

# THE HOME.

## The House-cleaning Fever.

The season is near at hand when the dust and grease spots will begin to tremble: when homes will be turned upside down for weeks; when the husband and children will take up their abode on the outside of the house; when the housewife, with a score of added wrinkles to her face and sleeves rolled to the elbow, will live in daily companionship with soapuds and scrubbing brush, writes a correspondent.

There is no person living who enjoys and admires a clean house more than this humble writer. But I think there is such a thing as dissipation in cleanliness. And this spring house-cleaning, that rages like a contagious pestilence throughout our land, is in many instances as much dissipation as any other excessive indulgence.

House-cleaning with us is more of a contagion than a custom. One housekeeper, fired with cleanly zeal and blessed with plenty of muscle or hired help, as soon as the snow is gone sets the ball rolling. Her neighbor looks out of the window some morning and sees the house-cleaning enthusiast's carpets and rugs flying in the breeze. "Bless my soul!" she says, "Mrs. Smith is house-cleaning. I must get right at it, too."

Now perhaps this neighbor has a brood of little ones around her, a baby maybe. Perhaps her muscle supply is very limited, and she is unable to hire help. Her circumstances may be wholly different from Mrs. Smith's. She may be in no fit condition to undertake the wearing and tiresome task of pulling a house to pieces and putting it together again. But notwithstanding all this difference, she has caught the fever. The sight of Mrs. Smith's carpets sets her blood tingling. So for fear she will be dubbed "slack" by her neighbors, she, too, begins to pull up carpets and move around heavy furniture. And what little strength she has, and that ought to be sacredly preserved for her own and her little ones' good, is worn out in this hard effort.

Such a mother underestimates the importance of her maternal responsibility, and overestimates the virtue of a portion of the world attaches to a spotlessly clean house. Such cleanliness should be condemned rather than applauded when it can only be obtained by the sacrifice of the little ones' needed care, the mother's health, and the general peace and comfort of the home. Of the double duties of motherhood and housekeeping, the mother's duties should always take first rank.

"Do you mean you would not clean house?" some shocked reader asks. No, I do not mean that. This is what I mean. That where a housekeeper is disadvantageously situated as regards help and strength, to let her pay no attention to her neighbors' house-cleaning. Let her neighbors clean house as they will and when they will. But for her to fortify her soul with an independent indifference as to what others will say, and clean house according to her circumstances. Do a little at a time. Work when she feels strong enough, to and stop when she gets tired. To simply pay no attention to the outside world, to ignore neighborly rivalry, and work from a consciousness that she is doing the best thing for her family and herself, and not striving for outside approbation. She may not get through as soon as her neighbors; she may not make as big a show at house-cleaning; she may have a smaller house-cleaning advertisement on the outside of the house in the shape of loose furniture and flapping carpets. But the same thing will be accomplished in the end with less sacrifice of precious strength and home comfort than though she tried to adjust her limited strength and means to some one else's circumstances.

So many housewives are so reckless of their strength. They place too low an estimate on its value. Spurred on by an ambition to keep pace with their neighbors they force themselves to work far in excess of their physical powers. They do not stop to think what injustice they are doing themselves. I once knew a housekeeper who did all the work of her home, and her house contained near a dozen rooms. She was a small woman and not very strong. When spring opened each season she was fired with a perfect house-cleaning craze. Although some of her bedrooms were not slept in once during the year, they were cleaned just as rigorously as though they were in constant use. She would clean for weeks, until every room from the attic to the cellar was as clean as soap and water could make them. But when it was over that poor woman would be almost dead. She once told me it took weeks for her to recover from house-cleaning. With what an air of pride and satisfaction she displayed her clean house to her calling neighbors! She made an idol of her house, while the precious temple with its more precious soul enshrined, fashioned by her Creator, were abused and neglected.

## Recipes.

**Cinnamon Cake.**—When you are making bread and the sponge is ready to knead take a sufficient portion and roll out three-fourths of an inch thick; put thin slices of butter on top, sprinkle with cinnamon and then with sugar. Let it rise well and bake for breakfast. This is a very nice coffee cake.

**Halibut.**—Cut very fine two pounds of uncooked halibut; put in a bowl and pound with a wooden masher, adding gradually the unbeaten whites of three eggs, and then one gill of cream, one teaspoonful of salt, a dash of cayenne. Form into egg-shaped quenelle. Have ready a pan of smoking hot oil. Dip each quenelle in beaten egg and drop in the hot oil. When it is of a nice brown, remove, place on paper to drain, then serve. Each must be taken from the beaten egg and dropped carefully at once into the oil.

