HOUSEHOLD.

Preparatory to Housecleaning.

I have reason to believe a recipe for the emoval of half the dread, if not half the work, of housecleaning would be welcomed by all good housekeepers. I believe I have found the recipe and hope it may prove as effective in other cases as it has in my own. It is this: look after the "odds and ends" before the weather becomes settled enough for actual cleaning to begin. It is wonderful what a number of odds and ends there are to look after! But it is wise to lose sight of that fact and begin on the good old principle of one thing at a time.

First take the bedding in hand, that is, the sheets and pillow cases. Know just how many you need, and then find out how many you have in good condition, and supply the resulting deficiency as a first step. For ordinary use the unbleached, both for sheets and pillow cases. If one objects to the color they may know that it will soon bleach out white, and it will wear at least twice as long. I have always retained a feeling of gratitude toward the clerk who, when he found I wanted unbleached-it was table linen in this case, but the application is the same-said. "Yes, the unbleached wears three times as long, for sometimes when orders are back and must be hurried the of a sensitive person? bleach is made too storng, and then the cloth dosen't wear very well." The remembrance of that remark has frequently settled the question of "bleached or unbleached?" for me since then.

The nine-quarter width is most satisfactory unless for single beds, for which the eight quarter is wide enough. If there is a baby in the family, the outer edges of the sheets which have given out through the center, will make good diapers. Make them | A Couple of Babies For Whom it was Diffia double thickness square, and run the edges together on the machine. The older parts of the sheets and the worn pillow cases should be put by themselves in a basket or | nisant of a curious complication of affairs | very well that he didn't wish anything of bag in the storeroom, ready to meet the de- through the application of a man named the sort, and that he would be as sorry as mands for old cloths when the housecleaning | Henry Waites, who lives at 179 Simcoe any one could be if the baby were to die.

their demand for attention. Replace what fants had been taken to his place and he de- after that outburst, and fell into a brown is necessary and here again let me advise sired to keep them for a time, provided study with the scowl still on his face. When unbleached. The best of the old tablecloths | the licence was granted. The authorities, | he reached the school-house gate he drew will be sufficiently good to make into table | believing it wise to investigate the case fully | his clenched fists from his pockets, where he napkins for every-day use. If not, run them | before issuing such a certificate, notified the | had thrust them first, and slapping one upon double for diapers as you do the sheets. Medical Health Department, and in turn | the other he said determinedly, "I'll show The smaller pieces and the napkins can be Dr. W. F. Bryans, district sanitary officer em I ain't going to take care of the baby run double and quilted very openly for dish- of 245 Carlton street, was authorised to all the time." And with a resolute look he cloths. These are particularly nice for fine examine into and report on the case. He marched into the building with the rest of china, silver and glassware, as they are so discovered that at about 10 o'clock on the the pupils. soft.

stock, take any old ones that are good house, No. 45 Grange avenue. About 6.30 whom he generally went home, and taking enough and treat like the napkins for dish- o'clock the following morning Mrs. Walker's a round about way he succeeded in reaching cloths. Flour sacks, neatly hemmed, make seventeen year old daughter Lena started the yards of the railroad-which was his good dishtowels.

sight of the disreputable-looking rags, but few weeks, money to be paid for such ser- wanted, for it was part of his plan that no give a comfortable sense of having a supply vice. Lena Walker first called at the house one should know where he went or for what in hand of the "little things" which consti- of Mrs. Margaret Memory, 47 Woolsley purpose. He was quite at home in the tute so large a part of a housekeeper's sup- street, who agreed to take and care for one "yards" among the cars, for it was a faplies. Of course your rag bag will grow of the children for a month at least. The vounte resort for the boys, particularly apace with your basket of old cloths.

anderclothes of the family. Find which of in a basket. She rapped at the door and their way to and from school. Tom's outgrown clothes Dick can wear, and the man of the house appeared. He would which of Dick's, Harry can wear, then make | not let her in, saying that they did not want list of the new garments needed with the any babies there. Mrs. Memory told the quantity of materials and trimming. With | young woman that if she would take the inthis list in hand you will be able to make a fant to her sister, Mrs. Pountain's house, judicious choice when any particular bar- 153 Farley avenue, she could, perhaps,

wearing in a trunk by themselves, or in a ful in finding a place for the first baby. Mrs. closet which may be cleaned ahead of time | Pountain took and dressed the child and the and made ready for them. The garments | young woman went away. After being gone which need making over or altering should | for a couple of hours Lena Walker returned to also be placed by themselves, that they may | 153 Farley avenue and stated that she had be found at a moment's notice when time to | found a person who was willing to take work at them is found.

