

All gases carry a vapor of water, more or less, and this watery vapor is condensed as frost on the inside of the pipe in cold weather, and may build up enough to close the pipe, when the gas ceasing to find exit, the light will go out, of course. But a very few degrees of heat will reconvert the frost into vapor, and thus leave the before-temporarily-closed pipe open again, permitting the gas to flow. This is the reason why a gas jet, "turned low," may cease to burn and the gas be subsequently found flowing through the burner. As many of our readers, even in the rural homes, now use gas for illumination, it is well for them to heed this fact.

The Homeless

Belonging to this class we find many who have all external evidences of prosperity, and the pity of it is they do not seem to realize how really poor they are. The unhappy feature of modern life, especially in city and village, is that so few families ever come to have a home in the true sense; the family may be there, and the furniture, and even a sense of seclusion and separation from others; but the house, or flat, or apartment is but the place where the family are staying for the time. When more convenience, or more elegance can be had for the same, or a little more, money, the move is made, and a new abode is fitted up with our knocked-about family belongings—more or less battered, broken and patched up because of roughness of transition. The sacred associations of home—the feeling of permanency and absolute possession, the comfort of the thought that no other dare to trespass upon the grounds without our permission—is not this passing from us? If we could but become a more home-owning people, fostering our home-keeping ideals, cultivating a pride of possession and gathering about us fruit and flower and vine, hoping at some time to partake of the fruits thereof, there would be a greater peace and satisfaction than any transient abiding place can ever bring to us.

The Thermometer

The principle of the thermometer is exceedingly simple—a small glass tube with a hollow bulb, and a capillary canal through it containing mercury or alcohol, and a graduated scale to mark the expansion or contraction of the expanding substance. The theory of it all is that most bodies expand and contract with the changes of temperature. Mercury and alcohol are exceedingly sensitive to changes of this character and are hence good registering mediums. The use of mercury, or quicksilver is, however, rather limited in its range, as excessive cold causes it to congeal, so alcohol is used for recording very high or very low temperature. There are three well-known varieties of thermometers, distinguished by the system of marking the degrees. In the Fahrenheit thermometer the freezing point for water is marked at 32 degrees above zero, and zero is placed at the point where the mercury stands when bedded in a mixture of snow and salt; the boiling point is 212 degrees. In the Centigrade, the freezing point of water is made the zero, the boiling point is fixed at 100 degrees and the space between is divided into 100 spaces or degrees. In the Reaumur thermometer, the freezing point of water is made zero, the boiling point 80 degrees. The Fahrenheit thermometer is the one generally used in ordinary measurements of heat and cold in the United States and Great Britain.—Ex.

An exchange says: "At fifty, a man's tastes have toned down, and he longs for a little cottage in the country, where all is quiet; where birds sing, and where there are

chickens in the yard, a cow in the stable, a goodly plot of ground that continually yields an unfailing supply of fresh fruits and vegetables, and where all is modesty, sweet content and freedom from the usual annoyances that make life a burden. At sixty, the cottage has grown smaller, and the man would be content with less ground, fewer chickens and vegetables, and could get along quite comfortably without the cow. At seventy, any place will do, so long as one is not disturbed and has reasonable assurance that he will not be."

For Frosted Feet

One of our correspondents, living in Minnesota, tells us of a tested remedy for frosted feet and chilblains, which is so simple and, according to his statement, so effective, that I must give you his letter, thanking him, in the name of many sufferers, for the kindness. We are only just beginning to value salt as a curative agent. He says: "After helping the wife do her washing, in the forenoon, I went out and sawed a half cord of wood for a neighbor woman, with bare hands, the thermometer being well down toward zero. When I came in, all my fingers were like icicles, and by morning they were black, up to the second joint. My physician thought I must lose them, but told me to wrap them in dry salt, and in a week we would know what to do with them. In a couple of days the black color was gone, and before the week was out the soreness was gone, and they are all right. The winter before, I had frozen my heels; the itching was very troublesome as the cold weather came on that winter and the next, and they were inclined to crack. I put a tablespoonful of salt in the heel of each stocking, and wore it so for a week or two, with the result that the trouble was cured. Last winter, I frosted a finger and thumb so they were full of pins and needles before bedtime. I wrapped them in salt, and the next day they were all right. A neighbor, while in the woods of northern Minnesota, froze his feet so badly that a doctor wanted to take them off—to which he would not consent. Many weeks after, he called on me; the feet were sore and very much swollen. I told him of the salt, which he used with good results."

In case of frostbite, I would advise our friends to try this brother's remedy, and also, for the troublesome heat and itching, or chilblain, which is so often the result of frostbite.

For the Home Seamstress

A pretty Eton suit for a young girl may be made of any suiting goods. The skirt may be a seven-gored pattern, with plaits stretched down flat to fit the hips closely; the Eton may be made with a big collar, or a collar may be simulated on the goods with trimmings and imitation button holes at the corners; it may have a little vest that allows of trimmings of various sorts, and it may be made of velvet, embroidered silk or of other suitable material. The sleeves may be made in the popular three-quarter length, with mitten cuffs, or of ordinary length, the bottom part either cut close-fitting, or the fullness stitched down in plaits from the wrist upward.

The princess skirt is one of the most popular styles of the season, and is not only a novelty, but tends to do away with the last vestige of the blouse effect. The skirt may be made of nine gores, arranged to form inverted plaits below the hips, and is extended in corsage style to give the princess suggestion, or it may be cut off in regulation skirt fashion. A pretty blouse to be worn with this skirt is shirred to form a yoke, and can be cut out at the neck in decollete style, if desired. Over the

blouse may be worn a short bolero in curved outline, or an Eton, reaching to the waist line.