**Orange Snow.**—One ounce of isinglass dissolved in a pint of boiling water. Strain and allow to stand until nearly cold. Mix with the isinglass the juice of six or seven oranges according to size and quantity of

juice. Add to this mixture the whites of three eggs and sugar to taste. Beat with an egg beater long and thoroughly until white and foamy. A good boiled custard, flavored with orange juice poured around it after removing it from the mold is very nice.

**Fried Apples.**—Select large rather tart apples, wash and slice them across without peeling. Have the slices about half an inch thick. Have a tablespoonful of butter hot in a saucepan and lay the slices in to brown. A sweet sauce is liked sprinkle on a little sugar and cinnamon before turning the slices. Another way is to brown them in hot salt pork fat without sweetening.

**Parker House Rolls.**—Make a hole in a quart of flour, pour in one-half pint of milk that has been boiled and cooked a little (about lukewarm), one-half cup of yeast, a small half cup of butter, a tablespoonful of sugar, and a little salt. Let it stand without mixing two or three hours; then knead thoroughly and let it rise once more. After standing a few hours roll it out and cut as biscuits, spread with melted butter, turn two-thirds over to form the roll and bake.

**Apple Custard.**—Pare, core, and stew six apples until fine and add half cup of sugar. Beat three eggs very light, add half cup of sugar and one and a half pints of milk. Stir again, pour into a baking pan and bake a few minutes until the custard is set. If liked, a little grated nutmeg may be added just before it is put in the oven. This is a nice dessert, and possesses the advantage of being so quickly prepared that it may be classed among the emergency desserts.

## ABOUT THE GREAT WEST.

### A Talk With Mr. W. B. Scarth, of Winnipeg, on Live Topics.

Mr. W. B. Scarth, of Winnipeg, Man. was in Montreal the other day.

"What are the business prospects in the North-West?" he was asked.

"I think that for a new country Manitoba and the North-West are not so badly off," was the reply. "The depression has been the means of inculcating ideas of economy and prudence into every class in the community, and as far as Manitoba is concerned I think we are on the eve of better times."

Mr. Scarth also had an encouraging word to say regarding the setting up of the country. Alberta, he said, had received a very large number of new comers and the Canadian Pacific were in constant receipt of hundreds of enquiries from the state of New York to Washington, all along the line of border states, and the number of people who will make their homes in the Canadian West will certainly be enormous.

An effort is also being made to settle some of the unoccupied land in the vicinity of Winnipeg, and Mr. Scarth detailed the steps that have been taken in this direction by a committee composed of members of the Winnipeg Board of Trade as well as other leading citizens. He also explained that a good deal of drainage would have to be done before a certain portion of the land would be suitable for successful cultivation. The local Government would, however, be approached in this connection and, no doubt, something would come out of it.

Mr. Scarth declared that the farmers of Manitoba had not lost heart on account of the low price of wheat, and he believed the total acreage sown this year would be greater than last, when the yield was about 17,000,000 bushels.

"How much wheat is there yet in the country?"

"I think about two million bushels, a part of which is yet in the hands of the farmers and the rest in the elevators along the line of the Canadian Pacific."

Mr. Scarth, in referring particularly to the condition of the Manitoba farmers, said that apart from the mortgages they were not more indebted than the same class of people in the province of Ontario.

"What do you hear as to the payment of interest?"

"I hear that the loan companies have little to complain of on that score," was Mr. Scarth's ready reply.

## Wheat Injured by the Cold.

The farmers of Golden Belt wheat region of central Kansas, including a dozen countries of the north central section of the state famed for their wheat production, are becoming alarmed at the condition of the wheat plant, which is not showing the anticipated recuperation from the severe winter except in such portions as had heavy local showers last October, packing the soil around the roots of the plant and so lessening the injury from drought and high winds during the winter. But these rains affected only a comparatively small portion of the wheat section. Not only has the hard freezing affected it, but there have been high winds, which blew the soil from the roots.

## Taken From Church to be Lynched.

Near Tyler, Dallas County, Ala., a gang of incendiaries fired a number of farmhouses and barns recently. The citizens organized to run down the guilty parties. Joe Smith, a negro, suspected of being one of the incendiaries, reached Selma on Tuesday and reported that Sunday night a number of white men visited a negro church and arrested Dan Dawson, Bob Holman and Jim Holman, three suspects, and carried them away in the darkness. As nothing has been seen or heard of them since it is believed they were lynched. Smith says the same night a mob riddled his house with bullets, two of which passed through his head. He fled to the woods and escaped.

## He Understood.

Teacher—Do you understand the meaning of the terms Capital and Labor?  
Small Boy—Yes'm. If a boy has a sled, that's capital. If another boy rides down with him, and then pulls the sled up, that's labor.

