

HOUSEHOLD.

Hints for Housekeepers.

Windows can be cleaned perfectly and easily as follows: powder a little whiting, mix it to a smooth paste with just enough cold water to moisten, rub it all over the glass with a soft rag, and then polish it off with a large dry clean cloth or piece of chamois.

Drugs used to protect the carpets of dining-rooms should be kept clean in the same way. Curtains at the windows should be lightly shaken every morning when the windows are opened, and shades dusted with a feather brush.

Mirrors can be polished with a soft cloth wet with a few drops of ammonia. The sun should not be allowed to fall on mirrors, because its rays affect the metallic coating on the glass.

A little ammonia or washing soda in hot water, with soap and a soft cloth, will clean dishes well, and they should be thoroughly dried with clean soft towels.

If all glass and china, when it first comes into the house, is put into a large boiler full of cold water, and gradually brought to the boiling-point, the subsequent chance of breakage is diminished.

Soda in hot water will clean silver; all polishing soaps and powders simply scratch a bright surface upon it. When silver is not in constant use, keep it entirely wrapped in tissue-paper.

How to Cook Eggs.

The advisability of cooking more eggs and less meat as the warm weather approaches is well understood by most housekeepers but the manner of cooking varies too little.

BAKED EGGS.—Break the eggs carefully into a buttered pie plate. Sprinkle a little salt and pepper over them and also add a few bits of butter.

CURDLED EGGS.—Pour boiling water on to the eggs and set the dish containing them on the back part of the stove or where the water will keep warm.

POACHED EGGS.—Five eggs, one tablespoonful of butter, one level teaspoonful of salt, one-quarter cup of milk and a very little pepper.

PLAIN OMELET.—Two eggs, four tablespoonfuls of milk, one-quarter teaspoonful of salt, one-half tablespoonful of butter.

CODFISH OMELET.—Shred very finely a pint bowl of codfish, cover with cold water and cook half an hour in a covered sauce-pan.

How to Keep Meat in Summer.

Summer, as housekeepers know, is the time when it is difficult to hang meat long enough to be tender without its becoming tainted.

Buttermilk is said to be good for soaking old game, hare, especially, which can be made tender by the treatment.

acid, "which has no injurious effect on the system, while the antiseptic properties are great." To prepare it, put a dram into a wine bottle, and fill up with lukewarm water.

Perhaps few things are purer and more efficacious than a weak solution of permanganate of potash for restoring game, meat or poultry already tainted.

USEFUL AND SUGGESTIVE.

To remove proud flesh, pulverize loaf sugar and alum very fine and apply it to the part affected.

An ink that will write on glass can be made from ammonium fluoride dissolved in water and mixed with three times its weight of barium sulphate.

A stiff paste of glycerine and red lead will be found useful in making a joint air or gas proof.

To remove paper labels from old bottles, wet the face of the label with water, and hold it for an instant over any convenient flame.

A SHOP HINT.—It has been discovered that drill points heated to a cherry-red, and tempered by being driven into a bar of lead, will bore through the hardest steel or plate glass without perceptibly blunting.

STAYDING A PLUMB-BOB.—A simple and easy way of stayding a plumb-bob is to merely, after getting the line in position, drop the plumb in a can of water.

WHEN the burners of kerosene lamps become clogged, put them in a basin of hot water, containing washing soda, and let them boil for a few minutes.

POTATO is used to clean steel pens, and generally acts as a pen-wiper. It removes all ink crust, and gives a peculiarly smooth flow to the ink.

TO HARDEN TOOLS.—A. E. Tucker claims that he has successfully edged grooving tools for chill rolls by dipping the actual cutting portion in mercury.

STANCES IN THE EYE.—Everybody has experienced the pain and annoyance of "something getting into the eye."

THE PHARMACEUTISCHE RUNDschau gives this recipe for an excellent disinfectant: Four pounds of crude sulphate of iron or two pounds of sulphate of copper are dissolved in hot water, to which two ounces of sulphuric acid are added.

HARD AND SOFT EMERY-WHEELS.—Hard, close-grain emery-wheels do not cut so rapidly as soft, loose ones, from the fact that the particles in the hard stone compact, and the edges wear slightly before breaking.

