THE HOUSE AND FARM

The Farm.

Cellers where roots are stored need to be kept cool, else the root swill shrivel or start into growth; in either case their quality will be injured.

A British bee-keeper lays it down as a rule that if the honey makers are seen flying in and out of the hive on rainy or damp days in Autumn, it is a sign that they are in a starving condition, and the proper thing in to feed them with a syrup made by boiling three pounds of lump sugar intwo pounds of water

The superiority of Scotch oatmeal is said to be partly owing to the grain being cut rather "glazy," that is with a shade of green upon it. Oat straw is far less nourishing for cattle when the crop is allowed to stand till it is dead ripe. Early cut oats are heavier per bushel, fairer to the eye and usually sell for more money.

A punctual man is rarely a poor man, and never a man of doubtful credit. His small accounts are frequently settled, and he never meets with difficulty in raising money to pay large demands. Small debts neglected, ruin credit; and when a man has lost that, he will find himself at the bottom of a hill he cannot ascend.

It is said that he is a good farmer who can make a rainy day as effective as one that is fair. So he is likewise a good manager who can make a day in autumn save one in the busy season of spring. Orchards can be trimmed, fences built and repaired, drains dug, stones picked, and many other things done that will greatly lessen the labor of next spring and summer.

The true test of the relative value of home bred cows is a careful comparison of the milk and butter records of both; this will give results to which the mere facts of importation and pedigree will be secondary. If this test were made, thousand of dollars now sent abroad for imported stock could be imployed and circulated at home to the advantage of all concerned.

To keep fruit, the lowest temperature short of freezing, and unchanged, is required. In mild weather, open the fruit cellar at night, and close it very early in the morning. Fruit gives off, in ripening, a large amount of carbonic acid which helps retard the ripening; but in fruit cellars under dwellings, this should be carried off by a ventilator, as it is detrimental to the health of the family.

Toil and be Happy.—*The Christian at Work* thinks Ruskin never said a truer thing than this: "If you want knowledge you must toil for it; if food, you must toil for it; and if pleasure, you must toil for it." Toil is the law. Pleasure comes through toil, and not by self-indulgence and indolence. When one gets to love work his life is a happy one. Said a poor man in Brooklyn, the other day, with a family of eleven to provide for: "If I were worth a million dollars. I should not wish to do much different than I do now every day, working hour after hour. I love it a thousand times better than to rest." He has for nearly half a century been surrounned by workers, and has caught the spirit of industry. He loves his work better than food or sleep. He is happy who has conquered laziness, once and forever.

Cookery a Hundred Years Ago.

A quaint old volume, issued in 1776 from a Hartford printing house, forms reading matter of an interesting character.

It is entitled "American Cookery or the art of dressing viands, etc., adapted to all grades of life." Just here it may be remarked, that if the manual de cuisine in question was adapted to all the grades of the Americrn people one hundred years ago, the people of that era must have been generally more prosperously situated than are those who came a hundred years later; for "all the grades" in this nineteenth century of ours can by no means command the somewhat expensive materials that entered into the "viands" which Miss Simmens, the authoress, treats of.

