

About the House

PUDDINGS.

Cocoanut Pudding.—Quarter of a pound of desiccated cocoanut, quarter of a pint of milk, one ounce of butter, one ounce of sugar, four eggs, one ounce of cake crumbs, vanilla, glace cherries. Put the cocoanut and milk in a pan on the fire and let it cook till the cocoanut is tender. Cream the butter and sugar; then beat up the yolks and add them. When the milk is a little cooled pour it on to them and add cake crumbs and vanilla to taste. Lastly, add lightly the whites of two eggs which have been whisked to a stiff froth. Put the mixture into a well-buttered pie dish and bake for half an hour. Then take the whites of two eggs and whip them to a stiff froth, add one and a half tablespoonfuls of sugar and a little vanilla. Just before the pudding is done spread this meringue on the top and let it brown lightly. Before serving decorate the top with pieces of glace cherries.

Chocolate Pudding.—Quarter of a pound of plain chocolate, quarter of a pint of milk, quarter of a pound of sugar, three ounces of butter, two eggs, six ounces of fresh, white bread crumbs, a few drops of vanilla. Well grease a mould. Grate the chocolate and mix it with the milk; then boil them together to make the chocolate smooth. Cream together the sugar and butter, and then stir in the yolks of the two eggs and the bread-crumbs. Next, pour on the milk and chocolate and add a few drops of vanilla. Beat the whites of the eggs stiff and stir them lightly to the other ingredients. Pour the mixture into the mould, cover the top with a greased paper, and steam it for one hour. Turn out carefully and serve with any sweet sauce.

Coffee Pudding.—Five ounces of bread, two ounces of candied peel, one lemon, three ounces of sugar, three ounces of sultanas, two eggs, half a pint of milk, quarter of a pint of cream, half a pint of strong coffee. Cut the bread into neat, small dice, put these in a basin, add the candied peel, chopped finely, the grated rind of a lemon, and a few drops of the juice; also the sugar and sultanas. Well beat the eggs, add the milk, strain them on to the dry ingredients, and mix them well in. Now add the cream and coffee. Have ready a well-greased mould; pour in the mixture, cover with a piece of greased paper, and set in a saucepan of boiling water. Steam for two hours. Turn out and serve with German sauce. For the sauce put the raw yolks of two eggs into a small saucepan; add to them one glass of sherry, or, if preferred, that quantity of lemon or orange juice, and one dessertspoonful of sugar. Whisk all these quickly over a slow fire till it is thick and nothing but froth. It must not boil or it curdles. Serve at once.

EASY HOT BREAD.

If one learns the trick of reheating rolls it is a simpler matter to have hot bread every day by baking them once or twice a week than it is to stir up popovers or something requiring eggs every morning. If you do not bake bread, this recipe is little trouble and makes from four to five dozen rolls:

Dixie Biscuit.—Mix one teaspoonful of salt into three pints of flour. Put one teaspoonful of milk on the stove with three pints of flour to warm. Pour this on two well beaten eggs. Add the flour, with one cake of yeast dissolved in a teacupful of lukewarm water. When well mixed set in a warm place for about five hours to rise. Form into biscuit, let rise again, and bake.

Pocketbook Biscuit.—Vary the above by rolling out thin, cutting in squares, spreading with melted butter, and folding over. They can be made ready for 6 o'clock dinner by setting the sponge about 10 o'clock and letting it rise as slowly as possible. If it gets light in less than five hours work it back as you would bread dough.

Rolls to Reheat.—Dampen slightly by holding each roll for a part of a second under the hydrant, running slowly. Put in a deep pan, cover closely, and set in a slow oven for twenty minutes to half an hour.

Bakers' Rolls.—When fresh rolls are brought from the baker's put in the oven a few minutes before using. Two minutes before they are to be eaten take them out, divide them, and put some thin slices of butter between. Press them together and return them to the oven for one minute. Open again, spread the butter lightly, and serve in a hot dish immediately.

