

THE HOME.

HOMELY MAKE-OVERS.

It has probably never occurred to many mothers that underdrawers may be made for small children from the tops of their own long woolen hose after the feet have been worn past further repair; yet such is the case. Cut off the feet and hem around the bottom. Rip the hem at the top; and cut down each leg far enough to make the waist, and sew together as one would sew up any drawers; put a band on to attach them to the waist and one soon has a warm pair of underdrawers at no expense.

There is usually a space between the knee and ankle of a man's drawers that are good, even after the remainder of the garment is worn out. If these are ripped apart and four seams together one may make a warm serviceable skirt of them for a small child, as the ribbing fits snug and close about the body. The bottom of skirt may be faced on right side with a bit of bright wool goods to add to the warmth and appearance. Perhaps enough good material may be found left to piece up a warm waist to the skirt if the little skirts are thin. The lower parts of worn out undershirts also make good serviceable skirts for the little people. Good every day waists may be made for the small boy from the lower parts of the father's outside woolen shirts, after shoulders and sleeves are worn past further repair. If the fronts, the deep sailor collar and the cuffs to these little waists are finished with a row of fancy stitches in bright milder embroidery silk, which will launder as well as the waist, it adds much to their appearance, and but a trifle to the cost. When buying men's wear it is well to have in mind possible makeovers, and get something that will be suitable for the double purpose. The lower parts of the mother's underdresses will make soft warm shirts for the little ones, and it is often possible to supply one or two, maybe more, little folks with warm underwear from what would at first seem worn out material. If thin places are found in the material that is used, stitch a piece of the same under it, stitch all around on the machine, then stitch back and forth across it a few times; and, while patching a garment before it is worn, may seem a novel procedure, it will save much time and trouble by and by, for a place so strengthened will wear as long as the best parts of the same garment.

THE HANDY PANTRY.

If we begin with the pantry, we shall see how much of a woman's capital, time and strength, is saved by having things convenient. If the spices are herbs, powdered, are kept in cans, a spice-box never holds the variety needed, have them legibly marked and when the papers on the shelf are changed do not alter the position of the boxes. Through habit, one comes to do much mechanically, and if the soda stands in place of the baking powder or the pepper where the cinnamon has been kept, the consequences may be mortifying, though laughable. Every housekeeper of much experience knows that such accidents occur, apparently, at the most inopportune times. Keep the salt in a covered wooden box, or a jar as it should not come in contact with any metal. With spices, tea, coffee, cocoa, or chocolate in cans; raisins, currants, citron, dried fruit, tapioca, sago, cereals, etc., in stone or glass jars, one may feel that a good beginning is being well continued.

CAKE FROSTING AND FILLING.

Delicious frosting can be made with maple syrup. Following are the methods much liked at our home:

Maple frosting with whites of eggs.—Boil as much syrup as will be needed for frosting and filling (about 1/2 pint for an ordinary two-layer cake, more for more layers) until it "hairs;" that is, strings slightly when dripped from the spoon. While the syrup is boiling (don't boil in a tin basin that has turned dark, for it will discolor your frosting) beat stiff the white of an egg—or two if they are small—and when the syrup "hairs," remove it from the fire and beat gradually into it the beaten white. Continue beating till quite stiff, when it will be ready to spread on the cake. This makes a delicious, creamy frosting that melts in the mouth.

Maple Frosting with Cream.—Instead of the white of eggs use a small tablespoonful of cream for the same amount of syrup. First beat the hot syrup till it barely begins to grain, then stir in the tablespoonful of cream. This makes a darker frosting than the preceding, but is excellent. This creamed frosting should be spread upon the cake when but slightly stiff, for it hardens very rapidly, and if you don't begin to spread it soon enough and don't get it on quickly enough, it will be rough. However, if you find that it is hardening too fast for you, stirring in more cream will retard it.

Cocoanut Maple Frosting.—Make either the cream or egg frosting as above, and mix in shredded cocoanut, sprinkling some over the top and sides of the cake. The creamed maple frosting looks especially nice treated in this way.

Filling.—A filling we like very much is made by mixing scraped apple with a portion of the frosting. Scraped pear or peach are also good for filling, but are pretty juicy for soft cake. Chopped raisins and dried pears make excellent filling. The dried pears should be soaked in water for a little while before chopping them up. To dry the pears we slice them very thin and dry usually without cooking in sugar. They are sweet enough without, though cooked in sugar or maple syrup, then dried, they are very rich—takes longer and is much more trouble to dry them this

way, however; chopped hickorynuts and raisins make an excellent filling.

