



The Home Department

Conducted by
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The Wise Clipper

I saw him take the paper and
Turn to the "Household" page,
Then scan the column up and down
As one who all would gage.
"Aha!" he muttered, to himself,
"Here's 'how to make rice fritters,'
And 'how to utilize cold beef,'
And 'home-made stomach bit-
ters.'"

Then from his pocket forth he drew
A pair of scissors small,
And severed from the printed page
The "Helpful hints," and all.
He clipped "the way to scramble
eggs,"

And "how to make peach butter,"
As well as half an armful more,
"That's all," again his mutter.

"A thoughtful man!" at once I
mused;

"A man who cares for things;
Who loves the calm contented song
The home teakettle sings."

"Do you," I asked, "preserve those
notes

So that your wife may eye them?"
"Not much!" he growled; "I cut 'em
out

So she won't get to try 'em."

—Baltimore American.

Have the Courage

One of the hardest things in this world to do, is to hold to the right in the face of adverse criticism. It is not easy to wear the old clothes until we have the money to pay for others, or to sturdily wear patches rather than visit the pawn shop. Yet, if one's associates are people whose opinion is worth having, they will think all the more of us for our independent honesty.

Have the courage to live within your income, be it large or small, and even when the unavoidable emergency arrives, make sure that it is unavoidable before you contract a debt or ask a favor. Debt is a species of slavery; the creditor owns the debtor to the extent of the debt, and his claim grows every day. If the debt must be incurred, let it barely cover your necessities, and pay it back as soon as possible, even to self-denial on your part. Keep down expenses to the very least, if you have not ready money.

Have the courage to live on two meals a day, if you can not pay for three and if there seems no promise of betterment in your circumstances, one meal a day will save your self-respect. Besides, hygienists tell us that an occasional fast is a good thing.

There is one thing which disheartens the would-be honest ones: If you frankly acknowledge that you are poor, yet keep out of debt and wear and eat solely what you can pay for, keeping your own counsel as to shortages, sacrifices and self-denials, your neighbors will at once determine that you are secretly hoarding money; that you have a big bank account and are living on "easy street," while being openly "close" as a blind. You may even get the name of being a millionaire and work people will charge you double prices for everything they do for you, and the average store-keeper, who will, without question, keep a "running account" (and often a losing one) with his "charge" customers, will, if you ask for a credit of a few days, look at you with suspicion. You must have the courage to bear

these injustices, and go on being honest and of kindly intent to every one. Save something (if only your self-respect) for future need, invest your savings wisely, but eat, live and dress strictly within your income, whatever others may do.

Merchantable Weeds

By a little care and knowledge, many of the weeds which now annoy the farmer may be turned into a source of profit, as many of the drugs in use today are made from the roots, leaves or flower-heads of these same annoying weeds. Many of these drugs are imported, as not enough of the "original stock" finds its way to the markets. Some time ago a pamphlet, giving the medicinal value and means of harvesting these plants, was issued from the department of agriculture, and it can probably be obtained by writing to the secretary and asking for it. The material for the pamphlet was gathered by Miss Alice Henkel. If the farmer must war with them, there is no reason why he should not get "the rent of his land" from them.

In some states there are laws compelling the farmers to take measures to exterminate certain troublesome plant life, and as the weeds must be destroyed anyway, the farmer might just as well turn them to account. The prices are not so high as to tempt one to abandon other employment for the proceeds, but the work of preparing them for the market is not great, and a dollar is a dollar, whether it comes from cultivated crops or not.

Leaves, herbs and flowers should be dried in the shade, so as to retain as much of their color and strength as possible, while roots may be cleaned by washing and drying. There is a proper season in which to gather these plants, as, collected out of season, they are not saleable. The roots of annual plants should be dug just before the flowering, but roots of biennials and perennials should be harvested after the tops have died. Clean, bright looking roots will bring the best price. Leaves and flowers should be gathered when the plant is in full bloom. The stems should be rejected.

It would be well for those who have access to the "weed patch" to send for what information on the subject can be supplied by the department in form of pamphlets, and other books on the subject may be had at small cost. This might mean "pin money" to the farm young folks.

For Beginning the Day

For almost every person, old or young, exercise is the nearest approach to a panacea for all bodily ills that have ever been discovered. Causing the body to move, stretch, push and pull makes the blood circulate and the liver do its work, while the nerves pick up their dropped stitches. Before breakfast is the best time for such work, and ten minutes of this should be religiously devoted to caring for the bodily health. During sleep there is little waste of energy; on waking, there is no immediate demand for replenishing of lost tissues. The long sleep has left the nerves and digestive apparatus dull and leaden. To sit down to a heavy breakfast within a half hour of getting out of bed means that the stomach receives food it does not need, and is

not ready to digest. A little wholesome exercise before breaking the fast means aroused vitality, an appetite and better digestion. This is particularly good for the housewife, and no matter how tired she feels on getting up, a few minutes spent in exercising her body will be restful. If this can be followed by a cool or cold bath followed by friction with a turkish towel, and then a rest of a few minutes before going to her kitchen, she will feel all the better because of it. Women must learn to care for their bodily health, for no one can be at her best when worn out and exhausted with the cares of life, and the only way to really recuperate is to follow nature's laws and then, so far as others are concerned, be a law unto one's self. If there is no bath room, a towel bath will answer, but do learn to be good to yourselves.

