

## HOUSEHOLD.

### Always.

There is always a stitch to make,  
And always a step to take;  
There is always a link to find,  
And always a shaft to bind;  
There is always a page to read,  
And always a path to weed;  
There is always a rift to mend,  
Aye, and always a hue to blend.

There is always the weight of care,  
And the cold harsh blame to bear;  
There is always the tear unshed,  
And the gentle word unsaid;  
There is always the doubt, the fear,  
And always the scorn, the jeer,  
These little things, oh patient soul,  
Make up life's grand life's wondrous whole.

### Family Finances.

If there is any one thing in which a kind and conscientious husband errs, it is more than likely to be in regard to his treatment of his wife in money matters. The very best men have the little weakness of liking to hold the family purse strings, and to pay out everything themselves. Of course this does not refer to those whose wives are self-supporting, either through inheritance or from their own work, but to husbands whose wives have to look to them for every cent they spend. This is not at all owing to selfishness or parsimony, but merely to thoughtlessness and to man's inherent incapability to see things from a woman's point of view. However wise and far-sighted a man is in other things he is apt to lose his judgment when it comes to family finances. Accustomed to dealing with large sums in business, he will make allowance for larger general expenses, but cannot realize the hundred and one little wants of the household, of his wife's toilet, and that of the children, and yet it is these little items, perhaps only a few cents at a time, that make a woman doubt her own arithmetic when she sees how many dollars they foot up at the bottom of a page in her account book—and if she does not keep such an account she is sure to be constantly under the delusion that she has lost some of her money.

It is these small things that are "the little foxes that spoil the vines," and yet they are too trifling to be taken into account when calculating the outlay for the household. And so a man often wonders how his wife spends so much money without having more to show for it. He constantly calls her his "better half," and yet thinks she is not half so wise or prudent as he is, and considers her an irresponsible being whom it is not safe to trust with money. He does not mind giving her occasionally a diamond ring, or pin, or bracelet, though he will look surprised, or perhaps a little cross, if she asks for one-fourth of the sum for the children's clothes or to replenish the china closet. One thing that no man seems to understand is that it is humiliating to a woman to have to ask for money, no matter how willingly he gives it. She will usually defer the hated moment in the hope that it will occur to him to give it without waiting for her to ask for it; and, if he is accustomed to be so unreasonable as to make any scene about giving it, she will often do without an absolute necessity while trying to find courage to prefer her request. All this is avoided by giving her a certain allowance, and paying it with the same punctuality that any other business transactions demand.

### An Ironing Aid.

It's strange how things come about, sometimes; how if one only has her eyes and ears open, as the saying goes, a person can see or hear something that may be very helpful in the future, if it is only remembered.

I feel like telling of a call I made a while ago, hoping that what I then learned may benefit someone else. My so-called "help" having left me with scarcely a word of warning, I had bread to bake; all of us preferring homemade bread above the baker's. As my six nice loaves were ready for the oven, I set my stove dampers right, added a little coal, pushed the dough into the warm oven and shut the door with a satisfied little bang, and thought, "There you are for one whole hour."

Then I took some light work and ran across the street, to sit and chat with one of my neighbors while my bread was baking. She was doing her starched ironing, so I told her to keep right on and not stop; because I could stay only a few minutes, and I would sit down at the end of her ironing table, where I should be out of the way. She liked my plan and kept on with her work.

After a little, something about her motions attracted my attention, and I let my hands rest idly in my lap, while I watched her hands fly. Article after article was made smooth and shining and put by, with very little effort, seemingly. At last she shook out and spread on the ironing table a fine, white linen apron, for one of her little girls. It looked as though it might "stick" a little, as there was here and there a little starch sticking to it. I noticed, as she took her iron from the gasoline stove, she gave it a rub or two on a cloth, at her right hand. It was very much browned by usage, and sent up a terrible smoke. Then she ironed that apron as easy as possible.

Well! I was astonished, and said, "I would like to know why your flatiron did not stick one bit?" She looked pleased and said, "Oh! don't you know? Why, I always, when I am getting ready to do my ironing, put some kerosene on that cloth and rub every iron on it, as I take it from the stove and nothing ever sticks. I had rather iron the starched things than anything else."