and soft flannel pieces should be kept for ed Mrs. Henry Waite's place on Simcoe cleaning silver. Newspapers should be street, carrying the infant in the same bascarefully saved in a box or corner of the ket that she had used earlier next morning. storeroom, for freshening shelves and put- The same night about 9 o'clock Lena ting under carpets here and there during brought the second child and left it with housecleaning.

paper, fold the pieces to a convenient size for toilet paper, cut the edge with a sharp carving knife or pair of shears, and with a darning needle run a string through one corner and tie long enough to hang up. Stiffer brown paper and writing paper, en- opened, and they were both suffering from velopes, and so forth, can be put in a box and given to the children to cut into bits of neglect after birth. After much diffifor the new cushion or pillow stuffing.

If these directions are followed I am sure that at least a part of the mountain will be felt to be removed, and the spring sewing of garments can be taken up and gotten largely out of the way before the cleaning is begun. If it cannot there will at least be the satisfaction of knowing just what there is to do, and just where it is to be

Some Receipts.

CREAM MUFFINS .- Sift a pint of flour, mix with two eggs, a tablespoonful of butter, a teaspoonful of salt and a pint of cream ; drop in buttered muffin-molds and bake quickly.

OYSTER FRITTERS .- Drain the liquor from two dozen oysters boil and skim. Beat three eggs in a cupful of cream, add salt, pepper and flour to make a stiff batter. Have ready boiling lard; drop one oyster at a time in a batter and fry in spoonfuls.

them twelve vigorous beats with a fork. Put a tablespoonful of butter in an omeletpan, shake it over the fire until melted, turn in the eggs and shake over a quick fire until they are set; sprinkle with salt and pepper, roll, and turn on a heated dish.

CHOCLATE FROSTING .- For the top layer of chocolate cake, if desired "shiny," take a heaping tablespoonful of grated choclate, two of granulated sugar and a scant tablespoonful of boiling water. Boil for a few moments, flavor with vanilla and spread on the cake before it is quite cold, using a broad bladed knife dipped in cold water to its people. smooth it; if it seems too thick add more boiling water. Never use cold water, or it said the young gentleman, " for one reason,

will not shine. THREE PUDDING SAUCES. - Light pudding sauce .- Yolk of one egg, butter size of an another of the company. egg, one cup of sugar, beat till light. Add en white of the egg, and lemon to taste. fathers before them never did any." Quick lemon sauce. - Beat to a froth the white of one large egg and stir into it slowdered sugar and one half-cup of butter, then | conversation into another channel.

add one tablespoonful of wine or raspberry vinegar, one teaspoonful of lemon and onefourth of a cup of milk. Beat thoroughly, set into hot water aminute and stir briskly.

Have You Learned?

The value of sunshine?

To change a house into a home?

The great uplifting power of music? To think and judge without prejudice? To look up, then reach up and grasp the

That some uncomfortable words may be overcome?

How much environment has to do with what you are?

child happy? That an outside door, or even the glass in

it may tell secrets? To distribute good cheer, sweet thoughts,

tender remembrances? That a clear, bright light conduces to

social, friendly chat at tea time? That there are two kinds of wealth, and

that one is of the heart and mind? That the paper and pictures on the walls, the carpets and curtains may affect the mood

That a tidy is out of place when it becomes more important than the object which it is

supposed to protect? are to be found on all sides, but that encouragements are dealt out sparingly by ly. Away went Eddy down the street, still prudent hands?

