

HOUSEHOLD.

COLD CREAM.

This is an invaluable recipe furnished the writer by a lady who prepares it for her own use, and applied at night will keep the face free from those abominable marks called flesh-worms, and from pimples and sunburn. It will also prevent the nose from being greasy or shiny, a disfigurement common to many women. One and a half ounces of white wax, four ounces of sweet almond oil, six drams of rose-water, and five drops of oil of rose. Melt wax and oil of almond in a bowl; then add rose-water and stir well with a wooden spoon. The longer it is stirred the whiter it will get and the more creamy. Finally add the oil of rose, and then pack away in small jars or pots. This will be found the equal of any cold cream preparation ever invented.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Boiling in strong soapsuds will clean up an old lampburner and make it as good as new.

Oil-cloths can be brightened, after washing, by rubbing hard with a flannel moistened with kerosene.

Sinks, both iron and zinc, can be kept free from any coating of grease by rubbing them with kerosene occasionally.

Avoid taking cold by not sitting or standing still out of doors in windy or exposed places, especially after severe exercise.

White spots on varnished furniture are removed by rubbing them with a soft cloth or sponge dipped in a camphor solution.

Broiled steak, etc., should be served as soon as cooked, if you would have them at their best. A hot platter with a cover to receive the steak or chops is desirable.

Ox-gall added to the water in which black hose or other black goods are washed, will keep them from fading. Those and colored calicoes liable to fade dry in the shade.

SALT AND MILK.—Remember that salt will curdle milk; therefore in preparing dishes where much milk is used, do not add the salt until just before removing them from the fire.

A rusty wash boiler, if not leaky, can have its usefulness prolonged by making a bag of coarse white muslin and scalding the clothes in it to save them from rust.

Any gold jewelry that an immersion in water will not injure, can be beautifully cleaned by shaking it well in a bottle nearly full of warm soapsuds, to which a little prepared chalk has been added, and after rinsing in clear, cold water and wiping it dry.

In canning fruit, if there is juice left over, put it in self-sealing bottles and use it in preparing sauces for desserts. Juice of strawberries, raspberries, and the like, makes a very pleasant drink in water, to which sweetening can be added or not as desired.

A looking glass is nicely cleaned by rubbing well with moistened paper. When all spots are removed, use dry soft paper for polishing it. Another method is to add enough ammonia to the water in which both windows and looking glasses are washed, to make it feel slippery; rub dry with paper.

To give bed-clothing and under-clothing a thorough sunning and airing is the next best thing to washing it. It also sweetens it. A second suit of under-clothing should be on hand for afternoon wear, and what is taken off be thoroughly aired and dried before hanging in the closet.

To beautify the nails, hold them for fifteen minutes in warm water, then, while flexible, cut carefully. Polish them with a piece of chamois skin dipped in a mixture of oil and finely powdered pumice stone. Push down the skin at the lower part of the nails to show delicate half-moons of white.

Odors from boiling cabbage, onions, ham, etc., can be prevented by using a kettle with an open pipe running down the side from a grooved top. This pipe discharges these odors into the fire, and they are thus carried into the chimney. The kettle has a rounded, very close fitting cover that sets into the grooved top so closely that no steam can escape into the room.

Ice will not melt so quickly if the pitcher is covered with some non-conducting covering. A thick paper bag, slipped over will do some good, but it would be better to make it fit better, and line it with raw cotton. Take a piece long enough to go around the pitcher, fit a round piece into the top. Sew them together, and make a cover of chintz the same size to go over all. Sew handles of braid to each side to lift it by.

When washing glass, slip it into the water so that the inside and the outside touch the water at once. The reason glasses break is because the side which is first put in expands more quickly than the other. Wash glasses in hot soapy water and wipe on a dry linen towel, to make them glossy. New silver should not be washed in soapy water as it dims its brightness, but old silver that has always been washed thus, may look better when washed in hot soapy water and rubbed with a dry cloth. Knife handles should never be wet, nor should the blades be put in hot water as they may expand, cracking the handles.

