

THE HOUSEHOLD.

THE GUEST CHAMBER.

By all means let us have a guest chamber if we can possibly spare the apartment, and if not, let us so arrange our household that some room can be afforded for the accommodation of visitors. Hospitality is one of the dearest privileges of the home and one of the first things regretted, when home life is exchanged for life in a boarding-house, is that the opportunity to invite friends is necessarily so restricted. The guest chamber should be thoroughly comfortable, and it can do without certain elaborate luxuries if the bed and pillows be soft, elastic, clean and dainty, if there is plenty of covering on the bed, with an extra pair of blankets or a spread conveniently accessible in case of need. There ought to be abundant facility for washing; toilet soap, plenty of towels, not hard and slippery, above all, not new towels, which are very disagreeable; pins ought to be on the cushion, needles and thread, a button-hook, and any other little contrivance or convenience which may occur to the hostess. If there is no hot water in the house to be turned on at a faucet, then hot water should be brought in the morning to the guest's door. There ought to be provision for the mind as well as the body, and no guest chamber is complete in which there are no books. A Bible, of course, should be part of the furniture, and there should also be several bright or restful books, which may while away an hour pleasantly if the friend desire to spend some time in her room. Writing materials—pen, ink and paper, are not amiss, as indeed nothing is which will add to the happiness of the friend within your gates. A bed and a table, a stove and a candlestick, were the suggestions of the Shunamite matron when she thought of entertaining the prophet as he passed her house, and they still remain the requisites, although a rocking chair is in these days to be substituted for the more primitive stool, and a lounge on which to recline is a delightful supplement to the bed.—*Christian Intelligencer.*

EGGS BY WEIGHT.

Isn't it strange that we buy and sell eggs by number instead of by weight? Number does not show their value; weight does. Some eggs weigh twice as much as others. What justice or business sagacity is there in paying the same price for one as for the other? Is not the farmer who sells a large one for the same price that his neighbor sells a small one cheated? And is not the buyer of the small egg cheated? Just as well might butter be sold by rolls, the small roll bringing as much as the large one. We do not buy or sell butter by the number of rolls, of meat by the number of pieces, or cheese by number; nor should we sell eggs by number.

If eggs were bought and sold by weight, the value of certain breeds of fowls would be changed. Now the breed that furnishes the greatest number of eggs is the most profitable; then it would be the breed that furnished the greatest weight. Some breeds are remarkable for the smallness of their eggs; such breeds would suffer in popularity, while the fowls that lay large eggs would gain. This would work only justice, however, to the fowls, as it would to their owners and the consumers. Clearly eggs should be sold by weight. Then why does not every one insist upon it?—*American Agriculturist.*

TEACH OBEDIENCE EARLY.

In spite of the reaction which has taken place against corporal punishment, there can be little doubt among those who have really considered the question, that when applied properly, it is desirable. One of the great mistakes made is, that it is put off too long. When the child has grown to be seven or eight years of age, and government has broken down, then corporal punishment is usually adopted, and it is a failure of the most conspicuous kind. As young children behave like young animals, and are amenable to the same instruction as an animal, it seems certain that ninety percent of all the corporal punishment which a child should have, ought to be inflicted before it is three years of age. As soon as it begins to understand yes and no, it should be made to obey. When the colt or young puppy, at play, nips the hand too hard, a slight blow stops the unpleasant part of the play, and the punishment is accepted as a result of their own ac-

tion, so long as the person does not show anger. When at the table, little fingers reach for the hot coffee pot, "No, no," conveys the idea. The fingers go out again, regardless of the warning, and then a little blow will settle the matter. Then the fingers will come out again to test cause and effect. The same punishment must follow without any word of reproof or warning. These lessons repeated in various ways, will settle the question of authority at a very early age and the rod will soon be laid aside.—*American Kindergarten.*

HOME DECORATION.

In home decoration do not overload the rooms with bric-a-brac. Any article that has an excuse for existing at all, can be made beautiful if the form and construction are good. A bit of color can be thrown into any dark corner by a skillful arrangement of drapery, which shall serve as a background and while throwing beauty into the room serves as a little receiving corner for odds and ends, little dark trifles, which need something bright to cheer them up.

White has been introduced for interior finish; white paint for wood work, white ceiling and if not a white wall, only a very delicate tone of color is permitted. Following this fancy, there are old-style rush-bottom chairs painted white, the corners finished by caps of polished brass. Picture frames of white, with a border of gilded beads, show a broad, flat design in the frame, which serves as mat border and frame combined.

If you have windows whose outlook is unpleasant, cover the window panes with pressed ferns attached to the glass with a bit of mucilage. Place the ferns upright, as though they were growing, filling in every bit of the glass, then tack over the entire sash a piece of white or yellow lace; netting or wash blonde will do nicely, protecting the leaves without destroying their beauty.