For instance, the cheapest pudding, for which she furnishes the receipt, is a "Whitpot,' which in additton to the bread of which it is mainly compounded, calls for two quarts of milk, a half pound of sugar and nutmeg, and rosewater to taste. Her receipt for "pumpkin" pie sets forth as the necessaries for its construction, one quart of stewed and strained pumpkin, three pints of sweet cream, ten well-beaten eggs, two glasses of wine, with sugar, mace, nutmeg and ginger, to be baked in a deep dish with rich puff paste. For "simple rice pudding," she directs the use of six ounces of rice in a quart of very sweet cream, a pound of sugar, and fourteen eggs beaten to a stiff froth, one pound of raisins, and wine, spices and salt to taste, together with rich puff paste with which the baking-dish is to be lined. The ingredients for "a plain economical Indian pudding" are seven spoonfuls of Indian meal, three pints of very sweet cream, seven well beaten eggs, a half pound of raisins, a half pound of butter, the same compliment of sugan, besides a flavoring of spices. An imperial plum pudding for eight persons was to be composed of four pounds of raisins, two of currants, three of slivered citron, three of sugar, two of finely chopped suet, and two of fine bread crumbs, six ounces of candied peel, one each of nutmeg, mace and cinnamon, a pint of brandy, the same of Madeira wine, two lemons and three dozen of eggs, well beaten. For "a plain loaf cake" there are to be six pounds of sugar, two of lard, three of butter, twelve of flour, one quart of milk, two ounces of cinnamon, two ounces of nutmeg, a tea cup full of coriander seed, one pint of brandy, the same compliment of Madeira wine, twenty-four well beaten eggs, six pounds of stoned raisins, and one pint of "emptins." Miss Simmons does not state the number of persons which this "plain cake" may serve, but she does add, if large milk pans are to be used in baking it, that the cake would then require two hours baking in proportion to smaller loaves. Among those samples of the cooking of our great grandmothers there are creams, and tarts, and trifles, and syllabubs upon equally generous foundations and of marvelous construction. "A fine syllabub from the cow" was made of a quart of hard cider, sweetened with double refined sugar, and seasoned with plenty of nutmeg. Into this the cow was milked in the proportion deemed necessaey, and over it a pint of cream or more, as wished, of the sweetest cream obtainable was poured. In view of this sort of fare "adapted to all grades of society," it might be pertinent to inquire what becomes of the theory of the simple habits in force in the early homes of our ancesters; so far as cookery is to be considered, if these specimens are to be accepted as a fair representative of the whole, the housekeeper must have had weighty subjects to deal with in the relation of the family fare, and dyspepsia, it must be supposed, was a malady less prevalent then than now. Indeed nothing short of a robust digestive organization could have dealt sucessfully with such bills of fare as Miss Simmon's book provides for, and, in that view perhaps, we find the solution of the tough sinews and dauntless spirits that won us the freedom of "the land we cherish." Here is a receipt for plain soft gingerbread which, superadded to whose given above, would be a revelation to the geniuses of to-day, who undertake to guide families in the discovery of nutrimental elements in a few cents worth of food, and where, five, six, or eight persons are supposed under such direction to find full and satisfactory fare in the material that might be purchased for less than the half of an American dollar. To make this "plain soft ginger bread" you rub three pounds of sugar and two pounds of butter into three pounds of flour, and twenty eggs, four ounces each of ginger and cinnamon and four spoons of rose water. These being the plain dishes, imagination must suggest what the more elaborate ones must have been. Traditionally we know our forefathers were fond of roasts whether of animal game or poultry; their allowances of the "best brandy and wines" were something more liberal than the usages of the present day permit at the family table. "They delighted in oysters, smothered fowls in the same, and dressed turtles after the mode of to-day." Breakfast tables were laden with flapjacks (composed principally of eggs,) delicate golden waffles, swimming in melted butter and sugar, with hot biscuits and ruskes, with fried sausages (home made), with ham and eggs, and crisp, fried potatoes, and aromatic coffee, of which one pound of coffee, cleared with four eggs, and steeped, not boiled, was thought o be sufficient for the refreshment of six persons. Perhaps this picture of alimentary life in the past holds a justification of the saying "the good old times." In that sense how is the progress of this nineteenth century to be estimated? Beside Miss Simmons' Manual of "American Cookery," printed in the stormy times of 1776, which comes to us to-day like a leaf fluttering down the years, we have the production of another maiden entitled "twenty-five cent dinners for a family of six," printed in 1878. The coffee alone for the breakfast of the family of six in the last century would cost nearly double the sum that the writer in the present devotes to the whole family dinner of six persons, and this author states expressly her regimen is designed to occupy the middle department of cookery, where we look for more than the absolute necessaries of life. The age is prolific of theories, many of them--happily--not adapted to the practice, and in that category the fancies of many an intellecutal maid be harmless, as they are useless. Those two manuals of cookery present the extremes, and in the middle ground there are scores from which a very few may be called applicable to the necessities of the time, and which for practical purpose are really useful.

