THE DARKEST HOUR.

For a period of four years I've been a victim of a very severe and agonizing case of Salt Rheum which affected my hands to such an extent that they almost become a burden.

My hand became raw and horrifying, compelling me to keep it covered all the time.

I've spent hundreds of dollars for various preparations, but instead of benefiting my condition, they all seemed to stimulate and encourage the progress of the miserable disease, until I had about given up all hope.

But thank heaven "the darkest hour is just before day," and I am rejoiced to know that a positive cure has been found, which is known as B. B. B.—Botanic Blood Balm.

My family all rejoice at its magical curative powers in giving me relief. My hand has been cured and resembles a burnt surface after being healed over, more than anything else. It has also cured my two children of a loathsome form of itch which had resisted all previous treatment. I refer to any business house in Moody, and to Thomas Payne, druggist, of whom I purchased the goods.

(Signed) W. A. BRYANT.

Moody, Tex., April 7, 1886.

FLESH SLOUGHING OFF IN PIECES.

For two years I have been confined to bed with a loathsome form of Blood Poison, which had about let me up, and I and others had no hope of a recovery. For a while I could neither walk nor even sit down, only in misery. My high spirit seemed to be falling off my lungs in pieces as big as a hen egg. My appetite was lost, my nerves racked and pained me, and my friends even admitted me. I used various blood purifiers without benefit, and several physicians treat d me until large sums of money had been expended, but not one particle of good did any one give me.

In the fall of January, 1885, Mr. F. B. Jackson induced me to try B. B. B., and I, not dead, as he was thought I could not live, ordering my suffering much longer. He opened a bottle of B. B. B. on me and got the first one from Mr. Brockington at Beaufort. S. C. I took a bottle and been used I commenced gaining in weight, my appetite improved, sores commenced healing, and when I had taken half dozen bottles I was on my feet and walking around to my great astonishment of everybody.

Witness: GEO. R. JACKSON. MRS. MARTHA HART.

Beaufort, S. C., May 10, 1886.

All who desire full information about the cause and cure of Blood Poisons, Scrofula and Scrofulous Swellings, Ulcers, Sores, Rheumatism, Kidney Complaints, Catarrh, etc., can secure by mail, free, a copy of our 32 page Illustrated Book of Wonders, filled with the most wonderful and startling proof ever before known. Address: BLOOD BALM CO., Atlanta, Ga.

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Sent free to married men on application address L. B. Crouch, Pharmacist, 22 Grand St., N. Y.

CELEBRITIES AT HOME.

Morrison R. Waite, Chief-Justice of the United States—His Personal Appearance.

On the Bench and at Home—Residence of the Chief-Justice—An Interesting Family—Social Life.

Correspondence of the Gazette.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—You can see him on the avenue almost any fine day, coming up or going down the great Washington thoroughfare with a step as light and springy as any schoolboy's. He is not a man a stranger would notice particularly unless he happened to know it was the Chief Justice of the United States. Then, no doubt, if you did not live in Washington, you would turn twice and take a good look at the short, rather stout, figure of the distinguished Chief Justice. But if you are a Washingtonian it would not disturb you in the least to jostle and be jostled by the great Judge. You have become sur-

CHIEF JUSTICE WAITE.

felted with greatness; you know the true inwardness of things, and every day you pass men who, anywhere, save at the political capital, would be the talk of the town. But the Washingtonians have become used to it, for here everybody, who is anybody, has, or is trying to, cut a figure in politics. But we are not to moralize on Washington society, we are to write of the home life of Morrison R. Waite.

As I have said, the personal appearance of the Chief Justice is not very imposing; but I do not mean to infer that it is the reverse. He is of medium height, with a figure as straight as an arrow despite his age, and a large, well poised head, covered with hair almost as white as snow. His face is thoughtful and kindly. A rather large nose, respectably timed; dark, keen, piercing eyes and heavy chin and jaw covered with thick, well kept whiskers, make up an ensemble that instinctively makes one father the wish that the man was our friend. When he puts on his long, silk robe and with dignified mien ascends the bench, he is a little different. His face loses a little of its cherry expression; he looks dignified and wise, as befits his office, and appears the very embodiment of the just judge.

