

## HOUSEHOLD.

### Children's Appetites.

To promote children's appetites there is no better plan than to give them plenty of out-door exercise, fun and frolic; make them regular in their habits, and feed them only upon plain nourishing food, and they will seldom, if ever, complain of a lack of appetite. Never, however, keep them overtasked in school, or confine them closely to the house after school hours, and frown down any attempt at play. If children are fed on rich, or highly seasoned foods, nuts, etc., or allowed to eat between meals, it is hopeless to expect them to have an appetite for their proper meals. Don't allow them to study too much, especially keep them from reading the 'penny dreadful.' Sickness is the most expensive nuisance in the world, and, although there may be cases, when it makes people or children better, it generally makes them selfish and miserable. The best way to make children happy and good is to keep them well.—N. Y. 'Ledger.'

### Two Kinds of Visitors.

A writer in the Michigan 'Advocate,' tells of a young woman, who, visiting a friend, was reminded in a pleasant, lady-like manner by the lady of the house, that their usual bedtime had arrived and as the guest looked tired, perhaps she would like to retire. The young woman, as there were but two ladies in the room, had begun to take down crimps, etc., and the hostess supposed was preparing for bed. Not so. With an impudent toss of the head she replied, 'Oh, no, I'm not going to bed. I generally sit up as late as I like, and lie as long as I like in the morning.'

The lady of the house was so surprised and insulted (for the look was that), that she only said, 'I feared you might not like to rise to our early breakfast if late hours were kept,' and soon retired, leaving the young woman to keep her daughter up for two hours beyond her usual bedtime, and as she was a working woman, and had her allotted task awaiting her in the morning, of course she went to her employment anything but rested. What cared the impudent guest? In the morning, sure enough, she kept breakfast awaiting her pleasure a half-hour beyond the usual time. And when the dinner hour arrived, and she was called and did not appear, the hostess going to her room, found her in the middle of an unmade bed, in wrapper, surrounded with reading matter, quite at her ease. With the same impudent face she said, 'Oh, yes, I heard the bell. I must dress.'

There may be persons whose self-esteem is so enormous as to make them believe they are conferring a benefit in allowing their entertainers to thus wait their pleasure, but for myself, when invited to visit friends, especially in hot weather, I feel that I am causing extra work and cares, and, that my duty, while visiting, is to make those cares lighter by my constant efforts in the household. I am to conform to all its rules, not make my own. I am to see when the little ones are teasing mother, whose hands are full in preparing dinner, and taking them out on the veranda, together with a certain mending basket I find full in mamma's room and surreptitiously appropriate, while amusing them with a story, make lighter the basket of work. Because I am a visitor, I am to see that politeness on my part is not to be dispensed with, or helpfulness, or self-denial. I am not to expect that they are to be kept on the qui vive every moment, lest I shall not be entertained. But given my room, I must not (as I have known guests to do) spend almost all my time in it except at meal times, plainly by so doing saying to my hostess, 'You are only my cook; your company is not desirable!' While not annoying her by 'keeping at her heels all the time,' as one writer has already protested against, I can show her in a thousand ways that I came for something besides her cooking, good as it may be. I am not to prefer especially my room, when there are extra labors on hand. For instance, the after-dinner hour on a hot day, when the mother, utterly wearied out with preparing it and keeping the children all right and all the domestic wheels moving, feels that she is hardly competent to dispose of the extra pile of dishes that must be washed. Protest as she politely may, I can seize the wiper in spite

of her, and save her a little time to rest. Of course if there are servants this is not needed, but if, like myself, you so much prefer visiting where there are not, and desire that your own hands may minister to your necessities so long as life lasts, you will see where you can assist at all times, without being obtrusive.

I like when visiting to feel that not a rule of the house has been set aside on my account; that for the time I am reckoned one of the family, free to enjoy and enter into all their pleasures, while by no means expecting them to be constantly watching lest I feel a lack of hospitality. If they choose to put a vase of flowers in my room when I come, I do not do as the independent young woman did—take not the slightest notice of it, let it stand with the water unchanged for the two weeks of her stay, and leave the dried-up flowers just where we placed them, thus showing her non-appreciation of the beautiful.

### Some Uses for Kerosene.

(By Margaret Boroughs.)