TABLE SERVICE OF FRUIT.

A dainty and attractive table service is quite within the scope of the average purse, fortunately. Especially in summer, when fruit should form a considerable part of the menu, the housekeeper can arrange her table with very pretty and inviting effects, with little extra cost.

Fruits of the orchard, pears, peaches, or plums, are very attractive, especially at the breakfast table, served with a few leaves of their own foliage, but this the city housekeeper very seldom finds practicable. The fruit, however, can be put on the table in a pretty basket twined with greenery. A nice little surprise can be planned for the mem-

bers of the family when they come down to breakfast on some holiday or festive occasion, by placing at each cover a tiny basket, with smilax twined about the handle, filled with assorted fruits.

A basket of Japanese willow in a dull brown, having touches of green and yellow introduced in the border, makes a very effective centre-piece when filled with ripe fruits. Some of the new fruit baskets for table use are boat-shaped, with low square handles. The old silver filigree baskets are beautiful; a recent bride, who received one such, which had come down from her husband's great-grandmother, values it among her most highly prized possessions.

Berry plates and dishes for individual service come in china, in lovely rose and other floral designs. A new service for grapes or grape salad is the oval glass dish resting in a silver stand. The glass is partially filled with crushed ice, the grapes are placed within, and soon become chilled, when they are more refreshing than if at a tepid temperature.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Fruit and vegetables should be carefully washed before being eaten, as they often harbor countless micro-organisms.

The mica sides of oil stoves, which get so smoky and dirty, may easily be cleaned with a piece of flannel dipped in vinegar.

The grass stains which are so apt to be found on children's clothing often defy ordinary treatment. A simple method that sometimes answers is to dip the spot in treacle until thoroughly soaked, then wash out the treacle in clear water.

A few drops of vinegar rubbed in the hands after washing clothes will keep them smooth and take away the spongy feeling that they have after being in water for a good while.

In one modern kitchen a number of shelves, on the order of those of an old-fashioned table, hang flat against the wall when not in use. They are covered with white oilcloth, tacked on by brass headed tacks, and when needed are held up by a swinging bracket. They come in an exceptionally handy when extra cooking and serving have to be done.

The following is a good hint for tying shoelaces so that they shall not come loose. Proceed in exactly the same way as if you were tying an ordinary bow, but pass the right hand loop through the knot before drawing it up, and give a steady pull on both loops. It should be remembered, however, when untying, that the right-hand string must be pulled, for if the other is pulled it will only tighten the knot.

All who have attempted to clean coat collars and cuffs with benzine know that this requires much tedious rubbing with cloth in order to prevent the ring that otherwise would form in place of the obliterated spot. To avoid this labor, dip a tooth-brush into the benzine until it is well soaked, then brush the collar briskly. In a few moments all stains will have entirely disappeared. The most costly velvet can be cleaned in this way without much rubbing. Never use a tooth-brush on satin or soft silk.

DISEASED KIDNEYS.

Made Sound and Strong Through Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

"Two doctors told me that I was incurable, but thanks to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills I am a well woman to-day." This strong statement was made by Mrs. Ed. Rose, of St. Catharines, to a reporter, who hearing of her remarkable cure called to see her. "A few years ago while living in Hamilton, continued Mrs. Rose, I was attacked with kidney trouble. The doctor lulled me into a state of false security, while the disease continued to make inroads. Finding that I was not getting better, I consulted a specialist, who told me that the trouble had developed into Bright's disease and that I was incurable. I had dwindled to a mere shadow, and suffered from pain in the back, and often a difficulty in breathing. Insomnia next came to add to my tortures, and I passed dreary, sleepless nights, and felt that I had not long to live. In this despairing condition my husband urged me to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and to please him I began to take them. After using several boxes I felt the pills were helping me and I continued taking them until I had used some twenty boxes, when I was again restored to perfect health, and every symptom of the trouble had disappeared. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills certainly brought me back from the shadow of the grave, and I have since enjoyed the best of health."

