About the House.

THE BELLS OF OUR DAY.

List to the merry baker's bell!
What toothsome stories it doth tell,
Of puffs and pies, doughnuts and cake,
That the kind village bakers bake.
Come rain or shine, come heat or cold,
Bakers' viands are quickly sold.
Ting-a-ling-a-ling goes the bell,
Which all the children love so well.

Hark to the jolly butcher's bell!
How loudly its tones rise and swell!
Ringing long at the area door,
Reminding us of sad tales galore;
Of bird and beast for us to eat
Under the common name of meat.
Health, flesh and strength are what they sell
When the stout butchers ring their bell.

Soon the old yeast man's bell we hear;
A scuffle arises as he draws near;
Who shall seize the bowl that waits
And scamper to the roadside gate
To see him pocket the two-cent fare.
Dipping up yeast frothing with air?
Then driving on he merrily sings,
While the old yeast bell rings and rings.

GOOD BREAKFAST DISHES.

It is your home woman with a practical knowledge of the advantages of genuinely good living that knows the first meal of the day should be a nutritious one. The breakfasts should be well cooked, the dishes appetizing and good to look at.

For all well-appointed breakfasts fruit, either raw or cooked in some way, generally begins this repast.

Cooked Apples.—Apples cooked in this manner as a breakfast dish are a welcome variation: For a family of six take eight or ten fine soft tart apples, peel, core, slice and set to soak for at least three hours in sugar moistened with brandy and lemon juice. Drain from this and fry to a clear brown in butter, sprinkle well with powdered sugar and cinnamon; then serve.

Breads.—It is to the southern housekeeper that we owe the cooking of hot breads in all their perfection. To make what is called pone, upon one quart of white corn meal pour just enough boiling water to scald it through. After stirring it thoroughly, let it stand until cold; rub into it a piece of butter about the size of a small egg and add a little salt. Beat two eggs until light, without separating, add them to the meal, mix well, add one pint of sour milk or buttermilk, beat until smooth. Dissolve one teaspoonful of soda in a tablespoonful of boiling water, stir in the mixture, turn into a greased baking pan and bake in a quick oven for thirty-five minutes. This is a fine corn bread for either breakfast or tea.

Eggs.—Baked eggs as a delicacy for the early meal is unsurpassed. In a good hot oven on a stoneware platter melt a large lump of butter. When thoroughly softened shake it all over the dish in order to grease it well. On this hot butter drop six fresh eggs as if for poaching. When the whites are set they are done. This should be served with long and narrow pieces of toast without crust, which will act as a garnish for the edge of the dish.

Brown Hash.—Boston can boast of fine brown bread, and equally so the Boston brown hash, which is an excellent breakfast dish. Chop up the remains of any cold meat, either beef or mutton. At the bottom of the dish put a layer of mashed potatoes (cold ones will answer). Then a layer of meat, then a strata of stale bread crumbs, season with salt and pepper, here and there a few bits of butter, and moisten with a half cup of beef gravy; then another layer of potatoes. Drop a knife into milk and smooth over the top. Bake in a moderate oven until a nice brown. Serve hot.

Cheese Omelette.—For a cheese omelette break twelve eggs into a bowl, beat lightly with a fork for a minute only; add one cupful of milk and two ounces of American or Parmesan cheese grated, season with salt and pepper. Put in a frying pan two ounces of butter, when melted pour in the eggs. When they thicken sufficiently, fold in two and serve immediately. The best made omelette will spoil if kept waiting.

Relishes.—For a breakfast relish cut a veal cutlet into pieces about two inches square and season with salt and pepper. Dip first into beaten eggs and then into chopped mushrooms. Put two tablespoonfuls of butter into a frying pan, and when hot fry the cutlets until brown. Make a brown sauce, pour over the squares and serve.

