



# The Home Department

Conducted by  
Helen Watts McKee

## The Aftermath

When from my weary fingers fall  
away

The thread of life which I have  
tangled so,  
Rejoice, and say "She resteth well  
today,"

And do not let one tear of sorrow  
flow.

Dear hearts, the time for tears was  
on that day

When first my eyes unclosed to  
earth and woe;

When all before me stretched the  
weary way

O'er which, however weak, my  
weary feet must go.

Say not, because Death holds me,  
"She was good;"

Praise not the way in which my  
feet have trod;

I've sinned my sins; but be it under-  
stood,

I answer for them only to my God.

Heap not, nor scatter flowers above  
my grave;

The offering seems so useless and  
so poor!

Give to the living hearts that mourn  
and crave—

Who have so much before them to  
endure.

The way has been so weary and so  
long!

My strained eyes sought to see the  
far-off end;

And I have longed for death—as one  
who yearns

For sight of some dear, long-ex-  
pected friend!

And when death comes, all griefs  
that I have known

Will seem but as a tale that's told;  
For I shall stand before the Father's  
throne,

And all the glories of His court  
behold!

—Ellen A. Tamarind.

## Little Savings

I am not one who thinks that all  
the saving should be by the hands of  
the house mother, but there are  
many ways in which she can save,  
and she should be given the full  
credit for her thrift. It is well to  
get the worth out of every dollar,  
but the dollar should be worth the  
woman's while. Many a mother is  
worrying about clothes for her fam-  
ily who has plenty of material hang-  
ing in the closets, attic, or in boxes,  
in the shape of out-grown or out-of-  
date clothes, to provide for nearly all  
wants. These should be looked over  
carefully, and that which can not  
serve longer in its original form  
should be ripped apart, brushed well,  
cleaned with some cleansing soap or  
fluid, and well pressed until dry.  
Some things may better be washed  
outright. Look over the pieces, and  
then get a pattern that can be used,  
even with some piecing of the goods,  
or by using trimming or a remnant  
of matching goods. For plain goods  
for the children's outer garments,  
trimmings of bright plaid, or other  
bright colors, can be used. If the  
colors are faded, or the general tone  
dingy, it is very easy and inexpen-  
sive to dye them. Many things can  
be made for the little men out of the  
coats or pants of the father or older  
ones, or from the heavier skirts of  
the mother or girls. Old woolen  
dresses can be ripped apart, washed  
and made into nice garments for the  
little girls, and pieces that are left  
can be made into quilt covers, a few  
blocks at a time. Many things can  
be remade, or brightened up for

further use by their original wear-  
ers. It is well to "get the habit" of  
making the most of things, and by  
this means stretching the dollars as  
far as they will go. If the girls were  
taught to take an interest in such  
things, instead of leaving all the  
worries to mother, it would save  
them many a heartache in the fu-  
ture, and life would wear just as  
bright an aspect to them as though  
all their time was spent in seeking  
amusements outside.

## Worse Than Work

A reader asks if we do not think  
the world has gone crazy over some  
subjects, among which is that of giv-  
ing the whole of a child's time to a  
hunt for amusement, rather than in-  
sisting on their finding part of their  
amusement in learning to work stead-  
ily and earnestly. Whether it is the  
world, or the people, there seems to  
be something of a craze in that di-  
rection. It is beginning to dawn up-  
on the minds of some of our reform-  
ers that the young people are too  
much "amused" for their own good.  
A reasonable amount of work does  
not hurt any one, and it seems to  
some of us that the young folks  
might find a lot of amusement, or its  
equivalent, in helping the parents to  
bear the burden of their support,  
rather than in the feverish rush from  
one thing to another in search of ex-  
citement and "something different,"  
leaving the older ones to wrestle with  
the question of their bodily needs. A  
child will trot all day long, when  
awake, and its trotting will be no  
less satisfactory if its actions are  
useful. Work, to the tiny toddler, is  
never "work" if it is conscious of  
"helping mamma," and as it grows  
older, its activity might have a little  
of the same stimulus. The streets  
and sidewalks are not the best of  
playgrounds for the children, no mat-  
ter how "amusing" they may be.