I went home thinking it was wonderful how much good a little kerosene could do. I tried the next time I ironed and have always used it since. Some may think I found my bread burnt, but it was beautifully baked.

### Table Manners for Children.

Drink from the cup—never from the saucer.

Teaspoons are left in the saucer, not in the cup.

Little children only have the napkin arranged as a bib.

Making a noise, in either eating or drinking, is vulgar.

Always cheerfully defer to older people and to guests.

Eat slowly, and do not fill the mouth with large quantities.

Eat the food served, or quietly leave it upon the plate without remark.

Never intimate a rude or uncouth act, even if committed by an older person.

Avoid drumming with the fingers or the feet; it is the height of impoliteness.

If in doubt at any time as to what is proper, follow the example of others of more experience.

Patiently await the coming of your turn; do not follow with the eyes the food served to others.

Never unnecessarily handle the dishes, or in any other manner exhibit nervousness or impatience.

Do not feel obliged to "clean up the plate;" especially do not make a laborious display of doing so.

Do not ask for any particular part of a fowl, or similar dish, unless asked your preference; in that case always indicate something, and if there be really no choice, designate the portion with which the host can most conveniently render service.

If the handkerchief must be used, let it be very quietly; in case that is not possible, leave the table for a moment, which may be done in case of a sharp attack of coughing, sneezing, or the like, without asking permission, the cause being manifest.

### Canned Vegetables.

Some of the canned and dried vegetables make healthful and economical changes for the table. These vegetables should be treated with great care. Canned peas and string beans should be turned from the can into a strainer and rinsed by pouring cold water over them. As a rule, these vegetables are cooked enough in the canning, and when to be served should only be thoroughly heated and properly seasoned. The simplest and best way of preparing these two vegetables is to add to a can of vegetables, after being rinsed, one large teaspoonful of butter, one of sugar, one level teaspoonful of salt and one gill of hot water. Place on the fire and do not cook for more than ten minutes.

Canned corn is excellent if prepared in this manner: Turn the corn into the double boiler and add half a pint of milk, one teaspoonful of salt and one tablespoonful of butter. Place on the fire until thoroughly heated—say for about ten minutes. It ruins corn to be over-cooked.

Dried Lima beans are a delicious vegetable. Soak half a pint over night in cold water. The next day drain off the water and rinse the beans in fresh water. Put them on the fire in one quart of fresh water and cook slowly for two hours. Pour off all the water except about a gill; then season with a level teaspoonful of salt and a tablespoonful of butter, and cook ten minutes longer. Another way is to pour off all the water and add a gill of milk and the seasonings; the cooking to be continued for ten minutes. The cooked corn and beans may be mixed just before being served, and making a delicious succotash. There is almost no end to the uses to which canned tomatoes can be put for soups, sauces, entrees; and as a vegetable they are of great value. The store-closet should never be without a few cans of this useful vegetable.

### Concerning Oatmeal.

OATMEAL BREAD.—Boil half a pint of oatmeal thoroughly in salted water and add to it three-fourths of a pint of milk; mix in carefully one and a half pints of sifted flour with three teaspoonfuls of baking powder and half a teaspoonful of salt. Grease the bread pan well, and bake in a moderate oven.

OATMEAL GEMS.—Mix with one and a half teaspoonfuls of finely-ground oatmeal, half a teaspoonful of cornmeal, one teaspoonful of flour and a teaspoonful of baking powder. Stir in one tablespoonful of butter, two tablespoonfuls of sugar, one teaspoonful of salt and two teaspoonfuls of milk. Put into hot tins and bake in a quick oven.

OATMEAL BISCUIT.—Rub a round tablespoonful of butter or lard into one quart of oatmeal flour, and wet it with one pint of sour milk, in which has been dissolved one teaspoonful of soda and one-half teaspoonful of salt. Use enough flour to roll out to about one inch in thickness, and bake in a quick oven.

OATMEAL MUSH.—Into two quarts of boiling, salted water, add slowly one and one-half cupsful of oatmeal, and stir for a few minutes; then set in a kettle of boiling water and boil three hours. Serve with cream and sugar. Raisings added to the above make a delicious dish.

OATMEAL CRISPS.—One cupful of oatmeal nearly half a teaspoonful of salt; mix together dry; cover with cold water and let stand half an hour. Drain off the water and drop by spoonfuls on a tin, spreading as thin as possible. Bake until brown and crisp; do not scorch.

