



The Home Department

Conducted by
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The Servant in the House

In the spring the housemaid's fancy
Lightly turns from pot and pan
To the greater necromancy
Of a young unmarried man.
You can hold her through the winter,
And she'll work around and sing,
But it's just as good as certain
She will marry in the spring.

There are daughters in the household
Who would welcome Cupid's shaft,
But as sure as he projects it
The fatality is aft.
You can hold her through the
autumn,
When the winds begin to sting,
But it's safe to lay a wager
She will marry in the spring.

There are many gallant fellows
Running in and out the front,
And a person wouldn't fancy
That the rear was in the hunt.
There are seldom indications
Of a courtship or a ring,
But experience will tell
She will marry in the spring.

There is probably an answer
That is not so far to find.
I have often thought upon it
When the servant has resigned.
The household daughters, likely,
Are not good for anything,
But the cook can cook, and there-
fore
She will marry in the spring.
—Globe-Democrat.

Caring for Appearances

Children should, from the very first, be taught to take pride in their personal appearance, and it should be persistently drilled into their mind that personal attractiveness depends far more on their manners, movements of the body in walking or sitting, cleanliness of person, neatness of clothing, looks, language and attitude toward others, than upon expensive or stylish clothing. While they should be encouraged to play heartily, and to enjoy their recreation, they should be compelled to give thought to their clothing, and not to be unnecessarily boisterous at any time. They should be taught never to appear among their elders without clean hands and face and nicely smoothed hair. When they have any dirty work to do, let it be done in suitable clothing; but let them understand that when the work is done, the next thing in order is to make themselves tidy and presentable. They should be taught, too, that their personal belongings should be kept careful track of, their garments brushed and hung up when taken off, and should not be allowed to throw things about the living rooms or their own rooms. Neat clothing can scarcely come out of a dirty or ill-kept house, because in such a house there is always more or less lint, spotting, and staining and crumpling of garments, and they should be made to feel responsible for the house, as well as themselves. The sooner this is done, the better for all. Boys should learn these lessons equally with girls. It is no recommendation for a boy, or a youth to look like he had come out of the dust-bin or rag-bag.

Where there are children, there should also be a box for toys and other playthings. Each child should have his or her own, and its use should be strictly enjoined. When the child is done with a toy, or toys, he should be taught to put it away

before he takes out another. If begun early enough, the habit will become formed, even if the child's "bump of order" be deficient.

The Restless Child

A mother whose enterprising two-year-old gave her no rest from constant oversight to prevent disaster, put a soft strip of cloth loosely about the child's waist, like a belt; to this belt she tied a stout string, or stout strip of cloth long enough to reach a hook screwed in the ceiling, and fastened the other end to the hook. This gave the child plenty of room to play in, and kept her from getting into mischief, besides giving the mother the comfort of knowing just where to find her when wanted. After the first "fussing" to get free, being supplied with plenty of playthings, the child became accustomed to the "tether," and greatly relieved the working mother. The child might be tied to the table-leg, or other convenient moorage; but the hook in the ceiling is the safest, as the child cannot get tangled up in the string about the little feet or legs.

Mildew on Gooseberries

One of our readers wishes a cure for mildew on gooseberries. Here are some remedies: Scatter flour of sulphur over the bushes soon after the berries have set, and repeat the application occasionally until the fruit is ripe, to prevent mold on the berries. For the leaves, water the plants with strong soap suds; or dissolve one pound of potash in a barrel of water and sprinkle on the bushes thoroughly once a week. Or, soak fresh mown hay or dried grass in brine for twelve hours, then cover the entire surface of the soil with this as a mulch. If hops, tan bark, or other mulch has been previously applied, sprinkle it with salt, or strong brine. A handful of salt to each plant is enough. If any one has been successful in keeping the berries free from mold, we should be glad to hear from them. Certain varieties are much more subject to mildew than others.

Requested Information

Dandelion, root and flower, is possessed of excellent medicinal qualities, and for a spring tonic, nothing is better than this, which is perfectly harmless: One gallon of dandelion blossoms and one handful (as much as an adult can hold in the hand) of dandelion roots. Clean the roots and cover root and blossoms with boiling water, and let stand twenty-four hours. If there is not a gallon of water after straining, add water enough to make that amount. Add five sliced lemons (the lemons may be omitted) and three pounds of granulated sugar and bring to a boil, then set away covered and let stand two weeks, then strain again and bottle. It will keep without sealing. Dose, a tablespoonful before meals, three times a day. Good for liver and indigestion.

"Seed Warts"—So many remedies, or removers, for seed warts are given that one need never be without a new one for trial. Here are a few of them: Daily touch the top with a pure tincture of poison oak, to be had of the druggist; continue the application for a week. Touch them frequently with moistened blue vitriol (blue stone), or nitric acid, or chloride of zinc. Or, moisten a bit of impure potash and apply to the wart for a few minutes so as to leave

a whitish paste, then put over it a bit of sticking plaster and leave for a week; repeat, if necessary. Or, rub daily with a cut radish; or with the juice of marigold flowers; or water in which sal ammoniac is dissolved, applied daily. Or, steep the rind of a lemon in salt and vinegar and apply it to the wart, first the outside, then the inside; keep it on each time for two hours and change. Or rub the wart occasionally with elixir of vitriol applied with a splinter, or bit of wood; or rub daily with acetic acid.