Dust will penetrate into closets, no matter how careful one may be, and if it once penetrates a dress it is impossible to get it all out, besides necessitating frequent brushing which wears out silk. A good plan is to make a bag of an old sheet, starching it first that it may stand out with the dress. Make it long enough to cover the dress completely, run a hem at each end wide enough to run a tape in. Button the belt of the dress and hang it over a "coat hanger." Have a loop on the hanger to come up through the bag, the loops on the bag too, to hang it by when the skirt is out. Draw it up at top and bottom, and you may bid the dust defiance, so far as the dress is concerned.

Take equal parts of flour, grated cheese and butter; season with pepper and salt, and mix with one or two eggs. Bake in small cake or patty pans. You will call them nice cheese cakes.

To clean black cashmeres and other all-wool goods, soak them over night in strong borax water. In the morning hang them to dry without rinsing or wringing, and while damp, press smoothly on the wrong side.

RECIPE FOR ROOT BEER.—Take 1 ounce each of sassafras root, allspice, yellow-dock root and wintergreen; 1/2 ounce each of wild cherry bark and coriander seed; 1/4 ounce hops and 3 quarts of molasses. Pour sufficient boiling water on the whole, let stand twenty-four hours; filter the liquor, add half a pint of yeast, put in a tight cask or in bottles and let stand twenty-four hours. Then use.

Why He Was Saved.

In February, 1861, a terrible gale raged along the coast of England. Eighty-one vessels were wrecked in Hartlepool Bay, while the storm was at its height, the *Rising Sun*, a stout brig, struck on Longear Rock, a reef extending a mile from one side of the bay. The vessel sunk, leaving only her two topmasts above the foaming waves. The life-boats were away rescuing wrecked crews.

The only means of saving the men clinging to the swaying masts was the rocket apparatus. Before it could be adjusted one mast fell. Just as the rocket bearing the life-line went booming out of the mortar the other mast toppled over.

Sadly the rocket-men began to draw in their line, when suddenly they felt that something was attached to it, and in a few minutes hauled on to the beach the apparently lifeless body of a sailor-boy. Trained and tender hands worked, and in a short time he became conscious.

With wild amazement he gazed around on the crowd of kind and sympathizing friends. They raised him to his feet. He looked up into the weather-beaten face of the old fisherman near him, and asked, "Where am I?"

"Thou art here, my lad."

"Where's the cap'n?"

"Drowned, my lad."

"The mate, then?"

"He's drowned, too."

"The crew?"

"They are all lost, my lad; thou art the only one saved."

The boy stood, overwhelmed, for a few moments; then he raised both his hands, and cried, in a loud voice, "My mother's been praying for me! My mother's been praying for me!"

And then he dropped on his knees on the wet sand, and hid his sobbing face in his hands.

The Courtship of Quails.

I once had the pleasure of witnessing the courting and pairing off of a flock of quails. I was sitting so I could look down on a flat rock that stood up higher than the tops of a thicket of brush and weeds surrounding it near a small brook. I first heard the chatter of quails in the brush. After holding quite an animated confab one hen quail flew up on the rock and was followed by five or six males. Miss Quail strutted around a few times, apparently not noticing her admirers, assuming coquettish attitudes, and putting on more style and affection than a human duress of the present day. She finally took a conspicuous position and appeared to devote her entire attention to herself. Her admirers, in the meantime, stood around and looked at each other with defiant eye and mien. They then began to strut around, spread and trail their wings, try graceful walks and poses, each striving to outdo the others. The more they tried to make a favorable impression before Miss Quail the more excited they became, until they went to fighting.

They fought hard and furiously, until at last one of them, by a fortunate pass, knocked his antagonist off the rock. He did not stop, but picked into the first one he came to, and then kept knocking one off at a time until there was but one left. The victor took one comprehensive look over the field of battle, struck up a rattling chatter and walked up to Miss Quail, strutted around a few times with self-importance enough for a United States Senator, keeping up a rattling string of—"well, blarney, I suppose. Finally they rubbed heads and bills together, walked to the north side of the rock, rose simultaneously and flew away, lighting together, ready for housekeeping. Another hen then came upon the rock with three or four males and went through the same form of courtship, and to the victor—the reward of a wife. So it went on until all the hens were mated and gone.—*San Diego Sun.*

Language of the Hand.

