

THE HOUSEHOLD.

POLITENESS IN THE HOME.

Children almost invariably follow as their parents lead. Their good breeding, their politeness, courtesy, respect and affection are largely patterned after the example of their parents. If the mother shows by her daily life that she looks up to the father with loving deference as the head of the family, and manifests unmistakable pleasure in seeking his comfort and assisting to carry out his wishes, the children will, in a large degree, follow her example. If the father invariably treats the mother with respect and courtesy quite as noticeable as he shows to his most esteemed guests, listening to any remarks or wishes of hers with deference, be sure the children will follow his lead. On the other hand, if they habitually notice that she meets him with impatience and repression, heedless of any of his wishes, or that he meets her with indifference nearly allied to rudeness or discourtesy, ridicules or sneers at her remarks, or passes them by as if not worthy of notice, does any one imagine that the children, even the youngest, will not see this, and from such daily examples soon practice what they find is so common? We remember reading or hearing of a father reproving his young son very strongly for "fretting" at his sister, and ordering him to leave the room. The child reluctantly obeyed, and just as he closed the door behind him looked back to his father defiantly, saying, "We don't call it that when you talk so to mamma." It is not the peace and happiness of one pair alone that depends upon the respect, courtesy and affection that should govern the whole life. But if carefully cultivated, or if wickedly neglected, the influence for good or evil branches out in many directions, and may be the salvation or ruin of many souls.—Mrs. H. W. Beecher, in *Christian Union*.

HOW TO DO UP SHIRT-BOSOMS.

Take two tablespoonfuls best starch, add a very little water to it, rub and stir with a spoon into a thick paste, carefully breaking all the lumps and particles. Add a pint of boiling water, stirring at the same time; boil half an hour, stirring occasionally, to keep it from burning. Add a piece of enamel the size of a pea; if this is not at hand, use a tablespoonful of gum-arabic solution (made by pouring boiling water upon gum-arabic and standing until clear and transparent), or a piece of clean mutton tallow half the size of a nutmeg and a teaspoonful of salt will do, but is not as good. Strain the starch through a strainer or a piece of thin muslin. Have the shirt turned wrong side out; dip the bosoms carefully in the starch and squeeze it out, repeating the operation until the bosoms are thoroughly and evenly saturated with starch; proceed to dry. Three hours before ironing dip the bosoms in clean water; wring out and roll up tightly. First iron the back by folding it lengthwise through the centre; next iron the wrist-bands, and both sides of the sleeves; then the collar-band; and now place the bosom-board under the bosom, and with a dampened napkin rub the bosom from the top toward the bottom, smoothing and arranging each plait neatly. With smooth, moderately hot flat-iron, begin at the top and iron downward, and continue the operation until the bosom is perfectly dry and shining. Remove the bosom-board, and iron the front of the shirt. The bosom and cuffs of shirts, indeed, of all nice, fine work, will look clearer and better if they are first ironed under a piece of thin old muslin. It takes off the first heat of the iron, and removes any lumps of starch.—*Christian Intelligencer*.

CHILDREN'S PETS AND PLAYMATES.

"My little girl is so lonely. She is always wishing she had a sister," said Mrs. Ramsay, a new comer in the club. "I have consented to let her have a kitten to play with, though I have an antipathy to animals about the house."
"I think the care of pets is a part of children's education which should never be neglected," said Mrs. Mayfield. "I have recently been reading a book on the Duties of Women by Frances Power Cobbe, in which she speaks very earnestly about the cruelty of neglecting the comfort of birds, rabbits or other domestic pets. A child who undertakes to keep a pet of any kind should feel responsible for it; and the fact that it must be fed at a certain time every day, have its

little house or bed kept fresh and clean, and have water provided for its thirst, has a great deal to do in cultivating habits of thoughtful kindness in a young person."

"I like that expression,—thoughtful kindness," said Mrs. Miniver. "There is a great deal of impulsive kindness which springs from good intentions, or quick emotions, but the kindness which tells on other lives is thoughtful. It is individual in its character, and it flows on in a steady course."

"Suppose, ladies," said Miss Du Pressence, "that a boy takes a fancy to bring in an odious little black-and-tan terrier into the house."

"Odious!" said Mrs. Lee, who is devoted to dogs; but Miss Du Pressence did not heed the exclamation.

"Suppose I say he brings in one of those wretched little snapping things, or has a flock of pigeons, or a colony of white mice, or a squirrel, or a parrot, or a turtle, or a monkey, and his parents dislike the whole troublesome tribe,—have they no rights? Is master John to rule the house, because he is a boy and needs something to make him happy at home?"

"The last consideration, dear Miss Du Pressence, is a very important one in the eyes of most mothers," said Mrs. Miniver. "The number and the nature of pets, it is within the power of parents to control; but if they are rigid and selfish, and repress the young life of their children, and decline to let them have any special objects which may make home interesting to them, they need not be surprised if their children find attractions elsewhere. A virtue may be carried so far that it becomes a vice, and the over-cleanliness of some mothers, the over-nicety of some housekeepers has driven boys and young men into resorts of temptation and sin."