"Every drop of blood in the body is filtered by the kidneys. If the blood is weak or watery the kidneys have no strength for their work and leave the blood unfiltered and foul. Then the kidneys get clogged with painful, poisonous impurities, which brings aching backs and deadly Bright's disease. The only hope is to strike without delay at the root of the trouble in the blood with Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. They make new blood. They flush the kidneys clean, heal their inflammation and give them strength for their work. Common kidney pills only touch the symptoms—Dr. Williams' Pink Pills cure the cause. That is why they cure for good, and at the same time improve the health in every other way. But you must get the genuine pills with the full name, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, on the wrapper around each box. Sold by all medicine dealers or direct from the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont., at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50.

MESSAGES TO THE POINT

"FIND LIVINGSTONE!" THE BRIEFEST EVER WRITTEN.

Sir Harry Johnston's Message of Eight Words — The Cleverest Despatch.

Surely no more laconic order could be given for any matter of world-wide magnitude than that which was given to Stanley when Mr. Gordon-Bennett, of the "New York Herald," despatched him on his famous quest with the simple words, "Find Livingstone!" There was really no more to be said by the master to his servant, when the two so thoroughly understood each other. The questions of money, equipment, preparation, time, etc., were all left without discussion. Stanley's orders were clear. "Find Livingstone!" He set out, and he returned not until he had found the celebrated explorer who had been lost to civilization for so long.

Some of us remember the despatch of Sir Harry Johnston—who is happily still with us—which he forwarded to Lord Salisbury. This is certainly the record one of our own times in such matters.

JOHNSTON'S MESSAGE

of his suppression of slavery was in eight words, as follows: "Advanced against Tmose, defeated, captured, hanged him.—Johnston." It will take a great deal to beat this. But then, Johnston was always one of those men who did the work first, and then said as little as possible about it afterwards.

It has often been said that Sir Charles Napier, after the capture of Scinde, wrote one of the most laconic and most delightful despatches that the world has known, when he telegraphed home to the Government the simple Latin word, "Peccavi"—i.e., "I have sinned (Scinde)!" But here gossip has placed the foundation of the laconic remark on the wrong person, for, as a matter of fact, it was not Sir Charles Napier who composed that famous despatch, but Mr. "Punch," who wrote as a jest. Nevertheless, it remains as an extremely clever and telling piece of work of the kind we are dealing with.

In this category, too, we must include Thomas Carlyle's notable reply to a devoted admirer, who wrote asking if

THE SAGE OF CHELSEA

had any objection to sending on his autograph as a present to the said admirer. Carlyle was equal to the occasion. He just wrote down on a sheet of note-paper the words, "Yes! Yours truly, T. Carlyle." It was left for the admirer to decipher the meaning at his will, but doubtless he was satisfied when he saw the signature, whatever the writer meant him to understand.

To describe a great naval battle in about a score of words is surely given to few famous combatants. Yet this is what Captain Walton did when he had scattered the Spanish fleet near the Straits of Messina. His despatch to the British Government was as follows: "Have taken or destroyed all Spanish vessels which were upon the coast; number and description as per margin.—G. Walton."

There is a whole page of naval warfare sometimes in a daily newspaper, after a battle such as that which Togo recently fought, which, notwithstanding, does not tell one-half so much of what was the actual result of the fight as this laconic statement of Captain Walton's does about the battle off Messina.

DR. ABERNETHY.

was another famous man who never wasted words. A woman of little once came to see him, who prided herself upon her blunt speech to so deemed inferiors. She regarded the doctor with some hauteur because he did not rise and make a great fuss of her when she entered his surgery. She was so disgusted that she just held out her scalded hand, and said, "Burnt it!" The great surgeon was quite equal to the occasion. He looked her in the face and answered "Poultice it!"—then at once resumed his writing.

One of the cleverest of all such replies made laconically, however, was that of the celebrated Tallebrand, who was asked, as he left a certain French Council, from which much had been expected, but which had spent most of its time in talk, what had passed during its sitting. His quiet smile and his hopeless tone were as significant as his two words. "Three hours!" said he.—London Answers.