Killed By a Spider's Bite.

Fritz Kibitz, one year and eight months old, was playing about the floor of his home at 650 Fifth street, in New York, about four o'clock on Saturday afternoon.

Very Young Man: You wouldn't think it, but I've just paid seventy thousand dollars in cash for a house, all made by my own pluck and perseverance.

A Political Difficulty. "Let us elect to our halls of legislature," shouted an eloquent candidate, "men who are endowed with common sense."

A momentary pause here for the sentiment to be applauded when a voice came from the gallery: "But you can't get such men to run!"

His Wife's Queer Little Laugh.

A Montreal business man's wife has been away on a visit to the old home in another city. He has lived during her absence ostensibly at home, but really has been living on porterhouse steaks at the hotel, and had just been elected president of a new whist club in which he had a young red-checked girl for a partner, and while of course he deeply regretted the enforced absence of his own dear wife he was managing to get along without pining away very rapidly.

He finished the letter and stamped and directed it, and then took a look at the startle evening, and thinking he would finish his cigar (he never used to smoke in the house) walked out to the corner.

"If she'd only a got mad I'd been all right," said the Montreal man Tuesday; "but she didn't—she laughed. Every one of my yarns twisted her up, and she laughed until it made me sick."

After the Honeymoon.

His pretty little pigeon And his dainty little dove, His bird of paradise she was When he began to love.

Oh! then he said her singing it Was sweeter than the lark's; And made all sorts of similar And sillier remarks.

He said she was his dearie, and He said she was a duck; He said she was a nightingale, His charming little chuck.

But things are changed since they were wed, All's not couleur de rose; She "chatters like a magpie," and Her "voice is like a crow's."

When she pours out her soul in song, He'll wish her at the deuce; And if she dares to speak a word, It's "Oh, you are a goose!"

"Love in a cot," their motto was, But, oh, the truth it stings! Tho' she is just as bird-like still, 'Tis love alone has wings.

She Only Wanted to Know.

"Mamma! said a little eight-year-old in the presence of that lady's new venture in the fatherly line for her daughter, "what makes you have so many names?"

"Why, when I first knew you your name was Mrs. Wilson, then you was Mrs. Waters, and now you're Mrs. De Blinks," explained Sallie.

Sallie (thoughtfully)—"I wonder what your name will be next." De Blinks is also thoughtful.

Mac's Point of View

Sportsman, trying a greyhound: "That dog won't do at all, Mac. It never smelled the hare." Mac: "Well, I don't know. It's a good dog—a ferry good dog—shust ass good a dog ass you'll maybe get; but the hare wass in an awful hurry!"

Not so Bad.

(Scene—Highlandman's Cross, Broomielaw. Dramatis personae: Donald and Dugald.)

Donald—Is it pe possible? Is sat you, Tugalt? Man it's a lang langt time sin I'll didna sat ye before.

Dugald—Och, aye, Tonalt, lad. Man, did ye'll ken I've got marit? Donald—Marit?

Dugald—Aye, marit, and what for no? Donald—That's goot.

Dugald—Na; not so goot neithers. Donald—Aye; why's sat? Dugald—Oh, she's got a dreadful temper.

Donald—Aye; that's pad. Dugald—Na; na sa pad neithers. Donald—Aye; why's sat? Dugald—Man, she has sillars and we pouch a house.

Donald—Och, aye man; that's goot. Dugald—Na; not so goot neithers. Donald—Aye; why's sat? Dugald—The hoose wis burnt.

Donald—Och, man, that's pad, pad. Dugald—Na; not so pad neithers. Donald—Why's sat? Dugald—Man, the wife wis purnt wis it, and she'll got tae insurance sillars to her nainsell, forpy.

A Paying Business.

Very Young Man: I'm a son-in-law.

A PALACE PRISON.

The Russian Czar's Retreat, the Castle of Gatchina.

A St. Petersburg correspondent writes: The palace of Gatchina so much spoken of lately, can not be compared with such castles as Versailles, Sans-Souci, or Schonbrunn.