"Don't you think that there is a middle ground?" said Mrs. Rutherford, "and that children may keep their pets within bounds, and select those which are agreeable to their parents?" "Of course," said Aunt Betty, "common sense regulates that. Nobody wants pigeons in the parlor, nor cats and dogs under their feet. Let there be a place for the pets. And let the children learn to treat every living thing about them with downright love, from the horses and cows to the chickens and pigs. Even pigs are interesting from some points of view."

"Children's associates are far more of a worry to me than their pets," said Mrs. Raymond, a lady with a care-worn face. "I do so want to bring up mine in entire ignorance of evil, and I try to keep them under my own eye constantly, yet do what I will, they sometimes hear and see what I regret."

"They are always under God's eye, dear friend," said Mrs. Miniver tenderly. "And it seems to me that His way is not just like yours. 'I pray not,' said the Master, 'that thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from evil.' To learn to resist evil is a nobler thing than to be forever kept away from it."

"But my husband says that a little boy always takes some other and bigger boy as his model, and my darling Freddie certainly tries to swagger and strut just like Tim Rooney, the washerwoman's boy, who brings home the clothes."

"You see," said Aunt Betty, "it is the strength and freedom of Tim Rooney that he admires. You should send him to school, and let him have a choice of big boys. Then he would find out that little gentlemen may be brave and bright as well as the little fellows of a lower class."

"I encourage my children," said Mrs. Jameson, "to bring their little friends to their home, and though I never act the spy, or appear to be watching them, I become well acquainted with the little visitors, and I never let an acquaintance ripen into fatuity, unless I am persuaded that it will be a benefit to my children. I prefer that other mothers should exercise the same guardianship over their dear ones. We are all more or less modified by the friendships we form, and I cannot let my daughters or my sons have any close friendships with young people whom I do not know.—*Christian Intelligencer*.

GRAHAM BREAD.—Take two quarts of Graham and one of white flour; half a cup of yeast; one scant tablespoonful of salt; half a cup of brown sugar, and warm water enough to make a stiff batter, and when well mixed let it rise. It will rise in a warm place in four hours if your yeast is good, and must therefore be left in rather a cool

place if left to rise "over night." When risen, mix with it a teaspoonful of saleratus, dissolved in warm water, and flour enough to shape it into loaves; but be careful not to get it too stiff. Let it rise again for half an hour, and bake slowly a little more than an hour. Make the loaves small. Boston Brown Bread is a delicacy not easily obtained out of New England. First, good rye meal must be found (a difficult matter in some places). Into a quart of rye meal and a quart of yellow corn meal put one tablespoonful of salt, half a cup of molasses, two teaspoonfuls of well dissolved saleratus, and wet the mixture with sour milk till it is a stiff batter. It must be well mixed. Put it in a "hat" pudding-dish, well buttered, and steam five hours at least. Fifteen minutes before serving turn the loaf from the "hat," and set it into a hot oven to give it a little crust. This is the substance of the rule followed in our kitchen to the great satisfaction of the family and our guests. Some judgment is needed in respect to the quantity of salt and saleratus. It will not hurt the bread to steam longer than five hours, but it must not be defrauded of a moment of that time. Use it hot in the loaf for the first meal. Cut it in slices, browned and buttered, for a second. Use the crust and dry pieces boiled into brewis for a third.

HOW TO MAKE TEA.—Hard water makes the most delicious tea, as it dissolves less of the tannin and gives the cup a more delicate flavor. And given with hard water there is a wide difference between wells located near together. But even the same quality of water, and a difference in the manipulation will make to a sensitive taste a total change in the character of the beverage. There is not one tea-kettle out of a hundred that in its present condition is fit to boil water for a cup of tea. Let our reader go home to-night and inspect his own outfit, and he will verify our statement. He will find the interior of his kettle encrusted with the mineral deposits extracted from the water boiled in it from morning until night of each succeeding day. As the water is "clean," the cook but empties and fills the kettle, never thinking of the growing crust that must now be scraped off if the kettle is to be cleaned. Water that has stood after boiling will not make a good cup of tea, and yet how often the tired laborer, mechanic, merchant, doctor, or lawyer has tried to solace himself with a beverage made from water containing the debris of that which has stood all day on the range, being only filled as often as any addition was needed. Take a clean kettle never used for anything else, fill it with fresh water, the harder the better, boil quickly over a very hot fire, and pour as soon as it boils upon the tea leaves fresh from the canister. Let it stand four or five minutes, and then drink.—*Exchange*.