Hands indicate character. A thin, skinny, narrow palm expresses feebleness of intellect, as well as a want of energy or moral force. A hollow, deep palm indicates misfortune, loss of money, misery and failure in enterprises. Shakespeare tells of an "itching palm;" that indicates that the blood is out of order, with a covetous disposition. A stiff, hard hand, that opens with difficulty to its full extent, betrays stubbornness of character and reluctance to open to calls of charity. Supple elastic fingers, on the other hand, while manifesting a tendency to extravagance, nevertheless indicate talent and sagacity. Those who have short fingers are quick, impulsive, and act usually on the spur of the moment, more readily than those who have long fingers. Short, thick fingers, nearly all of the same length, indicate a callous, cruel character, and betray clumsy unhandiness in manipulation, as well as a constant tendency to falsehood and the defamations of the character of others. Long, slender fingers betray a peevish, worrying disposition. Young women ought to choose a husband whose hands are naturally red; and hands made red with difficulty should be carefully avoided. A man with dark colored hands is inclined to biliousness and melancholy. As an indicator of character, however, the thumb is the "boss." A small, ill-formed, feebly-balanced thumb betrays a vacillating disposition. Small thumbed persons are governed by the heart, while the large thumbed are swayed by the intellect. Independent, self-reliant people have large thumbs, or ought to have them, from the point of view of the chirosofist, while pliant, dependent, and easily governed natures may be known by the smallness of that digit, always remembering that the feature must be judged in proportion to the size of the hand and the fingers on the same hand.

He Had Paid Once.

A few days ago there was a small civil suit tried before the Justice of Pizen Switch—the same man who decided the anti-trait law unconstitutional. It is always customary in such cases to have the winner of the suit pay the fees. The plaintiff, a big raw-boned rancher, was called on to pay the jury of six \$2 apiece. He immediately stood up in court and queried:

"Pay the jury \$12?"

"Yes," replied the court.

"Look a'here, judge, ain't this sorter piling it on thick? I just paid four of them boddlers \$20 apiece. Do you want the earth summer followed?"

The dead silence in the room was broken by a slight snicker from the defendant's attorney, and then the spectators went out to snort. The bailiff called everybody to order and the jury filed out without asking for fees.—[Carson Appeal.]

SCISSORS AND PEN.

An insurance paper has been collecting the statistics of suicide in the United States. Among the most singular and perplexing things is the fact that "the classification by condition shows a greater proportion of suicides among the married than the unmarried which is contrary to the accepted theory.

A recent report of the Pasteur Institute state that out of 2,682 patients who have been treated 2,264 had been bitten by animals which were undoubtedly mad, and that out of these 2,164 only 29 or 1.34 per cent. died. Before the discovery of this method the lowest death rate for persons affected by rabies was 16 per cent., and the secretary of the institute claims that 317 persons owe their lives entirely to Pasteur's discovery.

The male wasp, the naturalist tells us, never stings. But so long as he and his wife dress exactly alike this bit of knowledge avails nothing to the careless men, who does not know it is the lady who is approaching him until it be that she smiteth him with her bustle. What humanity demands of science in the case of the wasps is the invention of some prompter method of distinguishing between Monsieur and Madamwazie at 4) yards.

Paper doors are coming into use, and, as compared with those of wood, possess the advantage of neither shrinking, swelling, cracking or warping. It is formed of two thick paper boards, stamped and moulded into panels, and glazed together with glue and potash, and then rolled through heavy rollers. After being covered with a waterproof coating and then with one that is fire-proof, it is painted, varnished and hung in the usual way.

A snail's pace need not be used any longer as a term more or less indefinite. By an interesting experiment at the Terra Haute Polytechnic the other day it was ascertained exactly and reduced to figures, which may now be quoted by persons who favor the use of exact terms. A half dozen of the mollusks were permitted to crawl between two points ten feet apart, and the average pace was ascertained. From this it was easy enough to calculate that one snail can crawl a mile in just fourteen days.

Amy Avant, a colored woman on the plantation of Major James Reeves, in Marion County, S. C., died a few days ago, of measles, at the advanced age of 122 years. She was remarkably well preserved, and retained all her faculties up to the time of her fatal illness, previous to which she claimed that she had never taken a dose of medicine. During the last cotton picking season, she took her place regularly in the cotton fields and always performed a good day's work. Her age is well attested by family records.

The Poor of Naples.

