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**A PLEASANT DRINK for the sick:** Take a dessert teaspoonful of arrowroot and add a teaspoonful of milk; wet and rub in smooth. To this add a teaspoonful of powdered sugar. Heat a half-pint of good rich milk and bring it just up to the boil. Then, when it boils, stir in carefully the arrowroot and sugar. Allow it to boil three minutes, and give either warm or cold.

**GINGER SNAPS.**—Never put ginger snaps in a jar while they are hot; take them from the tins and lay them on plates to cool, otherwise they will steam and become moist, and will not be crisp and brittle; other cookies will not need so long a cooling process, and cake which you wish to keep a week or ten days is improved by being wrapped in a towel while it is still in the tin: let it stand in this way for two or three hours.

**CURRANT FRITTERS.**—Currant fritters are made of one cup and a half of very fine bread crumbs, one tablespoonful and a half of flour, one cup and a half of sweet milk, one quarter of a pound of well-washed English currants (drain the currants thoroughly), two eggs, two tablespoonfuls of sugar, a small lump of butter. Flavour with cinnamon or nutmeg to suit your taste; drop in spoonfuls in hot lard, and fry until done. Eat with sugar.

**HOW TO SMOKE HAMS.**—A smoke-house should be well ventilated, and the hams be hung at least eight or ten feet above the fire, and the smoke given out in moderate quantities, and come from corn-cobs or hickory wood. It is important that the hams be kept cool and dry through the whole operation. Proper ventilation of the smoke-house secures this. If they become moist by improper ventilation, or are placed so near the fire as to be heated, their flavour is greatly injured.—*Ploughman.*

**TO PURIFY WATER.**—A large spoonful of pulverized alum, sprinkled in a hoghead of water and stirred, will, after the lapse of a few hours, precipitate all the impurities to the bottom, and make it as clear and sweet as fresh spring water; a paulful may be sweetened by, say, a teaspoonful to every four gallons. Another method of clearing and purifying water is to shell almonds, and having mashed them to a paste, stir them in water: they will take with them all the impurity of the water to the bottom. This is more expensive than the alum, and also more effectual. A handful will cleanse a cask of water of forty gallons.

**AMBER SOUP OR CLEAR BROTH.**—This soup is served at almost all company dinners. Take a large soup bone (say two pounds), a chicken, a small slice of ham, in a gallon of cold water, and boil slowly for five hours; then add an onion, two sprigs of parsley, half a small carrot, half a small parsnip, half a stick of celery, three cloves, pepper and salt. Strain the soup into an earthen bowl, and let it remain over night. Next day remove the cake of fat on the top; take out the jelly, avoiding the settlings, and mix into it the beaten whites of two eggs with the shells. Boil quickly for half a minute; then, placing the kettle on the hearth, skim off carefully all the scum and whites of the eggs from the top, not stirring the soup itself. Pass this through the jelly-bag, when it should be quite clear. This soup may then be put aside and reheated just before serving. Add then large a spoonful of caramel, as it gives it a richer colour, and also a slight flavour.

**A SAINT AT THE ZOO.**

Capt. Harry Piper, ex-Alderman, and Superintendent of the Zoological Garden, lately communicated the following fact to a reporter of one of Toronto's most influential papers: "Some time ago we purchased from the collection of animals at Central Park, New York, a monstrous Russian bear, which we have named 'Peter the Great,' on account of his tremendous size. Not long after 'Peter' arrived we found that he was suffering from the rheumatism, and in a pretty bad state. Peter was not the only one in the 'Zoo' which had a touch of that delicious ailment; the lion likewise had it, and in fact I was just being cured of a bad case of the rheumatism, myself, by the use of St. Jacobs Oil, the Great German Remedy. I found St. Jacobs Oil an excellent remedy, for it cured me in a short while, and my case was a very aggravated one. I argued that if it cured men, it must be good for animals as well."