Another pretty arrangement is to use Spanish moss in the same way, dipping it first into alum water, when you have a mass of drooping crystals against the pane which shuts out every bit of gloom or dreariness of prospect, and catches with every stray gleam of sunshine or flash of gaslight a tremulous beauty most fairylike. Moss prepared in this fashion is one of the industries of Southern women, whose delicate fancy and patience are bringing so many rare and beautiful articles into the market for home decoration.—*American Art Illustrated.*

LINCOLN'S PROVERBS.

An autograph letter that I would like to own was shown to me a few days ago. "A. Lincoln" was boldly signed at the end of it, and this wisdom was there, paraphrased in this wise:

- "Do not worry.
- "Eat three square meals a day.
- "Say your prayers.
- "Think of your wife.
- "Be courteous to your creditors.
- "Keep your digestion good.
- "Steer clear of biliousness.
- "Exercise.
- "Go slow and go easy.
- "Maybe there are other things that your special case requires to make you happy. but, my friend, these, I reckon, will give you a good lift."—*New York Times.*

RESPECTFUL, considerate manners are almost out of vogue, and the children of to-day ride rough-shod over the proprieties. The old-time stiffness and formality of manner may have had its absurdities, but there is no sweeter charm in life than the habit of considerate regard for the common comfort and regularity of the home—the thoughtful deference to others, the affectionate dependence upon one another. If this spirit is cultivated, the family unity, with all its tender and helpful relations, is assured, and the home becomes the real centre and influence of the life. There is no better or surer test of this than the manners at the table. And, therefore, it is a great loss to the best training and pleasure when its arrangements are so formed as to leave altogether to the waitress the duty of attending to the wants of the company. To keep a watchful eye upon the needs of others, to invite them with gentle courtesy to partake of what they may lack in their supply of the different dishes, will add a

gracious spirit of unselfishness and harmony, for which nothing else gives opportunity. No collection of dainty dishes, no extent of formal elegance of arrangement, will give the heart warmth and delight of simple, unobtrusive kindly attention from one's neighbors at the table.—*Marian S. Devereux, in Good Housekeeping.*

In *Babyhood* an expert chemist has a talk upon a matter that we advise all householders and parents, and judicious folk generally to pay more heed to arsenical wall-papers, and how to tell them. Week in and week out, a vast deal of mischief is done insidiously to health by manufacturers' yet too frequent employment of the fascinating and perilous tints. Those who have headaches and vertigo and kindred difficulties for which they cannot account, had better be sure that the troubles are not derived from the rich green of a dado, or the seductive blue of a frieze.

NEVER DECEIVE A CHILD.—Of course some questions are asked which cannot be answered understandingly, but remember the answers to a child's question often furnish instruction to a man or woman in embryo. Reply in a manner you would be perfectly willing to have reproduced several years later.—*Golden Rule.*

RECIPES.

RICE PUDDING.—One-half cup of rice, salt, and one cup of raisins boiled until the raisins are tender and the rice dry. Add a custard and pour into a pudding dish set in a pan of water, and do not bake too long. The rule for the custard is four eggs to a quart of milk.

TAPIoca CREAM.—Soak three tablespoonfuls of tapioca in cold water over night. When soft stir it into a quart of boiling milk, add a teaspoonful of salt and two-thirds cup of sugar. Let it boil five minutes, then add the beaten yolks of three eggs. As soon as it thickens stir in the whites of the eggs. Flavor with a teaspoonful of vanilla and eat cold.

LIGHT CAKES.—In the morning take about one quart from your bread sponge, add an egg, and one heaping tablespoonful each of lard, butter, and sugar. Work these well through and let it rise again. About three o'clock make out into little rolls, put in the pan so they will not touch, let them rise again from two to two and a half hours, then bake twenty minutes.

MEAT CAKES.—Chop any kind of fresh, cold meats very fine, season with salt and pepper, make a nice batter, lay a spoonful of the batter on the griddle, which must be buttered to prevent its sticking, then a spoonful of the chopped meat, and then a spoonful of the batter. When browned on one side, turn carefully and brown the other. It makes a palatable breakfast dish. Serve hot.

SMOTHERED CHICKEN.—After dressing a half-grown chicken, cut it open in the back, lay it in a baking pan with the skin side down as flatly as possible, season with salt and pepper, and sprinkle with flour. Put it in a hot oven, and as it commences to brown, rub with a little butter. Do not put water in your pan unless it commences to burn. When it is a nice brown color, turn and season the same. One hour is long enough for a young chicken.

A PUDDING WITHOUT MILK OR EGGS.—Soak dry bread in as little water as possible, and squeeze out all the water. Add sufficient sugar to sweeten, and for a small pudding one-half tea-cup of chopped suet or butter, and dried fruit, more or less, which has been soaked over night, or canned or fresh fruit. Mix well together, adding a little spice. The pudding is put in a greased tin pail, a cloth placed over and the cover put on. The pail is set in a kettle containing sufficient water to come half-way up the pail. Boil for two hours, or more for a large pudding. To be served with sauce.

