



The Reaping

I lived my life for you; from that first hour
When yet you lay unseen and all unknown
Save to myself and God; my thoughts,
My power,
My very life blood were for you alone.
I took my cares, and on my shoulders laid
Your every burden; every pain and smart
I kept from you, and all that could degrade
Or bring an evil knowledge to your heart.
I guided you from sorrow and from strife
Until your manhood. What has all availed?
I thought your life had been the perfect life—
And when the trial came, you failed—
* * * you failed!

—Harper's Weekly.

Wisdom

Like doves our strong-winged hopes go out
To speed their flight through unknown space;
Like tired doves they curve about
And find no safe abiding place,
'Til Wisdom's window open swings
In some sweet ark of lowly things.

Our science weighs the suns and fills
The patient earth with wordy strife;
But Wisdom slowly climbs the hills
And leads the halting steps to life.
Though knowledge scurries wide and fast
'Tis Wisdom finds the trail at last.

God gives the soul to learn in time
That wisdom haunts the lowly ways,
That simple things are most sublime,
And strength is found in thoughtful days;
That close to heaven, at sorest need,
The quiet peace of earth may lead.
—Book-Lover's Magazine.

Our Social Chat

Not a few complaints are heard from housewives whose husbands, otherwise sensible men, insist on doing the marketing for the family supplies, or else that the wife "order" what is needed, having the bills sent to them for payment. In such cases (and there are not a few of them), there is sure to be either a wasteful abundance or a discouraging shortage, as there will always be too much of some things and too little or none at all of others. Many times, much economy can be practiced in serving up the inevitable "left-overs," or dishes not particularly liked, by combinations with other materials, or by cooking in another manner with something which will entirely change the flavor; yet, if the other substance be not at hand or immediately obtainable, the viands must go to the garbage pail.

Often, too, when doing the marketing herself, the housewife comes across some delicacy she had not before thought of, or something which will combine well with what she has, which would otherwise be wasted, and

this can be substituted for that which would otherwise have been ordered, yet which would not have made the meal half so satisfactory. One of the smallest things a man can be capable of is to show this open contempt for his wife's judgment in matters of which she is supposed to be far better informed than he possibly can be, and it does not increase her respect for him to have him treat her as an irresponsible child. One man excuses his smallness by saying that he "always bought just what his wife told him to;" but it would have brought much more satisfactory results had he placed the money in her hands to use as she saw fit, in looking over the variety on the market stand.

Every housewife can readily ascertain what amount is needed to satisfy the demands of the family appetite, whether for a single or an elaborate menu. Every husband can and should know just what amount of money he can spare from his business or salary for this purpose, and having settled this to the satisfaction of both, he should ungrudgingly hand over the amount to her for disbursement. If she was such a fool that she could not be trusted in such matters, he should not have married her. If, having married her, he finds she is an "incapable," he has still a duty toward her to perform, and he can not remedy matters by treating her with distrust or contempt.

"Running an account" with the various trades people is a very poor way to do business. One can get far better treatment by paying cash, and can often do much better by buying what is wanted at different places, and this can only be done when the money is in hand. Any woman of spirit detests to acknowledge the fact that her husband can not, or does not, trust her even with so small a sum of money, and there is a sense of humiliation in the fact that the tradesman is expected to trust her when her husband will not. Some women become reckless under such circumstances, and do not try to save, as everything goes in the bill, any way, and it will have to be paid. Of course, there may be a "fuss over it," but—she is generally used to fusses of that kind. And I really do not find it in my heart to blame her. Do you? Not one woman in a thousand will fail her husband if he trusts her. If he don't—!

"Evening Up"

Some of our friends ask me to solve the problem as to how to "make brick without straw," or, in other words, how to supply the table with foods when the head of the household curtails the allowance money to such a degree that it seems impossible to meet the demands of the family appetite from the amount given. If the husband is not amenable to reason, there seems but one way and that is, immediately the shortage become apparent, the housewife should take stock of things and buy according to the allowance. The amount of foods necessary being known, she should carefully buy a sufficient quantity, leaving quality to take care of itself. There is plenty of cheap meats to be had; to be sure, they are generally the tough, bony, undesirable pieces, but they don't cost much, and may be made into soups, stews, etc., while a few of the best of these may be braised, or boiled until tender, then baked. Cook these the best you can,

and save what is left (there always is some left, no matter how little you buy); serve it up as cold meat for luncheon, and make salad of the remaining scraps for the next meal. Then, there are plenty of second-class fruits and vegetables—stale, wilted, over-ripe, or of otherwise inferior quality, and these are always cheaper than the fresh, crisp kinds. Milk may be substituted for cream, and "inferior grades" in other lines, butter, lard, sugar, etc. Where quality is of secondary importance, one can get a goodly quantity of eatables of some kind for a little money.