## MRS. GALLUP'S WOES.

Supper being over, Mr. Gallup went out to see that the barn doors were secure, the gate latched and the hens all on the roost, and when he came in he had a bushel basket of corn in the ear. And he sat down and began to shell it into the dishpan to make chicken feed Mrs. Gallup lit a candle and went up stairs to the old blue chest to look for something which might be cut into carpet rags. In a dim, uncertain way Mr. Gallup realized that she went upstairs. In that same dim, uncertain way he realized that she was singing "The Orphan's Lament" as she went. He had shelled two ears of corn and was holding up a third and wondering why corn did not grow in pods instead of on cobs when he heard a shriek and something came rushing downstairs.

That something was Mrs. Gallup, and her eyes were hanging out, and her face was as white as snow. As she sank into a chair and pressed both hands to her heart Mr. Gallup rose with a grunt and went slowly upstairs. In the storeroom he found the blue chest open, garments scattered over the floor and the candle sitting on a broken chair. He picked up the candle, made his way down to the kitchen, and after blowing out the light with a hearty "p-e-w!" he snuffed the wick with his fingers and set the candlestick on the shelf over the sink. He had resumed his seat and picked up an ear of corn before Mrs. Gallup said:—

"Samuel, please help me in on the bed and get my shoes off and then go fur Dr. James and get three or four of the nayburs to cum in?"

Mr. Gallup began shelling his third ear of corn. If he was aware that Mrs. Gallup sat there on his right, he gave no sign. He had shelled about half the ear when she tearfully said:—

"But you needn't mind, however! As long as I've got to die I might as well die here as anywhere. Folks die while sittin' on hard-bottomed cheers as well



SOMETHING CAME RUSHING DOWN STAIRS, as while lyin' on hair mattresses costin' \$40, and I expect they go to Heaven just the same. Samuel, do you know what happened upstairs?"

Mr. Gallup didn't, and he didn't appear to have the slightest curiosity to ascertain. Mrs. Gallup had brought down with her the tails of an old black coat, with the hind buttons still attached, and before proceeding further she wiped her eyes and blew her nose.

"I was singin' to myself and over haulin' the chest," she finally said, "when I felt sunthin' like a clammy hand laid on my cheek. I jumped up and looked around, and I saw—yes, Samuel Gallup, I saw as plain as day, and it's no use to dispute me—the figger of Aunt Mary Gregory standin' in the door! You remember Aunt Mary Samuel. She was killed by lightning while under a cherry tree, you know. I saw her just as plain as I see you, and she had on that same dotted kaliker dress and held her snuffbox in her left hand. When I shrieked out, she smiled and beckoned to me and disappeared. Samuel, you know what that means, don't you?"

Yes, Mr. Gallup did, but he was too busy with his fifth ear of corn to reply. In wiping away her tears Mrs. Gallup skinned her nose on one of the coattail buttons, but unmindful of the accident she continued:—

"It means, Samuel, that I am called to spread my wings and play on a golden harp, and that tomorrow you'll be snooked around arter a second wife. At least seven people that we know of hev felt that clammy hand and seen that sperit figger, and every one of 'em died within 12 hours. Yes, I'm sent fer, and there kin be no mistake about it this time. I was thinkin' to-day that I'd like to live long nuff to git my rag carpet done and make another crazy quilt, but if the time has cum to go its not for me to complain. Samuel, are you goin' to let your second wife buy a wire clothesline and use granulated sugar instead of brown?"

Mr. Gallup held an ear of corn in his hands and looked thoughtfully, but it was impossible to say whether he was thoughtful over the corn or Mrs. Gallup's question. She sobbed seven large and distinct sobs, made use of a coattail to wipe either eye, and when she could control herself she said:—

"Yes, I s'pose you will, and she'll ask you to buy a pump for the well, fix the cellar stairs and paint the front fence. I've been askin' you to do them things for the last 23 years, but they hain't done yet. When old Mr. Parmatee took his second wife, he went and had handles put on all the knives and forks the very first thing, and they had only bin married two weeks when he painted the hopen and brag home a new dishpan. Samuel, what undertaker will you hev?"

Mr. Gallup would probably have answered this question, but just at that moment he was thinking that he ought to have melted up some lampblack and tallow and given his dry boots a good greasing instead of shelling the corn.

"I guess you'd better hev Mr. Tyler," said Mrs. Gallup as she held the coattails

at a distance and regarded them. "He is never in a hurry about his bill, and he also sings bass with the choir. I want you to hev 'em sing 'Sweet Hour of Prayer' fur one of the hymns, and he sings that bewtfully. I was thinkin' the other day that my body might be stolen arter burial. I've had consumpshun, rhumatiz, lung fever, liver complaint and biles and felons and the doctors will want to know what I really died of. Do you think they will steal me, Samuel? And if they do will you prosecute 'em?"

