

THE HOME.

HAVE ORDER.

It is a pleasure to see an orderly house, where everything has its place and where the members of the family delight in keeping the place tidy. Now, there is a vast difference between order and such primness that neither chairs nor pillows are allowed to be moved from their respective positions, and if such a thing should happen, the housewife hurries to place them into their corners again. This sort of order makes husband and sons feel that there is no comfort in home, and consequently they seek other resorts where they have some liberty.

Each member of the family, even to the tiny tot, should be taught to be orderly. It will save a great amount of work for the mother, besides teaching valuable lessons of neatness to the others. Little ones should be encouraged to pick up and put away their toys when they do not care to play longer. Let them get as dirty as they please for soap and water will correct that. No healthy child is always clean. If he is, something is decidedly wrong.

Instead of permitting the children to place their dirty or greasy little fingers on furniture or window panes, give them a cloth and show them how to take the finger marks away. In this way they will learn to be careful and keep others from doing that which they would not do. If the little ones are permitted to help "mamma" or "papa," ever so little, they will take more pride in their surroundings and in the efforts put forth to keep order.

It is not only the little ones who disturb order in the house, but often the older members are much worse. Many a man comes in from a field or stable with muddy boots, and regardless of the clean white floors on which the housewife has spent a weary hour, throws them so that big splashes of mud fly here and there, or he walks about, leaving unsightly tracks of black wherever he steps. If he chews tobacco he uses the floor for a cuspidor. Why could not he be a little more careful and thoughtful? It will take no more time, and he should not be so lazy that he cannot change his habits.

From the youngest to the oldest there should be a system of order. Each one should have a peg on which his or her wraps and hat could be hung on removal, and not left for the weary mother to pick up when the others are resting. No unnecessary work need be made by any member for another if each one is taught orderliness. It is a mean form of selfishness.

No comfort need be sacrificed for perfect order. It is merely a thoughtfulness on the part of each member of the family, making the home life happier, if anything. One man—naturally an orderly man—the writer's acquaintance, would never think of putting his dirty shoes on the cleanly scrubbed floor until he had carefully put papers or pieces of carpet down first. He never sits down into a chair, on which is a pretty, clean tidy with his dirty coat on; in fact, he usually removes it neatly folded to one side. It is the same in everything he does, and yet his home is the most comfortable and one of the happiest in existence. He appreciates the neatness and cleanliness in his home, and there is no doubt but that his wife is the happier for it. She will not go to an early grave from overwork, if he can help it, which he daily does by his orderliness.

SOME GOOD RECIPES.

Potato Croquettes.—Mash six good-sized potatoes, add one tablespoonful of butter, two-thirds of a cupful of hot cream or milk, whites of two eggs beaten stiff, salt and pepper. Cool the mixture and shape into rounds. Dip into the yolks of eggs and cracker crumbs, and fry in boiling lard. When cooked they should be allowed to cool, and placed in refrigerator before serving.

Spiced Apple Pudding.—Three cupfuls of breadcrumbs, one pint of boiling milk poured over them, three cupfuls of chopped apples, one cupful of seeded raisins, one cupful of sugar, two eggs, one teaspoonful each of cloves, cinnamon, mace and salt, steam half an hour and bake twenty minutes.

Delicious Potato Pancakes.—Boil six medium-sized potatoes in salted water, until thoroughly cooked, mash them, and set aside to cool, then add three well beaten eggs, a quart of milk, and flour enough to make a pancake batter. Bake quickly on a well-greased griddle, and serve very hot.

Savory Kidney Stew.—Carefully prepare a moderate-sized beef kidney by removing all the fat and fibre; place in boiling water in a porcelain kettle, and boil slowly for about half an hour, then cut into small pieces and place in a farina kettle; cover with milk; add a tablespoonful of butter and thicken with flour until about the consistency of custard. Season with salt and white pepper, add a little chopped parsley, and serve with boiled rice.