Among Our Letters

H. P. J. asks for protection against weevils in cow peas and beans stored for the season. It is recommended that salt, one peck to 100 bushels, be scattered through the seeds. Wood ashes, sifted, or air-slacked lime, well mixed with the seeds are good. Or bisulphide of carbon, at the rate of one and one-half pounds to a bin of 1,000 cubic feet measure, may be used. This chemical is highly inflammable, and no fire—not even a pipe—should come near it. Set hollow dishes about over the top of the seeds and pour the chemical into these dishes, covering the whole mass immediately, as nearly air-tight as possible, and leave for thirty-six hours. The fumes of the chemical sink instead of rising, and thus permeate the whole mass.

Jose B. asks about paint. Our painter tells us that one coat, or priming calls for twenty pounds of lead and four gallons of oil per hundred-square yards. A fair estimate for each 100 yards of three-coat work will be 100 pounds of lead and sixteen gallons of oil. One pound of paint will cover about four superficial yards the first coat, and about six, each additional coat. For stopping holes, one pound of well-beaten putty to about twenty yards. For killing knots, use shellac dissolved in alcohol. An ordinary door, both sides, with casings, is figured at eight to ten yards of painting; without casings, about five yards. Windows are figured at two and one-half to three yards.

A. K. wishes to rid his dog of fleas. This is recommended: Clean out the kennel or sleeping place, and sprinkle the new bedding well with air-slacked lime. Persian insect powder, applied with a little blow-gun for that purpose, is good; a salve of sulphur and lard, well rubbed into the hair and on the skin, is recommended, but when using sulphur, the dog must be kept out of the wet, else he might be harmed. Washing with strong tar soapsuds, or with carbolated soap, or with one of the best soaps sold for that purpose, might any of them be tried. The treatment must be kept up until the last flea has become disgusted and gone, and even then, "the other dog" may stock your animal up again.

Some Picnic Dishes

Jellied Tongue—Wash and scrape a beef tongue, boil until tender, then

take up and remove the skin. Let the liquor in which it was cooked boil very low. Cover half a box of gelatine with a little water and let soak for an hour. Set the tongue aside for twelve hours. Add the dissolved gelatine to the liquor, stir over the fire one minute, take off and strain. Season with mace, cloves, pepper and salt and set away to cool. When firm, skim off the fat, put the jelly over the fire to melt, pour in a mould and set on ice to harden. When hard, put a layer of sliced tongue on top of the jelly, then slices of hard-boiled eggs, over which sprinkle salt and pepper, then another layer of tongue, and so on, until all is used. Pour over the remainder of the jelly and set in a cold place over night. When wanted, turn from the mold and slice.

Chicken Cutlets—Boil two well-grown young chickens; let cool, and slice the breast very thinly; have a little bechamel sauce and cover the slices with it while warm, lay on a dish with alternate slices of cold boiled ham sliced very thinly. When the chicken is all piled up nicely, cover the whole top and sides with the sauce. Cut this mass into small cutlets and cover the edges with bechamel sauce, which should be cold. Garnish with parsley.

Lemon Jelly Cake—Three cups of sugar and a cup of butter; cream together; add five cups of flour with three tablespoonfuls of baking powder, eight eggs, and a cup of sweet milk. Flavor with almond extract. Bake in layers. For filling, take two cups of sugar, three tablespoonfuls of butter, two eggs, the juice and grated rind of three lemons; boil together until thick. Let cool and spread between the layers of cake. This should make two good-sized cakes.

World-Famous Hymns

"Nearer, My God, to Thee," was written by a woman of England, Sarah Flower Adams, whose great literary labors were done in the first half of the last century, and whose life closed in 1849.

"Safe in the Arms of Jesus" was written by Mrs. Venelstyne, known as the Blind Poet, after a day's jostling through the crowded streets, guided by a loving hand.

"Abide with Me" was the work of Henry Francis Lyte, curate of Lower Brixham, England, in the year 1847, when he found himself, with his ambition gone, his heart heavy with a failure in love, and in broken spirits.

John Henry Newman, in 1835, during the great crisis of his life, and after a severe illness, was traveling from Italy on his way to England, when he was becalmed for a week between Corsica and Sardinia. Then he wrote "Lead, Kindly Light," and called it "The Pillar of Cloud."

One day Charles Wesley was sitting by an open window, looking over the beautiful fields, when he saw a little bird pursued by a hawk. The poor thing, weak and frightened, seeking to escape from its enemy, flew into the room and found refuge in Wesley's bosom. As the poet was then in great trouble, the incident inspired him to write the famous hymn, the second line of which is "Let me to Thy bosom fly."

The Rev. William Williams, born in 1717, was a Welsh clergyman, and gave to the church that beautiful hymn whose opening lines breathe a prayer and acknowledge human weakness, "Guide me, O, Thou great Jehovah."

Charlotte Elliot, an invalid whose father was host to Dr. Caesar Malan, on his visit to England, was by his words inspired to write the beautiful words, "Just as I am," first published anonymously fourteen