TAKING HER PHOTO.

"I have come to get my wife photographed," said the determined-looking man on entering a photographer's studio, followed by a meek-looking woman.

"You can make anyone look handsome, can't you?"

"Certainly, sir," replied the photographer, "that is part of the business, you know."

"Well, my wife here fell out of the window last year and broke her nose. You can straighten it out in the photograph, I suppose?"

"Certainly, sir."

"And you can push back her ears, so that she won't look so much like a rabbit?"

"Oh, I think so!"

"And what about the cast in her left eye?"

"Oh, I can touch it up with India ink!"

"And the freckles?"

"They won't appear in the picture at all."

"And will the hair be red?"

"Oh, no!"

"Well, you may proceed. Sit down there, Maria, and try to look pleasant."

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INDIAN FOLK MEDICINE

REMEDIES IN WHICH NATIVES HAVE IMPLICIT FAITH.

Great Virtues are Ascribed to the Claws and Horns of Certain Animals.

Perhaps in no other country in the world is the "evil eye" an object of such great dread as in India, says the Madras Mail. You will cause mortal offence to a Hindu lady should you remark of her child, "What a nice baby you have!" or "How baby has grown since I saw him last!" She makes it a rule to speak depreciatingly of her child and represents it as the victim of non-existent ailments so that your evil eye shall not affect it. Should she become aware that, in spite of her precautions, you have defiled it with your admiration, she will lose no time in counteracting the apprehended effects of the "drishiti-dosham." One of the simplest methods adopted for the purpose is to take a small quantity of chillies and salt in the closed palm and throw it into the fire, after waving it thrice round the head of the child to the accompaniment of incantations. If no pungent odor is apparent it is an indication that the dosham has been averted.

The harati ceremony, so frequently observed in marriages and other festive occasions, is also intended to counteract the dire influence of the evil eye. A plate containing saffron water is held by two ladies in front of the married couple about a score of times during the progress of a HINDU MARRIAGE,

so that the admiration of the spectators shall not injuriously affect the bride or the bridegroom. The curious ceremonies of which her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales formed the central figure within a few hours after her landing on Indian shores were in one way intended to be a sort of insurance against the possible effects of the evil eye.

If a child in arms be taken into the open air and a bird fly directly over its head the infant will be rapidly reduced to a mere skeleton. The only remedy is to give it for some days a few drops of an oil extracted from the titurupitta, a kind of sparrow.

Tigers' claws are in great demand with the common people. One or two claws may be worn near the loins, but should one possess a larger number the fortunate owner makes a garland of them and wears them around his neck. Deer's horn, ground into a fine paste, is an excellent balm for pains and swellings. A more curious use is found for the same substance; it is sometimes made into a powder which is supposed to aid the growth of the stunted woman. The joints taken from the long and slender tail of the black scorpion are supposed to keep illness at arm's distance when children wear them on their waist thread.

As soon as a person has been bitten by a cobra a snake charmer is sent for who lures the same or another cobra whose fangs have not been drawn to the vicinity of the victim and causes it to bite him at as nearly as possible

THE SAME SPOT AS BEFORE. This last condition is certainly a difficult one to achieve, but should it be fulfilled the sufferer will as surely recover as the snake will die.

It is believed that if a person should come upon two cobras together they will give the unfortunate intruder no quarter. To avoid being pursued by them he takes to his heels, after throwing behind him some garment on which the reptiles expend their wrath. When they have completed their work of destruction the pieces to which the cloth has been reduced are gathered together and preserved as panacea for future ills.

Water snakes are generally harmless, but here and there one comes across a venomous species. A fisherman when in doubt as to whether the snake that has bitten him is a poisonous one or not dips his hand into the mud and gorges his stomach with several handfuls of the semi-solid.

