

spot sticks, touch it very lightly with clear alcohol. If there is much dirt or deep tarnish, wash quickly with borax soapsuds, wipe dry, then cover all over with the wet whiting and let dry. Brush it off with a stiff brush and polish it afterward with a soft leather.—Good Housekeeping.

**Little Helps.**

For patching rents or worn places with the sewing machine, cut out a patch large enough to more than cover the place in need of repairs. Baste it under the place so that the threads will run with the thread of the thing to be patched; stitch a row all around the patch an inch from the edge; next, turn under the raw edge and stitch it down; reverse the work and cut the thin or torn place out, leaving a three-fourths inch margin next to the first row of stitching; cut half through the corners, turn under the edge and stitch down.

A table is set with a view to convenience as well as elegance. At a simply family table, there are only two forks, two knives and a spoon. A knife is used for cutting things that are not manageable by a fork, and for no other purpose. Pies, cake, some kinds of fish, entrees with sauce, etc., require the fork only. A good rule is to avoid the use of the knife as much as possible.

Silk stockings should be washed in warm water and rinsed in clear water; turn them outside in and dip them several times into a quart of water in which a piece of litmus as large as a hazelnut has been dissolved; burn some sulphur in a pan filled with hot coals and hold the stockings over the fumes. Turn them right side out, smooth them while damp and dry in the shade.—Ex.

Severe pains in any of the vital organs, especially of the stomach and bowels, are quickly relieved by a per-

sistent use of large amounts of hot water taken inwardly. The water should not be so hot as to force the patient to sip slowly, it should be of such a temperature as to allow a half pint to be taken continuously, but the hotter the better. Hot water passes rapidly through the walls of the stomach, and for this reason one can drink larger quantities of hot water than is generally supposed.

Whenever a person is taken with severe pains, he or she ought to take half a pint of hot water every five minutes until two or three quarts have been consumed. There is no tendency to nausea in taking very hot water, as is the case with warm water; but if the hot water should cause vomiting, it will be seen to be helpful, and the treatment should be continued. Hot water bags or jugs filled with boiling water should be applied to the feet, and also to the seat of pain. A flannel cloth, wrung out of water as hot as can be handled, and laid on the seat of pain, then covered closely with a dry cloth, to keep in the steam, is one of the best remedies for many diseases of the internal organs.

All persons suffering from obstinate constipation, from a weak stomach, a bad taste in the mouth, bad breath, or similar derangement will derive great benefit, and, if persisted in for sufficient time, a cure, by taking a half pint or pint of very hot water fifteen to thirty minutes previous to each meal and at bed-time. When one is overworked, and "too tired to eat," a "strong" cup of hot water often proves the way for a good appetite and a relished meal. In the use of hot water drinks there is no injurious after-effects, no matter how large the quantity used, as large quantities of water has the effect of throwing off impurities from the system, stimulating the action of the kidneys and bowels and by this means thoroughly washing out the system.

To clean a mackintosh, spread it out on a table and scrub it all over with a stiff brush, using cold soft water and yellow soap; when all dirt is off, dip the mackintosh through several lots of clean water; do not wring, but shake well and hang out to dry in the open air if possible, and do not allow it to freeze while wet. If the weather is too cold, let it hang in a cool room, but on no account put it near the fire. Hot water must never be used, and if there are any bad stains, or grease marks that will not yield to the soap alone, rub a little turpentine on them.—Globe-Democrat.

**Query Box.**

Josie D.—Raffia is a fiber peeled from the inner bark of a palm tree which grows in Madagascar. Large quantities of it are used in America for many purposes. It is very tough and strong, and when soaked in warm water for a short time, can be used for binding or tying up bundles or sewing with coarse needles. Florists use it for tying up vines, and in other ways where twine might be used; gardeners tie up bundles of vegetables with it; baskets, hats, mats, and many other things can be made of it. It is very useful.

