

Fourth—Squeeze some of the flour in your hand; if it retains the shape given by the pressure, that, too, is a good sign. Flour that will stand all these tests, it is safe to buy. These modes are given by all flour-dealers, and they pertain to a matter that concerns every body, namely, the staff of life.

CLEANING MILK VESSELS.

CORRESPONDENT of the Cincinnati Gazette says there is no product of the farm that presents so much difference as butter. This arises chiefly from using vessels for holding milk, and utensils in making the butter, which are soured. Milk has a peculiar acid, very easily formed, which entirely takes away that rich, sweet flavor belonging to good butter. A very little soured milk or cream on vessels rapidly generates enough acid to take it away. To avoid this great care is requisite. Cleanliness only is not sufficient, in having the vessels well washed, but they must be carefully washed in boiling hot water, and should be boiled in it also. But as cream is very apt to stick, even in good washing, when the vessels are boiled in water, some pearlash or soda should be put in it, which destroys any acidity that may be about the vessels. They should then be sunned. I have known some good butter-makers who dispensed with the sunning when soda was used, but both are recommended.

THE QUEEN OF PUDDINGS.

ONE pint of nice bread crumbs to one quart of milk, one cup of sugar, the yolks of four eggs beaten, the grated rind of a lemon, a piece of butter the size of an egg. Bake until done but not watery. Whip the whites of the eggs stiff, and beat in a teacupful of sugar in which has been stirred the juice of the lemon. Spread over the pudding a layer of jelly or any sweetmeats you prefer. Pour the whites of the eggs over this and replace in the oven and bake lightly. To be eaten with cold cream. It is second only to ice-cream, and for some seasons better.

HINTS TO MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS.

THE following, from the Boston Cultivator, will, we fear, be attributed by our lady readers, to the pen of some crusty old bachelor. It will however, do them no harm to read

GOOD ADVICE.—To marriageable young ladies a word of advice: a man is better pleased when he has a good dinner upon his table, than when his wife talks good French.

Will the girls approaching that enterprising epoch in life, termed "marriageable," by our contemporary, make a note of this as should their mothers, also, and see that the education of all who are approaching this interesting and important era in their lives, be directed as is befitting those who are to become wives and perchance mothers? Let every marriageable young lady" (in respect to age,) keep in mind, that though she speak with the tongue of a man and is possessed with the gift of prophecy, and understands the mysteries of all languages, and all knowledges, physical and metaphysical, ornamental and musical, and yet knows not how to keep house, she is unfit to become a wife and matron. It is easy to obtain girls and women to teach schools, to keep books, to be copyists, to sell goods, to work in factories, to work as seamstresses in shops and families, to set types, ay, to do almost anything outside of housekeeping, and yet how exceedingly difficult it is to find one who understands the culinary arts, with all the other accomplishments of good housewifery, without which, all the other learned acquisitions are of little worth in a wife, and with the wifely attainments, the absence of all the others will hardly be missed, for a good housewife, fitted for her sphere, is the true gentlewoman.

We would not have the reader infer that we place a low estimate upon woman's literary attainments from what we have now said. Far otherwise; for we would have every "marriageable woman," especially, literally educated in the largest sense of that phrase, that is to say, she should be instructed in the mysteries of housewifery as well as in the arts, sciences, literature, and all aesthetic accomplishments. But a blue who knows nothing of house-keeping, is not a help meet for any man who has a stomach as well as a soul to be cared for during his sojourn on earth. The stomach has about as much to do in the formation of the character and the reputation of a man as his creed. Hence, the cook is about as essential to the success of intellectual, moral and religious culture, as the curate.