

## HOUSEHOLD.

Hush.

BY ALICE CATHERINE FALLOW.

Baby is sleeping.  
Hush!  
Mother is creeping out of the room,  
Tilting the rush of the children's feet,  
And the innocent, sweet,  
Shrill sounds of their play.  
Baby is sleeping.  
Hush!

Baby is dying.  
Hush!  
Mother is crying  
There in the room,  
Watching the flush  
On the baby's face,  
Clasping the restless, weak  
Little hands in her own.  
Hush!

Baby is sleeping.  
Hush!  
Angels are keeping  
Guard in the room.  
Patiently, crush  
The rebellious sobs;  
Fresh morning is breaking  
And waking  
Our baby.  
Hush!

[Good Housekeeping.]

### Mr. Pangrew's Economy.

If Mr. Josephus Pangrew thought he had one special mission in life, it was to guard Mrs. Josephus Pangrew from the sin of extravagance. To hear his frequent admonitions on domestic wastefulness, one would have supposed that Mrs. Pangrew was the most prodigal of housewives; when in reality, she was one who conducted her housewifery with a wise economy.

"Jane," Mr. Pangrew would say, "it's the little dribbling waste in the house that keeps most folks poor. A woman will let a fortune leak out of a man's pocket, and he never knows where it's gone, by being wasteful with the little things. The waste of a penny here and a penny there makes a big sum in the end. Jane, do be keener and savin' in your housework."

A few samples of the reproaches to which Mrs. Pangrew was subjected by her economical spouse might prove interesting reminders to more than one similarly afflicted housewife.

Coming into the kitchen one day, he spied a bar of soap lying in a basin of water which his wife had accidentally dropped there a minute before. While bathing her hands, one of her little children fell from a chair, and hastening to its rescue, the soap she was using slipped from her hands and fell into the water. It was while Mrs. Pangrew was comforting the child that Mr. Pangrew came into the room and saw the soap.

"Good gracious, Jane!" he animatedly exclaimed, "see that cake of soap meltin' away in that water. What do you mean by such extravagance?"

"The soap dropped into the water when I ran to pick Rosy up, and I couldn't stop to take it out," replied the wife.

"Why couldn't you?" he asked abruptly. "Rosy wouldn't die in that second. It's jest such wastefulness that keeps us always so hard up. Its enough to discourage any man to know that what he's workin' so hard for is being wasted by his wife's keerness."

When it is remembered that the bar of soap costs only five cents, and that is the brief time it lay in the water it could not have dissolved more than one-tenth of a cent's worth, the reader's sympathies will no doubt be keenly enlisted in behalf of Mr. Pangrew's ruinous loss.

If occasionally a loaf of bread was burned, necessitating the loss of the crust, Mr. Pangrew would approach his wife as earnestly as though the loss involved their financial ruin. When his wife would remind him that some article of food was out, he would exclaim:

"Well, I never saw things give out as they do in this house. I'm jest always a buyin'. It didn't use to be so in my father's family. My mother was keener and made things last."

"How can I make things last?" his wife would say. "We have a large family, and when we are daily drawing from the groceries, how can they last?"

"Well, I saw some rice out on the ground the other day that had been thrown out to the chickens. Talk of bein' economical and feeding chickens on rice at ten cents a pound."

"It was a little rice that stuck to the bottom of the kettle in cooking, and wasn't fit to eat," the annoyed wife rejoined. "I never waste any food that is fit to eat."

"Well, there's jest where the point lies," persisted her husband. "If you was keener in cooking there wouldn't be any such waste in the food."

It was on the fuel in particular that Mr. Pangrew kept a close, economical eye, and kept up a continuous nagging on the amount used.

"I can't see to the life of me how you manage to use so much wood in that kitchen," he would say. "I know I could do the work there and not use half as much."

Many a time, after heaping such reproaches on his wife, Mr. Pangrew would go to town and spend a dollar for tobacco. But that was not wastefulness, O no!

"You had it?" continued the inquisitive woman.

"O, I don't know—two or three times I guess," replied the economical man.