Whipped Apple Dessert.—Take tart apples stewed in a little water as possible. Pass them through a sieve; beat in white sugar to taste; and the whipped whites of three eggs. When the mixture is quite stiff, arrange in dessert dish, surrounded by plain boiled custard, flavored with lemon.

Crust Coffee.—Put one pint of coarse corn meal into a bowl and pour over it a pint of boiling water, stir till well mixed, add a cupful of cold water, a tablespoonful of molasses, a pinch of salt, and one pint of coarse wheat or oatmeal. Stir well together; dust a dripping pan with corn meal, and pour in the batter. Bake until browned in a hot oven. When ready to make the coffee, split the cake, put it in the oven to brown, but do not starch, break it in pieces, and put it in a large earthenware pitcher. Pour one quart of boiling water over it. Simmer for an hour or more. Serve with sugar and cream. This is a drink that is especially good for invalids.

Lemon Squash.—One pound of icing sugar, one ounce of bicarbonate of soda, one ounce of citric acid, ten drops of

essence of lemon. Mix, sift, and bottle carefully, as has been previously cautioned. When ready to use put about a teaspoonful of pure lemon juice into a glass, add the water, and then one heaping teaspoonful of the powder.

Pineapple Fizz.—One pound of icing sugar, one and one-half ounces of bicarbonate of soda, one and one-quarter ounces of tartaric acid, ten drops essence of pineapple. Mix, sift, and bottle. The amount is, as usual, one heaping teaspoonful to a tumbler of water.

Rice Bread.—Take two teaspoonfuls of cooked, seasoned rice (that which may be left from a plain pudding will do), mix it with one cupful of sweet milk, and beaten yolks of two eggs. Add a generous teaspoon of melted butter, a little salt, one cupful of sifted flour, in which is half a teaspoonful of baking powder. Last of all add the beaten whites of the eggs. Bake in buttered tins an inch thick.

Lyonnaise Potatoes.—Fry one scant tablespoonful of minced onions in one heaping tablespoonful of butter until yellow; add one tablespoonful of vinegar; put into this one pint of cold sliced potatoes, and stir with a fork until they have absorbed the butter, being careful not to break them. Then add one tablespoonful of chopped parsley and serve hot. The heated vinegar gives a delicious flavor to the potatoes.

To Keep Zinc Clean.—A bath-tub, zinc lined, can be made to look like silver and kept so, if rubbed vigorously with a cloth moistened with kerosene. It should have this kind of scouring at least once a week—oftener if possible. That disagreeable water mark, that will occur in the tubs of this kind, even in the best regulated families, should be carefully watched, and can be avoided by this kerosene rub.

EMBROIDERIES.

Pretty embroidered pieces are now seen in almost every house where there is a woman to make them. Beautiful embroidery adorns almost everything now, and in many ways it is more serviceable than much of the fancy-work done formerly. If the work is well done and care is taken when the pieces are laundered they will last for years.

In the first place embroidery is too elaborate a work to employ any but the best materials. The best of wash embroidery silks and good linens should be used. And another thing, when good materials are used the newness does not wear off so readily. Then, too, the work should be well done. No knots should be made for they will clearly show when the piece is laundered. Crossing from one part of the design to another should be avoided. These connecting threads will show distinctly on the right side, and besides, it makes the back of the embroidery appear as if it were carelessly finished. It is by far better to break the thread and commence anew than to do the work in such a manner. The ends of the thread or silk used should be securely fastened for they have a tendency to creep out and the embroidery will appear ragged, besides being liable to fray out.