UNFORTUNATE TWINS.

cult to find House-room. A despatch from Toronto says :- About nine days ago the authorities became cog- wicked wish then. In his heart he knew street, for a licence permitting him to keep But he was too angry to admit it, or recall Tablecloths and napkins come next in a baby farm. It was stated that two in- his ugly speech. He was more quiet though night of the 8th instant two children, Towels come next. After replenishing your twins, had been born in Mrs. Eliza Walker's usual custom. Eddy avoided the boys with out to try and find some person who would | objective point-without being seen by any These processes not only rid you of the be willing to take care of the infants for a one likely to know him. This was what he young woman went away and returned in those who, like Eddy, lived in that vicinity, Next look over the summer clothing and about twenty minutes with one of the babes and passed back and forth every day on gains or remnants are shown in the stores. | make arrangements for keeping the child Place the garments which are ready for there. Miss Walker did so and was successboth of the children. Mrs. Pountain gave Old ginghams make excellent dusters, her back the baby and 10 o'clock she reach-Mrs. Waite. The last child had not been that nap interfered with them very serious- wood for winter, bring in all the coal, clean If there is an accumulation of soft, brown properly dressed and both of them seemed ly. to be suffering from exposure. It was not until the 16th inst. that Dr. Bryans was called on to visit the place and at that time he found them in a shocking condition. The eyes of one of the babes had never purulent ophthalmia, probably the result culty the Medical Health Department succeeded in having the twins admitted to the Sick Children's Hospital, and they were taken away from Simcoe street on March 17th. Since that time one of them has been adopted by a party in Hamilton. while the other is still suffering, and will in all probability be blind should it live. An affidavit has been sworn out against Mrs. Walker, charging her with neglect of these infants, which may possibly cause permanent bodily injury. The most mysterious part of the affair seems to be as to the parentage of the twins. Mrs. Walker states that the mother's name is Mrs. Smith while the neighbors assert that a young un-

married woman is the mother.

A Dry Shower-Bath. er-baths, a friend explained to him how to ed he would be willing to take care of the fit one up by the use of a cistern and cullen- baby all day, and every day of his life, if he der. Pat set to work and had the thing only might get home. done at once. Subsequently he was met by the party who had given the advice, and on OMELET. -Put six eggs in a bowl and give | being asked how he enjoyed the baths, exclaimed, "Bedad, but I enjoyed it greatly, and kept dhry too !"

Asked how he managed to take the shower and yet remain dry, he replied : "Shure, now, ye didn't think I was going

to stand under the water without an umbrella."

Oh! Yes They Had.

Once at a little dinner party in New York, one of the guests, the younger brother of an English nobleman, expressed with commendable freedom his opinion of America and

"I do not altogether like the country," because you have no gentry here."

"Well, you know," replied the English. his post of duty, and there was no one else

"What do you mean by gentry?" asked

of one lemon blended together. Cream Pud- them tramps." A laugh went round the they reached the station-house and the offiding sauce. - Beat together one cup of pow- table, and the young Englishman turned his cer in charge looked at him sternly over his singular and attitude, he answered :

YOUNG FOLKS.

How Eddy Escaped the Baby.

It was all on account of the baby. Not that it was a cross baby, nor an ugly baby, nor a dirty disagreeable baby. O dear, no! Eddy's safety and whereabouts, for as he On the contrary, as Eddy himself would said: have told you, ordinarily, it was just the nicest, sweetest, merriest baby any ten-year- | I'll wager.' old boy ever had for a sister. But there certainly was one thing about it that Eddy objected to-it had to be taken care of ! and sewing, and Papa Brown was away all of it, he fell asleep. day earning bread and butter for his family, it sometimes became necessary for Eddyhad no sister—to help take care of her.

And so it happened, one day as Eddy was leaving the table that Mamma Brown said:

"Eddy, get home from school as soon as to do a little shopping."

anything, he was too well taught for that, snatching his cap he slammed out of the care of her again after such a lesson. house. Yes, literally "slammed," for he banged the door open fiercely, and banged it shut again after him, making such a racket that baby wakened from her nap with a frightened cry, and Carlo, dozing under From experience, that discouragements the table, was so startled he quite forgot his table manners and fell to barking furiousscrowling and muttering angrily:

"That's always the way! Don't see why I've got to take care o' the baby the whole time. Can't go any place, just on her account. Wish we didn't have any baby, so I just