Yellow Frosting.—Moisten a cupful of white sugar with just enough water to prevent burning, while the sugar is melting, and boil till it boils up thoroughly all over the surface. Previously beat up two whole eggs till not stringy, and when the sugar is done, beat the eggs into the sugar till the mixture gets moderately stiff, when it is ready to be spread on the cake. Flavor with a few drops of any desired flavoring, white beating, Maple syrup instead of white sugar for this frosting also makes an excellent and very rich frosting.

Frosting Without Boiling.—To make a good uncooked frosting that will not be sandy with sugar, and will not crumble easily, merely beat the whites of the eggs to a foam, then beat in confectioners' sugar till the frosting gets stiff enough to spread without running off the cake in a hurry. Yellow frosting can be made in this way, too, by beating the whites to a foam, then adding a part of the beaten yolks after a part of the sugar has been beaten in.

A COMFORTABLE LOUNGE.

Every bedroom should, if possible, contain a couch, if it be only of wicker, and especially is one indispensable in the room of a guest, who frequently longs for a short nap, but refrains from taking one in the fear of disturbing a beautifully made or decorated bed. Great furnishings, by the way, should not be so fine as to be over-powering. If the room be small, and there is no other place for a couch it could be set at the foot of the bed, where, if supplied with castors, it may easily be moved when necessary.

One suitable for use in a bedroom may be contrived with very little trouble, and it is astonishing what treasures the attic will afford.

I have a sofa in mine which was so unsightly as to be absolutely useless. It was one of the old-fashioned sort, with a carved back: not by any means an article of graceful shape and design, but a thoroughly pebbled, uncomfortable piece of furniture. The back was unscrewed and taken off, the soiled cover removed, and at a small cost new springs and a fresh cover of white cotton made it ready for a pretty spread and pillows, which transformed it completely. This spread of sateen in blue and white matched the hangings of the room, and it was made by sewing a deep fringe gathered on a cord to a piece of the material of a suitable size to cover the sofa. This particular fringe, by the way was composed of small pieces pinned together, and as it was quite full the gathers concealed the seams very effectively. When finished, two large pillows covered with the same material as the spread were added, the result being a luxurious resting place on which one might while the weary hours away.

THE OLDEST TOY.

The most primitive toy is the doll. It dates back to prehistoric times, and is found in every part of the world. This one would naturally expect to find. A child, seeing its mother nursing another young child, would imitate the example with an improvised doll. Toy weapons, again, are older than history. Many of the other toys at present in use date from the earliest times of which we have any record. In the tombs of the ancient Egyptians, along with painted dolls, having movable limbs, have been found, marbles, leather-covered balls, elastic balls, and marionettes moved by strings. Ancient Greek tombs furnish clay dolls, toys, horses, and wooden carts and ships. In the Louvre there are some Græco-Roman dolls of terra-cotta, with movable joints fastened by wires. Greek babies had rattles, (plataje). Greek boys played with Rome (Vergil-Aen.; bk. vii.) Horace speaks of children trundling hoops, playing odd and even with nuts, etc.

WHICH IS THE BOILED EGG?

When an egg hard; when quite cold place it among a number of other eggs, and ask your friends to tell you which is the boiled one. This they will, of course, be unable to do from appearance, merely. There is, however, a way of doing so without holding them up to the light, and that is by spinning them. Those that are unboiled and semi-liquid inside will spin with a sort of waddling motion, while the boiled egg will spin like a top, and will even "go to sleep."

MR. GRATEBAR TO PHILIP.

"All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," Philip, said Mr. Gratebar, "but all play and no work makes him a mighty sight duller. There is nothing like constant occupation to sharpen the wits—there is little danger that you will keep your face too long at the grindstone. Few men die of overwork, Philip, stagnation fills graveyards."

MOVING THE WELL.

A family who have recently taken in to their employ a rosy-cheeked Irish maid-of-all-work, say that her blunders cause them amusement enough to compensate for any trouble they may entail.

One day the man of the house stated in Bridget's hearing that he intended to have a wood-house built on a piece of ground which at that time enclosed a well.

And sure sorr, said the inquiring Bridget, will you be movin' the well to a more convenient spot when the wood house is built.

A smile crossed her employer's face, and instantly Bridget saw that she had made a mistake of some sort.

"It's meself that's a fool, I'm thinkin'," she said, hastily, bound to retrieve herself, "av course when the well was moved every drop of water would run out av it!"

