

A MAN'S JOB.

"Don't you think, Minerva," said her husband, anxiously, as he tied the kitchen apron firmly around his waist, and tucked his whiskers behind the bib to keep them out of the dishwasher,—"don't you think that we are carrying this idea of co-operation in domestic matters to extremes? I have been washing dishes for a week now, and between times I have been doing a little Scripture reading, and I cannot find in the Bible any authority for men's doing kitchen work, but women are frequently spoken of in this connection. 'She looketh well to the ways of her household.' 'She riseth while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household.' These quotations, Minerva, would seem to warrant the conclusion that household duties should properly be assigned to the woman." "My dear," replied his wife, "if you will pursue your studies further you will find in II. Kings, 21: 13, these words: 'I will wipe Jerusalem as a man wipeth a dish, wiping it, and turning it upside down.' This proves that you are nobly doing the work designed for you by Providence. When you are through, be sure to wash the towels clean, shake them, and hang them straight on the rack. Death, you know, lurks in the dish-cloth. I am now going out to attend a meeting of the Society for the Extinction of the microbe by Means of Electricity."

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SPARKLES.

Young Husband (helping himself a second time)—Bertha, where did you learn to scramble eggs like this?
Young Wife—Oh, George, that's a shrimp salad!

Willie: "Don't yuh tink dat teechur wuz foolin' w'en she said dat goats gave milk?"

Jimmie: "Hully Gee! No! W'ere d'yuh s'pose all dis butter-milk comes frum."

A man with rheumatism joined the Christian Scientists. He was asked:—"Did Christian Science cure you of rheumatism?"

"No, but rheumatism cured me of Christian Science."

"We had a sensational case of kidnapping in our house lately."

"You don't tell me! How did it happen?"

"The baby slept the whole night!"

A CHRISTMAS BOX THAT IS WORTH WHILE.

When you make a present of a periodical to a friend or a family you are really selecting a companion to influence them for good or ill during a whole year. If the acquaintances of your sons and daughters were to talk to them aloud as some periodicals talk to them silently, how quickly you would forbid the companionship. In the one case as in the other, the best course is to supplant the injurious with something equally attractive and at the same time "worth while." A food can be wholesome and utterly distasteful. Reading can be made so, too; but the Youth's Companion not only nourishes the mind, but delights it, just like that ideal human associate whom you would choose. The Youth's Companion fills that place now in more than half a million homes. Can you not think of another family in which it is not now known where it would be joyfully welcomed?

THE YOUTH'S COMPANION, Companion Building, Boston, Mass.

Reach up as far as you can, and God will reach down all the rest of the way.—John H. Vincent.

God's judgment is simply the sum of one's obligation.

HEALTH AND HOME HINTS.

Chicken in Rice.—Cut the remains of a chicken in neat joints, removing the skin and any superfluous bone. Dip the pieces in flour, flavoured with pepper, salt, and a little powdered mace. Chop three rashers of bacon coarsely, and put at the bottom of the pliedish, then the chicken, with a little minced onion over. In a separate pint of stock made from the chicken bones, pile up the dish with boiled rice, cover with greased paper, and bake for three-quarters of an hour.

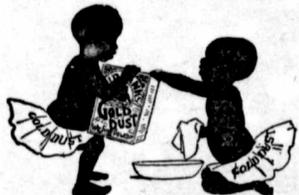
Rice Muffins.—Mix two cups of boiled rice with one cup of hot milk, add the yolks of three eggs and one tablespoonful of melted butter. Sift together two cups of flour, two teaspoonfuls of baking powder and one-half teaspoonful of salt. Add to the rice and milk, then fold in the beaten whites of the eggs. Have the pans hot and well greased. Bake in a quick oven fifteen minutes.—Jeanie M.

To Keep Irons Clean.—After having much trouble with flatirons rusting when not in use, even when I used great care in putting them away, and after having the rust come off on the clothes while in process of ironing. I hit upon the following simple method which, after thoroughly cleaning and freeing irons from rust, prevented further trouble. While the irons are warm, melt wax—laundry wax or candles—over the flat surface to form a very thin coating, and leave it on until wanted to use again, when irons will be found to be free from rust, and very nice and smooth.

Beef Broth for Invalids.—The following method of preparing beef for the sick will be found to be just as beneficial and nutritious, in cases where such diet is necessary, as the old-fashioned beef-tea, which requires hours of cooking. Procure one pound of round beefsteak; meat from an old animal is preferable, since it contains more blood. Remove all fat, and cut in very small pieces. Place in granite or earthenware dish. Pour on just a little cold water, not enough to cover the meat, add a small amount of salt, let stand for three or four hours. Place on the back of the range, where it will very gradually heat; perhaps twenty minutes, or until it tastes palatable. Do not strain. Pour liquid from meat; keep in cool place, or on ice. Stir well before using.—Ex.

There is nothing so helpful as sympathy; nothing so encouraging as intelligent approval. In school, in the family, and in the world, hearing our good well spoken of strengthens us for fresh endeavor. Most of us have experience of the eye that looks coldly on our achievements, and of the criticism that always means censure. The sturdy are not much hurt by it, but the less robust can only do half work when they are disheartened. The discerning who can praise intelligently keep the wheels of life oiled, so that the machinery works twice as well.

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