## For the Home Seamstress

A deep hem is always stylish on  
children's skirts, and in case of  
growth of the child or shrinkage of  
the goods, will allow extra length.  
If the patterns for children's clothes  
are cut on good lines, so the gar-  
ment will hang well and be shapely,  
they need not fit snugly. If the  
material is good, the child will hard-  
ly wear the garment out until it is  
outgrown.

The fashion of making the dress,  
waist and skirt in one piece, is a  
very accommodating one for the  
growing girl who romps a good deal.  
Many children wear wash frocks all  
the year, and this, too, is a good  
fashion, for garments that are fre-  
quently washed are more sanitary  
than those worn a season through  
without cleaning.

Here is a way of making "tufted"  
rugs sent in by a sister: Get a piece  
of wire a couple of feet long and  
bend in the middle like a hair pin;  
the device should be, when bent, one  
foot long, and the ends as well as  
the curve, one inch apart. Cut your  
rags and sew them as for weaving,  
suing your colors as you like; then  
wrap them around the staple, first  
one side and then the other, as in  
"hair-pin" work, and when enough  
rags are wound on, lay the covered  
staple of wire on the foundation of  
your rug, and on the machine sew  
down the middle of the staple. When  
the rags are sewed on, draw the  
wire staple out, and re-fill and sew  
again, until the rug is finished. Then

cut the loops open, and it will look  
like "tufting."

For shrinking cotton wash goods,  
lay the cloth to be shrunken in a  
tub of water that will allow of it  
lying without doubling the length,  
as it must be left folded as it comes  
from the store. Let it soak in luke-  
warm water to which a little salt  
has been added, until thoroughly  
wet through, then lift it out and un-  
fold carefully and pin on the line  
without wringing; there should be a  
good breeze, and the cloth should  
drip dry. It will not require ironing.

## Good Things to Know

For pressing a curved seam, turn  
the rocking chair upside down, pin  
several folds of cloth smoothly over  
it as long as the seam you wish to  
press; have the cloth as smooth as  
for any other pressing, and use this  
for pressing the seam. Remember  
that you must have a damp cloth  
between the iron and the goods, or  
if it is such as water will not mark,  
the seam may be opened by the wet  
fingers, and the iron follow in the  
opening. Pressing is done by mov-  
ing the iron slowly, not rushing it  
as in smoothing out cloth.

In sewing together a bias and a  
straight seam, pin or baste the two  
together at short intervals, allowing  
the bias edge to be much looser than  
the straight edge. Do not "full" on  
the looseness of the bias, but hold  
it easily, on the upper side, and sew  
carefully, for hand sewing; for ma-  
chine sewing, the bias should be on  
the under side, and the pinning or  
basting should be quite close to-  
gether.

To rid a small closet of moths,  
burn a lump of camphor gum in the  
closed closet. A red-hot stove lid,  
set in a pan of hot sand will burn  
the camphor gum and its fumes are  
sure death to the moths.

It is the little things that count,  
in dress as well as in other things.  
Don't allow any one to persuade you  
not to have plenty of looking glasses  
in the house, and then do not allow  
yourself to pass them without "tak-  
ing a look." Many times you will  
be surprised at what you see. Just  
try looking at yourself when you  
have your hair dressed and a collar  
on, and then take a look when the  
hair is out of order and the collar  
is left off. It is just as well to have  
a little vanity, and to respect one's  
self. The coarsest white thing you  
have, if it is clean and fresh, makes  
a marked difference in your "looks"  
for the better, over no neckwear.  
Have the nicest you can afford, but  
have it always fresh and clean.