SJUL BOOMING IN INDIA.

SALVATION ARMY WORK AMONG THE NATIVE HINDOOS.

Boon Marches and Temple Breaking Described by Major Deva Sundrum, a Picturesque Convert Now in New York—Methods of Work Among Low Caste Natives in the Jungle.

Deva Sundrum, a native East Indian, who is a Major in the Salvation Army, is now in New York, having gone there to consult the Commander and Consul Booth-Tucker about the work of the Army in India. He speaks English fluently, and is a picturesque figure in his native dress, with the scarlet coat of the Army. He is accompanied by Ensign Gunasekara, also a Hindoo.

"I was converted in 1884," he said to a reporter, when asked to tell about his work. "Previous to that I was in the Government employ as a surveyor, and received £13 a month for my services. After nine years the Government transferred me to Borneo. I stayed there two or three years, and went back on a furlough to Madras to see my father. When I got there the Salvation Army officers were holding meetings day and night. My head was in great confusion about these people (striking himself dramatically on the forehead)—doubt, I think you call it—and before I would go to a meeting I had conversation with several of them. Before I would go to a meeting I had conversation with several of them. What do you think? At the very first meeting I got saved, and that very week attended a holiness meeting conducted by Commander Booth-Tucker. He spoke deeply about my country's difficulty. Then I saw that India was

PERISHING, DYING.

So I resigned my Government office to work with the Army. Then came terrible persecution from my own family. I always gave my father £20 each month, so he took me three times before a Magistrate. The charge was that I was responsible for the family debts. It was very hard. I was just a married couple—is that what you say?—just had taken a wife, you know, and her family took her away and kept her for a whole year. Oh, such a lot of burdens and difficulties came; but I determined to bear the cross, so now I've been nearly thirteen years in the Army.

"The first eight years I spent in town work and among the high-caste natives. That was very difficult, just as it is here among your high caste. There was a very great difficulty in my own soul because of no proper victory. The devil tempted me much. I ran away from him. I went to the depth of the jungle, right out into the forests, where only wild beasts lived. Do you see my bed in the corner pointing to a strip of carpet done up in a shawl strap. I took that very bed with me and threw it on the ground, I prostrated myself and fasted and prayed for six days and nights. During the day some of the low-caste Hindoos came into the forest to cut wood and would ask me what I was doing there. I explained my idea, and they were surprised. At the end of the sixth day I felt that I was directed to start the work among the low-caste Hindoos. I pioneered alone. I went from village to village. I dressed like the low castes and worked in the fields with them—was

ONE WITH THEM.

As we worked I opened my heart and took away all their fear. Then I told the Army to get to work. We started a boom march, and in three weeks' time had 7,000 soldiers. We have five boom marches every year now, and I always pioneer for them."

"What is a boom march?" asked the reporter.

"A boom march is lovely," answered Major Deva Sundrum, growing excited at the very thought of one. "We have a vast continent to deal with, but we are learning where and how to attack, and by whom these attacks must be made. The lower classes have been oppressed for ages, and their condition verges closely on slavery in its relation to the higher castes. We want to reach these oppressed ones, so we pioneer a given district for a few weeks; experienced sappers and miners deal with the villagers, treat with the rulers of each community and make them willing to accept our teaching. Then a large party is organized of from 40 to 100 officers and cadets, living in rough huts and camping in the open. With drums beating, horns blowing, and colors flying, they attack village after village, summoning all to surrender in the name of King Jesus. Sometimes a whole village comes over, and kneeling down, prays for pardon and forgiveness, and at the same time gives up demon worship and idolatry. Quarters are secured in the village, and land, if possible, also, for a school or hall. Officers are left in charge of the new converts, and the march rolls on. I have pioneered over 3,000 miles of the forest in the jungle, walking every step of the way, and have pioneered more than 4,000 miles in another part of India."

"The special work of the Army in India is temple breaking, soul booming, and festival meetings. What is temple breaking? I'll tell you. I broke my first one in 1894, and since then have broken thirty-nine others. That year we entered a village about five miles from Nagarcoil. Its people were both Hindoos and Christians, mostly the former.

WE DROVE THE DEVIL.

attacked the pagoda, and the chief man, the devil dancer, sought the true Saviour, and as a token of respect for his new Master, gave me a stick with which the devil dancer used to dance when possessed of the devil.