OATMEAL BLANCMANGE.—A delicious blancmange is made by stirring two heaping tablespoonfuls of oatmeal into a little cold water; stir into a quart of boiling milk; flavor, and pour into molds to cool. Serve with cream and sugar.

OATMEAL CRACKERS.—Wet one pint of fine oatmeal with one gill of water; add a little salt; work it a few minutes with a spoon, until you can make it into a mass; place it on a board well covered with dry oatmeal; make as compact as possible, roll out carefully to one-sixth of an inch thick, and cut into squares with a knife. Bake in a very slow oven. A nice addition is two heaping spoonfuls of desiccated cocoanut.

OATMEAL MUFFINS.—Two cupfuls of sour milk, one teaspoonful of soda, two teaspoonfuls of sugar, a little salt, and oatmeal flour to make a moderately thick batter. Stir the soda into the milk, and beat a few minutes before adding the other ingredients. Bake in hot, well-buttered gem pans. Well-beaten egg add to the batter improves it, but it is nice without.

OATMEAL CREAM PIE.—Make the crust dough after the recipe given for crackers. Roll thin. Cream filling.—Beat together one tablespoonful of flour, one egg and a half a cupful of sugar; add one cupful of rich milk; sprinkle grated nutmeg over all, or flavor with lemon or vanilla. Bake with lower crust only. Any pie requiring but one crust may be made with oatmeal. Care must be taken not to scorch the crust while the contents of the pie are cooking.

ROLLED OATS.—One pint of rolled oats, a little salt, and enough boiling water to cover. Cook in a custard kettle or in a small tin pail, set in a kettle of boiling water for half an hour. Stir often. Serve with cream and sugar. This is nicer for breakfast than the oatmeal, as it is so quickly cooked.

## BRIEF AND INTERESTING.

Finland has women builders.

Canada has about 14,000 miles of railroad.

Greek wines nearly all turn to vinegar in summer.

The Romans built the first dykes in Holland.

Chess is claimed to be taught in all the Austrian public schools.

In China every village has its theatre; every city has several.

It is said that the Chinese will soon control the shoemaking trade in California.

In the industry of cigar making girls engaged at piece work earn from 14s. to 21s a week each.

In Samar bee-hives hang in the form of oblong gourds from the branches of trees.

Celery coffee is a new drink. It is said to give renewed strength to the brain and nerve.

A disease peculiar to Japan is called the kake. It is believed to be the result of eating too much rice.

The earliest American theatres were built at Annapolis and New York, 1753; Albany, 1769, and Baltimore, 1773.

The Queen of Saxony never had any children of her own, but she is very fond of other people's children, especially if they are pretty.

The money dealt with by the London Bankers' Clearing-house for the year ended December 31 last reached the stupendous total of £6,481,000,000.

A hay saver, consisting of a three-sided device, which enables the horse to insert his head into the manger, but does not permit any lateral movement of it, is a late invention.

Exclusive of warships, 681 vessels with a total tonnage of 1,109,950 tons, were last year launched in the United Kingdom. The output fell short of that in 1891 by about 21,000 tons.

Jay Gould's original intention was to be a country editor, but he finally selected another road by which to reach the immense fortune which he had in view from the beginning of his career.

The most indestructible wood is the Jarrah wood of western Australia, which defies all known forms of decay, and is untouched by all destructive insects, so that ships built of it do not need to be coppered.

Two freehold premises at Cornhill, opposite the Bank of England, were recently offered for sale, and the biddings reached £157,000, when the auctioneer bid £100,000 on behalf of the vendor, and the estate was declared not sold.

In Rome there is much talk about an old beggar who used to frequent the doors of the Church of the Minerva, and who, dying lately, was found to be possessed of 100,000 francs, which he had left by a properly drawn up will to his three children, who were completely ignorant of their father's wealth.

An important step towards the solution of the difficulty of finding employment for old soldiers and sailors has just been taken by the trustees of the British Museum in utilizing the services of commissionaires for warding the galleries of the Natural History Museum, and, in a lesser degree of the British Museum.