THE USE OF BLUEING.—It is well to remember that too much blueing renders clothes yellow after a time. Inexperienced or careless servants think the more blueing in the water the better for the wash; and it is a difficult matter to convince them that the clothes will look far better if only a small quantity be used. As blueing varies so much in intensity, experience only can teach the required quantity. It should always be diluted before it is put in the tub, as, if not thoroughly mixed before the clothes are put in, unsightly streaks will be the result. If the clothes are soaked over night one tablespoonful of pure ammonia in each tub of water will materially lessen the labor of washing.

LADIES' CAKE.—Three cups of powdered sugar, one large cup of butter, one cup of sweet milk, four cups of flour, one teaspoonful of cream of tartar, one half a teaspoonful of soda and the whites of eight eggs. Stir the butter to a cream, add the sugar gradually and stir well; then put in the milk. Sift the cream of tartar and soda with the flour three times and stir it in a little at a time, reserving the whites of the eggs to the last, unless the batter seems too thick to stir easily; in that case part of the eggs can be put in alternation with the rest of the flour, but the greater part should be reserved to the last. The whites should be beaten very stiff and added to the cake after the most of the stirring has been given it. Flavor with bitter almond and bake one hour.

PUZZLES.

VARIETY PUZZLE.

1. I am performed. Cut off my head and I am single in number.
2. I am a voracious fly. Cut me in twain and I am an animal and an insect.
3. I am a twilled cloth. Cut me in twain and I am an animal and the natural covering of bodies.
4. I lead a wandering life. Cut off a denial and I am furious.
5. I am part of the neck. Cut off my head and I am a kind of monkey.
6. Prefix two letters to a mountain, and make to hate.
7. Prefix two letters to explain, and make released.
8. Prefix two letters to employment, and make maltreat.
9. Prefix two letters to depart from, and make to set free.
10. Prefix two letters to a tribe of Indians, and make keen.
11. Prefix two letters to conclusion, and make to correct.
12. Prefix one letter to ponder, and make to divert.
13. Prefix one letter to a writer, and make to attribute.
14. Prefix one letter to empty, and make to shun.

FAIRY ENIGMA.

I am composed of 113 letters. Quotation from a celebrated Scottish poem. My 37, 83, 60, 28, 99, 21, 44, is a species of fairy. My 48, 65, 101, 24, 10; 55 is a fabulous being of unprepossessing appearance. My 40, 78, 61, 100, 51, 17, 26, 113, is an epithet which Milton applies to him. My 4, 33, 23, is a month which has always been a favorite with the fairies. My 79, 13, 107, 22, 49, 30, is the old-fashioned way of spelling an adjective which was often applied to it. My 59, 75, 90, 14, 7, 36, is a tree which is in bloom about the first of this month. My 110, 96, 32, 1, 45, is what the fairies sometimes bestowed on their favorites. My 64, 108, 6, 97, is something which household fairies particularly disliked. My 41, 67, 111, 18, 54, is what they liked to see the kitchen utensils do. My 104, 25, 69, 62, 16, is a place about the ordering of which they were very particular. My 53, 71, 20, 68, 9, 85, is a part of the house which they required to be swept very clean. My 95, 42, 15, 81, is an outbuilding which was often considered the abode of fairies. My 34, 50, 109, 87, were places where many fabulous stories have been related. My 52, 88, 56, 84, 94, 106, 3, are beings which are not fairies, but are no less unreal. My 66, 76, 39, 102, 80, 43, is the feeling which they formerly excited. My 27, 2, 47, is what was sometimes heard in houses supposed to be "haunted." My 91, 57, 103, 74, 5, 105, 82, 70, 46, 58, 86, is a name applied to fairies in Normandy. My 72, 98, 35, 89, is a person with whom the fairies have always been in great favor. My 93, 38, 81, 8, is a word descriptive of the size of fairies. My 12, 73, 63, 20, is a word applicable to all fabulous beings. My 19, 77, 112, 92, 11, is a Latin word which signifies what a belief in fairies has long since come to.—*Selected.*

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES IN LAST NUMBER.

HISTORICAL ENIGMA.

1. Oranges
 2. Loire.
 3. Iceland.
 4. Vienna.
 5. Barwick.
 6. Richard III.
 7. Claremont.
 8. Rhine.
 9. Oxford.
 10. Madeira.
 11. Wellington.
 12. Edward.
 13. London.
 14. Lion.
- (Oilver Cromwell.)

ANSWER TO GEOGRAPHICAL PUZZLE.

Said Georgia to Miss Ann one day "Please travel with me far away."

"I'll go, sir, if you will agree To take Miss Kene-Beck with me."

Proceeding East, they stopped awhile, To rest on a Canary Isle.

For lunch they took a Sandwich slice, And quite agreed 'twas very nice.

To Brussels next they took their way, And then, in Russia spent a day.

They dined on Turkey, served, I think, On China painted blue and pink.

Miss Ann proceeded to Japan, While George a German tour began.

In Nubia, they met once more, And drank Madeira, as of yore.

Now journeying on their homeward way They came, at length, to Cape-Cod-bay.

Not liking such a fishy smell, They went to Bath—then said farewell.

CENTRAL LETTERS.—1. About; 2. bread; 3. cheat; 4. debar; 5. gauze.