"This stick is jet black, and was in the temple more than fifty years. I

was very proud of it, and sent it to England. An English lady paid \$5 for it, and requested that a small Salvation Army barracks be opened at the place from which it was taken. This was done. The mission agents do not touch these people. They are afraid to approach the temple. We would be killed were it not for our uniform. That carries us anywhere.

"Our festival meetings are held in an immense open plain. Officers and soldiers come from great distances to them, and so do the unconverted. We take everything by storm."

Major Deva Sundrum will sail for England some time in January. He is about 5 feet 9 inches in height, and 40 years of age. He is very dark, and has long, fine jet black hair, which he generally wears twisted on the nape of his neck, after the style of the women in the Salvation Army. His eyes are large and black, showing a good deal of white, and he has fine teeth. He wears yards of thin cream cotton cloth very like cheese cloth of fine quality, draped from his waist and about his legs. A turban of the same cloth, with the insignia of the Army, is ever on his head, except when he prays, and he wears a scarlet coat with Army trimmings, long stockings, knitted of bright red wool, and heavy shoes.

GENERAL ARBITRATION.

The Treaty Between Great Britain and the United States.

A despatch from Washington, D.C., says:—As already outlined, the life of the general arbitration treaty between Great Britain and the United States is presently made very short—only five years—but this is with the expectation of a renewal for a longer period, if it shall prove to work well, and also to afford easy opportunity for adoption. Its purpose is to dispose peaceably and honorably of such questions as arise between the United States and Great Britain, and will not admit of adjustment by the ordinary methods of diplomacy, excluding questions involving the national honour. The personnel of the Arbitration Commission is to be of the highest character; men selected from the judiciary of each country, in equal numbers, three from each side, and provision is made against a failure through a tie vote, by the bringing in of an umpire. Neither the Venezuelan question nor the Behring Sea issue are to go before this commission, but its first work probably would be to close up the Alaskan boundary controversy, and some other open issues of minor interest, but real importance.

Unlike the Venezuelan boundary arrangement this treaty must go to our Senate for ratification, and the House of Representatives also will have opportunity indirectly to pass upon it, for legislation will be necessary to provide the means to maintain the commission. The fate of the project in Congress can only be conjectured at present. Some fear is expressed that the issue made by Secretary Olney over the Cuban question may somewhat jeopardize this crowning piece of diplomacy by inviting criticism and the display of ill-feeling on the part of some Senators, who feel that their prerogatives have been invaded. It is also known that other Senators favourable to the general project of arbitration have their own peculiar ideas about the means which they may attempt to carry out by amendments to the treaty. If these are of small importance, they may be accepted by the Executive and by the British Government, but the whole great project of a general arbitration treaty is one which diplomats feel must be entered upon with the greatest caution, and the agreement so far has been effected with such difficulty that any considerable departure from the scheme proposed by the amendments would probably lead to the failure of the treaty, and thus give a formidable set-back to the whole movement.

TALKING DOGS.

A Washington Pug Which Can Say One Word.

Perhaps the most intelligent dog in Washington is owned by Mr. Kotzebue, the Russian Minister. It is an Esquimaou, a descendant of the famous dogs owned by Lieut. Peary. It got a fall last spring which resulted in a slight lameness. The dog was placed on a soft mattress and tended with the most loving care.

The injury was such a small affair that the physician began to wonder at the slowness of the recovery. After a few days he could find nothing wrong with the creature, who had a good appetite and was apparently well, only he refused to rise from his couch and walk. At last the physician made up his mind that it was a deliberate case of sham, that the dog enjoyed the care he got as an invalid so much that he was loath to go back to his old life. So, one day, his doctor put him on his feet, spoke sharply to him and congratulated himself on the conclusion he had come to when he saw the animal walk off with the utmost ease.

Washington is the home of another wonder in the shape of a dog. It is a pug owned by Miss Ellis. One is almost afraid to announce what its chief accomplishment is, but impossible as it may sound, the actual fact is the dog is a talking dog, and says "Mamma" with as much distinctness as talking dolls display. It is a marvel of a dog, wise beyond belief, and, although it does not say anything but "Mamma," it looks as though it could say almost anything if it had a mind to.

Care of the teeth of dogs forms an important branch of medical treatment. Many dogs have their teeth cleaned regularly, and of course, nearly all old dogs have their teeth extracted. In a few cases the teeth have been filled, but this industry is not carried on with dogs to the extent that it is with horses.

WHAT UNCLE SAM IS AT.

ITEMS OF INTEREST ABOUT THE BUSY YANKEE.