When the design is finished it should be carefully washed. Warm, but not hot, soapsuds are best. If colored silks are used hot water is apt to fade them somewhat. Pure, white soap is best and it should be rubbed on the pattern where the stamping shows. Rub as gently as possible and squeeze between the fingers until every trace of the pattern is gone and also any soiled places. Rinse in clear, cold water and squeeze dry as possible. Lay it flat on a piece of clean, white cloth with embroidered side down, and roll it up with the cloth. In this way the different parts of the embroidery do not come in contact with each other, and the colors will not run into each other or into the linen. While still quite damp the linen should be pressed with a hot iron. If the embroidery is laid upon a piece of thick flannel, covered with a clean cloth, and pressed on the wrong side, always ironing from the center outward, the design will stand out beautifully. The embroidery should be smoothed flat with hand first and all points laid in place carefully before the iron is used. By doing this the piece will have the proper shape and will wear after keep so. If the piece is hem-stitched it should be pressed lightly with the iron on the right side, taking great care that the iron does not come in contact with the embroidered pattern.

USE SOAP IN MAKING BREAD.

From a communication read to the Associations of Belgian Chemists, it seems that continental bakers are in the habit of mixing soap with their dough to make their bread and pastry nice and light. The quantity of soap used varies greatly. In fancy articles like waffles and fritters it is much larger than in bread. The soap is dissolved in a little water, to this is added some oil, and the mixture, after being well whipped, is added to the flour. The crumb of the bread manufactured by this process is said to be lighter and more spongy than that made in the ordinary way.

WHITE MICE AS PRIZES.

A barber in an English provincial town has turned the raising of white mice to good account. "One white mouse given away with every child's hair cut" is the enticing sign swung where it can be easily read. Not only is the sign literally true, but the barber gives a pair of white mice to every youngster who brings him seven customers. "I give only one mouse in each family," the barber explained, "and I have to keep books, so that they can't obtain more under false pretenses."

GREATEST TRAVELLER.

George Paynter, the barkeeper of the steamship Etruria, has the record of having voyaged 2,889,612 statute miles. He has crossed the Atlantic 791 times, and has followed the sea 54 years, serving on 30 vessels on the Cunard fleet. This is supposed to be a greater record than that of any other man now afloat.

AGRICULTURAL

QUITE A SPELL.

There is a farmer who is YY
Enough to take his EE,
And study nature with his II
And think of what he CC.
He hears the chatter of the JJ
As they each other TT,
And sees that when a tree DKK
It makes a home for BB,
A yoke of oxen he will UU,
With many haws and GG,
And their mistakes he will XQQ
When plowing for his PP
He little buys, but much he sells,
And therefore little OO;
And when he hoes his soil by spells
He also soils his hose.

MILKING COWS IN SUMMER.

Unless a dairyman has a perfect stable it never pays to milk cows during the summer season in the winter stable. It is essential to gilt-edged lacteal quality that cows be milked in a sweet, pure atmosphere. As soon as the milk leaves the udder and the air strikes it, it is subject to just the degree of contamination with which the air may be impregnated. In a medium of pure air you will have pure milk for a reasonable length of time, or until natural changes cause it to become acid. In other words, if you select a cleanly place in which to milk your cows, the after care of the fluid will be greatly simplified. This is a point well worth observing, and we would enjoin dairymen not to ignore it.

Basement stables under hay barns that have been in constant use for twenty or thirty years, as thousands of them have, are dangerous places in which to milk cows during hot weather. Milking cows in a clean, open enclosure, or confined by stanchions in an open shed, is to be preferred above other methods at this season. The brushing of the cow's udder and flanks should not be neglected now any more than in winter. Dust and mud will accumulate there and fall into the milk pail if not removed. Milk full of this debris is not clean even after being strained. The dirt dissolves in the fluid and impairs its quality.

The best plan is to aerate milk as soon as possible after it has been drawn from the cow. This prevents the development of injurious bacteria, and at a temperature of 60 degrees, insures the preservation of good quality for at least twelve hours to come. Regularity in milking always brings its reward by preventing a shrinkage in the yield. It takes a great deal of stamina and determination of purpose to adhere rigidly to the rule of milking regularly at a stated hour, but no dairy observance pays better.

