

## Just Folks

By EDGAR A. GUEST

"IT'S A BOY."

The doctor leads a busy life, he wages war with death. Long hours he spends to help the one who's fighting hard for breath. He cannot call his time his own, nor share in others' fun. His duties claim him through the night when others' work is done. And yet the doctor seems to be God's messenger of joy, Appointed to announce this news of gladness: "It's a boy!"

In many ways unpleasant is the doctor's round of cares, I should not like to have to bear the burdens that he bears, His eyes must look on horrors grim, unmoved he must remain, Emotion he must master if he hopes to conquer pain, Yet to his lot this duty falls, his voice he must employ To speak to man the happiest phrase that's sounded, "It's a boy!"

I wish 'twere given me to speak a message half so glad As that the doctor brings unto the fear-distracted dad. I wish that simple words of mine could change the skies to blue And lift the care from troubled hearts, as those he utters do. I wish that I could banish all the thoughts that man amoy And cheer him as the doctor does, who whispers: "It's a boy."

Whoever through the hours of night has stood outside her door And wondered if she'd smile again; who'er has paced the floor And lived those years of fearful thoughts, and then been swept from woe, Up to the topmost height of bliss that's given men to know, Will tell you there's no phrase so sweet, so charged with human joy As that the doctor brings from God—that message: "It's a boy!"

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## Mother's Cook Book

September streaks the woodlands o'er With many a brilliant color; The world is brighter than before,— Why should our hearts be duller? Sorrow and the scarlet leaf, Sad thoughts and shiny weather! Ah! meet this glory and this grief, Agree not well together.

—T. W. Parsons.

### Food for the Family.

A bran bread which is wholesome and easily made is a recipe which should be found in all households. The following is a good one:

#### Bran Bread.

Take one pint each of flour and bran, one cupful of buttermilk, or sweet milk will do, a teaspoonful of soda, a half teaspoonful of salt, three tablespoonfuls of molasses. Mix and bake one hour to one hour and a quarter.

#### Graham Popovers.

Take one cupful each of graham flour and white flour, one cupful each of milk and water, a teaspoonful of sugar and a half teaspoonful of salt. Beat the flour and the milk together then add the water and other ingredients, beat well with an egg beater, pour into hot gem pans and bake in a hot oven. These are light as a feather.

#### Prune Bread.

Wash a cupful of prunes and soak over night in water to cover. In the morning remove the pits and chop the prunes, add one quart of flour, one pint of graham flour, a teaspoonful of salt, a tablespoonful of sugar, one yeast cake dissolved in lukewarm water and enough warm milk to make a soft dough. Allow it to rise, stir briskly, put into a well buttered bread pan. Let rise again and bake in a moderate oven. This is a very healthful bread and one the children like.

#### Eggs in Baskets With Bacon.

Separate the whites and yolks of as many eggs as desired, being careful not to break the yolks. Beat the whites until stiff enough to stand. Turn into a buttered baking dish, make small depressions for the yolks and carefully drop them in. Dot with butter, sprinkle with salt and bake a medium brown. Serve garnished with crisp, fried bacon.

#### Cabbage and Apple Salad.

Chop together one cabbage head, four tart apples, season well with salt and cayenne and mix with a good mayonnaise dressing. Serve at once.

#### Thousand Island Dressing.

Take one cupful of mayonnaise dressing, one cupful of whipped cream, one-half cupful of chili sauce or catsup, two tablespoonfuls of minced red pepper, one tablespoonful of chopped cucumber, one tablespoonful of Worcestershire sauce. Mix in the order given and serve at once.

#### Pecan Pralines.

Boil together one pound of brown sugar, one tablespoonful of butter, and four tablespoonfuls of water; when the mixture begins to boil add one-half pound of pecans, when it begins to bubble, remove from the heat and drop by spoonfuls on buttered dish or marble slab. Stir constantly while cooking.

Nellie Maxwell  
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