## For the Toilet

Milk of Cucumber—Cut up two  
large cucumbers and cover with wa-  
ter—about half a cupful of water  
will be about right. Let simmer half  
an hour and keep covered so the  
water will not steam away, then take  
off and strain through a cloth; to  
the water add a cupful of boiling  
water, ten grains of powdered borax  
and enough tincture of benzoin to  
make the water look milky. Stir  
the benzoin in gradually. When  
cool, bottle. This is a delightful  
skin lotion, and can be used freely  
upon face, neck and arms.

It is claimed that the use of lemon  
juice to remove stains from the  
hands and nails will make the skin  
yellow and the nails brittle. Peroxide  
of hydrogen is recommended,  
using a tooth pick and a little cot-  
ton to clean under the nails. No

metal, such as a knife, or point of  
scissors, should be used to clean un-  
der the nails.

Ripe tomato juice is claimed to  
have bleaching qualities for the toi-  
let. It is certainly inexpensive and  
harmless, and easily within reach of  
any one. It is used externally, like  
lemon juice.

Glacial acetic acid is just what its  
name implies—an acid, and a strong  
one, and if used at all it is largely  
diluted, fifteen parts of water to one  
of the acid; is used as an astringent  
for flabby muscles, and some claim  
it as a bleach. Any acid will burn  
out the natural oil of the skin if  
used too strong or too freely. Vin-  
egar, though an acid, is healing and  
disinfecting.

A bleach for freckles is given,  
made by mixing one dram of borax  
with one-half fluid ounce of diluted  
acetic acid, and one ounce of rose  
water. Apply at night, and leave  
on; if the skin becomes tender and  
sensitive, apply a soothing cold  
cream.

For five cents you can buy a meas-  
uring glass that measures ounces and  
fractions, each of which is marked  
by lines on the side of the glass.  
This is valuable for many things—  
especially for giving medicines.

## For Canning by Steam

Get a piece of board that will fit  
loosely in the bottom of the wash  
boiler, and bore holes an inch in  
diameter, two inches apart, all  
through it. Nail on the ends a strip  
of wood to keep it from warping.  
Nail strips on the bottom to lift the  
board six inches high. Put the  
board on the boiler, and pour in  
boiling water to a depth of five or  
six inches; on the board set the fruit  
jars, filled with raw fruits or vege-  
tables, the syrup, or other liquid  
used in the jars covering the fruit,  
and the tops screwed on loosely.  
Put a thick cloth over the top of  
the boiler, put the lid on, and let  
boil rapidly for the required time.  
When done screw the lids down  
tightly.

## "A Hot Weather Oven"

Elizabeth Gillan, in Woman's  
Home Companion says: "We have a  
two-burner gasoline stove, but no  
oven. To bake our favorite dish of  
corn pudding, I started one burner,  
turn over it a very shallow cake tin,  
place my pudding dish on this, then  
turn an iron kettle over all. I leave  
the flame high for two or three min-  
utes, to heat my oven, then turn low  
for thirty minutes. Upon lifting the  
kettle I find a perfectly baked dish.  
With this device, hot biscuit for tea  
is a simple matter; regulate the heat  
to suit and note time required for  
baking."

## Some Egg Recipes

If you don't happen to have or  
care for meat for your breakfast, and  
live near a fresh egg factory, try  
these—only with fresh eggs:

Beat five eggs separately, using a  
silver fork; add a pinch of salt a  
dash of pepper and two ounces (four  
tablespoonfuls) of sweet milk, beat-  
ing all together. Heat an omelet  
pan and put in two tablespoonfuls  
of butter, and as soon as melted,  
turn in the egg mixture, and cook  
until creamy, stirring constantly, be-  
ing careful not to let the bottom  
stick, then serve at once.

Another: Prepare and cook the  
eggs as above, but add four table-  
spoonfuls of grated cheese. A half  
cupful of mushroom caps, or a half  
cupful of boiled ham, minced, may  
be used.

With tomatoes: Put four table-  
spoonfuls of butter in the skillet and  
fry in it one minute a slice of onion;  
remove the onion, and put into the  
butter a scant cupful of canned or  
stewed and unseasoned tomatoes, two  
tablespoonfuls of sugar, and cook all