"No wonder it's wearing out," said his wife. "My father used to say that a good harness would last fifteen years if given good care. He made it a rule to oil his harness every time it got wet; and oiled it every few months anyway."

"Of course a harness will last longer with such care," Mr. Pangrew replied. "But I'm always so busy I don't have time to oil mine."

Mrs. Pangrew stood for a few minutes thinking, then turned and went out of the barn.

A few days after, glancing out of the window, Mrs. Pangrew saw her husband driving out of the field with the harvester. When he drove up she asked:

"Have you been harvesting? I didn't know the grain was ripe."

"No, I'm just bringing the harvester up to get it ready," he replied.

"Where was it?" she inquired.

"In the field," he answered.

"You don't mean to say the harvester has been in the field all winter do you?"

"Yes, it has," he replied. "I left it there when I got through last season, and I intended to bring it up and put it under cover, but I was so rushed I forgot about it."

Upon examination, the harvester was found to be so rusted and injured by the long exposure that repairs to the amount of ten dollars had to be purchased.

Mrs. Pangrew's opportunity had come.

"Josephus," she said, "for fifteen years I have listened to your everlasting nagging on the subject of economy. It seems to me the burden of your talk since we were married has been in admonishing me against wastefulness. And I have never wasted in the whole of my married life as much as you've paid out in repairs upon this machine, which is just the result of your neglect to take care of it. The harness you were mending the other day is just about ruined from rough usage and the want of oiling."

I've been keeping my eyes open of late, and I believe there's twenty dollars wasted on the farm under your management where there is one dollar wasted in the house. And I've come to this conclusion—that the time you spent guarding me from extravagance and giving me needless lectures had better be spent in keeping things from going to waste in the farm matters under your care. You have hundreds of dollars worth of machinery that stands out in the weather the year round, rusting and rotting out. Last week, three lambs died because you neglected to put their mothers up out of that damp snow storm. Now, I want to make a treaty with you dating from this hour: I never want to hear another word on my extravagance while I live. You will have your hands full if you prevent waste in the farm matters that come within your own duties."

Mr. Pangrew made not a word of reply. He had both sense and justice enough to see the truth in the matter, and accepted it by keeping the treaty inviolate.

### Spring Sewing.

Petunia red once known as magenta is worn again. It looks well under lace.

Bishop, globe, and much wrinkled leg-o'-mutton sleeves are received with about equal favor.

Conservative women prefer black or white veils although they are offered in all colors.

High collars are worn on street dresses while house gowns expose the throat and nape of the neck.

Sleeves droop or stand out instead of being thrust up as formerly and now give great breadth to the shoulders.

The fullness of some skirts is held in deep gauging at the back and in shallow plaits on the hips and in front.

Trim cotton gowns with ruffles of the material, embroidery, or Russian lace. The skirts of Empire gowns are trimmed with narrow ruffles or are left plain.

The origin of the corset has been traced to remote antiquity, where it is lost in obscurity. Many races of savages even have a device corresponding to the corset for men as well as women. Reference to the costume plates for several centuries past will show that in the matter of tight lacing as great fools lived and died in the long ago as any who are wasting life and health now.

For trimming skirts use a ruffle shirred once a little from the top to form a heading. It may be either straight or on the bias and should be hemmed at the bottom. Allow once and a half the width of the skirt. Another way is to sew on a row of wide Hercules braid with a pretty cord or gimp at the head of the braid. A third way is to make folds and head them with a jet gimp.

The Ladies' Journal says that the widening of the dress skirts has affected the width of the underskirts; they are cut fuller and are much trimmed to hold out the dress skirts. Some are even interlined with stiff crinoline and all are trimmed with ruffles. The same authority says: Our country girls want to be taught the stylishness of simplicity.

The mothers or middle-aged women should know that the "best black silk dress" is almost obsolete and that it is better to buy oftener a gray or black henrietta cloth or cashmere for cold days, and black ground lawn with heliotrope or old-gold figures than to put the savings of a year or more into a black silk to grow antiquated in two seasons, or sooner, since the fashions change so suddenly. Even, too, the relieving influence of a ruffle in the neck of the least expensive of gowns, the refining influence of soft wavy locks, are facts worth knowing and practicing.