Mr. Gallup didn't say whether he would or wouldn't. He was looking very fixedly at a red ear of corn he had found and didn't seem to hear her question.

"You orter prosecute 'em, Samuel!" sobbed Mrs. Gallup, suddenly breaking down again, "but if it's goin' to be any great trouble let it go. You'll be snookin' around and fallen in luv and feelin' like a young calf agin, and 'tain't likely you'll keer whether my body is stole or not. I hev heard of dead wives cummin' back in the shape of ghosts and kickin' second wives all over the kitchen and outdoors, but you needn't be afeard of me doin' it. I'm a Fuller, and the Fullers never lower themselves. What time d'ye think I'll die Samuel?"

Mr. Gallup paused in his corn shelling and seemed to give the question full consideration, but as he had made no reply at the end of three minutes Mrs. Gallup blew her nose with a loud snort, gave a last wipe to her eyes, and getting off her chair said:—

"Very well, Samuel Gallup, very well! I'll go in and lay down and die now and hev it over with and let you begin lookin' fur No. 2!"

She passed into the sitting room and from there to the family bedroom, and three-quarters of an hour later, when Mr. Gallup had finished the corn, shut up the stove, bolted the kitchen door and was ready for bed, he found her asleep with a very red nose and a tear oozing from each closed eye.

## INSANITY IN ONTARIO.

### Increase in the Number of the Insane and Idiotic in the Province of Ontario.

The report of the Ontario Inspector of Prisons and Public Charities contains much that is interesting regarding the class of patients treated in these institutions. The first thing impressed by the carefully arranged statistical tables is the increase in the number of the insane and idiotic in the Province, an increase not warranted by the growth of population. Ever since the mentally afflicted were regarded as invalids rather than culpable victims of demonic possession methods of treatment have been rapidly improving. Relics of the old superstition are still with us, in the general delicacy shown towards discussing mental diseases and their remedies, and in the peculiar feelings entertained towards those who have undergone treatment for such ailments. The treatment growing out of the old superstition survived the beliefs on which it was instituted, and the final removal of the straight-jacket the chain and the shackles is a comparatively recent event. Yet in spite of the beneficial results of humane and natural treatment, and notwithstanding the increasing proportion of cures, the number of insane patients in the Province and their proportion to the total population are on the increase.

### THE AVERAGE DAILY NUMBER

of insane patients residing in Provincial institutions has increased from 3,674 in 1893 to 3,809 during 1894, or an increase of 135 patients for the past year. The number of lunatics and idiots remaining in residence at the close of the year shows an increase of 166 when compared with the previous year, and during the past five years 916, or at the rate of 183 1-5 patients per annum have been added to the asylum population.

It is true that during the past three years there has been a falling off in the yearly admissions, the total admitted during the year ending September 30, 1894, being 781, 39 less than during the previous year. But the inspector attributes this to the limited accommodation in certain districts, there being 104 applications outstanding at the time of compiling the report. According to the last Dominion census the insane and idiotic population of Ontario in 1891 was 5,855, or one to every 361 inhabitants. This number no doubt included a great many harmless patients who will never be treated in any asylum. In this respect Ontario compares favorably with other countries, France with 1 to every 400 and Germany with 1 to every 417 of the population being the only countries showing a more favorable average. It is a matter for regret that 40 per cent. of the Provincial patients are committed on warrants, and are in consequence

### TREATED AS CRIMINALS

at a time when scientific treatment would be most effective. The lesson of the report is that, as in other diseases, prevention is better than cure. And the necessarily brief reports transmitted by the eminent specialists at the head of the Provincial institutions contain much valuable advice and many suggestions which should receive a wider respect of attention from the public. Hereditary predisposition has been traced in so many cases of insanity that repressive laws regarding the marriage of those afflicted with such an inheritance have been suggested. But while little or no good could be effected by such measures much can be accomplished by the general diffusion of knowledge. One lesson, culled from many, is that the mental faculties are more apt to rust than to wear out. The remarkably high proportion of farmers' wives, domestic servants, housekeepers and laborers among the insane show that monotony and hard work are the most effective combination of causes which superinduce mental disease.

## Pretty Tough.

Aunt—You look rather delicate. Are you perfectly well?  
Little Nephew—Oh, I'm tough as a pine-knot. I can stand anything. You ought to see some of the doctors' doses I've taken and lived through.

