

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Most fruit is nicer if cooked in the syrup. Hard fruits, such as quinces and hard pears, should first be cooked in clear water and when about done put into the syrup and simply scalded through.

Why Eat Toast? Invalids the world over are given their bread in the form of toast. The lay world is generally quite ignorant of why this is done. It is because, explains a medical authority, that toasting bread until it becomes brown largely converts the starch into dextrine; and hence, so far as the brown portion is concerned, one of the processes of digestion is gone through before the bread is taken into the stomach. It will be found that the thinner the slices of bread and the more thoroughly they are toasted, the easier the digestion will be, and when all portions of the slice of bread are thoroughly toasted—not burned, but still changed to a deep brown color—it will be found to be still more easily digested than ordinary toast.

Sweet Pickles. Fruit should not be over-ripe. Prepare them for pickling. Put them into a preserving kettle and cover them with cold water; set them on to the stove where they will heat slowly, but not boil, until they are penetrated with the heat. Take the fruit out on to several layers of a cloth to drip and dry for an hour. Put them into the kettle and cover with good vinegar; heat slowly but must not boil, but keep hot good vinegar, two pounds of sugar, boiled together to form a syrup. Put into the syrup while hot, allspice whole—mace cloves, cinnamon bark, cloves and ginger root. Put the fruit in jars and pour the spiced vinegar over the fruit until the jar is full. Seal up and put away for use. This quantity of syrup will pickle six pounds of fruit.

The Refrigerator. It may seem unnecessary to speak of cleaning the refrigerator after we are through with it for the season, but with the hurry incident to Thanksgiving preparations, one is apt to overlook this article, perhaps leave it to clean at some less busy time, and the result is it is entirely forgotten, the last piece of ice melts, the slime in the pipe hardens, the zinc and woodwork absorb the bad air, and the whole is contaminated. If you cannot find time to clean it, then be sure to leave the cover up a few inches to allow the circulation of air and thus prevent mustiness. Give it a thorough scouring with some variety of soap powder and hot water, shaking some of the powder down the pipe and cleaning it by a piece of wire or rattan about which a strip of cloth is wound. Use scalding water wherever you can to rinse it sweet; the shelves and other removable portions may be set out of doors, and if the refrigerator can be moved to an open window or wheeled upon the porch, the sweetening process will be more thorough. Let it air all day, then, if it still smells musty, leave a match or skewer under the cover; this allows fresh air without danger of must.

Do not allow it to become a clutter closet or a child's playhouse, for the spring will come before you are aware, and in that busy season when the first hot day calls for ice, you will not care to spend valuable time in clearing the ice-box of rubbish. I allowed my boy to use mine one winter; he got some small toys wedged in the pipe, and in the spring the pipe had to be cut before it could be used. This necessitated quite a bill, for a new piece of pipe had to be used and soldered in. If the refrigerator occupies valuable room, move it away for the winter to storeroom or attic, but, by all means, keep it for its legitimate use.

One on the Rector. Cleveland Plain Dealer. The little daughter of a local clergyman has reached the age where big words are apt to floor her and where she is very sensitive to the remarks of an older brother. Not long ago she came running to her father. "Papa, papa, George called me names." "Why, what did George say?" "Oh," said the little girl, with a strong expression of disgust, "he said I practiced what I preached! I don't, do I?" "Well, my child, I—"

"But I don't, do I, papa? I don't any more than you do, do I?" And then the rector choked up. But he took a half hour from his sermon and explained the meaning of the obnoxious expression to the best of his ability. GARRISON, Phillips and the old abolitionists in Massachusetts, in order to show their contempt for the constitution of their country which permitted African slavery, met at Wollston Heights and publicly burned a copy of the constitution, denouncing it as a league with death and covenant with hell. What would they think if they were living now of our own recent treaty with the Sultan of Sulu that not only pledges the United States to uphold a polygamous despot whose subjects are slaves and whose chief industry is piracy, but uses money wrong from the American people through taxes to help support the Sultan's twelve wives and numerous children?