The stranger is unpleasantly impressed by the crowded condition of the masses. A whole family, consisting of parents and sometimes from five to ten children, live in one room. The beds are rolled up in the daytime, and when unrolled at night fill the room. A marvellous degree of economy is practiced even in the smallest details. Coffee grounds from the wealthy man's kitchen are dried and resold to the poor. In a similar way oil is twice and sometimes three times used, the drippings of each successive frying being gathered from the pan and sold to the poor. Old shoes, hats, clothes, candle-ends, dried coffee-grounds, "second-hand" oil, and a hundred other things are spread out upon the broad plaza (or square) of a town—and it is here, to a great extent, that the Italian workman procures his supplies. A laborer's suit, consisting of breeches, jacket, vest, shirt, socks, necktie, and shoes, cost anywhere from \$4.45 up. His food is as simple as his clothing and his habitation. In the morning a great loaf of black bread is passed around; each member of the family gouges out a piece of the inside, until finally only the hard crust is left. At noon the crust is eaten, softened by a little wine. A plate of macaroni, costing two or three cents, finishes the bill of fare. At night more macaroni, then the beds or pallets are spread and the family goes to sleep, to get up and go through the same routine on the morrow. The rent of one of these rooms is from ten to twelve dollars a year; the cost of the wine, macaroni and bread is about ten cents per day for each person; but even at this cheap rate of living, the workman who has a family often finds it difficult to make both ends meet. A skilled bricklayer only averages fifty cents a day.

His "Charraghe."

A wholesale firm in Chicago received the following postal from one of its out-of-town patrons: "Please too lett mee no the Prise of A goodde charraghe." No member of the firm, and not one of its employes from the office-boy up to the manager, could tell what was meant by a "charraghe," and Webster and Worcester were also ignorant regarding the meaning of the word.

Finally, the postal was returned to the sender, with a polite letter stating that the meaning of the word "charraghe" was unknown to the firm, and asking for its definition.

In reply came the following lucid explanation:

"DERE CIRS.—the postal was rote by mi Clurk, me Being Buzzy, an' i Reegrit that His ignorantz shoold make you so much Trubel. He is a pore boy, hoo you must eggucuse on account of his not Having went to skool but little; therefore He speled the word rong.

"It is 'Karridge' instid of 'charraghe.' Pleze eggucuse his ignorantz, an lett me no wat a 2 sets, 2 hoarse, kovered Family karridge will cost."

The "ignorantz" of the clerk was excused, and the price of the "karridge" sent.

Food Adulteration.

The New York *World* has recently turned its attention to the evil of food adulteration. Out of one hundred samples of tea collected of retail dealers, twelve were found to be adulterated, for the most part, with foreign leaves, known as *lie tea*. Of one hundred samples of ground coffee, twenty eight were mixed with chicory and peas. Of one hundred samples of sugar, only two were found to be adulterated with glucose starch, so that of the three hundred samples tested, forty-two, or an average of fourteen per cent, were found to be impure, enough in all conscience to show the necessity of local legislation, sufficiently severe to effectually put an end to these abominable and thoroughly dishonest practices.

STORIES ABOUT ANIMALS.

A WASP'S WISDOM.

While sitting, one summer day, at the side of the house on a platform which served as a piazza, but was roofed only by the branches of two large trees, something dropped upon my head and into my lap, when I saw a large white bodied spider in the clutches of a small wasp. Hastily brushing these unceremonious visitors on to the floor, I watched to see if the wasp would succeed in flying away with his huge enemy. After a struggle the spider lay quiet, and the wasp ran around, seizing first one part, then, another but finally went away, as I supposed, for help. In about quarter of an hour he returned, still alone, and began trying again, as I thought, to find some place by which he could seize the round body and carry it away. Again he departed without his spider. This time I watched him and saw him disappear at the edge of the lawn, under a pear tree, and, following, found him, after some searching, diligently at work with another wasp enlarging a hole in the ground, having already thrown out quite a little mound of earth. I was surprised, for I did not then know that any kind of wasp lived in the ground.

I returned to the piazza, and soon, when the wasp came back, I was convinced, by more careful watching, that he was measuring each part of the spider's body instead of trying to get hold of it. The antennae seemed to be the organs mostly employed in this operation. When he went home again, I was before him, and saw him meet his co-worker, put his head close to his, and evidently informed him that the doorway was not yet big enough, for they fell busily at work enlarging it. Then more measuring, more digging, until, after three long hours, he returned, this time with his friend, and they carried away their prey and bestowed it in their underground home.