TAPIOCA PUDDING.—Pare and slice fine apples to half fill a small, deep, pudding dish, scatter over them about a teaspoonful of cinnamon, sugar enough to sweeten the apple, one-half cup, unless the apples are very sour, ought to be enough, and a little salt; pour a little cold water on four heaping tablespoonfuls of tapioca, add one pint of boiling water, and let it stand one hour; pour over the apples and bake, being careful that the mixture does not fill your dish full, or it will boil over in the oven and you will lose some of the best of it. Serve with a hard sauce made as follows: Take two tablespoonfuls of butter, one-half cup of granulated sugar, grate on a little nutmeg, and work well together with a spoon.

BAKED APPLE DUMPLINGS.—Peel the apples, take out the core, and fill full of sugar, make a crust as for rich cream biscuit, divide it in pieces large enough to cover each apple separately, roll it about a quarter of an inch thick, place the apples on and bring the edges together the same as in any other dumplings. Place them side by side in a pudding pan, spread butter and sugar over them, and pour boiling water to about half cover the dumplings. Put them in the oven and cook moderately fast until they are nicely browned. Eaten with cream.

PEANUT CANDY.—One cup of molasses, one cup of sugar; boil until it will be brittle when cold; stir in half a pint of peanuts just before taking it off the stove. Cut it in squares before it is cool enough to break.

CEMENT FOR PAPER LABELS.—Shellac dissolved in alcohol is a good cement to make paper labels adhere to tin. The varnish should be tolerably thick.

PUZZLES.

A CHARADE.

Though quite devoid of heart,
My first does not withhold
From him who seeks, a draught
Of water, pure and cold.

Although my second may
To you be very near,
It does not follow that
It is both near and dear.

When purple is the grape,
And leaves grow sere and old,
In browning fields my whole
Displays its sphere of gold.

DIAMOND.

* A consonant.
* * A wheel.
* * * * An animal in the east.
* * A verb.
* A consonant.

FOURTEEN DIFFERENT FRUITS.

The above are found in different climes. Clemona appeared; a cur ran to meet her. Was it in love or anger? In her lap plenty to help each. Ned ate much. At the Hub Anan, as well as Sara, is in school. If I go I shall see Quin. Celia sews and Jeph lumberers. Joe is an archer, Ryan also.

COMPOUND DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

1. Value. 2. Part of ancient Greece. 3. A gem. 4. An iron frame used by printers to confine types. 5. Of a light-brown color. Primals—To enchant. Finals—The filibert. Primals and finals connected.—A shrub.

EASY SQUARE WORDS.

No. 1. Prepared meat; a positive verb; a verb in the past tense.
No. 2. Completion; to handle for a purpose; human beings.

BURIED FAMILIAR SURNAMES.

1. I really do not know which illness is the worst—malaria, dyspepsia, or the blues.
2. How I love my precious little Jo, nestling so confidingly in my bosom.
3. "What do you think of the woman's Rightsism?" "It heralds perhaps a new era of freedom for the weaker sex."
4. "Although it may agree not with the high mightiness of the sterner sex."
5. There is a story going about that the moon is made of green cheese.
6. Your friend's mind, tho' well-balanced, apparently seems to me to be somewhat one-sided upon some questions.
7. I heard father lecturing Bob on dancing so often with one pretty girl; but he was laughing the while.
8. In the late railway accident there was a car terribly broken up, and few of the passengers escaped bad wounds.
9. Your angry mastiff is having a bad fight with that poor little cur. Please call him off.
10. My friend Tom can imitate the dove's low, tender "coo" perfectly.
11. Poor baby, having lost her doll, is full of grief. It charmed her young heart and there seems to be no consolation possible.
12. "Who is this J. S. you are speaking of, Tom?" "He was an officer in the late war. During the whole campaign he was noted for his bravery."
13. It was a battle between us; but, tho' master of the situation, I charitably gave way, for the sake of peace.
14. Hearing a violent scream, I went out of doors and found a large bee besieging little Frankie, as if in revenge for his curiosity.
15. At some of the most prominent stores they sell a neat dress at a very low price.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES OF FEBRUARY 15.

Charade.—Warlock.
Rebus.—Over-d-a-te.
Transpositions.—Regal, glare, large, lager.

Half-Word-Square.—
L O B E L I A
O L I V E T
B I P E D
E V E N
L E D
I T
A

Transposed Proverb.—Though thou shouldst bray a fool in a mortar among wheat with a pestle, yet will not his foolishness depart from him.—Prov. 27: 22.

Behatted Rhymes.—1, still—till—ill. 2, plash—lash—ash. 3, crash—rash—ash. 4, scream—cream—ream.

Charades.—1, cork-screw. 2, toad-stool. 3, jack-knife. 4, fish-hook. 5, tea-pot. 6, bees-wax. 7, grass-hopper. 8, saw-horse. 9, clothes-pin. 10, mouse-trap.

Entigma.—A rolling stone gathers no moss.