Sir Thomas Lipton, owner of the Shamrock, which will contest for the American cup, was once in business in Omaha, where he failed to make a success. The largest Existing Ship. The new White Star Steamer Oceanic has finished her maiden voyage from Liverpool to New York in 6 days and 2 hours. She is the biggest existing ship afloat and when her machinery is in working order it is probable she will be the fastest, as when she steamed from Liverpool to Queenstown in less than 12 hours she made twenty-one knots an hour with ease and made twenty-three knots on her trial trip. She is scheduled to leave New York for Liverpool every other Wednesday and on her maiden trip came into port within five minutes of her schedule. The Oceanic was 22 months in building and cost nearly \$5,000,000. She has a crew of 500 men and will carry 1,500 passengers. Her length is 701 feet or 26 feet longer than the Great Eastern. She has seven decks, all of steel, and would raise if placed in the street above the roofs of six-story buildings. The promenade deck is 600 feet long. The main saloon is 80 feet long, 64 feet wide and 9 feet from floor to ceiling. There is a music room with the finest instruments procurable, and a library of 4,000 volumes. Like other modern vessels she is equipped with twin screws of the most powerful type.

Dry Salt Baths. A dry salt bath is said to tone up the general system and renovate the complexion as if by magic. "I never had anything do me so much good," said a lady who has tried it. "I get that feeling of fatigue, which oppresses me nearly every summer. My physician advised me to avoid tonics and to try salt baths instead. I fill a large earthen jar with the coarsest salt I can get, and add enough water to this to make a sort of thick salt paste, but not enough to dissolve the mineral. Every morning when I get up I take this up in handfuls and rub it briskly over my body. Next I jump into a tub of clear, cold water, and take a thorough but quick dousing. This being done, I take a brisk rub down with a Turkish towel. "The effect is delicious. It gives one a sense of exhilaration. But the best part of the dry salt bath is not the feeling of freshness and renewed life that it imparts, but the soft, satiny texture of the skin."

A TALENTED governess who wanted to be an actress and went to ask Henry Irving about the "method of procedure," had to wait in the theater until he got through with his part before she could see him, and this is her opinion of his acting: "To tell the truth, his rendering of Hamlet was intensely amusing to me, and when I saw him die so artistically, with an evident desire not to spoil the artistic effect of the scene by any awkward movement, such as a real dying man would have made, I settled grimly in my own mind that I would go and see him immediately after the play. For I reasoned that he can sacrifice the actor's part for fear of spoiling the artistic effect must have a weak spot somewhere in his heart for other weak mortals."

A FILIPINO Fable: A boy who had a brindle dog on a string was so tired that the dog was on the point of achieving independence, when a member of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals accosted the boy and chided him for not giving the dog his freedom, and finally bought the string for the sum of twenty cents. The last the boy saw of the kind-hearted stranger he was kicking the stuffing out of the dog because it hung back when he pulled on the string.

A COUPLE in Oklahoma were married from across a swollen river, the minister being on one side, the happy pair on the other. When we get wireless telephones it ought to be practicable for people to be married with the bride in one country, the groom in another and the parson in a third.

ACCORDING to a New York physician, women who enter hospitals there to learn the profession of nurses look upon the hospital as a matrimonial hunting ground, where young physicians are the quarry; that flirting with the doctors comes first and taking care of the patients second.

As old soldier in Michigan lost a leg by amputation 10 years ago, and had it buried in a coffin in the cemetery. Funeral services were held over it, at which he wept profusely. He takes the best of care of his grave, and places flowers on it all through the summer months.

A NORTH-SIDE clergyman, who was entertaining some friends at his home one evening, chanced to relate a rather marvelous story that he had heard somewhere, when the little 5-year-old daughter said: "Now, papa, is that really true, or is it just preaching?"

JOHNNY, aged 4, was out walking with his father when he observed a man at work with a pruning knife. "What's that man cutting the trees for, papa?" he asked. "He is pruning them," replied the father. "And how soon will the prunes be ripe?" asked Johnny.

"How did you and mamma come to get married, anyhow?" asked Johnny Chatfield of his father. "Ask your mamma. She knows more about it than I do," was the reply.

AMERICAN farmers own cows to the value of \$369,239,993, a sum equal to more than one-half of the capital of all the national banks in the United States.

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STATE NEWS. Oakesdale reports the largest school enrollment in its history. The banks of Colfax, a city of 3,500 population, have deposits of \$750,000—mostly from farmers.

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