To serve potatoes for breakfast boil six good-sized potatoes and when cold cut them in round slices of medium thickness. Cut two onions in slices and put them with four ounces of butter in a frying pan. When the onions are colored very slightly add your potatoes, toss them in the pan until they are a good color, drain them, and serve with chopped parsley sprinkled over them.

Another good potato dish can be made in form of a croquette. Boil four potatoes, drain them, press through a sieve and then put them in a saucepan with an ounce of butter, and a pinch of salt, nutmeg and sugar. Heat well, and add an egg. Let your mixture become very cold to form into croquettes. Beat up three eggs, into which dip each croquette, and when covered entirely with egg then roll them into bread crumbs, and fry in oil. When colored a light brown, drain and serve very hot.

Chickens and Kidneys.—For a breakfast a la fourchette, deviled chicken is excellent. Chop a cold cooked chicken very fine. To every pint of this meat allow half a pint of cream, one tablespoonful of chopped parsley, three hard boiled eggs, two tablespoonfuls of bread crumbs, and one quarter nutmeg, grated. Salt and cayenne to taste. Put the butter in a frying pan to melt, then all bread crumbs, chicken and seasoning; stir over the fire until it boils, then add the hard boiled eggs chopped very fine. Fill in paper cases or individual dishes; sprinkle with bread crumbs, bake in a hot oven.

HELPFUL HINTS.

To restore defaced varnish, use linseed oil and turpentine in equal parts, well mixed, and applied in small quantities with a soft piece of cotton. Repeat several times if necessary, then wipe the mixture entirely off.

The addition of a little salt to sweet foods help to bring out the flavor, and acid things are improved by the addition of a little sugar.

Do not allow fresh meat to remain rolled in paper, for the paper will absorb the juices. Remove the paper and lay the meat on an earthen plate.

To clean straw matting, wipe it off with a cloth dampened in warm salt water.

Crackers served with soups and broths are much more appetizing if they are lightly buttered and then placed in the oven and browned.

Vinegar should not be kept in a stone jug. Glass is much better for the purpose. The acid of vinegar affects the glazing of stone ware.

A small hammock to be swung just over a baby's bath-tub is the idea of a mother whose infant was afraid of the water. In this way it can be sponged as thoroughly while lying down as if its little life were frightened out of it by the sudden plunge.

If you have butter that is not entirely sweet, put it in a porcelain dish with a little salt and a tiny piece of soda, place over a fire, and bring to a boil. Turn it into a stone jar and set in a cool place. The butter will be found perfectly sweet and not too salt for cooking. The impurities will settle to the bottom of the jar.

Cream or milk that has turned, but is not soured, may be made sweet by stirring into it one teaspoonful of carbonate of magnesia to each quart of milk.

A plaster composed of the yoke of an egg and salt will often relieve pleurisy, kidney, and neuralgic pains.

The really best method of cleaning mirrors and windows is to rub them with a paste of whiting and water. When this dries, polish with dry chamois and remove the powder. A little alcohol in cold water also gives a brilliant polish. Soapsuds should never be used.

A heavy flatiron, weighing seven or eight pounds, will do better work if it is passed over the clothes once with a firm, steady pressure than a lighter iron hurriedly passed over the clothes two or three times.

Pounded glass mixed with dry corn meal and placed within the reach of rats, it is said, will banish them from the premises.

If every pot and pan, or any utensil used in the cooking of food, be washed as soon as emptied, and while still hot, half the labor and a great deal of time will be saved.

After the juice has been squeezed from lemons the peel may be utilized for cleaning brass. Dip it in common salt and scour with powdered brick dust.

A CHARMING WINDOW.

My plants on a sunny window seat were such a source of interest and pleasure to me last winter the others among us who love flowers may like to hear about it. The first in my row of pots was one of morning glories, in six inch pot of rich earth. In September last I sowed it with seeds soaked with tepid water over night. In about two weeks, up they came, with twenty little grain plants. Two weeks more and they were ready to climb up the string provided for them. When about a foot and a half, they began to bud and blossom, and every morning I had new flowers, lovely and graceful; and the faded ones were cut off lest they go to seed, and take strength from the flowers. Then the vines ran up two feet and stopped growing. Think how easy to make such a window garden as that.