Comparatively few housewives realize what a saving of time and labor may be accomplished in the work of the household by the more frequent use of kerosene. Poreclain-lined bath-tubs, and bowls on stationary stands, especially where hard water is used, are difficult to cleanse by ordinary methods. A flannel cloth saturated with kerosene will serve to remove roughness and discolorations as if by magic, and this, too, without wearing away the enamel, as the sand sops usually employed for this purpose are wont to do sooner or later.

Clothing which is badly soiled will oftentimes be washed more easily if allowed first to soak in lukewarm suds to which kerosene has been added. Kitchen towels and dish-towels, which have become discolored through careless washing, may be treated in this way, and afterward a little of the oil may be added to the water in which they are boiled.

The rubber rollers on wash wringers are said to wear longer if wiped over with a cloth saturated in kerosene each week before setting away.

Before applying scouring-brick or metal polish to articles that have rusted, moisten the rust spots with kerosene. If the rust proves obstinate the article may often be soaked in the kerosene to advantage. This treatment will sometimes enable one to remove rust when the polish alone would be inadequate.

Steel knives, flat-irons, and other household utensils that are to be packed away will not so readily rust if wiped over with a cloth moistened with kerosene.

To clean paint and oilcloth, a tablespoonful of kerosene added to a small pailful of water will not only expedite the work, but will leave the finish brighter than when washed with simple soap-suds.

To clean hard-wood furniture rub the entire surface of the wood with a soft flannel saturated with kerosene. Allow the article to stand for a few minutes, then rub again vigorously with a moist dry flannel, being careful to wipe away every particle of oil from the surface. This will remove dirt, finger-marks, and white discolorations, unless the spots are unusually bad. If a first application fails, use it a second time. Scratches which are not hidden by the kerosene should be rubbed over with the following mixture, which makes an excellent, simple home-made furniture polish: Mix equal parts of turpentine, sweet-oil and vinegar; shake thoroughly before using, and rub in vigorously.—'The Independent.'

### To Dry Umbrellas.

Umbrellas will last far longer if, when wet, they are placed handle downward to dry. The moisture falls from the edges of the frame, and the fabric dries uniformly. If stood handle upwards, which is commonly the case, the top of the umbrella holds the moisture, owing to the lining underneath the ring, and therefore takes a long time to dry, thus injuring the silk or other fabric with which it is covered. This is the prime cause of this part of the umbrella wearing out sooner than the other part. Umbrella cases, too, are responsible for the rapid wear of the silk. The constant friction produces the tiny holes which appear so provokingly early. When not in use leave the umbrella loose. When wet, never leave it open to dry,

as the tense condition thus produced makes the silk stiff, and then it soon will crack.—'Christian Work.'

### Selected Recipes.

Floating Island.—Put one quart of new milk in a double kettle over the stove. Beat the whites to a stiff froth and when the milk boils put in a tablespoonful at a time into the milk; cook about one minute; then dip out the egg into a dish and put in more until all is cooked. Set them away in a cool place. Make a custard of the four yolks, well beaten, a teaspoonful of corn starch, half a cupful of white sugar, and flavor with two teaspoonfuls of lemon extract; stir this into the boiling milk and let it cool until it thickens a little. Take off the stove, cool, pour into a glass dish, and drop the whites into little islands over the top of the custard; set in the ice chest until ready to serve.

Rice Cakes.—Take two cups of boiled rice and mix with half a pint of milk while the rice is warm. If cold rice is used great care must be taken that the lumps are well broken. Stir, in one pint of flour, into which one heaping teaspoonful of baking-powder has been thoroughly mixed, one teaspoonful of sugar, and one of salt, and one well-beaten egg. Beat the batter till it is very smooth before baking.

Hot Milk as a Stimulant.—No one, who, fatigued by over-exertion of body and mind, has ever experienced the reviving influence of a tumbler of this beverage, heated as hot as it can be sipped, will willingly forego a resort to it, because of its being rendered somewhat less acceptable to the palate. The promptness with which its cordial influence is felt is indeed surprising. Some portion of it seems to be digested and appropriated almost immediately, and many who now fancy they need alcoholic stimulants when exhausted, by fatigue, will find in this simple draught an equivalent that will be abundantly satisfying and far more enduring in its effects.

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