Don't compel your men to milk the cows on an empty stomach. A milker should have a firm steady grasp on the teats, not a weak tired one, or the cow will dry off under his hands. It may have an unimportant item, and yet to have the morning milking hour after breakfast, and the evening one after supper, will always yield better results. Don't ignore any point about dairying that conduces to a cow's comfort, and the result will make your pocketbook heavier every time.

FRAUDS AT FAIRS.

Now that the fair season is so near at hand it behoves those who are interested in them and the welfare of those who attend that pains are taken to prevent the presence of objectionable shows and pastimes and see that such are removed from the fair grounds if they obtain an entrance, for, as an eastern contemporary says, our agricultural fairs are liable to prove educating forces in a wrong direction, unless greater care is exercised to prevent the operations of gambling sharps and other fakirs of the objectionable sort.

The fairs are great harvest-fields for the whole fraternity of bunco men, while the crowds and the extent of the grounds make it difficult altogether to prevent their dishonest trade from being carried on in a more or less open manner. Victims are always to be found who are willing to be fleeced by the same old methods, the shell game, the wheel of fortune, the roulette tables, the ball and pin game, and the rest.

Many people are well aware that each and all of these contrivances are far from being an "honest" device for gambling, but are so arranged that by means of clever sleight of hand or by hidden mechanism the operator can retain entire control of the results. His assistants, dressed as young farmers, are dispersed among the crowd, and these cappers or heellers are allowed to win frequently in order to advertise the game, but outsiders are fleeced without mercy. Large sums are lost by farmers and others who have earned their money by hard work; but a far more serious result is the fever of gambling which the games arouse, sometimes, it is feared, to the permanent injury of the young men who take part.

The swindlers usually obtain space and a license by pretending to enter some harmless exhibit, and trust to their own hired watchmen to afterward evade the vigilance of the police of the fair. It is possible in some cases that the under officials are themselves somewhat lax in enforcing the law, and visitors who notice any of these fakes at their dishonest trade should insist upon their immediate suppression.

WHAT SHEEP EAT.

Sheep are fond of a great many things and will eat almost any kind of vegetation, provided it be clean and free from filth. They will eat any kind of grain, all of the grasses and most of the weeds. What they particularly desire is plenty of what they have. If it be grass they will eat more of it in proportion to their weight than will either the ox or horse. The sheep usually has a good appetite and will find something to fit it if it is within reach and with a sharp appetite will get away with about four per cent. of its live weight daily, although the larger sheep,

such as the Lincoln and Costwolds, will hardly reach this percentage.

The Merino behaves with its food very much as the Jersey cow does, while the mutton breeds fall into the plan of the Shorthorn. In feeding grain to sheep it is safe to give them about one per cent. of their live weight per day, and this may be increased when a fattening ration is wanted. Sheep will not eat flesh or slops although one will occasionally drink milk. They are fond of fodder and ensilage, and peas and beans are great favorites with them. Vetches and mustard are also eaten greedily. Oats are a staple food for the sheep, and cockle burs and sand burs will be eaten when there is nothing else. They do not like the tops of yellow dock, burdock or dog fennel, but dandelions are eaten freely, as well as foxtail, chicken grass, barnyard grass and yarrow, and other similar enemies to fields and pastures.

There are a good many flocks of sheep that would eat more than they do if they had a chance. Dry air is a fine thing for sheep, and while they cannot subsist on it alone for any length of time, when it is given in connection with suitable rations, it performs an important part in the management of sheep.

HIGH SPEED THE SAFEST.

Swift Railway Trains Do Not Increase the Accidents.

An attempt has been made in England to reduce the high rate of travel of express trains, under the plea of lessening the number of railway accidents. The Board of Trade returns show, however, that while a speed of 60 to 70 miles an hour is maintained daily by many trains, mishaps are rare compared with those of 20 years ago. It is, moreover, proved that with the steady increase of speed, and more numerous trains, the safety of the average passenger has become far greater. Another popular misconception was also corrected. It is generally believed that the high speed of express trains unnerves the drivers of the locomotives brings on various maladies, besides rendering them unfit for the strain of the work after a comparatively short term of service.