Little girls appreciate just as well as their grown-up sisters, neat, well-fitting dresses, appropriate and seasonable. The dark blue and white, brown and checked gingham are always to be found in the stores. They wash well through the two seasons, and are in every way suited for school and tree-climbing hours. A little of the feather stitched braid around the deep cuffs, the sailor or round collar and pointed belt will add much to the appearance without increasing the cost of each dress further than five or ten cents.

In gingham the styles are not materially changed as to shape or trimming for girls. They are made with longer waists, and the fronts are usually full with shoulder ruffles hemmed or edged with narrow embroidery. Others have wide ruffles of white embroidery.

The gingham are shown in very small mixed checks, unobtrusive plaids and in narrow pink and white, blue and white, and green and white stripes. The chambrays in the regulation pinks and blues with hemstitched hems and ruffles make dainty little costumes.

### Cakes for Keeping.

It goes without saying that they are not intended for homes where a family of children "go through" the cake supply in an alarmingly short space of time. But for the housekeeper who but seldom bakes cake, and wants that cake to last without growing stale, the *Country Gentleman* gives these practical recipes:

**HOME FRUIT CAKE.**—A cupful of butter, two of soft brown sugar, one of dark molasses, five eggs; a teaspoonful of soda dissolved in half a cupful of hot water, two tablespoonfuls of caramel (this is for coloring, and may be omitted if one chooses); nutmeg, cinnamon, cloves and ginger at discretion; a pound of raisins, one of currants, half a pound of citron, and a quarter of a candied orange peel. This makes a handsome and delicious cake, not for wedding cake, but sufficiently so for all ordinary occasions, and the large loaf which this makes will keep long enough to furnish a goodly number of cuttings.

**MADEIRA.**—Though made after the old formula for pound cake, these little cakes may be so varied as to pass for novelties, while their excellence and their keeping qualities are unrivaled. The recipe calls for half a pound of sweet butter, half a pound of powdered sugar, half a pound of pastry flour, and four large or five small eggs. Cream the butter and sugar thoroughly, add the well-beaten yolks of the eggs and beat again, then the whites in a stiff froth with the flour, and any flavoring preferred,—it may be the rind and a spoonful of the juice of a lemon, with a little candied lemon peel stuck lightly in the top of the cakes, or orange-flower water with a handful of blanched almonds used in the same way, or simple vanilla extract. Bake in a gem-pan or in any small tins. Icing gives another opportunity for individual skill and taste. Orange juice strained and beaten with as much sugar as it will take up smoothly makes a very agreeable icing.

**LEMON CAKE.**—A cupful of butter, one and a half of powdered sugar, four eggs, three cupfuls of flour, the grated rind and juice of a lemon, and two cupfuls of Zante currants. One may use two eggs only and to be used immediately. For a cake to be put by, it is well to remember that two teaspoonfuls of baking powder, if it is the richer cakes require longer baking in a more moderate oven. The excellence of light soda cake often depends almost wholly upon a quick and careful baking.

**NET CAKE.**—A cupful of butter, two of sugar, half a cupful of milk, a cupful of chopped raisins and one of shelled hickory nuts, four eggs (whites and yolks separately), half a teaspoonful of soda and one of cream of tartar. Add the fruit and nuts last; frost with fondant icing.

**NET WAFFER CAKES.**—A cupful of brown sugar, one of nuts, a pinch of salt, two eggs and a scant cupful of flour. Drop in small heaps on a well-greased paper and bake quickly.

**COCONUT CAKE.**—A cupful of butter, two of sugar, three of flour, one of milk, four eggs, a teaspoonful of soda and two of cream of tartar, and a cupful of desiccated coconut. Frost with a soft icing, and strew it thickly with cocoanut.

**COCONUT MACAROONS.**—Half a pound of desiccated cocoanut, half a pound of powdered sugar, the whites of three eggs, a teaspoonful of extract of bitter almonds or orange flower water, and a cupful of dried and sifted cracker crumbs. Drop on buttered paper in small rounds no larger than a half dollar, and bake in a moderate oven.