The exact cost of a Cabinet Minister's full dress uniform is 120 guineas, and this sum has been expended lately by the members of the Cabinet who are in office for the first time. The cost of the elaborate tunic is due chiefly to the gold lace, in which it is simply smothered; but such a tunic lasts a lifetime, and those of the old Parliamentary hands are often very seedy.

In a town not a hundred miles from London there is preached every year what is known as a "drunken sermon." It is a temperance sermon. It was instituted many years ago by an old, eccentric man, who bequeathed to the town a public-house on condition that 40s. be deducted from the annual rent and given to a minister who should preach a sermon against the evils of intemperance.

The professors in the colleges of Spain are miserably underpaid, often receiving no more than \$200 per year. They endeavor to make a small profit out of their textbooks, each requiring his own book to be used. These books are frequently in manuscript, or, if printed, are sold at unusual prices. The students, also poor, resort in consequence to second-hand shops and the annual fair, where a specialty is made of collegiate textbooks.

Professor Virchow has analysed "hungar-brod," the bread eaten by the peasantry in the famine-stricken districts of Russia, and finds that it is much more nutritious than the rye bread made in Germany. The latter, according to an analysis of bread baked in Berlin, contains but 6.04 per cent. of albumen and 0.48 per cent. of fat, while the "hungar-brod" contains 11.79 per cent. of albumen and 3.79 of fat.

If the Pacific could be laid bare, we should have a most singular spectacle. There would be a number of mountains with truncated tops scattered over it, and those mountains would have an appearance just the very reverse of that presented by the mountains we see on shore. You know that the mountains on the shore are covered with vegetation at their bases, while their tops are barren or covered with snow; but these mountains would be perfectly bare at their bases, and all round their tops they would be covered with beautiful vegetation of coral polypes.

Most people have heard of rooms papered with postage stamps, but the following instance of patient industry will probably be new to many readers. In a Midland county there stands an old country house in which most of the apartments are of the spacious size which was popular with architects of a century or two ago. Well, the walls of one of these chambers has been entirely covered with small shells, arranged in a pattern resembling roses, and with the smallest distance possible between the flowers. This considerable task was accomplished by two persons, a lady and her maid. The effect of their labours is said to be extremely picturesque. But they are also stated to have spent some ten years in the employment, and the inevitable question therefore arises, would not time have been better occupied even in the crochet work of our grandmothers?

In a pair of fine shoes there are two sewed pieces, two inner soles, two stiffenings, two pieces of steel to give a spring to the instep,

two rands, 12 heel pieces, two sole linings, 20 upper pieces, 30 tacks, 12 nails in the heels, and twenty buttons, to say nothing of thread both silk and flax; but the wonder is found in the rapidity with which these multitudinous pieces are combined in a single complete work, for, as an experiment, some of our shoe factories have from the leather completed a pair of shoes in less than an hour and a half, and as a test a single pair of men's shoes have been finished in twenty minutes.

One of the prettiest microscopic studies is the examination of the lungs of a plant. Most people do not know a plant has lungs, but it has; and its lungs are in its leaves. Examined through a high power microscope every leaf will show thousands upon thousands of openings, infinitely small, of course, but each provided with lips, which, in many species, are continually opening and closing. These openings lead to tiny cavities in the body of the leaf, and by the opening and closing of the cavity air is continually passing in and out, so that the act of respiration is continually going on. The sap of the plant is thus purified, just as the blood of an animal is cleared of impurities by passing through the lungs, and the average sized tree will, therefore, in the course of a day, do as much breathing as a man.

Princess Margaret of Prussia was married standing on one of the most interesting bits of carpet in existence. This was worked by her mother, the Empress Frederick, and all her children knelt on it when they were confirmed. The present German Emperor, Prince Henry of Prussia, and the Princesses Charlotte, Sophia, and Victoria were married standing upon it, and it served a sadder purpose when the coffin containing the remains of the late Emperor rested upon it. Should a history of interesting carpets be ever written, the Empress Frederick's carpet should have an honored place in the record.