This view is not supported by facts. One of the best locomotive drivers in England has been at the throttle over 50 years, and can be trusted any day with the fastest train in the country. Sir Henry Oakley, the General Manager of the Great Northern Railway, on which probably a higher rate of speed is maintained than on any other English railway, says that of 60 men who were driving express trains regularly in 1886, 43 are still at their posts. Of the rest only five have died, all from acute diseases, hernia, pneumonia, etc., one being killed by an accident; the others having retired. It is doubtful whether better prospects are enjoyed by 60 men of the same age engaged in any other responsible occupation. It is further stated that no confirmation can be obtained of the view that habitual travelers suffer from vibration caused by high speed, and this immunity is attributed to the comfortable fittings of even the third-class cars on most railroads in England.

STANLEY'S AILMENT.

The complaint, gastritis, from which Mr. H. M. Stanley has been suffering, is in consequence of the rough fare upon which he was often obliged to subsist during some of his African expeditions. It will be remembered that he was at death's door for nearly a month when he returned from Lake Nyanza to bring up the Barttelot rear column; that he had another serious illness when with Emin Pasha's people, he set out from the lake across the continent to Bagamoyo; and that he was so ill just before his marriage that during the ceremony in Westminster Abbey he had to be given a chair. In each case gastritis was the enemy, accompanied by recurrence of fever. Mr. Stanley is only 55, despite his white-bleached hair.

SPAIN HAS AN ARBOR DAY.

Spain is waking up to the necessity of reaf-foresting her mountains. The little King recently went to a village a few miles east of Madrid, and planted a pine sapling, after which 2,000 children, selected from the Madrid schools, each planted a tree. Medals were distributed among them, with the inscription: "First Arbor Day, instituted in the reign of Alfonso XIII, 1896." Similar festivals are to be held yearly in different places, and the children are to be taken out to see how their trees grow, in the hope that they will foster tree-planting in their districts.

ALBERT'S WIFE NOT GOUTY.

The Prince and Princess of Wales have both had their hands photographed by the Rontgen Rays—the Prince privately, and the Princess at the Imperial Institute. All admirers of the Princess will be glad to hear that, so far as can be told at present, there is no fear that her later years will be rendered uncomfortable by gout, for there was no trace of this malady, which, indeed, is not usually troublesome in her family.

YACHTS OF THE WORLD.

According to Lloyd's Yacht Register, there are 7,063 yachts in the world, distributed as follows: United Kingdom, 3,554; United States, 1,294; all other countries, 2,220. Of the yachts in the United Kingdom, 846 are steam yachts and 2,708 sailing yachts.

WEALTH OF NATIONS.

The total wealth of Great Britain with all her possessions is estimated by an American authority to be \$40,000,000,000. France comes next with \$37,500,000,000. The wealth of the six largest nations in the world aggregate \$165,000,000,000.

DEAFNESS FROM FRIGHT.

The eminent physician Sir William Dalby, has recorded that a sudden fright will frequently cause permanent and complete deafness, especially in children.

A COVETED DECORATION.

HEROES THAT HAVE WON THE ALBERT MEDAL.

Acts for Which the Honor is Bestowed—Instances Where Men Have Risked Their Lives to Save Their Fellowmen.

Most extraordinary are many of the acts of bravery for which the Crown of England has conferred the Albert medal upon its subjects. The English Crown is famous for its substantial recognition of bravery. At the same time it is most conservative in its awards. A medal is the usual mark of recognition, but as the decoration is never conferred unless the recipient has performed a feat of almost supernatural gallantry, the wearers are among the most envied men in the realm. More envied than any of the others are the possessors of the Albert medal.

This decoration was instituted by a royal warrant in 1869 for the purpose of rewarding, by a mark of royal favor, the many daring and heroic actions of mariners and others to prevent the loss of life and to save the lives of those who are in danger of perishing by reason of the wrecks and perils of the sea. In 1867 first class and second class Albert medals were authorized.