Behind the morning glories was a sultana. A friend sent a cutting; it was rooted in a vial of water in the sun; in ten days a dozen white roots put out from the stem; then the plant was put in a pot of sifted earth. In two weeks it began to bud and to give me lovely cherry-colored flowers, three or four at a time. I was rarely a day without them.—L. S.

BOYS' CLOTHING.

When buying clothes for boys, get the strongest material. It never pays to make up cheap cloth for boys. Always make their clothes yourself. If you don't know how rip up an old suit and learn. Knowledge never comes amiss. Jeans for pants and the best grade of dark blue calico for waists make the best kind of every day suits for "barefoot boys."

Rather buy one forty-cent straw hat than three twenty-cent ones. Line the knees of the boys' stockings with pieces of dress lining. It will save lots of darning if done when they are new. Fasten them to the best band elastics. Stockings will get torn if the supporters do not stretch.

Buy calfskin shoes and keep them oiled.

FOR TEA TABLES.

Yellow linen, heavily embroidered in white, is very fetching as fancy work. It makes strikingly beautiful covers, for instance, for the 5 o'clock tea table, and is especially attractive if on it are blue china cups alone and no other color used.

STAINED HANDS.

If the hands are stained after cutting up vegetables, take a raw potato, cut it in half, and with it rub them before washing them.

EARLY TO RISE.

Early rising is said to be popular among the women of the royal families of Europe. Among some notable examples are cited, the queen regent of Spain, who begins her day's work at 7 o'clock sharp, and the Empress Elizabeth of Austria, who rises at 4 o'clock every morning, winter and summer, and usually takes a long walk immediately afterwards.

A FAMOUS HYMN WRITER.

Miss Fanny Crosby, the hymn writer, is now more than 70 years of age. Though she has been blind almost from birth, she is always happy and cheerful. Among the hymns which she has written are "Safe in the Arms of Jesus" and "Rescue the Perishing."

SELLING THEIR DAUGHTERS.

Japanese Acts of Parliament That Are a Crying Shame Upon Civilization.

The Japanese Government is issuing wholesale legal permits to destitute parents to sell their daughters. It is the sorriest thing of the century, a thing which civilization well may blush for, a shadow which Japan can never live down. Japan is in the grim clutch of famine—a famine so bitter that the Japanese Government has encouraged this general vending of maidens to provide means of sustenance for the heads of suffering families.

A correspondent writes from Tokio, in vindication of the strange system:—"This is the first serious famine ever known in Japan, and the horrors of it cannot be told in language lurid enough to furnish an adequate portrayal. Entire households are living on eight cents a day, and thousands of families are without even that.

"The bodies of those who have died of hunger strew the roads and fields in outlaying districts. Particularly in the Kwang Si province has the famine been fierce.

"The fields, where starving people have grubbed in the ground for roots, look like stretches of ploughed ground. All domestic animals, as well as cats, dogs and rats, have been eaten. Cannibalism even has been restored to in distant provinces.

"This is the state of things which has led to the sale of girls. And such girls! From her earliest childhood the Japanese girl is trained in courteous ceremonials. To be amiable and gracious to those about her she learns before she learns to speak, and, naturally, if this regard for the stranger is instilled in the infant mind, how much greater must be the regard she is taught to show for her parents! Filial affection and devotion is a tradition of the country. The absence of it is the most heinous of crimes.

"This condition breeds in the minds of the poorer classes a feeling of property in the girl, in which she acquiesces, that tempts the parents at times like these, without any evil thought, but solely under the stress of circumstances, to offer the daughter in open market. This open market embraces two avenues of disposal for the girl. She may be sold as a supplementary wife to some Japanese who is already wedded, but wishes to add to his menage, or she may be sold for something infinitely worse.

