

## The Ingle Nook.

[Rules for correspondence in this and other Departments: Kindly write on one side of paper only. (2) Always send name and address with communications. If pen name is also given, the real name will not be published. (3) When enclosing a letter to be forwarded to anyone, place it in stamped envelope ready to be sent on. (4) Allow one month in this department for answers to questions to appear.]

### CLEANING FEATHERS—CLEANING SILK DRESS.

Dear Junia,—I am an interested reader of your circle, and get so many helpful hints from it that I am now coming for more advice.

Will you kindly tell me if you would advise trying to color white ostrich plumes with Maypole soap, or how would you clean them to leave them white?

How can a white Brussels net dress, with silk trimmings and a Jap silk slip, be cleaned without shrinking?

Thanking you, I remain very truly yours, "BETH."

We have never heard of using Maypole soap for dyeing feathers, but do not see why it should not answer. Perhaps some of our readers have tried it and can give their experience.

The Scientific American gives the following recipe for cleaning white feathers: "Dissolve four ounces of white soap in two quarts of boiling water, put it into a large basin or small pan, and beat with a strong lather with a wire egg-beater or small bundle of birch twigs; use while warm. Hold the feather by the quill in the left hand, dip it into the soap liquor and squeeze it through the right hand, using a moderate degree of pressure. Continue this operation until the feather is perfectly clean and white, using a second lot of soap liquor if necessary. Rinse in clean hot water to take out the soap, and afterwards in cold water in which a small quantity of blue has been dissolved. Shake well, and dry before a moderate fire, shaking it occasionally that it may look full and soft when dried. Before it is quite dry, curl each fiber separately with a blunt knife or ivory paper-cutter."

Possibly "dry cleaning" would be the best means for cleaning your dress. First of all look the garment over carefully, mend holes or rips, if any, brush carefully to remove dust, and take out any stains. When ready to clean, have three covered vessels half-filled with gasoline. Put the garment into the first vessel and let it stand for quarter of an hour. Then squeeze out the gasoline and drop it into the second vessel, where it should be left about the same length of time. After taking out, the second dish it is put into the third. By this time it should be well cleaned, but if it is not so, it may be gently rubbed, and soap, even, may be used upon it, in the gasoline. When the material is silk, however, care should be taken in the rubbing, as silk may generate enough heat from the friction of one surface against the other to ignite the gasoline. When the used gasoline has been allowed to settle thoroughly, the clean portion may be poured off and saved to use again. After taking the garment out of the last gasoline, shake it thoroughly in the air, and brush it well. It is not necessary to rip up a garment to clean it by this process. Remember, however, that gasoline is very inflammable, and no flame or fire of any sort should be allowed in the room where the cleaning is done.

### WORDS WANTED.

Dear Junia,—Here I come like many others, asking for information. I would like very much if some of the readers could give me the words of "The Drunkard's Ragged Wean." I will be very grateful to anyone sending this song. Have received many useful hints from these columns. BESSIE CURRIE.

Have never heard of the selection. Perhaps some one else may give the desired information.

### BIRTHDAY PARTY.

Dear Junia,—I am a new member, and would like to join the Ingle Nook. I came to you to ask you some questions about a birthday party to be given about the eighth of August. What color and style of dress would be suitable for a twelve-year-old girl? Also what color of shoes or pumps and stockings? The

girl is fair complexioned. How should her hair be dressed? What salads and dishes, also courses, for a party about four o'clock? How should boys and girls be seated at tables? Would you have the party inside or outside? Please fill out invitation form to be sent on a card. What games would be suitable to play with boys and girls about twelve years of age? How should house be decorated? Also outside, and tables? Please give me some recipes for a birthday cake. Not to take up too much time and space, I'll close, thanking you very much. ROSEBUD.

Your letter, which is dated July 13, has evidently been delayed somewhere, and did not reach us in time for an answer in an earlier issue, and I am afraid this will be too late to give much assistance as to invitations or menu for the party, but generally speaking, these should be simple. Except for some very large function, children's entertainments need not be so formal or so elaborate as those of older people.