A red or swollen eye is cured by having it touched with the bolt or chain

attached to a door. A remedy which I have seen applied with considerable effect in more than one epileptic fit is to place a bunch of keys in the palm of the sufferer. I have heard it said that the fit passes away as readily if the keys are placed on the head. A rather quaint remedy in the case of a sprained neck is to use an iron measure for a pillow. Every one has heard of the oft quoted remedy of "a hair of the dog that bit you." The Hindu medicine man adopts a stranger course

TO PREVENT HYDROPHOBIA.

He takes an old slipper and smartly strikes the patient—no gentle taps, mark you—over the incision made by the dog's teeth.

For children afflicted with asthma an invaluable medicine is the egg of red ants boiled in margosa oil. The wings of wild bats are very highly prized in the case of diseases of the hair. These wings are crushed and the extract is added to cocoanut oil with other ingredients, this mixture being kept underground in a closed vessel for a period of three months. This novel compo-sition prevents the hair from falling or turning gray. Rabbits' blood is also recommended as a desirable lotion for washing the hair.

Sore throat is cured by spitting on red hot iron—quite the simplest and least expensive cure known to the native doctor. Peacocks' flesh and pigs' ghee are the best medicines for acute rheumatism. Cobwebs are most useful in boils and in skin diseases of all kinds. Should your house be infested by mosquitoes or your furniture and bedding by bugs, all you have to do is to write on a piece of paper the names of a hundred villages or towns, taking care that all the names end in one of the suffixes uru, kottai, palayam, &c., and secure the paper to a bed post or the ceiling as the case may be, and you will be relieved of the pest instantaneously, as if by the intervention of a magician. Donkey's milk, besides being a valuable food for newborn children, is deemed to be the most efficacious medicine for epilepsy.

WHY IS A NEGRO BLACK?

The Sun's Rays of One Particular Latitude is the Cause of It.

The origin of color in anything has always provided scientists with an interesting study—the origin of color in human skin in particular.

There are between the cuticles of the skin certain pigments which, when acted upon by light rays, produce different tints. What those tints will be depends upon the angle at which the rays of the sun fall upon the pigments. At the equator the rays are about vertical; at the poles they slant at an angle unknown in the tropics, and the chemical effects of the different kinds of rays upon the pigments of the skin vary considerably. Thus we get a large number of tints of the skin, from the white to the yellow, yellow to red, and red to black, many intermediate shades being peculiar to certain latitudes.

The pigments themselves change through generations of exposure to the sun-rays of one particular latitude, so that the skin of a child assumes the color, slightly modified of its ancestors, even when the child has been borne and reared in a strange part of the world. Thus, if a colony of negroes and negroes settled in Britain, their descendants would become paler with each generation, until eventually there would be no trace whatever of the original color. Whites settling in the tropics would be affected in a similar way, the color gradually deepening with each generation.

GOOD NEWS FOR JACK TARS.

Do British warships breed consumption? The popular delusion is that the sailor, spending his life just where the air is purest, is the last person in the world to develop lung trouble. Strange to say, the average warship is one of the deadliest of places to live in, for the air between the decks quickly becomes foul, and remains so. The newest naval ship-building plans show, however, that Jack's health is in the future to have more consideration. Electrically-driven fans and other contrivances are to be fitted to new vessels to ensure a proper circulation of air through even the most remote of alley-ways. Another boon to the Jack Tars is the adoption on board ship of approved appliances for cooking and baking, so that the men in the new vessels will be able to get fresh bread as regularly as the German and French naval crews already get it. In short, the Admiralty is at last waking up to the reasonable requests for reforms made for years past by the British Jack Tar.

Contentment is never begotten by regret. "Charlie," said his mother, "when that boy threw stones at you, why didn't you come and call me?" "Call you!" replied Charlie, in tones of disgust. "Why you couldn't hit a barn door."

Mother's Ear

A WORD IN MOTHER'S EAR: WHEN NURSING AN INFANT, AND IN THE MONTHS THAT COME BEFORE THAT TIME.

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