Lafayette's Reception.

Calling at No. 108 Root street Monday afternoon and enquiring for Mrs. A H. Norton, a *Herald* reporter was ushered into the presence of a well-preserved lady past three-score and ten, who is probably one of the very few persons living that were present in person at the grand reception tendered to the Marquis de Lafayette at Castle Garden, New York, more than half a century ago. The lady's general appearance was such as to require no great strain on the imagination to believe that she was one of the belles upon that memorable occasion. In answer to the inquiry as to whether she could not furnish some interesting reminiscences of the affair, Mrs. Norton replied:

"It has been so very long since then that I can recall very little, except that it was the grandest affair that New York had ever witnessed, and was the topic of conversation in social circles for a long time. The marquis arrived on Sunday afternoon, and large numbers went out of the harbor to meet him. He landed at Castle Garden, which was handsomely decorated with flags and flowers, and received a perfect ovation. After his arrival he held a levee, at which he received everybody that could see him, and that meant everybody who could get near him. At this reception, which was followed by a ball, ladies wore gold medals of of various sizes, stamped with the marquis' head, which also ornamented their white sashes and the backs of their gloves. The marquis shook hands with all the ladies—he was very particular not to miss one—and in taking the hand of one very handsome belle, he noticed his image stamped on the back of her glove, and raising it to his lips kissed it. That girl, you can imagine, was the envy of all her companions."

"Did the marquis dance?"

"No; he was very dignified, though extremely social, and his face wore a smile all the time. He was polite, as the Frenchman always is, and endeavored to say something pleasant to everyone to whom he was introduced. I was perhaps a little more favored than the others, as my first husband, Mons Moura, was well acquainted with Lafayette in France, they both having attended the same university in Paris, though at different times. The marquis was very social toward me, and I remembered giving him a rich gold medal, like those worn by the ladies, only larger. I met him several times after that. He was not a handsome man but impressed one very favorably because of his gentlemanly manners and pleasing address, and at that time semed quite old, though not more than fifty. It has been so long, though, and so much has happened since that I have only faint recollections of these little matters. I only know it was one of the events of my life —that grand ball and reception."

"You must be the only survivor living in this part of the country, are you not?" a the reporter's query.

"Yes, there are very few persons living anywhere with whom I could sit down and talk over that occasion. I remember hearing my second husband's mother relate how she used to get breakfast for Washington and Lafayette, when they were out on their hunting expeditions, and many a time has she set the table for other French officers at her farm-house at Hartford, Conn. Though she always refused any remuneration, the officers insisted on leaving silver under their plates, so she took it and bought silver spoons with it. The same spoons were used by Washington and Lafayette, and I have several of them now, which I prize as of rare value."

Mrs. Norton regretted that she could not recall more incidents of those historic days, but was assured that she had furnished material for a very interesting story, and need make no apologies. The lady is the mother of Mr. Walter Norton, with whom she makes her home, and has been a resident of this city for the past forty years. She appears in the best of health, and bids fair to live many years yet as a survivor of the celebrated Lafayette ball and reception.

A "family" man, who knows from experience what he is talking about, estimates that a spool of cotton will sew on 2,400 pants buttons. Should the old proverb of "As ye sew so shall ye reap" be verified this individual's harvest of pants buttons will be something terrible to contemplate.

Hints for the Fashionable.

Lead white is a dull bluish gray tint.

Oils and pomades are not used on the hair.

Guipure lace is coming into fashion again.

Waterproof cloaks are fashionable in Paris.

The cabbage bow is used to trim dresses.

Fur bands are used to trim flannel costumes.

Artificial flowers are not in high favor at this moment.

The Queen of Italy almost always dresses in white.

Red is worn with frenzy with every article of the toilet.

Seal-brown plush takes the place of fur on new garments.

Ball shoes and stockings are made of the color of the dresses.

Lead white is to take the place of vory and cream white.

Panniers are worn; so are corsages close fitting over the hips.

Twilled flannel costumes are brought out for the mid-winter season.

The coiffure for morning and street toilet is low on the nape of the neck.