He looked a little frightened at his own

When school was out, contrary to his

There were cars of all kinds standing quietly on the tracks-passenger coaches, freight-cars, cabooses and box-cars, single her defects. and in trains, just as they had been brought in or were being made ready to go out. Eddy, passing hurriedly among them, finally selected a freight-car as best suited for his purpose, and climbing in at the open door on the side, he curled up snugly in the farthest corner out of sight of any one who to let him ship aboard a small schooner. might pass by. "This is a first-rate place," thought he, "nobody'll know where I am, and I'll just wait until its too late for mamma to go down town, and then I'll sneak greenhorn on a vessel in the coal trade. home." And he chuckled at the thought of place, and curled up there comfortably with all through him. nothing to do, it wasn't long until Eddy tell asleep. If it hadn't been for that, his as the boy entered the house. plans might have worked admirably, but

When he awakened everything was dark, and, to his terror, the car was no longer standing still, but was moving, and moving rapidly too. He scrambled to his feet and truth broke forcibly upon the boy's mind. freight-car and being carried rapidly away he didn't know, neither could he tell how long he had been travelling nor how far, but he knew enough to terrify him and make him miserable.

He pounded on the closed door and shouted the sound of his cries and blows, and no a shudder. one heard him. He began to think his chances for ever getting home were very small, and as he thought of his father and mother and how anxious and worried they would be at his absence, and how they would search for him, the great hot tears filled his eyes and rolled down his face. How he repented his ill-humor. How con-An Irishman being advised to take show- temptible it seemed now. Why, he believ-

Then all at once the train stopped, and he heard voices outside and saw lights glimmering through the cracks of the door. Eddy knew they must be at a station, and gathering all strength he made another frantic effort to make himself heard. This time he

was successful. "What's that?" demanded a loud voice. "Must be somebody in there. It comes from the car," said another.

In another moment the door was opened and Eddy found himself standing on a platform in the open air, with a group of men about him, plying him with questions. At first he could only sob, the reaction was so great; but at last he managed to answer them, and in return learned he was twenty-

five miles from home. Presently the freight train moved on, and Eddy was left on the platform, in charge of the switchman, who did not know just what to do with him as he could not leave desk and said :

"Been running away, have you. Well, I guess we'll have to lock you up. Maybe it will teach you to appreciate your home a

little better." But when he heard the whole story he relented and was very kind. First of all he sent a telegram to Mr. Brown telling of

"They'll be worried enough about you,

Then he had some supper brought to the tired, hungry boy to eat, and when that was finished he made a bed for him on a bench And as Mamma Brown was a very busy behind the desk, where, in spite of his little woman, who did her own housework strange surroundings and all the excitement

The next morning an officer took him out to breakfast, and then put him aboard a What a little thing will sometimes make | who was the only brother of this baby who | passenger train, telling the conductor to " collect at the other end of the line, where his father'll meet him."

An hour later he was at home, and baby was in the cradle and Carlo under the table, just as he had left them; and though he

you can this afternoon; I want to leave was made to feel his sin, how glad he was to the baby with you while I run down town be there! And how persistently he kissed them all over and over again, and promised Then the trouble began. Eddy didn't say never, never to behave so badly again. And as for the dear baby sister, well you may but a horrible scowl came over his face, and be sure Eddy never tried to escape taking

A British Warship in Danger.

three hours later another feed-pump gave up the habit while at sea. out. The ship was then headed for Vigo, Plassy was about forty miles off Vigo. Soon deck. afterwards the wind and sea rapidly moderthe afternoon and two hours later the vessel entered Vigo Harbor, where she was expected to remain about a week to make good

Pleasures of the Deep.

The enthusiastic boy, after finishing the last chapter of a book called "The Pleasures of the Deep," pleaded with his father

The old man smiled a grim smile, took the case under consideration, and in a few days the boy was on the rolling deep, as a

The next week he appeared at home, his mother's discomfiture. But the dark lame and stiff, his throat sore, one eye nearcorner of the freight-car was a very quiet ly shut, and a feeling of humbleness running

"What, back again !" cried the old man

"Yes, father, I want to saw all the out the cellar ,and paint the barn, and you needn't give me but two meals a day."

"Don't you like sailing?" " Father, you don't understand anything about it. The captain sailed away on Sunmade his way to the door. It was shut and day the same as any other day, and I befastened, and through the openings below lieve he swore even harder. He wouldn't and above he could see that it was dark out- give me an umbrella when it rained, he side as well as in the car, then the startling made me sit up most all night, and two or three times called me up at midnight and It was night, and he was shut up alone in a made me haul rope and drag old sails about. There wasn't a single night when all of us from home! Where or in what direction got off to bed at nine o'clock, and there wasn't a day that he did not bully us about and stop us every time we got reading anything good. I like land father, and I wish I owned a farm."