One who loves a neat appearance will appreciate a big apron and oversleeves, to be worn about her work, to keep her dress in the immaculate condition she so well likes. White butcher's linen, or gingham are popular materials for these accessories to the working housekeeper's wardrobe, and these and many other materials may serve for other departments of her work. The patch pocket will be found a convenient addition, and patterns for the set may be had for ten cents.

A new idea is to have a satine skirt made with adjustable ruffles. The ruffles must exactly match the gown, and are buttoned on as the gown is changed, and a half dozen of them will not cost more than one all-silk skirt.

Discharged Colors

It is always best, before dyeing goods intended to be made over, to discharge as much of the old color from the goods as possible, and for this purpose one of the best bleaching liquids is made by dissolving a quarter of a pound of chloride of lime in one pint of water; in another pint, dissolve a quarter of a pound of bicarbonate of soda; mix the two liquids, let stand until well settled, drain, and strain carefully through a cloth and keep in jars. Wet the goods to be bleached thoroughly in hot water, then take out, add a portion of your bleach to the bath, return the goods and work thoroughly ten or twenty minutes, adding more of the bleach if necessary (first taking the goods from the water before adding the bleach.) When all the color possible seems out of the goods, rinse thoroughly through several waters, to take out all the bleach. Chloride of lime is sold by grocers and druggists; the grocer's price is ten cents per pound can. Bi-carbonate of soda is baking soda.

After dyeing, if the goods "crock," too much dye has been used. This may be remedied by washing the dyed goods well in warm soap suds after dyeing. The surplus color may be removed by simply boiling the goods in plain, clear water a few minutes. Press dyed goods on the wrong side only. Corn meal and vinegar, pumice stone, fine sand, or a little chloride of lime in water will take stains from the hands when dyeing.

Odds and Ends

When gathering up the old clothing, and overhauling the bedding, towels and table linen, if you find any article "just ready for the ragbag," don't put it there. Carefully rip apart or cut out all seams and hems, and wash all—even the small pieces, and iron smoothly; roll or fold these pieces up neatly and put them where you can find them at any time, in case of emergency of cuts, breaks or bruises. They will prove invaluable, for the house-mother does not know what a day or an hour may bring forth.

If the little fingers (or big ones) get mashed or bruised, put them in water as hot as can be borne, bathing the bruise for at least fifteen minutes; afterwards keep wet with witch hazel until the pain ceases.

One need not cover their windows with lace in order to make them look nice. Cheap lace is dear at any price, and the lace that wears costs more than the average woman can afford to pay for it. There are many pretty lawns, white, striped or small-figured, to be had at this time of year for three to five cents a yard, and these lawns will launder nicely. Many of the figured pieces will fade out white when boiled, and will last several seasons. These goods are usually of narrow width, but many of them can be had a yard wide, and

for small windows, two widths, three and a half yards (or less, according to your window) long, will be enough. The width may be increased by a ruffle four to six inches wide, trimmed or not with some pretty edging, or a third width may be cut in halves lengthwise and set onto the whole width with a strip of insertion, the other side of it serving as a hem.

Many pretty things may be evolved from a few yards of cheesecloth—a very flimsy grade of domestic, which sells for three to five cents a yard; it is yard-wide and washes well and wears a long time. Drawn work does well on this open-meshed material, and hem stitching is easily done on it.

Peach Delight

For "Peach Delight," take a can of nice peaches, and lay in a baking dish; alternate layers of peach and sugar, letting the top layer be of sugar dotted with butter, and pour the juice carefully around the peaches. Make a thin pie crust and cover the dish, leaving several slits as outlets for the steam; bake half an hour, and in serving, turn the crust underneath, covering with whipped cream. To be eaten cold.

HE GOT EVEN

"I feel quite lost tonight. Forgot to bring my new glasses. Who is that over-dressed woman by the piano?"

"Eh? That's my wife."

"Beg pardon. And who is the scrawny girl in blue standing by her?"

"That's my daughter."

"By Jove, how stupid! And tell me, please, who is that gawky-looking fellow with the big ears who is standing just opposite to us?"

"That's your reflection in the mirror, you idiot."—Exchange.

MALARIA???

Generally That is not the Trouble

Persons with a susceptibility to malarial influences should beware of coffee, which has a tendency to load up the liver with bile.

A lady writes from Denver that she suffered for years from chills and fever which at last she learned were mainly produced by the coffee she drank.

"I was also grievously afflicted with headaches and indigestion," she says, "which I became satisfied were likewise largely due to the coffee I drank. Six months ago I quit its use altogether and began to drink Postum Food Coffee, with the gratifying result that my headaches have disappeared, my digestion has been restored and I have not had a recurrence of chills and fever for more than three months. I have no doubt that it was Postum that brought me this relief, for I have used no medicine while this improvement has been going on." (It was really relief from congestion of the liver caused by coffee.)

"My daughter has been as great a coffee drinker as I, and for years was afflicted with terrible sick headaches, which often lasted for a week at a time. She is a brain worker and excessive application together with the headaches began to affect her memory most seriously. She found no help in medicines and the doctor frankly advised her to quit coffee and use Postum.

"For more than four months she has not had a headache—her mental faculties have grown more active and vigorous and her memory has been restored.

"No more tea, coffee or drugs for us, so long as we can get Postum." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

There's a reason. Read the little book "The Road to Wellville" in pkgs.