

HOME, FARM AND GARDEN.

Cookies—One and a half cups of white sugar, four eggs, one cup of lard, half cup of butter, three table-spoonfuls of water, one teaspoonful soda, a half grated nutmeg; roll thin; dust over with sugar and roll down lightly; bake quickly.

Baked Hominy Grits.—One quart milk, one cupful hominy, two eggs, and a little salt; salt the milk and boil, then stir in hominy and boil for twenty minutes; set aside and fully cool; beat eggs to a stiff froth, and then beat them well and hard into the hominy; bake half an hour.

Baked Lemon Pudding.—Mix the following ingredients together in the order in which they are placed: Moist sugar, one-quarter pound; bread crumbs, six ounces; eggs, well beaten, three; lemon peel grated and juice, two; bake one and a half hours in a moderate oven.

Potato Pudding.—Boil four large potatoes and pass them through a sieve; stir into them powdered loaf sugar to taste, and the yolks of two or three eggs; add a few drops of essence of lemon, then the whites of the eggs whisked to a froth; mix quickly and well; pour into a plain mold, buttered and bread-crumbed, and bake for twenty minutes in a quick oven.

There is no book devoted to the preparation of swamp muck for manurial purposes. The whole business is so simple that it can be easily explained. The muck should be dug, thrown into heaps, drained and then used in the stables, pens and yards as an absorbent, or composted with manure, or with lime and wood ashes. Whatever means can be used to decompose it will serve to make it available, but its best use is as an absorbent for the liquids which usually go to waste.—Exchange.

Cheese Fritters.—Put about a pint of water into a saucepan with a piece of butter the size of an egg, the least bit of cayenne and plenty of black pepper. When the water boils throw gradually into it sufficient flour to form a thick paste, then take it off the fire and work into it about a quarter of a pound of grated Parmesan cheese, and then the yolks of three or four eggs, and the whites of two beaten up to a froth. Let the paste rest for a couple of hours, and proceed to fry by dropping pieces of it the size of a walnut into plenty of hot lard. Serve sprinkled with very fine salt.

A very durable whitewash is made as follows: Take one-half bushel of good unslacked lime, slack it with boiling water, (cover it during the process to keep in the steam;) strain the liquid through a sieve, and add one peck of salt, dissolved in warm water, three pounds of ground rice boiled to a thin paste; stir in boiling hot one-half pound of powdered Spanish whiting, one pound of white glue; add five gallons of hot water; let the mixture stand a few days covered from the dirt, and apply with a brush. To give it a slight yellowish tinge add yellow and brown ochre in equal parts, or in such proportions as will make the desired shade.

It is very satisfactorily shown that a crop of corn is easier on the soil than a crop of oats. It is far easier to produce sixty or seventy bushels of corn, weighing 3,600 to 4,200 pounds, to the acre, with three or four tons of dry fodder, than fifty bushels of oats, weighing 1,600 pounds, and a ton of straw. This is accounted for by the fact that corn is able to procure a large quantity of its nitrogen from the soil where oats cannot, and that a good crop of corn can be grown with the help of potash and phosphoric acid alone, and yet show in the crop a large quantity of nitrogen, while oats cannot be grown without the nitrogen added to the other manures. A great many experiments have been made in this direction with this effect. Now, as nitrogen is the most costly ingredient of both fertilizers and of feeding stuffs (of which manure is made), it is considered that the crops which need the most of this element to be supplied for their growth are really the most exhausting crops. Oats are generally considered by practical farmers to be unusually "hard on the soil." The writer has grown good crops of corn on the same plot five years in succession, and the last was the best of all; but he has never heard of oats being so grown.—Rural New Yorker.

Some Yankee Stories.

They tell some odd stories down in Eastern Massachusetts. One of them is about a "hired man" who came home one day with his oxen pulling along the tongue of a hay-cart. He looked around astonished when his attention was called to it, and had to go back half a mile where the hay-load was left when the tongue came out and he didn't know it. A little girl, being given to great inaccuracy of statement, had, by way of warning, the story of Ananias and Sapphira read to her. When it was done she said: "That story is a lie, mamma, for I've told lots and lots of lies and ain't dead yet." A man went into a rum shop, and having had a quart of rum put into his jug was about to leave without paying for it. Rather than let him have it the bar-keeper poured it back. "Be sure and take only a quart," said the other, "for I've got a quart in there already." The fellow took his jug away with him. The other quart was water, and the rum was mixed with it all right for drinking. The man got a pint of rum free and the bar-keeper poured a pint of rum back into the barrel; his other customers had to pay for it, while he lost nothing. They are a thrifty set down there, even in the matter of rum.

"The Tale of a Tub."