"It is a case of starvation, suicide, or selling their daughters. The minimum age at which a girl may be sold is twelve years. The prices now have fallen as low as $3. The price, under ordinary conditions, is about $200. Those figures show the awful need that exists.

"The chief condition is that the girl shall remain the purchaser's property for the space of three years. When the agreement is completed the deeds are signed before a police magistrate. If everything is satisfactory the girl's name and a minute description of her are entered in a book, and the book is solely devoted to the record of her life thereafter. In it is kept an account of all the money the purchaser expends on her account, also a full account of the obligations she takes upon herself the rights she has in the matter, and the rules that prevail in the household into which she enters, all of which is signed by the parties interested.

"At the end of the three years the purchaser is bound to release the girl if the money he has expended upon her during that time is repaired to him. The law declares the girl free at the end of six years, whether the money is repaid or not. And by that time the purchaser is generally tired of his purchase anyhow. Ordinarily such sales of human beings are made only among the lower classes, but since the famine began it is not rare for girls of good family to take this means of relieving their parents.

"When a girl is sold to fill the post of supplementary wife she is taken by the purchaser to his own home, where she remains until for one reason or another he pays her to go back to her people. The amount he first pays to her family is looked upon as a sort of retaining fee, and when he gives her up he gives her a sum that is fixed by the magistrate and based upon a charge for services rendered. This sum is generally a comfortable amount according to Japanese ideas, and sufficient to provide for the girl until she can get married."

WOULD BE A GREAT BOON.

Ice Machines for Domestic Use an Urgent Household Necessity.

It is pointed out as a singular phase of the manufacture of ice-making machinery, that while abundant provision has been made for large consumers, requiring an output of say, 50 or 100 tons, no attempt has been seriously made to turn out small outfits, ranging upward from a one-ton capacity. There are many relatively small consumers who would gladly avail themselves of the advantages which a small plant would offer, and who, in the aggregate, would probably amount to considerably more than the limited number of establishments that need and can afford to pay for machines of ponderous size. Few ice machine companies have apparently given this aspect of the matter any particular attention. It is noted that the large manufacturers have been obliged in many cases to cast about for other kinds of business to help them keep their shops at work, and has thus drifted into lines quite foreign to their equipment. The turning of these surplus resources into a branch devoted to a miniature class of the product for which they were designed should commend itself to the trade. Small ice machines are clearly destined to become more and more important accessories to modern conveniences, and the firm that will be first prepared to offer them will reap a good business reward. A striking proof of this was recently afforded when a New York paper gave a description of an ice machine intended for domestic use that would supply a whole family with ice for a year for the insignificant sum of $1.40. Thousands of inquiries rained in from all parts of the country, and there was widespread disappointment when it transpired that the machine was not yet on the market.

STRANGER THAN FICTION.

IS THE TRUTH CONCERNING JOHN GIBBONS, OF EAST LONDON.

He Was Tortured With the Pains of Sciatic Rheumatism—Tried Doctors, All Sorts of Medicine and Went to the Hospital in Vain—Dr. Williams' Pink Pills Cured Him When All Else Had Failed.

From the London Advertiser.

