the foundation of a vegetable salad into which both turnips and potatoes may enter, if you wish. Slice the latter, and put them in a salad bowl, previously rubbed with just the least soupcon of garlic. Break up and sprinkle the cauliflower through the slices. Make any mayonnaise and pour over it. If a warm dish is wanted as entree, the same, heated through with a cream sauce, answers admirably.—'The Mail.'

Another acceptable vegetable salad is made of cold boiled potatoes cut in cube shape, beets and carrots cut in same manner, allowing a cupful of each vegetable; sprinkle with salt and pepper and add one tablespoonful of minced chive and mix with a French dressing. Chop the whites of two hard boiled eggs and place on the top of the mixed vegetables and then sprinkle over all the egg yolks rubbed through a sieve. Garnish with the hearts of lettuce.

Salad Cups.—Handsome green or red peppers make pretty salad cups. Cut off the small ends of the peppers and trim the large ends until the cup stand firmly. Remove the seeds and fill with cabbage, celery and apple, or other salad, mixed with mayonnaise, and serve on lettuce leaves. Red cups on white lettuce leaves are delightful.

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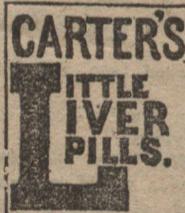
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