Neighborly Interest in His Doings—Matters of Moment and Birth Gathered from His Daily Record.

The only woman who has ever asked for an office in Daviess county, Mo., is seeking a postmastership.

An unmarried woman has made a reputation in Gage county, Neb., as a corn husker, doing seventy-five bushels a day.

Horses have become so cheap in some parts of Missouri that a two-year-old colt of good pedigree sold at auction at Rich Hill for \$22.

The keen political discrimination of a Todd county, Ky., turkey was learned after its death when a McKinley button was found in its crop.

Pending the adoption of a plan to dispose of impounded and unredeemed dogs at Macon, Ga., by electricity, an experiment has been made upon rats. It was successful.

Pumpkin pie for the season is assured in Mercer county, Ky., where a sixty-four-pound pumpkin was grown. Its circumference was five feet and eight inches.

For stealing from a deaf mute carpenter some of the tools of his trade, another deaf mute, against whom three others of the silent people testified, has been sent to jail at Kansas City.

Instead of his usual Sunday evening sermons, a clergyman of Chapman, Kan., is reading to his congregation a continued story, entitled, "Jake, the Merchant," which he wrote himself.

After a long and luxurious yawn one morning a Westwood, Mich., man couldn't close his mouth. His jaw had been dislocated. He was so frightened that since it was set he doesn't dare even to smile broadly.

In a drove of eighty-five hogs in Daviess county, Mo., the average weight of which is between 800 and 900 pounds, there is one which measures almost eight feet both in length and girth and weight nearly 1,200 pounds.

Beef cattle sold from the counties of Harney and Maheur, Or., this season represent a value of more than \$1,000,000, or more than \$12, each for all the men, women, and children in the counties. The sales were more than 40,000 head.

With pride in her every look a Fossil, Or., woman who had shot a coyote which her husband had missed, after discovering it trying to steal his turkeys, carried the scalp to the newspaper office and applied it on her husband's subscription.

Suit to recover \$1,999 has been begun against a packing company at Kansas City by a former employee, who worked for three years in the boiler room, and becoming overheated one day was sent into the refrigerating room to cool off, and afterward suffering a long illness. He asserts that the illness was caused by the sudden great change of temperature.

An aquatic creature, supposed at first to be a whale twenty-two feet long, eight feet wide, and six feet high, was found partly buried in the sand at Anastasia Beach, Fla., by a couple of St. Augustine cyclists and was pronounced by the President of the local scientific society to be an octopus. The missing tentacles might have been worn away by the sand and waves, or eaten by sharks.

Land well stocked with the saw palmetto, which was long looked upon as hardly worth desiring in Florida, can be bought in the Keuka region at \$1.25 an acre, and the plant is likely to prove yet one of the most valuable products of the State. Coffee made from the pits is said to have a fine flavor and to be wholesome. A cordial manufactured from it is said to make a spirit-broken sick man look upon life with new courage. And the roots are well stored with tannin.

MACHINE GUNS.

A New Automatic Terror—Four Nine Pound Shot in Three Seconds—The Gunner Shot In.

A new machine-gun, which, it is confidently expected, will cause more damage to life and property than any other quick-firing piece hitherto known to science, was introduced to public notice, and its construction and capabilities explained, the other day, by Mr. Hiram S. Maxim in a lecture at the Royal United Service Institution, at London. A sample of the gun was on view in an ante-room of the institution. It was pointed out that this was the first fully automatic gun above 1 1/2 inches which had been an unqualified success. With this new terror, a gunner who knows his business can deal out four nine-pound shots in a shade under three seconds, without even so much as taking his eye off the object to be attended to or his finger off the trigger. The danger of death to the gunner by the explosion of a cartridge while the breech is open has been rendered impossible by the application of a simple device which prevents the gun being opened until the charge has been fired. This may seem a slight matter, but Mr. Maxim holds that nowadays, when the full metal pressure of the scientist is being brought to bear on the invention of new machines for the rapid annihilation of an enemy, the risk of accident to those who work the complicated mechanism is laid by the lecturer upon the feature of the new gun. For the rest, the paper dealt with automatic guns from the date of the speaker's first attempt (and failure) up to the present era of perfected mechanism. Numerous illustrations served to render the lecture still more interesting.

HIS HARD LINES.

Poor man! exclaimed the prison missionary, to whom the sheriff's great life seems to have been one unbroken series of misfortunes.

Yes, sighed the fallen one, I have had many trials.