For full evening toilet the hair must be arranged high and very elaborately.

Fur-trimmed dresses have a deep border on the underskirt instead of a flounce

Bridal wrappers are of brocade combined with plain silk covered with Breton lace.

Lower skirts are now made of velvet, and upper ones of brocade, plain silk or cloth.

Belt bouquets are going out of style, and bows of lace and ribbon are taking their places.

Curls and frizzes are all smoothed flat in Paris, and Pompeian bands bind heads in shape.

During the last century the head-dress of a fashionable lady added three feet to her stature.

Montague locks about the forehead and temples are still much worn by fashionable young women.

The new hat is the Victim. It has a scoop front, and is turned up on the side; feathers nod over it, and roses almost drop from its brim.

A vest usually requires to be three-quarters of a yard in length, and the pieces that cut away from the sides in modeling it will be enough to make the cuffs. Another yard will form the reversed bands and *revers* on the skirt of the stylish "washerwoman" polonaise.

Chit-chat for Ladies.

Worth uses thousands of yards of Breton lace daily.

A woman may wear anything she pleases nowdays, except a one button glove.

A French lady never varies the flower that she wears for a button-hole bouquet.

The Japanese ladies, when attending the theater, change their dresses between each act.

Among the favors given at a "German" recently in New York, were gold scarf pins for gentlemen and bangles for ladies.

Avoid the extremes of fashion. To dress up to its entire demand is to submit to a condition of perpetual self-burlesque.

Owners of pearl jewelry should be careful to keep it from exposure to greasy surfaces, as contact of this kind destroys its luster.

A medical writer informs ladies that by a too active use of their fans they check perspiration and produce cutaneous diseases.

A London magistrate lately declared the outside pockets on ladies' dresses to be an inducement to thieves. He pronounced them to be a foolish and improper fashion, nor did he pity any one for losses thus incurred.

A beautiful English woman was walking in the Rue de la Paix, when a French puppy greatly annoyed her by pertinaciouly dogging her and glaring at her. She turned upon him and said: "Really, I have not a sou to give you."

Jelly Cake.—Three-quarters pound sugar, half pound butter, one cup sour mild, half teaspoonful soda stirred into the milk, six eggs, one pound flour; stir this well together. Bake in tin pans not more than half inch thick; when baked, as you take them from the oven, lay them on a flat surface, spread over a layer of jelly on the top, then lay on another cake, then jelly, then cake; keep the best looking for the top; cut it in square pieces.

Nerve Inquietude and its Remedy.

Restless nerves, at least those that are constantly so, are weak ones as well. The true way to tranquilize them thoroughly is to strengthen them. It may be, nay, it very often is necessary to have recourse to a sedative or even an opiate, in dangerous cases of nervous inquietude; but the continued use of such unnatural palliatives, is greatly to be deprecated. Though not, in a restricted sense, a specific for nervousness, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters is eminently calculated to allay and eventually overcome it; a fact which the recorded experience of many goes to substantiate. This inestimable tonic, by promoting digestion, assimilation and secretion, touches the three key notes upon which the harmony of all the bodily organs depends, and the result is that fresh stores of vitality are diffused through the system, of which the nerves receive their due apportionment, and grow tranquil as they gather strength

The Value of Time.

As in a fire the loss greatly depends upon the time required for efficient aid to arrive, so the result of catarrh greatly depends upon the speedy use of efficient remedies. For over a quarter of a century, Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy has been the standard remedy. The positive cures it has effected are numbered by thousands. Each year has witnessed an increased sale Its reputation is the result of superior merit. If the disease has extended to the throat or lungs, Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery should be used with the Catarrh Remedy. These two medicines will speedily cure the most stubborn case of catarrh. See the People's Common Sense Medical Adviser. a work of over 900 pages. Price $1.50. Address the author, R. V. Pierce, M. D., Buffalo N. Y.

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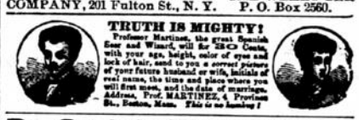

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