Query Box

C. M.—To make camphorated oil, take two drams of camphor gum, broken into little pieces, put in a bottle, and pour over it two ounces of olive oil. Leave the bottle open and place in a moderately warm oven for an hour or two, or until the gum is dissolved; or stand the bottle in a dish of hot water until the camphor gum is dissolved.

L. L.—A very excellent "spring regulator" is the old-time sulphur and molasses, one-and-a-half ounces of sulphur, half an ounce of cream of tartar, and eight ounces of molasses, well mixed. One small teaspoonful of the mixture is a dose for a child, taken before breakfast; for an adult, one tablespoonful. The rule is, take the mixture three mornings, skip three, and repeat, until nine doses have been taken. While taking sulphur, one must be careful not to get wet or take cold, as evil may result.

C. B.—The method of using cream tartar as a mild diuretic, is one teaspoonful of the cream tartar in one tumbler half full of water, taken in the morning before breakfast. This is for an adult. It may be continued until you are satisfied with its laxative work.

L. B. S.—Gum arabic is not generally used for stiffening lace curtains, but for fine pieces of lace, etc. Either corn starch, or thin flour paste is best for the curtains. The way to make gum arabic solution for stiffening is, two ounces of white gum arabic put into a vessel, and one pint of boiling water poured over it. When dissolved, bottle and cork. For shirt fronts, stir into fine starch a teaspoonful of the mixture to give a gloss.

Mrs. L. T.—We do not think any one whose only object in writing is to "make some money" will succeed in the work. One must have a love for the work, a natural ability, good expression, and something to say that others want to hear, in order to even gain space on the printed page. A few women succeed in making a good living by their pen, but it is through having a natural adaptability for the work.

For a Kitchen Wall.

Answering several queries, we give the following treatment for painting the walls and ceiling of a kitchen, or other room. Paint is a more expensive treatment than kalsomining or papering, but is more lasting, and can be cleaned by washing. If the walls have been kalsomined or whitewashed, as much as possible of the old coloring must be taken off; kalsomine, by washing with water and vinegar; but whitewash (lime) must be scraped off if thick, or otherwise rubbed off, if thin. Cracks, holes and breaks must be filled with plaster of paris made

into a paste with vinegar, and made smooth. If the walls are rough, the plastering should be sand-papered to remove the kalsomine or white wash. For a first coat of paint, use two pounds of white lead to each quart of oil, and one gill of some dryer (a painter will tell you what kind), and after this is put on smoothly, and let dry, apply a second coat of paint made of five pounds of lead to each quart of oil, with one gill of dryer. If color is wanted, add a little at a time such pigment as will produce the tint wanted. It is best to try a small quantity of the coloring until the desired color is obtained. Many paints can only be made of the desired color by mixing two or more colors. For buff, use white, yellow and venetian red. It would be better, if inexperienced, to buy the ready-to-use paints in pails, and go according to directions. In the "wall-finish" given in issue of Feb. 24th, a powdered coloring of the color desired can be used instead of Venetian red. The ready-mixed paints are both good and satisfactory. It requires a little skill to do first-class work, but this can be acquired.

Preparation for Whitewashing

Where the walls and ceilings have become smoked and dirty, before kalsomining or whitewashing, put two ounces of white pulverized vitriol in two quarts of cold water; wash the walls with a whitewash brush dipped in this solution; let it dry overnight, then apply a whitewash made by putting four pounds of white rock lime (sold in packages), in a pail and covering it with hot water, dissolving it. Then add to the whitewash half a cupful of liquid bluing, stir well, and apply as any whitewash.

An Amusing Scrap-Book

Buy a blank book, which will cost about ten cents; cut all the leaves through the middle from the edge to the binding. Let the children cut from old magazines all the figures of men, women, children and animals; cut these figures in two, the heads on one part, and the bodies on the other. Paste the heads on the upper part of the leaf, close to the lower edge where it has been cut; put two or more, according to size, on each page. Paste the lower part of the figures to the lower leaf, so they will just join the heads. When the book is finished it will amuse the children to hunt for the pictures, matching proper heads to bodies.

Good Things to Know

If blue has run into other materials, boil the clothes with a rather strong solution of ammonia, using rainwater; if this does not remove it, soak the clothes in rainwater to which vinegar and bleaching powder has been added. This is for white clothes only.

For cleaning kid gloves, leaving them soft and odorless, shave half a bar of some pure white laundry soap into a pint of soft water, and set on the range to melt (not boil.) When thoroughly dissolved strain the liquid soap through a fine sieve or muslin cloth into a jar, or jars, and let stand until cold. When strained it should not be thicker than thin cream. Then, put the glove on the hand, dip a clean cloth in the soap jelly and rub the glove with it. Continue doing this as long as the cloth shows soil, and the glove will be clean, uninjured, flexible and odorless, and can be used at once. Try this instead of gasoline.

Farmers' Bulletins

Quite a few have shown interest in the subject of these government publications, and it is surprising that so few understand how to get them, or what they are for. A few are found