

# HOUSEHOLD.

## Not Work But Worry.

It is not the work, but the worry,  
That wrinkles the smooth fair face,  
That blends gray hairs with the dusky,  
And robs the form of its grace;  
That dims the luster and sparkle  
Of eyes that were once so bright,  
But now are heavy and troubled,  
With a weary, despondent light.

It is not the work, but the worry,  
That drives all sleep away,  
As we toss and turn and wonder  
About the cares of the day.  
Do we think of the hands' hard labor,  
O the steps of the tired feet?  
Ah! no, but we plan and ponder  
How to make both ends meet.

It is not the work, but the worry,  
That makes us sober and sad,  
That makes us narrow and sordid,  
When we should be cheery and glad.  
There's a shadow before the sunlight,  
And ever a cloud in the blue,  
The scent of the roses is tainted,  
The notes of the song are untrue.

It is not the work, but the worry,  
That makes the world grow old,  
That numbers the years of their children  
Ere half their story is told;  
That weakens their faith in heaven  
And the wisdom of God's great plan.  
Ah! 'tis not the work, but the worry,  
That breaks the heart of man.  
—Summerville 'Journal.'

## Salt in Diphtheria.

In a paper read at the Medical Society of Victoria, Australia, Dr. Day stated that, having for many years regarded diphtheria, in its early stage, as a purely local affection, characterized by a marked tendency to take on putrefactive decomposition, he has trusted most to the free and constant application of antiseptics, and when their employment has been adopted from the first, and been combined with judicious alimentation, he has seldom seen good poisoning ensue. In consequence of the great power which salt possesses, in preventing the putrefactive decomposition of meat and other organic matter, Dr. Day has often prescribed for diphtheritic patients living far away from medical aid the frequent use of a gargle composed of a teaspoonful or more of salt dissolved in a tumbler of water, giving children who can not gargle a teaspoonful or two to drink occasionally. Adults to use the gargle as a prophylactic or preventive, three or four times a day.—'Scientific American.'

## Care of the Floors.

Many women have the mistaken idea that hardwood floors are difficult to keep clean, and they sweep and scour and sew carpet all their lives, with a notion that by so doing they are saving themselves work. But if they knew how to stain floors in the first place and to take care of them in the second, they could save themselves work every day of their lives, lessen the burden of housecleaning about one-half and have their homes infinitely more wholesome and hygienically clean. Nothing is so productive of moths and germs as carpets fitting up close and snug to the side walls, and a thorough cleansing once a year rarely cleans them out. A year will furnish a generation of germs, and effectual germ destroyers sometimes destroy the carpet along with its inhabitants. Rugs, of course, can be cleaned once a week easily, and during the week any single rug that has wantonly acquired soil can be brushed or shaken by itself without disturbing the rest of the room for a second. Light weight rugs of ingrain filling a housekeeper can shake herself, and have her rooms freshly clean without help or assistance. Almost any floor, even the old-fashioned wide plank floor, can be made to look effective if properly stained. In the first place, scrub it thoroughly with hot borax suds, then, when perfectly dry, cover it with the following preparation: Four ounces of

gum shellac, one ounce of gum mastic, one ounce of gum benzoin. Dissolve well before using, and add a little amber or sienna stain if you want the floor dark. When it is necessary to wash the floor, do not use soap; just wipe it up with a mop dipped in warm borax water, a teaspoonful of borax to a gallon of water, and after it is dry, oil it with crude oil and kerosene. Cleaning in this way leaves a floor looking as though it had just been stained. It will not be necessary actually to wash a floor thoroughly more than once a month. It should be oiled, though, once a week. Other mornings, if it is dusty, go over it hastily with a dry mop.—New York 'Tribune.'

## Hints.

Coffee and teapots become much discolored inside in a short time. To prevent this, every fortnight put into them a teaspoonful of soda—common baking soda—fill them two-thirds full of water, and let boil two hours. Wash and rinse well before using; they will thus be always clean and sweet.

The most disagreeable feature of kitchen work is probably the cleaning of kettles and pans. Fill the cooking vessel with water as soon as a meat or a vegetable has been removed to its table dish; add a pinch of borax and set it on the back of the stove to heat slowly. When pot-washing time arrives the labor is merely nominal, so cleansing do the warm water and borax prove.

Always include a box of powdered borax in your supplies for the house. It is cheap, makes the work easier and softens the water so as not to hurt your hands or chap your skin. You can procure it cheaper at the grocery store than at the druggist's. To clean windows, dissolve a little in warm water, wash them inside and outside and wipe dry; then polish them with old newspapers. A stronger solution may be made to clean the kitchen sinks and pipes; it will remove all

impurities from them. To clean marble or any kind of tinware, add a tablespoonful of borax to a pint of hot water, dip a small brush into it and scrub until clean, then dry with old flannel. If troubled with ants, roaches, crotin bugs, etc., sprinkle dry borax around. It is excellent and will banish all such.—'Presbyterian.'

## Selected Recipes.

**AUNT ABIGAIL'S SPICE CAKES.**—Cream well together one-half of a cupful of butter and one and one-half cupfuls of sugar. To one cupful of thick sour cream add one-half of a teaspoonful of soda dissolved in one teaspoonful of boiling water. To the creamed butter and sugar add one well-beaten egg, and, when well mixed, the cream. Stir in one cupful of seeded raisins, one-quarter of a cupful of cornstarch, two cupfuls of flour, and one-quarter of a teaspoonful of cinnamon and one-quarter of a teaspoonful of cloves. Pour over the batter into gem pans or a loaf pan, dust over a little powdered sugar, and bake in a moderate oven.

**BEEF BOUILLON.**—Stir well together four pounds of finely chopped beef and two quarts of water; add a slice of onion, two bay leaves, six cloves, one carrot, chopped fine, and a blade of mace. Stand the mixture over the fire, bring slowly to boiling point, and simmer for one hour. Put a tablespoonful of sugar in a small saucepan. When it burns add a slice of onion; stir until the onion is brown, then add it to the bouillon. Strain through a colander. Beat the whites of two eggs slightly, add them to the bouillon, bring to boiling point, and boil for two minutes. Strain through two thicknesses of cheesecloth. Add a palatable seasoning of salt and pepper and half a teaspoonful of kitchen bouquet. Re-heat and serve in bouillon cups.

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