There are two things in this world which Mr. John Gibbons, a resident of Queen's Avenue East, will henceforth place implicit confidence in. One is the judgment of his wife and the other the curative qualities of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. In his case the two went hand in hand. Mrs. Gibbons thought of the remedy, the pills did the rest, and to-day Mr. Gibbons is a well man where last fall he was virtually a cripple. An Advertiser reporter called at the house the other evening and was met at the door by Mr. Gibbons, to whom he told the object of his visit, and was cordially invited in. The reporter had no sooner got comfortably seated when Mr. Gibbons went into an adjoining room. The sound of clinking bottles floated through the half open door and when Mr. Gibbons reappeared he had in his arms a whole basket of bottles—all he has to show for many and many a hard earned dollar spent in useless drugs. As Mr. Gibbons was busy showing the bottles and descanting upon the impotency of the medicines they had contained, the reporter had abundant opportunity of marking the personal appearance of the man. His speech betrays his English birth and his face still bears the marks of suffering, but his frame is erect, his step is light and elastic, and when he tells you that he can work, run, or jump with any man, you cannot help but believe him. He is 29 years of age and was born in Bow Road, Stratford, England. He came to Canada in 1882, and located at Galt, where he is well and favorably known. He worked for the Hon. Mr. Young, member of parliament for a long time and seven years ago he married Miss Alice Mann, also of Galt. After Mr. Gibbons removed to London he settled down near the car shops and did very well, always having plenty of work and always having the strength to do it. He cared nothing about a wetting until one day a year ago he took an acute attack of sciatic rheumatism following wet feet. "I lay down on this floor," said Mr. Gibbons, in telling his story, "night and day suffering terrible agony. I could not get up a step and my wife had to help me up from the floor. I felt the pain in my back first. It then apparently left my back and got into my hips. Doctors came here to see me. They gave me prescriptions but none of them seemed to do me any good. The neighbors could hear me all over Queen's Avenue when I would get an attack of the pains. Last fall I was taken out of this place in a hack and taken to the hospital. I remained there about three weeks and the doctors did what they could for me and could not give me any relief. At the end of three weeks I came home again suffering as much as ever. My wife got hold of a pamphlet which told of a number of remarkable cures by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and we determined to try them. I took about three boxes and felt myself getting a little easier. I took thirteen boxes altogether, and it is over two months since I felt the least suggestion of pain." "Do you feel that you are entirely cured?" asked the reporter. "Yes, sir, I can go out and do a day's work just as well as ever I could. I feel perfectly strong and have a good appetite." "No, I don't want another attack of sickness like that," said Mr. Gibbons, as he lighted the reporter to the door.

Mrs. Gibbons was not at home on the occasion of the reporter's first visit. Subsequently he called on her and received an entire confirmation of Mr. Gibbons' story. "He was home all last summer," said Mrs. Gibbons, "and last August the pains were so severe as to bring him down on his knees, and to save himself he could not get up. I had to lift him off the floor many a time. He seemed powerless. The bottles he showed you had almost all of them been repeatedly filled so that the number of bottles is no criterion of the amount of medicine taken. Before he took the pills," concluded Mrs. Gibbons, "I thought my husband would never be able to stand upright again. But now," she added in parting, "he is as well as ever he was."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills create new blood, build up the nerves, and thus drive disease from the system. In hundreds of cases they have cured after all other medicines had failed, thus establishing the claim that they are a marvel among the triumphs of modern medical science. The genuine Pink Pills are sold only in boxes, bearing the full trade mark, "Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People." Protect yourself from imposition by refusing any pill that does not bear the registered trade mark around the box.

A DEMOCRATIC DUCHESS.

Of all members of the royal family the Duchess of Fife is the one who dislikes publicity the most, and yet probably no other Princess goes into public so often without being recognized. The Duchess is extremely fond of walking, and does most of her shopping on foot, and as she generally wears a thick veil her identity is seldom revealed. Her Royal Highness does not care about great festivities, and particularly dislikes the official ceremony of the court, such as drawing-room and state concerts.

A LATER SELECTION.

Hojack—You didn't build on the lot you first selected.

Tomdik—No, it was a case of second site.

NOT TO BE TRIFLED WITH.

That whisky's fifteen years old, whispered the bartender.

Lookey here, answered his rural customer, don't try fur to git funny with me. You kin just pour that thar stuff back inter th' bottle an' I'll go whar I kin git suthin' fresh.

THE STING OF RICHES.

I hear Jimson has married a rich wife and stepped into a snug little nest of his own.

Yes; a hornets' nest.

