

their husbands and brothers. This is wrong. Of all men, those who hold us dearest should see us appearing well and in neat attire. For their sakes it is not much trouble to brush one's hair back freshly, to wear a clean dress and collar, and smile all troublesome thoughts away from us. Our lives are so short and so closely linked together here that our interests can hardly be separate. If a woman dresses slovenly, her thoughts will be slovenly too. She cannot be herself, cannot feel calm and dignified, and be in possession of a sweet, serene state of mind. It is surprising the effect neatness of person and attire have on one's demeanor.

Household cares are in no way degrading to the noblest of women. Cooking and eating are earnest things that must have attention, and they can ennoble. Still, I like to hide the machinery of the domestic laboratory and let the beautiful come in as much as possible. Just as we would woo a green vine to overrun and hide a rough, unsightly stone pile, and from the irregular heap make a mound of trembling leaves and greenness—a "thing of beauty." I like to see a glass of fresh flowers on the dinner-table, even if they drop gracefully beside a plate of boiled beef.—*Arthur's Home Magazine.*

WHAT IS YOUR INCOME?—"The first essential in the practice of economy is a knowledge of one's income, and the man who refuses to accord to his wife and children this information has never any right to accuse them of extravagance, because he himself deprives them of that standard of comparison which is an indispensable requisite in economy. As early as possible in the education of children, they should pass from the state of irresponsible waiting to be provided for by parents, and be trusted with the spending of some fixed allowance, that they may learn prices and values, and have some notion of what money is actually worth and what it will bring. The simple fact of the possession of a fixed and definite income often suddenly transforms a giddy, extravagant girl into a care-taking, prudent little woman. Her allowance is her own; she begins to plan upon it; to add, subtract, multiply, divide, and to do numberless sums in her little head. She no longer buys everything she fancies; she deliberates, weighs, compares. And now here is room for self-denial and generosity to come in. She can do without this article; she can refurbish up some older possession to do duty a little longer, and give this money to some friend poorer than she; and ten to one the

girl whose bills last year were four or five hundred, finds herself bringing through this year creditably on a hundred and fifty. To be sure she goes without numerous things she used to have. From the standpoint of a fixed income she sees that these are impossible, and no more wants them than the green cheese of the moon. She learns to make her own taste and skill take the place of expensive purchases. She refits her hats and bonnets, retrims her dresses, and in a thousand busy, earnest, happy little ways, sets herself to make the most of her small income.

So the woman who has her definite allowance for housekeeping finds at once a hundred questions set at rest. Before, it was not clear to her why she should not 'go and do likewise' in relation to every purchase made by her next neighbor. Now, there is a clear logic of proportion. Certain things are evidently never to be thought of, though next neighbors do have them; and we must resign ourselves to find some other way of living."

MRS. STOWE.

PRESERVATION OF FRUIT.—The preservation of fruit is an object of great importance, and to preserve it in as natural a state as possible, is what we all desire, more particularly such fruits as apples, pears, and grapes. The time for gathering fruit depends upon certain conditions, and the manner of gathering them in a measure influences their keeping. A fruit-room should be dry, cool, and have equality of temperature. Fruit should be gathered during dry weather, care being taken not to bruise it, as the injured part soon rots, and spoils the sound fruit that comes in contact with it. Apples gathered during wet weather, or early in the morning, should be exposed to the sun to dry; on no account wipe them, as this rubs off the bloom as it is called, which to some fruits acts as varnish, closing the pores, and preventing the evaporation of the juices. Avoid laying apples in heaps for any length of time, as it causes them to sweat and undergo a slight fermentation; and fruit that is thus treated, if it does not spoil, gets dry and mealy. By observing these directions, apples may be laid in well-ventilated boxes and barrels and kept a long time. Some think grapes keep better when hanging than when laid upon a table—either way the cut end should be closed with wax, to prevent exhalation. Some hang them by the stalk, others by the point of the bunch, as in this way the grapes are less pressed against each other.