The weight of the King of Denmark as a ruler may be insignificant in the councils of Europe, but to his own subjects he bears the same paternal relationship as does, or used to do, the wealthy squire to the people of his own parish. Christian IX. walks through the streets of his capital escorted only by his favorite dog; while the Crown Prince so far joins in the amusements of the humbler citizens, as to take his children to the theatre in the Tivoli Gardens to witness a variety entertainment, consisting of jugglery, songs, and acrobatic feats; the only ceremony being the reservation of some front seats (price one shilling each) for themselves and their suite, the playing of the National Anthem on the arrival of the party, and the firing of a toy cannon outside, which latter performance necessitates the opening of a window, whether to prevent the breaking of the glass, or to enable those in the house to hear the report, is still an open question. As the Royalties enter, the audience rise and uncover, but as soon as they are seated, hats are at once put on, and cigars and punch at once resumed.

### Murdered by a Boy.

A Berlin correspondent says:—Some weeks ago the wife of a workman who kept a shop as a small provision dealer was found, with her little child, murdered in a room behind the shop, and part of her valuables and money stolen. On Sunday the murderer was discovered in the person of a boy of 15 years of age, the son of a workman who formerly lived in the same house with the murdered woman. He roused suspicions on the part of his parents by giving them presents of money and incurring various expenses. He pretended to have earned the money in his new situation, but his mother could not rid herself of her doubts, and expressed them in conversation to neighbours. Probably through the latter an anonymous communication was made to the police. At first the boy tried to deny everything, but at last confessed his crime. With cynical coolness he related the details of the murder, which he had made up his mind to commit on New Year's Day, but postponed till he had no money. He murdered the woman exactly as was described in the press. He knocked her down with a blow on the head from a mangle-roller, and then stabbed her in the neck. "And then?" the young murderer was asked. "Then it was the child's turn. After that I looked about for money, and found it, and now I have nothing more to say." When asked why he murdered the little boy, he coolly answered, "Oh, it screamed so."

### Moss Fighting in Burmah.

Captain Atkinson, who is acting against the Kachins in the Sima district, reports that the operations of the Palap columns have been attended with complete success. The enemy's position was attacked from both sides by Captain Atkinson and Lieutenant Drever. The former officer forced his way at the head of his men through the fence of a strong stockade, and, crawling over the roof of a block-house between the loopholes, leaped into the midst of the Kachins, who were taken by surprise, and drove them out. The position was carried in brilliant style. Thirteen of the enemy were killed, while the British loss was two killed and six wounded. According to intelligence telegraphed from Lashio under date the 4th inst., a party of 45 men, under Lieutenant French Mullen and the native officer Gopal Sing, went to Meungyin on the 2nd inst. They found the place occupied by 200 Kachins, who resisted the British force. They were, however, driven out with the loss of 11 killed. There were no casualties on the British side.

### A Curious Transformation of Brass.

A curious incident has been noticed in connection with the brass condenser-tubes of a foreign cruiser. The pipes, after being in use for more than 12 months, were found to have experienced a peculiar change. In many places the metal had been, it appears, converted into almost pure copper of a spongy texture, the zinc of the alloy having completely disappeared. An investigation which was made showed the probable cause of the failure to have been an electrolytic action between the tin lining of the tubes and the brass, the sea water circulating through the condenser forming the electrolyte. Had the tin coating remained perfect doubtless no corrosion would have resulted but the mud and grit conveyed in suspension through the condenser carried away the tin coating in spots, and it was at these points that the transformation of the metal occurred. It is concluded that if the pipes had not been tinned at all they would have remained intact.

## CANADA'S RICH MINES.

### Mr. S. J. Ritchie's Misfortunes Bring to Light Some Interesting Facts.

A despatch from Cleveland, says:—The entry of dismissal ordered by Judge Hutchins on Monday in Common Pleas Court in the cases brought by Samuel J. Ritchie, of Akron against the Canadian Copper Company and the Anglo-American Iron Company practically ends litigation that started on a very extensive basis.

In 1886, largely through the efforts of Mr. Ritchie, valuable deposits of copper and iron in Canada were brought to light and several wealthy Cleveland capitalists were induced to become interested in the project. Two companies were formed. One was called the Canadian Copper Company and proceeded to develop the rich deposits of copper and nickel at Sudbury, Ontario, a town on the Canadian Pacific railway some 200 miles east of Sault Ste. Marie. The other corporation was the Anglo-American Iron Company, which operated iron mines near Picton, Ontario, in the Lake Ontario region.