Have your party outside, if possible, and the table (one long one, or several small ones, as preferred) set either under the shade of some trees or in a marquee on the lawn. They may be prettily decorated with vases of golden-rod, or any wild flowers obtainable, with a little spray of flowers, or single flower, at each place, and the refreshments need not be served in courses. Have plenty of sandwiches of two or three varieties, thin bread and butter, a nice fruit salad, ice cream, two or three kinds of cake, and the birthday cake, which should occupy the place of honor on the table, and should be surrounded by small candles, one for each year of the age of the child for whom the party is given.

ing correctly may receive a goose-quill pen, or other small gift, as a prize, and the one who fails may be given a copy of "Mother Goose."

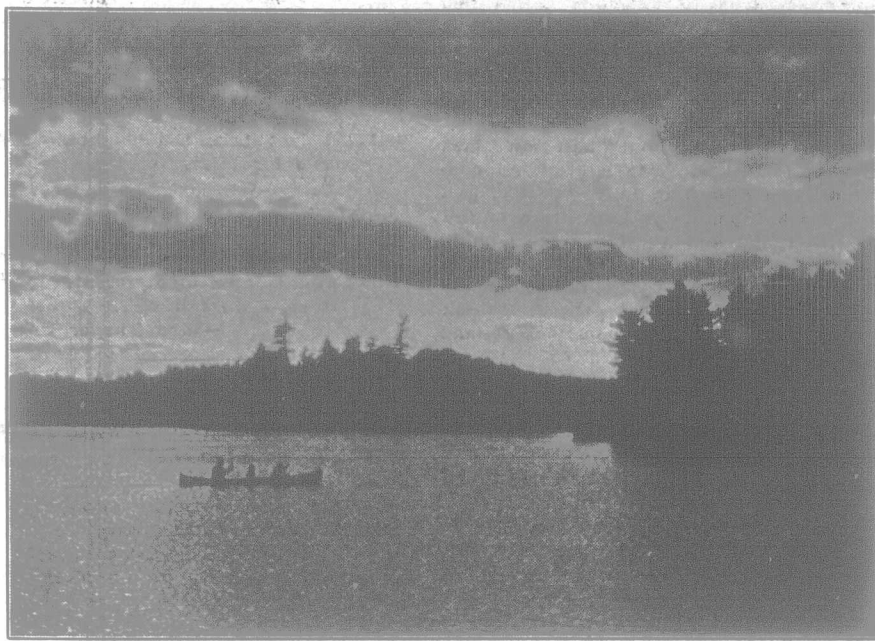
Geographical Game.—Seat the players in a ring. Let the first one say aloud the name of a city, mountain, river, lake, etc., located in any part of the world, the next player give the name beginning with the final letter of the name previously given, and the third supply one beginning with the final letter of the second, and so on. Thus: Canada, Athens, Spain, Niagara. Each player is allowed half a minute in which to think. If by the end of that time he has failed to supply a name, he must drop out of the game. The one keeping up longest is the champion, and may receive a little souvenir.

A Souvenir Pudding.—A large pan, filled with bran or sawdust, will make a nice pudding for a children's party, by putting some small favors or souvenirs in the bottom of the pan, then a layer of sawdust, then more presents, and so on, till the pan is filled. Have a large wooden spoon, and let each child make a dive with the spoon till he gets one souvenir.

Best wishes for many happy returns of the day, and may the weather be fine and the party a success.

### MOULDY SMELL IN ROOM.

Dear Junia,—My husband has taken "The Farmer's Advocate" for several years, and we enjoy reading it very much. I naturally, I presume, turn first to the Ingle Nook, and have received help from Junia's letters, and from other members of the Ingle Nook. I would like to know if you or any of the readers of "The Farmer's Advocate" could



Beauty Spots of Canada.

"Soft is the song my paddle sings."

A pretty way to seat the children at table, is to cut a number of picture cards (half as many as there are children invited) in two, placing the different halves in two card-dishes. Have the boys choose from one dish and the girls from the other, and then match the halves for partners.