HOW SNAKES CLIMB.

A writer in the Scientific American says:—A few years since I was walking along a broad road in Richmond County, Georgia, when from the opposite side of the road coming directly toward me I saw a "coach-whip," a snake much like the common black snake in form, but in color a very dark brown some two thirds of its length, the other third to the tip of the tail being a light brown, in appearance, from the peculiar markings, much like the lash of a whip. Having nothing with which to kill the snake, I thought to amuse myself by preventing his getting to cover in the "thick" just beyond me; but to turn back would leave him exposed for quite a distance, so, not being in a fighting humor, he made a rush for a water oak which grew just beyond me, but not on a direct line with me, the long branches of which came down to within four or five feet of the ground; then rising until he seemed almost to stand on the end of his tail, he shot up like an arrow through the branches, getting his grip entirely by lateral pressure and not by coiling around the branches as I thought he would do.

A DOG SAVES A TRAIN.

An engineer on the Rock Island Railroad tell this story: "While running along near Joliet I saw a fine big black dog stuck fast under an old farm gate by the side of the track. He was howling piteously, and I stopped my engine and went to his assistance. He was wild with gratitude, licked my hand and wanted to follow me into the cab. Every day after that I would see him sitting beside the track and wagging his tail as my train passed by. Several weeks later the train was running at great speed, being behind time, just at daybreak. The dog stood on the track ahead barking furiously. As we drew near he moved ahead, but continued his antics. I supposed, of course, that he would leave the track, but he did not, and the train ran over him and ground him to pieces. We stopped the train, and were astonished at finding a short distance ahead an obstruction on the track that would surely have derailed the train had we struck it at full speed."

A SYMPATHETIC DOG.

A horse belonging to a Boston gentleman had a troublesome habit of getting the reins under his tail and holding them there tightly. The sinews under the tail were cut, and, when in stable, the tail was strained by a cord passed through a pully in the ceiling over the stable. One morning the cord was found cut and the horse with his tail down as usual. After the stable was closed the stable dog had jumped on the horse's back, and with his teeth out the cord that kept his friend in pain.

AN AGED HORSE.

Harrison Gilbert, of Chili, Ill., has a venerable horse. Horse and man went all through the war without receiving a scratch. The animal is now in his fiftieth year, and is tenderly cared for, living on corn bread and bran mash. He has not a tooth in his head.

Oleomargarine and Butterine.

We learn from a paper published in the report of the Michigan Board of Agriculture for 1886 that in the opinion of eminent medical men oleomargarine, even when made from untainted animal fat, is unwholesome, because it is insoluble and indigestible, and because it may carry the germs of disease or parasites into the human system. As a matter of fact, however, "in the eagerness of the manufacturers to produce the spurious compound cheaply, ingredients enter into it which are detrimental to the last degree to the consumer's health." The fat of animals that die of disease, and tallow, lard and other substances that have become rancid or even putrid, it is said, are largely used. These can be deodorized and brought to such color as may be desired, but their dangerous character cannot be wholly destroyed by any chemical or other process.

The quantity of butterine now made in the United States is very large. One factory in New York makes 50,000 pounds a day, and this sold at from 15 to 22 cents per pound. Butterine is a preparation of fat mixed with butter and churned in butter-milk, so that the combination has the full flavor of butter. In other cases the oleomargarine is churned with milk. Of the product from 25 to 60 pounds in every 100 is butter. Probably little of that quality is made. So completely may even the best judges be deceived, that as Mr. Armour, the great Chicago pork-packer, has proved, an article which in Iowa took the premium as creamery butter was butterine made in his factory.

Law versus Saw.

Sitting in his office was a lawyer—
Standing in the street, a sawyer;
On the lawyer's anxious face
You could read a knotty case,
Needing law;
While the sawyer, rant and grim,
On a rough and knotty limb,
Ran a saw.
Now the sawhorse seemed to me
Like a double X in fee;
And the saw,
Whichever way 'twas thrust,
Must be followed by the dust,
Like the law.