The leading capitalists in these companies were H. B. Payne, Stevenson Burke and C. W. Bingham, of Cleveland, and the late T. W. Cornell, of Akron. Mr. Ritchie at first held one-fifth of the capital stock in these corporations, but falling into financial difficulties he lost this stock. Just how he lost this stock is a leading question, and the dismissal of the suits prevents any light on the subject. Mr. Ritchie made charges of various kinds and entered suit against other members of the companies. Under the law a stockholder of any corporation holding one-fifth or more of the capital stock has the right to petition the court for a dissolution of the company. This was what Mr. Ritchie did, but his attorneys, recognizing that he no longer held the requisite amount of stock, allowed the case to be dismissed. These suits involved a very large amount of money, running into the hundreds of thousands.

The copper company is proving a rich investment for the stockholders, as the mines yield not only very good copper, but also nickel. For many years the famous Calumet and Hecla mines on Lake Superior have been the greatest producers of copper in the world and made millions of dollars for the fortunate investors. Within later years, however, the Anaconda mines around Anaconda and Butte, Mont., have been producing better than the Calumet. The Canadian Copper Company has entered into the field in a smaller way, but is making steady advances. The ore is first smelted to about 95 per cent. pure at the mines and then brought to this city, where it is refined at the company's large works near Brooklyn.

There are still pending in the United States court two suits against Mr. Ritchie, brought by James B. and George W. McMullen, of Picton, Ontario, with whom Ritchie had a railway deal, as a result of which they obtained a judgment for \$265,307 against him, but have never been able to collect it. Owing to Ritchie being connected with the two companies the other stockholders were brought in as defendants, so that litigation seems almost endless. However, when all legal entanglements are swept aside, as Judge Burke, who never steps until he wins, declares they soon shall be, the companies will have two fine properties in an almost unoccupied field to reward them for their daring investments.

### A TERRIFIC EXPLOSION.

#### Four Persons Seriously Injured and Valuable Property Greatly Damaged.

A Niagara Falls despatch says:—A terrible explosion occurred yesterday afternoon in the manufactory of the Ontario Silver Company at Humberstone. Natural gas is used for fuel in the manufactory and it was due to carelessness that the accident happened. Four persons were seriously injured and one probably fatally. Natural gas is used in the furnaces. Owing to the change in the weather the moisture in gas pipes and meter occasioned considerable trouble and while flushing the regulator quantities of gas escaped into the factory. It was thought that all the burners in the retorts had been extinguished, but such proved not to be the case and suddenly, without warning, a terrible explosion occurred. Those injured were: Leonard McGlashan, manager; Delford Utt, engineer of plant, of Humberstone, and Bert Fraser, a boy employed in the works, also a Mr. Belford, an insurance agent, of Humberstone, who had called to see Mr. McGlashan. The men were all burned about the head, face and hands. Mr. McGlashan was frightfully injured. His hair was all burned off and his eyes and features were swollen up to twice their usual size. It is feared he cannot recover. His arms up to the elbows are a mass of blisters. Utt, the engineer, escaped with the lightest injuries. Belford and the boy Fraser, are confined to bed to-day and are suffering great agony. Mr. McGlashan's wife is with him and every effort is being made to save his life. The damage to the building, which is a large one, is quite extensive. It was lifted from the foundations and moved several feet. Every window was broken and the interior badly wrecked. The plant cost over \$75,000. It is thought, however, that the valuable machinery is not much injured. Dr. Clark went to Humberstone to-day and on his return reported the men as very seriously injured.

### A Romance of The Lottery.

On Saturday afternoon, at the quarterly drawing of the Credit Foncier Lottery Bonds in Paris, and a few minutes before the wheel of fortune was to be set in motion, a lady appeared with a bond of the 1889 issue, upon which she wanted to pay the calls due in order that it might be eligible for a prize. The clerk said it was too late, as the drawing was about to commence, adding the conventional phrase of regret. The lady, however, begged hard, and the clerk consented to submit her case to the board of directors who had to attend the drawings. Several numbers, says a Paris correspondent had already been drawn while the directors were considering whether the lady's offer could be accepted—a matter of a few francs—when, oh! freak of fortune, the number of the very bond whose fate was in suspense came out for a prize of £4000. The board ultimately ruled that as the number had come out after the lady's offer the latter would be entertained. The clerk went down, and after receiving the lady's money and handing her a receipt for it, announced to her that she was £4000 richer.