The old man chuckled, and the boy turned for help, but the noise of the train drown- ed away from Peter Simple last week with

The Czar and the Kaiser.

The following story reaches me from a and, looking into the water, shuddered. It good source, but I give it under all again turned and looked toward Matanzas, reserve:-After the German Emperor's then gave a leap and disappeared beneath late speech, a gentlemen who was the waves without a sound. Every one present remarked that, whilst his Majes- heaved a sigh of relief, but that night every ty was confident about coming glory, he man on board made up his mind to leave should not forget that Russia was behind the Mirabel, and they all did. him. William II. retorted:-I will pulver- "After unloading the vesse" sargo I ize Russia." General Thovaloff heard this could not induce any one of theze to sail on story, instituted inquiries, and, finding it the return trip, and was forced to look up a was true, reported the matter to M. de new crew. The apparition did not appear Giers, who repeated it to the Czar. Alex- on the passage to this city." ander III. sent for General Schweinits, and | The Captain said he was not a superstitisaid to him-"Tell your Kaiser, when he ous man, but he could not but feel a little wants to begin pulverising, I will throw bit squeamish when he saw the ghost. half a million men across the frontier with | thinks that Bilson may have been alive when the greatest pleasure." There is nothing buried, and took the means above described intrinsically improbable in this anecdote, for getting even those who were instrumentwhich pretty accurately represents the pre- al in having him buried at sea. The fact sent state of feeling. In reference to the remains, however, that his ghost did appear statement that there are 300,000 mounted and there is no way of accounting for the troops in Poland, I am inclined to believe mystery. the figures to be exaggerated, but there can be no doubt whatever that every available Cossack from a considerable number of cavalry divisions is now quartered within easy distance of the frontier.

Irish Humor.

A provincial citizen, for the purpose of green." arresting attention, caused his sign to be Teacher : " Very good." one cup boiling water and set over a tea- man; "well-oh, gentry are those who about. Fortunately a police officer came set upside down. One day, while the rain Tommy: "When those Whitechape" kettle for a few minutes, then add the beat- never do any work themselves, and whose along a few minutes later, and when he was pouring down with great violence, a murders were done, there was no policeman learned the facts he told Eddy to come with son of Hibernia was discovered directly op- about; that was invisible blue." "Ah!" exclaimed his interlocutor, him. Eddy went very willingly; he was posite, standing with some gravity upon Teacher: "Oh if you talk like that, I "then we have plenty of gentry in America. glad to be taken care of, even though it his head, and fixing his eyes steadfastly on shall not give you the halfpenny." ly one cup of powdered sugar, and the juice But we don't call them gentry. We call was by a policeman. But he quaked-when the sign. On an inquiry being made of this inverted gentleman why he stood in so penny in your pocket, that will be invisible

"I am trying to read that sign."

AT SEA WITH A GROST.

Why the Schooner Mirabel Came Back

From Matanzas With a New Grew. A strange story is told by Capt. Joseph Sims of the schooner Mirabel, which has arrived at Philadelphia from Matanzas. The vessel was manned by a new crew, a fact which occasioned much surprise in shipping circles and caused the Capts in to be deluged with questions by persons interested in the ship and its crew. When seen by a reporter Capt. Sims appeared to be weary from the questions put to him, but cheerfully gave the reporter an account of his trip. He said that when his vessel sailed from this port for Matanzas on Jan 20 last, she was manned by thirty stalwart sailors, mostly Englishmen. Nearly all of them had served on the Mirabel for a number of years, and were capable seamen. Just before sailing for Matanzas several-new men had been taken on, and there was no way of discovering their ability. This is the story in the Captain's own words:

"I found that the new men were all able sailors and willing to work. There was one man, however, who was addicted to drink to a greater extent than is usually the case. He always had a bottle in his pocket and drank continually during the day. I did not, of course, like to see this, but as he did not become intoxicated and was able to work with the best of them I said nothing. The new-war-ship Plassy, which left This habit of drinking could not be kept up England recently for service on the East all the time, however, without serious re-Indies Station experienced terrific weather | sults in time, and when I saw that he had after passing Cape Finisterre, and much no intention of giving it up I spoke to him, damage was done to the vessel. A feed- saying that he was drinking too much. He pump was first broke down, and two or did not take offence, but promised to give