The reason that, in spite of this, it has been chosen as a residence by the Czar since his accession to the throne is no doubt that it lies nearest to the capital, and is so isolated and capable of isolation, that with the application of all the means in which Russia is richer than most countries, the approach of unwished-for individuals can be prevented.

Sometimes the Emperor and the Empress leave the castle and its region, and make excursions to the nearest country palaces or to St. Petersburg, on which occasion all large escorts are avoided.

The Gatchina race was celebrated, and a dog from the Imperial pack was very valuable, but people cared little for the castle and park. Still Gatchina has its history.

From Florida comes a suggestion in answer to the question, "How shall I amuse the baby?" Give him a baby alligator to play with.

They are a cheap plaything, costing but 75 cents, and are very moderate in their wants. A small tub, half filled with water, and a board laid slanting wise—with one end in the water, upon which they can creep up and sun themselves—and twice a week a bit of beef the size of an English walnut, is all they require to sustain existence comfortably.

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The lively little reptile, with his cunning head uplifted and black eyes peering curiously about, has a trick of darting suddenly and disappearing instantaneously, under the most careful watching.

"I often tell my husband," smiled Mrs. Jones to Dumley, whom Jones brought home unexpectedly to dinner, "that if he will bring gentlemen to dinner without letting me know a little beforehand, he must not be disappointed if everything isn't just as it should be."

"Pat, you've been drinkin' again." Beggin' yer pardon, but I've not, sor. "Pshaw! Your breath convicts you; what would you think if you should come into my room here and be greeted with unmistakable evidence of the fumes of whiskey?"

VARIETIES.

The Russian Line soldier's pay equals that of a farthing a day in time of peace, and as much again in time of war.

A Chinese gentleman always sends a pair of geese to the lady of his choice, as they are looked upon as the emblems of conjugal fidelity.

It is at the sources of the Chindwin, the western branch of the Irrawaddy, that the famous amber and jade mines are situated. They have supplied China with these much-prized stones for centuries.

The coal consumed annually by the Canadian fleet—about three hundred and thirty thousand tons—if built as a wall four feet high and one foot thick, would reach from the Land's End to John o' Groats's Home.

"Kid-glove" oranges are grown in Florida commonly so called because, when pressed, they are so dry that one can eat them without wearing kid gloves without damaging the latter in the least.

In Westphalia the peasants, on hearing the cuckoo for the first time, roll over on the grass in order to insure themselves against lumbago for the rest of the year.

The fox-terrier at one time was an indispensable adjunct to a hunt-kennel, and did good service in drawing coverts. The animals were in reality small earth-hounds, and it was the desire of old huntsmen to obtain them as near alike to the larger hounds in marking as possible.

Persians have one never-failing subject of conversation—their health. The pleasure of talking about the weather is denied to them; for, as eleven months out of the twelve are fine in Persia, the subject does not present sufficient variety.

The average cost of wheat in nine of the principal centres of production in India during the four years ending 1884 was about a halfpenny per pound, as compared with 0.97d. per pound in the United Kingdom, and 0.85d. in the United States.

Palestine possesses a remarkable salt mountain situated at the south end of the Dead Sea. The length of the ridge is six miles, with an average width of three quarters of a mile, and the height is not far from six hundred feet.

The turnip-fly has the proud distinction of being by far the most destructive insect to turnip and swede crops of any in the long list of their enemies.

Hebrew maidens must have been fortunate beyond other women, for they enjoyed the privileges of leap-year every six months. From a lecture on Jewish courtship, delivered by Mr. I. Abrahams, it appears that, though the men usually did the wooing, twice a year the Jewish damsels went in procession to the vineyards, where some sang such engaging ballads as "Young men, look not to beauty, but to piety!"

The manufacture of glass in Europe is mostly carried on in France, Britain, Belgium, Germany, and Austria-Hungary, each country having its own speciality.

A Five Hundred Pound Turtle.

Sanner Brothers, commission merchants, Baltimore, received recently one of the largest, if not the largest turtles ever shipped to this city. It is of the trunkback species and weighs about 500 pounds.

A physician in New York city is said to have the following inscription on his bill-headers: "A patient's gratitude to his doctor is a part of his disease, and is most declared when the fever is highest, cools off during convalescence and entirely disappears with the complete return to health."

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