

HOUSEHOLD.

Cradle Song.

Like a cradle rocking, rocking—
 Silent, peaceful, to and fro,
 Like a mother's sweet looks dropping
 On the little face below,
 Hangs the green earth swinging, turning,
 Jarless, noiseless, safe and slow;
 Falls the light of God's face bending
 Down and watching us below.

And as feeble babes that suffer,
 Toss and cry and will not rest,
 Are the ones the tender mother
 Holds the closest, loves the best,
 So when we are weak and wretched,
 By our sins weighed down, distressed,
 Then it is that God's great patience
 Holds us closest, loves us best.

O great heart of God! whose loving
 Cannot hindered be nor crossed,
 Will not weary—will not even
 In our death itself be lost—
 Love divine! of such great loving
 Only mothers know the cost;
 Cost of love which, all love passing,
 Gave a son to save the lost.
 —Saxe Holm.

Womanliness.

After all, does an unsmiling face, a studied indifference, a proud glance, add anything to a woman's womanliness? Do any of these really increase her charm, really lend her dignity, really tend to elevate her in the opinion of those whose experience of life qualifies them to judge?

The question is asked after a prolonged study of 'ye fashionable maiden.' The purely irresponsible attitude, both physical and mental, seems to be that at which she aims. Of course we have all read of the Vere de Vere repose, but none of us admires the haughty Lady Clara. Why should a visible pride be considered the best setting for beauty and beauty's accessories? We cannot conclude that this manner accidentally results from what is termed 'spoiling,' we must suspect that it is in most cases acquired.

Observation seems to make it clear that women fail most frequently in street car courtesy, to employ a convenient term. How often one sees a workman, perhaps with his dinner pail under his arm, rise to give his seat to a woman rustling in silks and velvets! How often she accepts without any apparent sense of obligation, without deigning the slightest acknowledgment! Surely a dignified smile and a word of thanks would become the most haughtiest dame of high society.

Being, after all, human beings and not goddesses, women can lose nothing by pleasant looks and smiles. When will they learn that it is their privilege to scatter the sunshine of kindness, to cheer by a manifestation of considerate politeness those less fortunate? It is an old saying that our women are more privileged than those of any other nation. One fears sometimes that they have learned to take too much for granted.—Exchange.

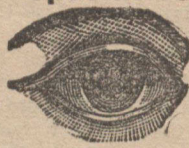
The Art of Visiting.

(Estelle M. Hurl, in the 'Congregationalist'.)

Much has been written on the art of entertaining, which may be briefly summed up as the art of making the guest feel at home. Less has been said on the art of visiting, which may be reduced to a corresponding formula as the art of making one's self at home. Simple as such principles appear, it is not altogether easy to follow them. Neither entertaining nor visiting can be considered a haphazard matter even on the simplest scale; both require tact and consideration. Usually the hostess devotes far more attention to the subject of entertaining than the guest gives to the subject of visiting. This is certainly a one-sided state of affairs. The guest should study to give as well as to receive pleasure.

Assuming the general principle that the visitor is to make herself at home in the family, her first care should be to familiarize herself with the details of the domestic routine—the hours for meals, the duties for rising and retiring, the regular programme of hours for call-

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ing, reading, sewing, writing, etc. The welcome guest accommodates herself at once to all these appointments, however different from her usual habits.

Selfishness is the root of all evil in visiting as everywhere else in life. As the hospitable hostess forgets self in trying to make her guest happy, so the guest with reciprocal self-forgetfulness should seek in every possible way to subordinate her individual tastes to her new surroundings. The doctor's daughter may visit a minister's family and find the church work in which they are engrossed an entirely unfamiliar field. Nevertheless, she must enter the new life as heartily and sympathetically as one of the family, co-operating in all their plans and interests. The city girl visits her country cousins and finds them busy with gardening, farming and the affairs of village life. If she hold herself aloof from these unfamiliar pursuits, affecting to be ignorant or disdainful of them, she shows both ill-breeding and inherent selfishness. Trying to learn something of this unknown life, and sharing as far as possible in it, she endears herself to her friends as a most welcome guest.

In some families life seems to centre in and revolve about the children; in other households, as of professional people, literary subjects are of chief interest; sometimes music comes first; and in many circles social pleasures fill the time. The guest knows beforehand what manner of people she is visiting, and is usually invited because of some common bond of sympathy or interest. She should, therefore, prepare herself to be so far as possible in perfect touch with her surroundings. The welcome guest is no alien in our midst, to whom our affairs and interests must be explained or apologized for. She seems to understand everything intuitively and fits into her place quite naturally.

A guest's contribution to the family enjoyment may be active as well as passive. It is not hard to learn how one may be useful and attentive to the various members of the household. The little girls will like help in their dolls' dressmaking, the boys on their scrap-books and stamp collections, the mother on some new fancywork. The father and brothers like to be entertained at the right time (not when they are reading the newspapers) with music, conversation or games.

It is always gratifying to host and hostess to see their guest well dressed. A little pains

taken to change one's gown of an evening, even if tired from the day's pleasures, and to vary one's costumes as much as they may be with fresh laces and ribbons will be well worth the while. It is also due to those whose hospitality one is enjoying to be courteous and also agreeable to all whom one meets under the same roof. To assist one's hostess in entertaining others is often the most acceptable service one can render.

There is a long list of 'don'ts' which go to make up the code of the welcome guest beginning with, Don't see any family jars. The awkwardness of the servants, the naughtiness of children, the misunderstandings of elders, should be as if they were not to the visitor. The guest must never criticize, never interfere, never offer advice unsought, never dictate to children or servants, never complain, never be out of sorts.

If all these virtues seem beyond the reach of ordinary human nature it must be remembered that they are made easier by the kindness of the hostess, who has equally high ideals in the reciprocal virtues. Doing all in her power to smooth away difficulties, she makes the duties of the guest a real pleasure and no burden. A visit creates a temporary Utopia, in which heavier cares are laid aside and perplexities concealed. In such favorable conditions it is one of the pleasantest privileges of life to be a welcome guest.

Selected Recipes.

Aberdeen Sandwiches.—Chop very fine any cold meats, veal, ham, beef or poultry; for each teacupful add an egg-sized bit of butter, pepper and salt to taste, a teacup of sifted bread crumbs and a very little water to mix to a smooth paste. Roll or work on the boards into strips and then into oblongs; place each between two lettuce leaves and roll separately in waxed paper.—'Household.'

Pure Peace Ice-cream.—Pare twelve dead-ripe peaches and remove stones. Place one pint of cream and a cup and a half of granulated sugar in a double boiler; stir until the sugar dissolves and the cream scalds, but do not boil. Chill, and when perfectly cold, pour the sugar and cream into the can, pack and freeze. Press the peaches through a fine colander and add to the frozen mixture, leaving the dasher in the can. Adjust the handle and turn very slowly until the mixture is thoroughly frozen. Remove the dasher and pack according to the general directions.

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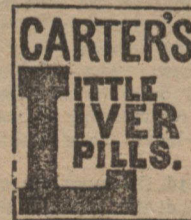
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