"He did not drink anything the next but heavy rain now set in and quite obscur- day but it was very hard on him, and I felt ed the land, and as the wind had veered very sorry for the poor fellow. He was on from south to west and increased in violence, watch that night from midnight until dayit was deemed imprudent to approach a lee light. The last thing I said to him before shore. Accordingly the ships head was he went on deck was, "Remember, Bilson, brought to the wind for the night, with the about the liquor, to which he replied that I view of riding out the gale. Just as it was need not fear. Well it could not have been getting dark, however, the chief engineer | more than two hours after I had retired reported that the steam pump had broken when I was awakened by a tremendous down, and that water was rising in the noise on deck. Hastening above, I saw stokeholds. The hand-pumps were at once two of my men endeavoring to hold Bilson manned, and men were told off to bale the who was doing his best to leap overboard. water out with buckets. But this proved On inquiring what was the matter I was of little use as the bunker lids had started | told that the fellow was suffering from deowing to the working and vibration of the lirium tremens, and wanted to drown himship, and every sea that broke over her self. He had broken his good resolution rushed into the bunkers; the plates in the and had been drinking more heavily than stokeholds were sliding about, and the floors | before. After a severe struggle, during were a foot deep in water. Two hours which the men were severely handled by later the engineer reported that the water | the mandened man, Bilson was finally overwas gaining and that it was difficult to keep powered and put in irons. He howled and the fires in. Shortly after this soundings raved during the entire night, continually were obtained, and it was found that the shouting for some one to take them off. ship was in perilously shoal water. During | The men whom I found holding Bilson when the night, the force of the wind was logged I reached the deck said they had been awak-"eleven," and the starboard lifeboat was | ened by hearing him shouting and running washed away. This was followed by a re- around the deck. They went up to ascerport from the engineer that he could not tain the cause of the commotion, and as get water into the boilers. This state of soon as they appeared Bilson made a mothings continued until noon the following tion as though about to jump into the water. day, when the sun shone out and sights were | Quickly grasping him, they were engaged taken, by which it was ascertained that the in trying to subdue him when I reached the

"But the strangest part of the story is ated, land was sighted about five o'clock in | yet to come. Bilson did not recover from his attack of tremens, and died during the afternoon. We kept him until the next day, when, wrapping him in a sheet of canvas, we consigned his body to the waves.

Two nights afterward I was awakened by a knock at my door, and upon opening it saw the midnight watch standing before me with a face white as chalk and hair almost standing on end. In a trembling voice he told me that Bilson was on deck sitting on a coil of rope in the stern of the boat. Of course I thought the man was mistaken and told him that he must have fallen asleep and dreamed he saw Bilson. He said, however, that he had not been asleep, and was positive he had seen either Bilson or his ghost. He begged me to go on deck and see. I finally consented and

"Upon reaching the deck I looked aft, and to say that I was startled would be putting it mild. I was dumbfounded. There, upon a coil of rope, sat Bilson, with his head erect, gazing fixedly into the water. I called to him, but he did not turn his head. I then went to the place where he sat, but when I reached the spot noth-

ing but the rope was there. "He did not appear that night, but the next night and a number of times after the apparition appeared on deck and took its seat upon the rope. Every man on board saw it, and as it seemed to have no intention of leaving the vessel the men became frightened and vowed they would leave when we reached port. The last time Bilson's ghost appeared was the night before we got to Matanzas. At the usual hour we were all on hand waiting for the apparition. Wa had not long to wait, for in a short time the ghost appeared, from where no one could tell, and took its accustomed seat on the rope. After gazing into the water a short time it arose and pointed its finger in the direction of the town we were approaching. A St. Petersburg correspondent says: - It then walked noiselesty the deck rail

Smart.

Teacher: " now Tommy, if you can give me the names of three invisible colours, I will give you a halfpenny."

Tommy: " Well teacher, when the grass is covered with snow; that invisible

Tommy: "Well, if you stuff that halfbrown."

He didn't get his halfpenny.