

Scientific and Useful.

LEMON CAKE.—One pound sifted flour, one pound sugar, three-quarters pound of butter, seven eggs, juice of one lemon and peel of two. This makes two loaves. Beat and strain the yolks, cut the whites hard, work butter and sugar to a cream. Fruit if wished. A tumbler and a half of currants is sufficient.

APPLE SNOW.—Put twelve very tart apples into cold water over a slow fire. When soft take away the skins and cores, and mix in a pint of sifted white sugar, beat the whites of twelve eggs to a stiff froth, and then add them to the apples and sugar. Put in a dessert dish and ornament with myrtle and box.

MEASURING GRAIN IN THE HEAP.—To find the number of bushels in a heap of grain multiply the slant height in feet and parts by itself, the perpendicular height by itself; then the difference of these two products by the perpendicular height, and deduct one-sixth from the remainder. If against one side of the house, take one-half of that; if against two sides, or in a corner, take one-fourth. This rule will be found correct, if the heap be first thrown up as high as it will stand, and the measures accurately taken, which can be done in this form better than any other. The contents of a box or bin of grain may be obtained in bushels sufficiently accurate by multiplying the length, breadth and height together and taking one-fifth of the product.

MAKING PENCIL MARKS INDELIBLE.—Pencil marks are made indelible, says the "Papier Zeitung," on paper prepared as follows: Any ordinary drawing paper is slightly warmed, and then rapidly and carefully laid on the surface of a bath consisting of a warm solution of bleached colophonium in alcohol, until the entire surface is moistened. It is then dried in a current of hot air. The surface of the paper becomes smooth, but readily takes the impression of a lead pencil. In order to make the lead pencil marks indelible, the paper is warmed for a short time on a stove. This method may prove valuable for the preservation of working drawings when a lack of time will not permit the draughtsman to finish them in ink.

MEDICINAL VIRTUES OF ONIONS.—A mother writes: "Once a week invariably—and generally when we had cold meat minced—I gave the children a dinner that was hailed with delight, and looked forward to; this is a dish of boiled onions. The little things knew that they were taking the best of medicine for expelling what most children suffer from—worms. Mine were kept free by this remedy alone. Not only boiled onions for dinner, but chives also they were encouraged to eat with their bread and butter, and for this purpose they had tufts of chives in their little gardens. It was a medical man who taught me to eat boiled onions as a specific for a cold in the chest. He did not know at the time, till I told him, that they were good for anything else."

BEST MOLASSES GINGERBREAD.—One even tablespoon ginger, a gill and a half of milk, one heaping teaspoon soda dissolved in a tablespoon hot water and put into the milk, half-a-pint molasses and a small teacup butter. Take three pints flour and rub the butter and ginger into it thoroughly, then make a well in the middle and pour in the molasses and milk, and begin mixing in the flour, and while doing this put in a tablespoon strong vinegar; if weak, a little more. If not stiff enough to roll out add a little more flour. Roll into cards an inch thick and put into buttered square pans. If the oven is quite hot put the tin pans on a muffin-ring, to keep from burning on the bottom; allow from twenty-five to thirty minutes for baking. When done set it on edge or on a sieve to cool.

TICKLING THE "FIFTH NERVE."—Dr. Brunton mentions in the "Contemporary Review" that there are two nerves known as the fifth pair, which are distributed to the skin of the head, and to the mucous membrane of the eyes, nose, and mouth. These nerves are closely connected with the heart and vessels, and may be stimulated so as to influence the circulation. It is a curious fact that people of all nations are accustomed, when in any difficulty, to stimulate one or another branch of the fifth nerve, and quicken their mental processes. Thus, some persons, when puzzled, scratch their heads; others rub their foreheads, and others stroke or pull their beards. Many Germans when thinking have a habit of striking their fingers against their noses; in this country some take snuff. The late Lord Derby, when translating Homer, was accustomed to eat brandied cherries. One man will eat figs while composing a leading article, another will suck chocolate creams; some will smoke cigarettes and others sip brandy-and-water. By these means they stimulate certain branches of the fifth nerve, and thus reflexly excite the brain.

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