And the log upon the track,
Like a client on the rack,
Played its part—
As the tempered teeth of steel
Made a wound that would not heal,
Through the heart.

And each severed stick that fell,
In its falling seemed to tell,
All too plain,
Of the many severed ties
That in law suits will arise,
Bringing pain.

Then methought the sturdy paw
That was using axe and saw
On the wood,
Held a yielding mine of wealth,
With its honest toil and health
Doing good.

If the chips that strewed the ground,
By some stricken witlow found,
In his need,
Should, by light and warmth, impart
Blessings to her aged heart,
Happy deed.

This conclusion, then, I draw
That no exercise of law—
Twisting indistinct rubber law—
Is as good
As the exercise of paw
On the handle of the saw,
Sawing wood.

Saved by Two Girls.

Whatever may have been the original of the fabled mermaids, "sea-girls," the real mermaids are certainly found in the Sandwich Islands. That a strong man, much less a young woman, can be so much at home in the water as to fight and kill the fiercest native of that element on its own battle-ground, seems incredible, but Senator Fair, of Nevada, tells the following story as an experience of his own:

It happened upon my last visit to the Sandwich Islands. I am a very expert swimmer, and nothing pleases me better than a plunge into the salt water. The temperature of the island is delightful, and I could not resist the temptation to take a swim.

I prepared myself, and plunged in. After I had been in the water for half an hour, I pushed out over and beyond one of the reefs which surround the islands. All at once I realized that something was going on on the shore. There was quite a number of natives there, and they appeared to be greatly excited.

Suddenly two native girls swam out behind me with long knives between their teeth. I looked around, and to my horror I saw a shark making for me with terrific speed.

An instant later the girls had dived, and the shark had nearly stopped. The water around him was red with blood. The girls came to the surface again, and again they dived and plunged their long knives into the monster. At last he lay still on the top of the water quite dead. The natives dragged him ashore, and found that he was one of the largest of his species.

But for the wonderful bravery of these girls I should not be here to-night to tell you this story.

The Telautograph.

Prof. Elisha Gray, of Chicago, whose name is connected with many electrical devices, has just perfected a wonderful invention which he calls the "telautograph," and by means of which a fac-simile of any writing can be transmitted by telegraph. It will enable a Chicago speculator, for instance, to give his New York broker an order to buy or sell stock, the fac-simile of the order being reproduced in the latter city at the same instant that it is written in Chicago. A cheque for money can be sent in the same manner, though it remains to be seen whether the banks or the courts will recognize such paper. No particular kind of pen or pencil need be used in writing the document to be transmitted; in fact, a sharp pointed piece of wood will answer the purpose. Many satisfactory experiments have been made with the machine over a short circuit at Prof. Gray's laboratory, and the tests were of a kind that indicated that the same work could be done over 1,000 miles of wire if necessary. This being so, there can be little doubt that this method of transmitting messages will in time supersede the present system of telegraphic communication. Professor Gray regards the invention as a more important one even than the telephone.

Japan.

The population of the Island Empire is now about 37,000,000, and its public revenue approaches £16,000,000 sterling. Its foreign trade (including exports and imports) amounts to £12,000,000 sterling. There are already three hundred and thirty miles of railway completed, and lines are being steadily pushed forward so as to open out the entire country. The army is effective with peace and war establishments of 82,000 and 100,000 men, respectively, thoroughly trained and equipped in European style; and the navy consists of some twenty-five ships, of all sizes, including seven ironclads. Complete systems of telegraphs, post offices, police, saving banks, goals, universities, schools, colleges, light-houses, meteorological observatories, etc., exist, all on the best European or American models. These immense innovations have been accomplished within the short space of fifteen years, and so economically, that the whole national debt amounts only to about one year's revenue.

Well off Beggars.

In Mexico beggars are called by the expressive name "Pordiosetrans" ("For-God-sakes"). Saturday is universally recognised as "Beggars' day," and on that day they appear on the streets in full force, plying their trade with the greatest industry. If repulsed they will make a stately bow and murmur a benediction upon the head of the person who refuses them. They always have plenty of children and dogs, and lead a very happy, careless life. The plea that you have no small coin is not a valid excuse with these beggars, for they generally have a well-filled bag of silver, which they produce and courteously offer to make change in any desired amount.