BRAVERY ON LAND AND SEA.

By another warrant issued ten years later the decorations were extended to cases of gallantry in preventing loss of life from accidents in mines, on railways, at fires and other perils on shore. These are also of two classes. So extraordinary must be the acts for which the medals are bestowed that in all but fifteen first-class and forty-two second-class medals have been given for gallantry in saving life at sea up to the time of publication of the 1896 edition of Burke's Peerage, and but fourteen first-class and fifty-six second-class medals had been given for saving lives on land.

A number of the thrilling rescues that have earned the Albert medal were recently graphically described by L. S. Lewis in the Strand Magazine, London. One of the most extraordinary rescues conceivable was that for which a humble subject named John Smith received a second-class medal.

Smith was a moulder in the steel works of Messrs. Thomas Firth & Sons, of Sheffield. On the night of May 18, 1889, as the workmen were about to remove from the casting pit a white-hot steel ingot weighing twenty-six tons, the awful accident occurred which made his gallantry famous throughout England.

One of the men—Benjamin Stanley—was adjusting a chain. His foot slipped and he fell down into the pit, a distance of fifteen feet, close to the great column of white-hot steel. The poor man lay stunned by the fall and was already ablaze, when Smith, realizing the terrible danger his comrade was in, seized a ladder, and, thrusting it into an adjoining pit, climbed hurriedly down. He had no clothing on his body, excepting trousers and boots, and he met with an awkward fall by the sudden turning of the ladder.

Recovering himself quickly, Smith rushed to the rescue. He jumped into the inner pit, and, though choked by the heat, picked up his comrade and succeeded in carrying him into the next pit, whence he was able by the assistance of the other workmen to get him up the ladder.

That inner pit into which the brave man dashed was almost filled with the great incandescent glowing steel beam. Poor Smith was

HORRIBLY BURNED.

and was carried in an unconscious state to the infirmary. He recovered, but Stanley died three days after the accident.

The latest recipient of an Albert medal of the first class is Capt. W. J. Nutman, late master of the steamer Aidar, of Liverpool. The Aidar was wrecked off the Mediterranean and was sinking fast when sighted by the steamship Staffordshire, of Liverpool. As the Staffordshire's lifeboats returned each time for more of the Aidar's passengers and crew, Capt. Nutman would say:

"Pull away with those people and come back for me."

That was in the middle of the night. At 6 o'clock in the morning the only persons left on the wreck were the captain and an injured and helpless fireman, whom he was attempting to save and whom he absolutely refused to abandon. The Aidar was on her beam ends and rapidly settling down. The lifeboats could not come close to the sinking ship because no one knew the moment when she might founder and suck down anything that chanced to be in the vicinity. The officer in charge of the rescuing party asked Nutman for a final answer—would he leave his helpless charge and save himself? He would not. The fireman was powerless and paralyzed with fear, making no effort to save himself beyond clinging to the broken bridge.

Having given Capt. Nutman many chances of life, the men in the rescuing boats pulled away reluctantly, and immediately after the Aidar foundered. Long afterwards the Staffordshire's lifeboat returned to the spot, the crew perhaps animated by vague hopes, and the commanding officer was amazed to behold Capt. Nutman clinging to the bottom of an overturned boat, still grasping the now unconscious fireman. Another half hour elapsed before the boat could approach, but eventually this hero and his precious charge were rescued.

OTHER BRAVE RESCUES.

It is doubtful if any rescue could be more brave than the one just described, but the act for which Wm. Dodd, under manager of the Diglake collieries in Staffordshire, received an Albert medal certainly approaches it. On Jan. 14, 1895, the mine was flooded with water from the old workings of an adjoining mine while 240 men were at work in various parts of the pit. Descending twice, the second time after he had recovered consciousness after exhaustion from his first efforts, he battled against ice-cold torrents several hundreds of feet below the surface, with the result that his splendid bravery saved more than thirty miners.