**SPICE CAKES.**—A cupful of butter, a cupful of sugar, half a cupful of molasses, a teaspoonful of soda, a teaspoonful each of ground ginger, cloves, cinnamon and nutmeg. Mix with flour enough to roll very thin, and cut in small oval or round cakes.

### Did the Naronic Turn Turtle.

Capt. Roberts of the Naronic told a Sandy Hook pilot that the Naronic was the deepest rolling ship he had ever seen, that she had frequently rolled the ends of her bridge in the water, and that he was going to recommend the owners to have keels attached to her bilges, with the hope that it might steady her somewhat. Besides, the Naronic carried over four thousand tons of freight, with a forty-ton locomotive and some cars on deck, and drew less than twenty-one feet of water. In the hurried loading of a freight ship, carrying such a miscellaneous cargo as she did, it is always a difficult matter to get all the heaviest dead weight in the bottom. So long as it is stowed so as to bring the vessel into proper trim in the smooth water of the dock, the officers have to be satisfied. There is no reason to imagine that it was otherwise in this case.

With this information before us and none of the crew yet heard from, it is our firm belief that the Naronic "turned turtle" upon being struck by a heavy beam sea and thrown on her beam ends. Another heavy sea following would complete the work of capsizing her, after which she would very soon fill through the companionways, skylights, and ventilators. Under such conditions the weather boats might possibly be cleared by cutting the falls, which would account for their being sighted by the *Covenry*.—[*Marine Journal*.]

### Getting the Mitten.

A contemporary thus explains the phrase "getting the mitten": One hundred years ago gloves were unknown in the country towns. Mittens were knitted and worn in all families. If a young man going home from singing school with the young girl of his choice was holding her mittened hand to keep it from getting cold, and took that opportunity to urge his suit, if the offer proved acceptable the hand would remain. If taken by surprise an effort to withdraw the hand would leave the mitten. So the suitor would "get the mitten," but would not get the hand. The use of the word "miff," meaning a foolish, blundering person, also has an easy explanation. A stupid youth was said to be a "miff," because, like the article of feminine wear called by that name, he held a woman's hand without squeezing it. The sedate old times were not without their gallantries.

The British Isles comprise no fewer than 1,000 separate islands and islets.

## BRIEFS AND INTERESTING.

The French infantry were armed with the pike until 1640.

The Paris sewers are the largest and most complete in the world.

There is but one sudden death among women to every eight among men.

The cross-bows of the fourteenth century weighed 15 lb.

Mr. Gladstone weighs 11 stone, and Sir William Harcourt 18 stone.

No one can breathe at a greater height than seven miles from the earth.

No fewer than 20,000 children learn Dutch as well as English in the Cape schools.

South Africa still supplies the greater part of the ostrich feathers used by manufacturers.

Leads finds employment for 500 women and girls as rag sorters. They earn \$8. a week.

A wild elephant has a keen sense of smell. At a distance of 1,000 yards it can scent an enemy.

Among stevedores, cotton is regarded as the hardest to stow, and railroad iron as the easiest.

Queen Victoria has taken 417 prizes at English cattle shows for products of her stock farms.

New Zealand has twenty-one meat-freezing works, capable of yearly dealing with 4,000,000 sheep.

The Amazon Indians use a blowpipe with which they throw an arrow 200 yards with wonderful precision.

The value of infantry was not fully recognized by mediæval commanders until the fifteenth century.

Teething is an important crisis in the life of lion cubs, and a large number of the young die during that period.

In Paris it is required that every vehicle traversing its streets at night, if only a wheelbarrow, shall carry a lamp.

The Bombay University has eighteen magnificent buildings, erected by some of the successful native speculators in 1861.

Of 33,000 persons in German prisons, 14,000 were arrested for crimes committed under the influence of intoxicating drinks.

Everybody in Russia looks upon it as the most praiseworthy of actions to take a bear's pelt whenever and wherever possible.

The experiment of stopping runaway horses by the use of electricity, without any injury to the animals, has been tried successfully.