## ROUND THE WHOLE WORLD

### WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE GLOBE.

#### Old and New World Events of Interest Chronicled Briefly—Interesting Happenings of Recent Date.

England has 30,600 physicians.

India's cotton mills number over 150.

Great Britain makes over 130,000 bicycles a year.

The Duke of Norfolk has an income of £369,000 a year.

English pennies are coined yearly to the extent of \$50,000.

Parliament has met at eleven places besides Westminster.

Aberdeen harbor is to be improved at a cost of \$230,000.

Greece stands lowest in point of wealth of all the countries of Europe.

In Germany aluminium is used for nails in the boots of the soldiery.

In marriage announcements in Spain the ages of both parties are given.

George Wallace, once champion sprinter of the world, died at Newcastle.

Vernier, the young French mathematical prodigy, is only 18 years of age.

King Humbert opened the Italian Parliament with a ten-minutes' speech.

The new Russian loan of \$75,000,000 has been subscribed for forty times over.

The demand for farms in Matabeleland continues to be greater than the supply.

The Egyptian council of state has decided to extend the railway to Assouan.

During the last two centuries the wealth of Great Britain has increased forty-fold.

France has the largest circulation per capita of any country, the amount being \$36.70.

Most of the Asiatic countries have been ruined by the system of "farming the taxes."

The estate of Sir Samuel White Baker, the famous African traveler, is valued at £60,859.

David Christie Murray prides himself upon being able to write a three-volume novel in five weeks.

In the Bank of England 60 folio volumes or ledgers are filled daily with writing in keeping the accounts.

Deposits of saltpetre that promise to be the most valuable yet discovered have been found in Cape Colony.

"Mrs. Wales and family" was the entry once made by the Princess in the visitor's book at a country hotel.

In spite of the closest espionage the diamond mining company, of South Africa, loses \$1,000,000 per year by stealing.

In Finland the Salvation Army has now 140 officers and 5,000 recruits. The Russian authorities no longer oppose its work.

In thirty years the number of looms at Lyons has decreased from 80,000 to 12,000 and only 3,000 of these are working.

Prince Thon Kramon Tho, who is likely to be chosen heir to the Chinese throne, is studying at Asoot College, England.

It is said that the romances of Jules Verne have made a fortune for his publishers, but only \$5,000 a year for the author.

A lower floor of the crypt of old St. Paul's was recently discovered by a bin of wine falling through from a cellar just above.

Dr. Behring, the discover of the anti-toxine diphtheria cure, was decorated on Monday with the Cross of the Legion of Honor.

In South America an electric drying machine, in which air is forced through a chamber of heated plates, is to be used in drying wheat.

The death is announced in London of Mr. William Taylor, the founder and proprietor of the Atlas Parcel Express, at the advanced age of 76 years.

Archdeacon Denison, of Taunton, England, who has just entered on his 90th year, has been sixty-two years a priest and forty-three years an archdeacon.

Winston Churchill, eldest son of the late Lord Randolph Churchill, aged 21, has been appointed a lieutenant in the Fourth Hussars, now stationed at Aldershot.

The Bank of Ireland has cut down its dividend from 11 1-2 to 10 1-2 per cent., which is the lowest rate distributed since 1885, when 10 per cent. was paid.

Hearne, the well known Lords' professional, has been retained by the Maharajah of Patiala, who is up to date in all his notions, to teach the natives cricket.

B. L. Farjeon, the novelist, attributes all the good fortune that has been his to the luck-giving New Zealand green stone which he has carried for years on his watch chain.

A racing ostrich, with a stride of fourteen feet, and a speed of twenty-two miles an hour, is among the possessions of one Gottlieb von Klackenburg of South Africa.

Railway travelling in Britain is the safest in the world. In America, one passenger in every 2,400,000 is killed; in France, one in every 19,000,000; and in Great Britain only one in every 28,000,000.

Lord Rosebery handed over to the burgh of Queensferry, Linlithgowshire, a public hall and recreation room, which, at the cost of £3,000, he has erected there as a memorial to the late Countess of Rosebery.

The medical authorities of Berlin have notified the physicians of that city that they can get the new serum for the cure of diphtheria free for poor patients, on condition that they send in afterwards careful reports of the cases.

The Queen and the German Emperor and Empress have received a curious and seasonable present. Herr Heinrich Kamp, the proprietor of the African Ice Works at Cape Town, has sent them bouquets of extremely rare flowers frozen fresh in blocks of ice.

Several canal projects are at present under consideration by the Minister of Roads and Communications in Russia. One of the most important plans is that for connecting the White Sea with the Baltic. The estimated cost by the latest survey is 10,000,000 rubles.