While doing this, always be sure that your husband sees the bills, and knows just what things cost, that he may know how you are laying out "his" money. It might be a good plan to keep a price list of the better quality of material at hand that he may occasionally figure out how much the difference is saving him. It may be that he will not care so much, as he may indulge in expensive dinners or lunches away from home to enable him to endure the cost of his economy in family affairs—such things have happened.

If, as in some cases, he not only restricts the purchases, but insists on doing the purchasing, himself, cook what he brings in as best you may, but see to it that there is no favor shown—he must share as the rest of you do. He may get tired of it, and see the folly of such a practice, and he may not. It will depend on the quantity of commonsense he may possess. A woman who has a "home and children" is admonished that she has enough to do to attend to the home wants, but one can not blame such a woman if she has to neglect those primary interests and seek outside employment to satisfy the needs of herself and children in the matter of food and raiment.

Fatherhood

"We heartily believe that men and women are growing better—but how much better they would be if the fathers were more faithful in their responsibilities to their children? In this age of universal publicity, innocence goes too soon, and the knowledge that comes is not always best because fathers do not give the young the benefit of their knowledge. Too many of them let their boys find out things for themselves—and being in a wilderness they do not always take the right paths. When we look squarely at conditions, we wonder why there are not more tragedies of character, so near and universal are the temptations and so rare and broken the paternal guardianship. Not only are the boys to be piloted and protected, but the girls need from their fathers much that the mothers can not give. If fathers would be more particular, more careful, more positive, many a daughter would be saved from unworthy associations and from wretched marriages. So long as there are fathers who inquire less closely into the characters of their future sons-in-law than they do into the habits of their clerks, they are going to make sorrow for themselves, sorrow for their daughters, sorrow for the world.

* We do not mean to underestimate the marvellous influence of the mother. * * * But isn't there a conviction down deep in our souls that we should have done much better if our fathers had taken time and trouble to share our confidences in

the years that counted most?"—De-lineator.

Sweeping by Electricity

Since we are admonished that the old way of sweeping—"kicking up a dust" with the broom—is an outrageous proceeding, the next thing to be considered will be a vacuum cleaner, by which, with a few puffs of an electric motor, all dust that has accumulated during the day may be removed—not stirred up to settle in some other part of the house. At present, these cleaners are hauled about in wagons, and are used but once or twice a year, at a goodly charge for the service; but electric sweeping is bound to become a necessity, and some one will invent an apparatus that will not only be within the reach of the family pocket book, but of a size and mechanism available for the daily managing of the housewife, and they will be installed in the private houses. Broom, dust rags and sweeping days will be done away with, along with other effete customs, and house cleaning will no longer be a bi-yearly menace to the stability of the home.

Cooking Lessons

While the lessons of the cooking school may be all right, and it is acknowledged that we may learn many things in such a course that can be turned to good account in the practical, every-day life of the home kitchen, yet it is true that there is much taught in them that is of no value in real housekeeping. It is easily demonstrated that such cooking is unnecessarily expensive, and much better results may be had for much less money by following the methods taught by real experience. Orderliness and neatness are strongly commended in the home kitchen, as in the cooking school course, and many scraps of food material can be turned to good account in following the rules given; but, after all, more depends upon the natural ability of the cook herself than upon any lessons she may have thrust upon her. Not every woman can be a really successful cook, even with the best of utensils and abundance of material. Personal preference counts for much, in all trades and professions. Insofar as it is possible, every girl should be taught to be a good, practical cook and housewife, as nearly every woman, at some time in her life, is forced to depend on her own skill in getting up a meal. If she does not have to follow cookery for her living or for the comfort of her family, she will yet know how to instruct others in their duties.

Danger in the Schools

In almost every school there is some one boy or girl, or both, who should be in a reformatory. These children may be bright and pleasant, and sprung from families of social prominence, or they may come from the middle class, as often as from the ignorant and indigent. Outwardly, they may be all one could desire, and with tact enough to so veil their moral turpitude as to readily deceive; but they say wicked things, utter words with thinly veiled meanings, make suggestive gestures and give expressive glances, and there are so many weak and morally wavering, that one such child may be a serious menace to the moral health of the other children. It is a hard matter for the teacher to catch such an offender, and one hesitates to make a charge, lest they awaken harmful

BETTER THAN SPANKING

Spanking does not cure children of bad wetting. If it did there would be few children that would do it. There is a constitutional cause for this. Mrs. M. Summers, Box 118, Notre Dame, Ind., will send her home treatment to any mother. She asks no money. Write her today if your children trouble you in this way. Don't blame the child. The chances are it can't help it.

AN OLD AND WELL TRIED REMEDY

MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP for children teething should always be used for children while teething. It softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic and is the best remedy for diarrhoea. Twenty-five cents a bottle.