It is now quite widely believed that the discovery of a system of artificial flight capable of practical application is only a matter of time.

There is only one landed proprietor in England possessed of more than 100,000 acres in one county, there are three in Ireland, and no less than fourteen in Scotland.

The wealth of New South Wales is estimated at \$586,700,000; the private wealth being equal to \$363 per head of population.

The Mayor and Aldermen of Chicago have already granted 6,000 licenses for new drinking-bars to be opened during the Exposition.

Five million yards of insulated wire will be required for the distribution of current to the 92,000 lamps which are to light up the World's Fair.

As the ear is a very delicate organ, it should be treated with great caution. About the only safe way to wash it is with water and only as far as a towel wrapped around the finger can reach.

The growth of the Argentine republic in the past thirty years has been remarkable. According to recent statistics, the population is now 4,000,000, as against 1,350,000 in 1861.

The number of officers on the permanent establishment of the Post Office is 63,868, of whom 8,877 are women; and about 54,000 other persons are employed more or less on Post Office work, of whom about 16,000 are women.

Ostrich feathers are sold wholesale at from \$2 to \$5 a pound. It is not many years since they brought as much as \$12 a pound. Change of fashion and a large increase in the number of ostrich farms have combined to depress prices.

The best insect destroyer known is hot alum water. Put alum into hot water and boil until dissolved, then apply the water with a brush to all cracks, closets, bedsteads, and other places where insects may be found. Ants, cockroaches, fleas, and other creeping things are killed.

Japanese books begin at what we call the end. The lines are vertical instead of horizontal, the first being on the right hand edge of the page, and are read downwards from the top. The place for the "foot notes" is at the top of the page, and that for the reader's marker at the bottom.

The effects of ammonia upon the complexion are directly opposite to that of arsenic. The first symptom of ammonia poisoning which appears among those who work in ammonia factories is a discoloration of the skin of the nose and forehead. This gradually extends over the face until the complexion has a stained, blotched, and unsightly appearance.

The snail's shell is a horny covering which serves to protect him against his numerous foes. Slugs are simply snails which live a retired life, and consequently need no covering at all. The shell of the snail is built up from lime in the plants on which it feeds, and the creatures are never found on soil which produces no lime.

It is curious to watch the burning questions in the different Parliaments of the world. In France it is the Panama Canal; in Germany it is the anti-Semitic agitation; in England it is Home Rule; in Canada it is tariff reform, but in Mexico the National Congress is agitating seriously the question of enacting a law compelling the Mexicans and Indians to wear trousers. At present the Mexican garb is decidedly scant.

A fly will lay four times during the summer, about eighty eggs each time, and careful calculations have demonstrated that the descendants of a single insect may, from June 1st to the end of September, exceed 2,000,000. Were it not for bats, insect-eating birds, and the innumerable microscopic parasites with which the fly is particularly afflicted, there would be no worse pest in the world than the fly.

In Finland there is found a green... It foretells the weather, and its power to do so is all owing to its singular formation. In clear weather it is white and speckled; as rainy weather comes on, it turns black. It proves to be composed of clay, nitre, and salt. The salt absorbs the moisture and turns the stone dark; the salt then dries as the weather clears off, and this leaves the surface full of white spots.

Incandescent electric lamps have been adopted in Madras as an ornament to the heads of the horses driven in harness by the Jaggirdar of Anri. Two lamps, provided with powerful reflectors, and attached to the harness, between the ears of the horses, the lamps being connected to a battery placed in the body of the carriage. The novelty of the arrangement attracted much attention.

One of the curiosities of the British Patent Office is the patent granted to "James Puckle, of London, Gent.," for a portable machine gun, breech-loading, and fired by turning a handle after the manner of the well-known Maxim gun. It was granted by "Our Sovereign Lord, King George," and is dated July the 25th, 1718. The invention is fully worked out, and the patent illustrated in detail.

It is stated on the authority of the Director of Kew Gardens, that in no other country are pains and money so lavishly expended upon the cultivation of orchids as in England, and that nowhere else is so large a capital invested in the commerce of these costly plants or so many species found in a living state in private collections.