Maudie May, Springfield, Mo.—For home-made candy, always get the best granulated sugar, with a sparkle to it, of fine grain and snow-white. Do not try to make candy on a rainy day, or when the wind is high. To "tell you all about making candy at home," would be a job for one week's work, but you can get reliable books with candy-making recipes for a small cost. In almost all cook-books there are various good recipes, and you might try such of them as suited you. If you will tell me the kind you want to make, I might help you out.

Monta.—The candy recipe you refer to is probably this one: Peel and slice a common potato into slices an eighth of an inch thick; boil this in syrup until nearly done, sprinkle well

with ginger and dry in a slow oven. Maple sugar creams are made by mixing grated maple sugar with an equal amount of confectioner's sugar, and mix with white of egg and water (equal quantities) into a soft dough; mold into desired shapes.

Carrie N., Chicago, Ill.—It would be impossible to answer satisfactorily your question as to whether the climate of Arkansas would agree with your constitution. Only a personal trial could demonstrate the matter. I would be glad to help you, but do not see how I can do so. A change of climate is often temporarily beneficial, at least.

La Moille, Joplin, Mo.—Annual plants are those which attain their full growth, blossom, bear seed and die in one year. Biennials live two years, sometimes blooming the first, but usually not until the second season. Perennials live many years, some of them blooming the first season, others not until the plant is established, the second year or later. Many of them are very hardy, requiring little care, and enduring severe cold. Among them are some of the finest things we have for the lawn and garden. Many biennials will not stand our cold winters and must be treated as annuals. Many of each class may be readily raised from seeds, while others must be supplied by the florist.

"A. H. W." asks me to say to Mrs. M. A. B., regarding her "soggy" pie-crust, that, if the lower pie-crust is set in the oven from five to ten minutes, just long enough to dry, not bake, before putting in the filling, it will not get soggy; if allowed to bake, it puffs up, but if taken out just as the puffing begins, it will be nice.

Susie.—Doilies of all sizes are used on the table for nearly all dishes, small ones for the tumblers, larger ones for vegetable dishes, and larger still for meat dishes, etc. Very pretty ones are crocheted or knit, or made of needle work.

"Fay," Lacont.—In the morning in the city, shirt-waist suits, or tailor suit of cloth with separate waists are worn. Tea gowns are worn at home in receiving informally a few intimate friends; they are worn any time after luncheon and dinner. For evening, gowns of the demi-toilet order in silk, lace, or voiles trimmed with lace are generally worn.

**Short Items.**

Everything, from ready-made clothing to gloves, is made in "sizes," but few know the measurement of them. In coats, a size is one inch; in underwear, two inches; in socks, an inch; in a collar, half an inch; in shoes, one-sixth of an inch; in trousers, one inch; in gloves, one-fourth inch; in hats, one-eighth inch.

Stripped of all titles, the name of Edward VII. of Great Britain is Albert Edward Wettin. His father's name, stripped of all titles, was Albert Wettin. Like many other European monarchs, he is descended from one Wettkind, who was a contemporary of Charlemagne. Queen Victoria, before her marriage, was Miss Victoria Azon.—Ex.

Don't discourage the boy who asks questions by refusing to answer them. You may think him a nuisance, and he may ask you some things hard to answer, but a boy who forms this habit it likely to become a man of common sense, and one who has some knowledge of a great many things. If you cannot answer his questions, encourage him to find the answer for himself. This will teach him to think.

It is not always easy to be cheerful; sometimes everything seems to go wrong, even after one has tried to do his best; and trials come to the most hopeful which seem to bring only failure and discouragement in their train. In such cases, the easiest thing to do is to sit down and bemoan our hard lines; to wall over our want of luck. But is it the best thing to

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do? Will it mend matters if we acknowledge ourselves defeated? I think not. Let us rise superior to our discouragements; let us put our strength to the test, and prove ourselves worthy of the victory which may yet be ours, if we but push ahead.

Be ambitious to excel. Put the stamp of excellence upon whatever you undertake. Put yourself in your work. Be honest with yourself, as well as with others, and do what seems right to yourself. Put individuality in all you do, and then strive to prove the superiority of the individual. Give your best energies to the life-work you choose, and strive to make the best of the material. Determine that whatever you do shall be well done.

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