There is nothing prettier for the small hostess to wear than white, with white stockings and pumps; or with colored sash, hair-ribbons and stockings to match. If the hair is naturally curly, it may be tied close to the head with a bow of ribbon; or, if straight, it may be braided in one or two braids and tied with ribbon to match the sash. It will be too late, by the time this reaches you, to suggest any games requiring preparation, but croquet or any other out-door games will be enjoyed. Following are a couple of games which require no previous preparation, and which may help to fill the time.

Mother-Goose Game.—A slip is handed to each small guest with the name of one of the mother-goose characters upon it. The hostess retains a list of these, and calls each in turn to repeat, within the space of one minute, the familiar verse relating to this character. Failing to do this, a forfeit must be paid. The one who is most prompt in answer-

perhaps you could help me also. Could you tell me what would take yellowness off one's neck? Thanking you in advance. BLOSSOM.

Try rubbing the neck with lemon juice every night. It is one of the best whiteners of the skin. If you have been wearing high, stiff collars, give them up and wear either low, or very soft ones. Or the following lotion makes a good bleach: Four ounces alcohol, two ounces rosewater, and fifteen drops tincture of rosewater. Apply at night, rubbing well in.

Rubbing the neck with olive oil several times a day is said to work wonders in removing the brown color; also applying the following mixture every night: Three ounces almond oil, two ounces cucumber juice, two drams white wax, one ounce spermaceti, ten drops oil of lemon.

### TREATMENT FOR DANDRUFF.

Dear Junia,—May I, through the Ingle Nook, ask for information about the hair? I will soon be fourteen years of age, and already I am bothered with dandruff. What would you advise me to get to cure my head of the same, and also to help the growth of the hair? How is a nice way for a girl of my age to wear her hair? If I take my hair back loosely with a curl down my back, where would you put a ribbon? Also, does curling injure the hair? I mean, by curling it with tongs or putting it in rags or papers, when your hair is not naturally curly.

Well, I must close now, thanking you for any information I may receive. BLOSSOM.

Blossom No. 2.—Curling the hair with tongs is apt to make it dry and brittle, but putting it up in rags or papers should not injure it. Tie your hair loosely with a bow of ribbon at the nape of the neck, and allow it to hang in one curl. A good tonic for the hair is made as follows: One ounce of sage, steep it in boiling water for ten minutes; then strain and add 2 ounces glycerine, 1 ounce powdered borax, 1 ounce lac sulphur, 1 ounce tincture of cantharides, bergamot sufficient to perfume. Apply twice a week with the hand, and rub thoroughly in. It will remove dandruff and strengthen the growth.

### HOMEMADE CHEESE.

Dear Junia,—We have taken "The Farmer's Advocate" ever since we started housekeeping, and like it very much. About two years ago there appeared the recipe for making homemade cheese. My paper was mislaid and lost, and I have been trying to get the recipe ever since. Do you think it could be printed again? The cheese was made the way an old friend used to make it, and I know it to be good. I would be very pleased to have it again. M. J. G.

We cannot find the recipe you refer to—you are rather vague as to when it appeared, aren't you?—so give the following recipe, which we hope will be "just as good."

Cottage Cheese.—Put four quarts of sweet milk into a pan, and let it stand in a warm place long enough to become sour. Care must be exercised to prevent it from becoming too sour. Just as soon as it gets thick it will be ready for use. In summer, this may be at the end of twenty-four hours; in winter, at the end of two or three days. Place the pan of sour milk over a kettle of boiling water, and heat it almost to the boiling point. When the pan has been over the water about six minutes, take a large spoon and turn the milk over by spoonfuls, getting the hot part on top. When the whey has become so hot that it cannot be touched with a finger, turn the entire mass into a colander and let it drain off. When it is free of whey, add a teaspoonful of salt and a tablespoonful of butter, and press the mixture into a dish of handsome shape, or mould it into balls about the size of hens' eggs. It improves the cheese to put in four or five tablespoonfuls of cream with the drained curd at the time the butter and salt are added.

### TO WHITEN THE SKIN.

Dear Junia,—I have read so many helpful things in your corner that I thought