Woman's Work

Is never done, and it is especially wearing and wearisome to those whose blood is impure and unfit properly to tone, sustain and renew the wasting of nerve, muscle and tissue. The only remedy for tired, weak, nervous women is in building up by taking a good nerve tonic, blood purifier and vitalizer like Hood's Sarsaparilla. For troubles *Peculiar to Women* at change of season, climate or life, great cures are made by

Hood's Sarsaparilla

The One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. $1. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Hood's Pills do not cause pain or gripe. All druggists. 25c.

FOR TWENTY-SIX YEARS.

DUNN'S BAKING POWDER

THE COOK'S BEST FRIEND

LARGEST SALE IN CANADA.

ART IN AGRICULTURE.

Art in agriculture is coming to be more and more noticeable every day. With the advent of new methods, improved implements, and a wider knowledge of the field, the agriculturist is rising higher and higher in the field of useful and ornamental art as the years go by. We may say that sharp competition is no small factor in this progressive movement. Take, for example, the manner in which certain products are prepared for the open market. The improvement in the condition of certain dairy products and fruits on market in the last few years is truly wonderful. The reason, of course, is that people always buy that article which is put up in the most tasty and attractive style, and are willing to pay a little more for it. With this change comes a wholesome effect upon the article itself, and disease is much less disseminated through food at the present time than formerly. Greater precautions are taken now than ever before in preventing the spread of contagious disease in this manner, and with the increase in the size of the cities and the greater liability to ill-health, these precautions cannot be preserved too carefully. Thus the agriculturist, to be successful, must keep right up to date in his reading and methods.

Relief in Six Hours.—Distressing Kidney and Bladder Diseases relieved in six hours by the "South American Kidney Cure." This new remedy is a great surprise and delight on account of its exceeding promptness in relieving pain in the bladder, kidneys, back and every part of the urinary passages in male or female. It relieves retention of water and pain in passing it almost immediately. If you want quick relief and cure this is your remedy
Sold by W. E. Richardson.

It is said that hornets never use the same nest a second season.

Hay Fever and Catarrh Relieved in 10 to 60 Minutes.—One short puff of the breath through the Blower, supplied with each bottle of Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder, diffuses this powder over the surface of the nasal passages. Painless and delightful to use. It relieves instantly and permanently cures Catarrh, Hay Fever, Colds, Headache, Sore Throat, Tonsilitis, and Deafness.
Sold by W. E. Richardson.

The kingdoms of Sweden and Norway were united in the reign of Charles XIII., 1814.

Piles Cured in 3 to 6 Nights.—Dr. Agnew's Ointment will cure all cases of Itching Piles, in from 3 to 6 nights. One application brings comfort. For Blind and Bleeding Piles it is peerless. Also cures Tetter, Salt Rheum, Eczema, Barber's Itch, and all eruptions of the skin. 35 cts.
Sold by W. E. Richardson.

The common housefly lays four times in each summer; each time about eighty eggs.

10 cts. Cures Constipation and Liver Ills.—Dr. Agnew's Liver Pills are the most perfect made, and cure like magic. Sick Headache, Constipation, Biliousness, Indigestion, and all Liver Ills. 10 cents a vial—40 doses.
Sold by W. E. Richardson.

TOO NOISY.

Edith, why do you always put cotton in your ears when that young Featherly calls?

Because of that deafening suit he wears.

Rheumatism Cured in a Day.—South American Rheumatic Cure for Rheumatism and Neuralgia, radically cures in 1 to 3 days. Its action upon the system is remarkable and mysterious. It removes at once the cause and the disease immediately disappears. The first dose greatly benefits. 75 cents.
Sold by W. E. Richardson.

OUT OF REACH.

You ought to have a stepladder with your piano, Miss Warble.

For what purpose?

Some of your music is so high.

Heart Disease Relieved in 30 Minutes.—Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart gives perfect relief in all cases of Organic or Sympathetic Heart Disease in 30 minutes, and speedily effects a cure. It is a peerless remedy for Palpitation, Shortness of Breath, Smothering Spells, Pain in Left Side and all symptoms of a Diseased Heart. One dose convinces.
Sold by W. E. Richardson.