Since the days of Dean Swift there have been many tales of a tub which lack the vivacity of his genius, but which have had very much to do with the commonplace affairs and practical welfare of humanity. Tubs are an institution. The Monday wash-day almost deserves enumeration in the calendars of the saints. Perhaps it is next to Sunday, because cleanliness is next to godliness. It is a vessel of honor or dishonor in every household. This end the laundry business has very much to do with the condition of families and with the public health. It is a very important question how far a system of public laundry can be made to supersede the house system of washing. Of course, it cannot be practicable in very scattered communities. Then the risk of disseminating contagions by reason of foul, unwashed garments is worthy of thought in a sanitary aspect. The Monday kitchen or washroom is a source of peril to many families. The hot water and the steam from clothing saturates the room, and heat and moisture are plentifully supplied to all organic particles. Not infrequently both the moisture and the odor are disseminated through the house. Washer-women, as a class, are especially exposed, and all the more if the clothes must be carried out of doors or to a cold room for drying. Home washing, unless rightly conducted, becomes thus a great peril to women-kind. The tubs themselves, as in common use, unless very carefully cared for, are infiltrated with the odor of the suds, and, if set away before drying or in damp places, are poor materials to have on hand. The disposal of the wash water is of much more importance than some imagine. It is not only fouled by the organic material, the shreds of fiber, etc., that it derives from clothing. Our soaps are made of foul and decomposing greases. When used as they are in washing and allowed to stand, a re-separation often takes place. If a tub of wash water is allowed to stand in the sun a day or two, we soon have convincing evidence of its foulness. This is the material which forms a large bulk in our cess-pools. Even in sewers the flow of the Monday wash gives quite a perceptible increase to the volume of the current. In every private family cleanliness and the right disposal of suds in connection with the washing must be fully arranged for. Where there are sewers, and especially in public institutions, we have more frequently found the outlet for sud water out of order than any other part of the house-sewer system. In two institutions, recently examined, the drain was in the floor of the wash house, and so imperfectly trapped as to serve as a vent to the sewer and the soil pipe. It has now become quite common to fit up the washing room with a floor of slight incline toward a central pipe, which may thus diffuse odors or odorless particles through the basement.

The use of stationary wash-tubs is now so common that much diligence needs to be exercised in having them dry when not used, and in preventing any accumulation at the base. Grease is prone to change, and the absorbent character of wood is favorable to the retention of foulness. It would be better if all these stationary tubs were made of some form of galvanized metal. In addition to fresh air and good ventilation, the free use of disinfectants is desirable in any laundry. The scrubbing up of the floor with some zinc or iron solution thus helps to rid it of the possibilities of evil from decomposing filth. Where the ironing is done in the same room, as is often the case, the temperature has to be such as is very apt to hasten decomposition. Where clothing has been especially soiled, or is to be carried from a bed which has been occupied with contagious disease, the garments should be put in a gallon of hot water containing a half ounce of chloride of lead and a handful of salt chloride of zinc. One-quarter of a pound to two gallons of water does not stain colored fabrics. If wet in it and dried afterward, they are ready for the general wash.

We are always glad to see effort made to utilize the soiled water of the laundry. The country plan of pouring it about the grapevines, and thus enriching them for a luscious vintage, is a good one. In these days of patent washing-fluids and powders there is need of some caution as to their use. Some of these—such as those containing borax—are sanitary as well as cleansing in their properties. Others need to be examined, not only with reference to their effect on clothing, but as irritant to the hands of workers or, as dried in the garments, to the more delicate skin of other parts of the body. It is well known that certain dyes, as found in flannels, cause troublesome irritations of the skin. Even materials used for facilitating smoothing—like most glues—consist of animal matter and must not be too freely employed. It is thus easy to see that the laundry department has much to do with the sanitary care of households. If every tub could tell its tale, we would have some naughty stories of uncleanly washings, which would shock us more than the ready spittle of the Chinese, which we confess is our chief prejudice against their art.

The London Times says: "It can scarcely be doubted that all London, along its main thoroughfares, will discard gas for the electric light within the present century. The really cautious and hesitating progress of the invention must remind not a few of the equally cautious and hesitating progress of gas."

In China there is a fish that crosses the meadows at its pleasure from one creek to another, often a mile apart.

Some one having a cow for sale advertises her as follows: "She is a picture worth focusing by any photographer. Her coat is the sleekest; her temper the meekest; her form is the neatest; her udder the greatest; her eyes are the brightest; her milk is the whitest; her horns are the shortest, and if wanted more test to prove she is a beauty, a darling, a pet, just buy her and you will have joy of your bargain."

In the office of the Secretary of New Mexico, at Santa Fe, are deposited the most ancient official documents in the United States, running back nearly a hundred years before the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth. One of these historical treasures is a journal of the conquest of New Mexico in 1694, signed by Diego de Vardras and containing a full account of the campaign.

[Springfield (Mass.) Republican.] Edgar T. Page, Esq., Druggist, writes us from Chicago Falls, that Mr. Albert Guenther, under Wilds Hotel, has used that remarkable remedy, St. Jacobs Oil, for a severe case of rheumatism and it cured him, as if by magic. He also used it with great success among his horses, in cases of sprains, sores, etc., and it cures every time.

The front gates shudder at the near approach of summer, and naturally enough shrink from the weight which that season imposes upon them.—Rhinbeck Gazette.

[Des Moines (Iowa) State Register.] We notice the following in an exchange: Mr. G. B. Haverer, Foreman N. Y. & N. H. S. B. Co., suffered for eight days with terrible pain in the back, almost to distraction, until he heard of and used St. Jacobs Oil, one bottle of which cured him completely.

Says Aaron to Moses, "I've got trichinosis!" Says Moses to Aaron, "You shouldn't pork fare on!"—Punch.

Be Wise and Happy. If you will stop all your extravagant and wrong notions in doctoring yourself and families with expensive doctors or humbug cures, that do harm always, and use only nature's simple remedies for all your ailments you will be wise, well and happy, and save great expense. The greatest remedy for this, the great, wise and good will tell you, is Hop Bitters—rely on it. See another column.—Press.

NEVER allude to a favor once conferred.—Et. Certainly not. If a man owes you five dollars be careful, upon all occasions, to avoid the very name of money. It might hurt his feelings.—N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.

Facts About Rheumatism. Mrs. General Sherman says: "I have frequently purchased Durang's Rheumatic Remedy for friends suffering with rheumatism, and in every instance it worked like magic." General Logan, United States Senator, writes: "Some years ago I was troubled more or less with rheumatism, and have been a great sufferer in the last year with same disease. I began to take Durang's Rheumatic Remedy, and am satisfied that I have been cured by its use. I recommend it to all sufferers."

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