There are now blooming in St. Augustine sixteen plants of the agave Victoria regain species, or what is commonly called the century plant. A towering column rises out of the centre of the plant to the height of 60 feet, but it is often relegated to the rubbish heaps as worthless after flowering, for the reason that as a thing of beauty it has no further charms for the eye. Yet many thousands of the shaving people of the world utilise this shaft of the plant. They make use of it as a razor strop.

### Dying of "A Broken Heart."

Do people in trouble ever really die of "a broken heart?" The late Sir George Paget, in one of his lectures just published under the editorship of his son by Messrs. Macmillan acknowledges that in the vast majority of cases thus popularly described there is nothing like an actual rupture of the heart; yet he admits that mental affections will not unfrequently cause real disease of the body, and he mentions a case of broken heart cited by Dr. J. K. Mitchell, of the Jefferson College, Philadelphia, in lecturing to his pupils. In an early period of his life Dr. Mitchell accompanied, as a surgeon, a packet that sailed from Liverpool to one of the American ports. The Captain frequently conversed with him respecting a lady who had promised to become his bride on his return from that voyage. Upon this subject he evinced great warmth of feeling, and showed some costly jewels and ornaments which he intended to present as bridal gifts. On reaching his destination he was abruptly informed that the lady had married some one else. Instantly the Captain was observed to clasp his hand to his breast and fall heavily to the ground. He was taken up and conveyed to his cabin on board the vessel. Dr. Mitchell was immediately summoned, but before he reached him the Captain was dead. A post-mortem examination revealed the cause. His heart was found literally torn in twain. The tremendous propulsion of blood, consequent upon such a violent nervous shock, forced the powerful muscular tissues asunder, and life was at an end.

### Twenty Thousand People Living in a Crater.

Thirty miles from the city of Kumamoto Japan, is the volcano Aso San. This volcano has the largest crater in the world. It is more than thirty miles in circumference, and peopled by 20,000 inhabitants. Think of walking for miles among fertile farms and prosperous villages, peering into schoolhouse windows and sacred shrines well within the shell of an old-time crater, whose walls rise 800 feet all about you. It gives one a queer feeling. Hot springs abound everywhere. In one place I saw the brick-red hot water utilized to turn a rice mill. The inner crater is nearly half a mile in diameter, and a steady column of roaring steam pours out of it.

The last serious eruption was in 1834, when immense quantities of black ashes and dust were ejected and carried by the wind as far as Kumamoto, where for three days it was so dark that artificial light had to be used. But what interested me most was to learn that out of that old-time crater had come not only a stream of pure water and many kinds of farm products, but young men who, seeking a wider school and home than the mouth of a vigorous volcano, had found their way to Kumamoto, Kyoto, and America, and were now foremost among the Christian educators and preachers of Japan. The pulpit orator of Osaka, the principal of an English school at Kumamoto, who is a graduate of Andover, and one of the Doshisha professors at Kyoto, a New Haven graduate, all came from that valley of death.

### Very Obstinate.

A waggish chap, whose vixen wife, by drowning, lost her precious life, called out his neighbors, all around, and told 'em that his wife was drowned; and in spite of search could not be found. He knew, he said, the very nook where she had tumbled in the brook, and he had dragged along the shore, above the place a mile or more.

"Above the place!" the people cried, "why, what d'ye mean?"

The man replied: "Of course you don't suppose I'd go and waste the time to look below. I've known the woman quip a spell, and learnt her fashions to 'b' well; alive or dead, she'd go, I swear, against the current anyhow!"

A Hungarian inventor claims to be able to spin ordinary wood pulp, or cellulose, into yarn, from which all sorts of textile tissues can be made in the ordinary way, equalling in durability, appearance, and fastness of color the best cotton goods. If his scheme is practicable, it will revolutionize the textile industry. It is claimed the method is applicable, not only to cellulose, but to every sort of short fibrous material, rags, scraps of cotton and linen goods, and the like, and the fibre can be dyed before being spun into yarn.