Before we go with him to his home, suppose we linger a while in the Supreme court and get a few facts about the public life of the Chief Justice. Perhaps there was no more surprised man in the Union than Judge Waite in 1876, when he was appointed to the highest place on the Supreme bench. He was scarcely known outside of his home in Toledo, and had not been mentioned for the position. His appointment was a great surprise, but no one had a word to urge against him. No one seemed to know anything about the gentleman, so he was confirmed by the Senate without any opposition and came to the capital to live. Unlike most of his predecessors he had his reputation to make after he got to the top of the ladder, and, perhaps, everyone now admits that he has won a name honestly and without chicanery. He does not advertise himself before the public; he does not, as some of his predecessors have done, try to use his high position as a stepping-stone to the presidency, but goes quietly along doing his duty faithfully, attending to the business of the nation and making a reputation that will compare favorably with that of Marshall, Chase and Taney. Perhaps, he is not as great as were some of these but the age seems rather to call for useful than for great men.

Justice Waite came from a family of lawyers. Over 200 years ago his ancestors settled in Connecticut, and even then there were lawyers among them. His father was at one time Chief Justice of his native state, and the family are very prominent there. The present Judge Waite was the youngest of eight children, and was born at Lyme, Conn., a little over seventy years ago. He entered Yale College at seventeen and graduated at twenty-one in a class which numbered among its members such men as William M. Evarts, Edwards Pierrepont, Benjamin Silliman and many others who have since become distinguished in every vocation of life. Leaving college he studied law with his father, but before he was admitted to the bar he got the western fever, which was then raging, and emigrated to Ohio, where he finished his studies and commenced to practice, or rather he hung out his shingle in Toledo, Ohio. After awhile he built up a lucrative practice and was known as one of the prominent citizens of the growing young town. He never held but one public office before he was made Chief-Justice. In 1849 while he was still a comparatively young man, he was elected to represent Toledo in the Legislature. He didn't go to do it: it wasn't his fault. He didn't want the office. He protested his unfitness. But he was only human; he did as every other American would have done—he accepted the nomination.

The Chief-Justice is a man who likes to be at home, and most of his time is spent in his pleasant residence on I street. The house is a large brick edifice, and there are clustered around it, perhaps, the residences of more distinguished men than can be found in any other section of the capital. On one side is the old fashioned mansion of John W. Foster, once United States Minister to Mexico, and then to Spain, and in the other lives John W. Thompson, the well known Washington banker. Next to this house is ex-Secretary Chandler's palatial residence, and just around the corner are the former residences of James G. Blaine, Fernando Wood and Governor Thomas Swan. On the lot next to the Waite residence, the Mexican legation is being rapidly pushed to completion, and near by Editor McLean of the Cincinnati Enquirer is putting the finishing touches to his splendid Washington house, which was once the property of Hamilton Fish of New York.

But to return to the residence of the Chief Justice. Ascending the few broad steps we go in. Turning to the right we enter the parlor. There is nothing remarkable about the room. It is like a hundred others you have seen. There are tables and settees and easy chairs; no two alike. There are pictures on the walls, bric-a-brac on the tables, and a grand piano in the corner. Through the partly open folding door we catch a glimpse of a charming and comfortable vista. Immediately in the rear of the parlor is the library, with handsome bookcases, filled with well worn volumes on every conceivable subject. But it is for the most part elegant literature, such as novels, poems and books of travel. There are lazy looking lounges, and huge chairs that one could lose oneself in, and on the floor lies the latest new novel in paper cover, evidently finished and thrown aside as useless by its reader. Back of this half study, half sitting room is the dining room, rich warm, tasteful and elegant. "You have plenty of room" I remarked to the Chief-Justice. "Yes," he answered laughingly, "but I manage to keep them all pretty full." The careless reply touched the key note of the hospitable ways of the distinguished jurist. The social exactions upon the Chief Justice of the Supreme court are something enormous. Scarcely an evening passes that a reception, or a dinner, or a party does not demand his presence. Of course the position of a Chief-Justice is at the head of society, and he is much courted, not only because of his exalted rank, but quite as much on account of his culture and good fellowship. His family is small, consisting only of his wife, an unmarried daughter, and the widow of his eldest son. But it is quite large enough to make the rather large home an attractive one, and few houses in Washington are more in favor with the fashionable visiting world, that ebbs and surges in the capital like no other city in America.

Preceded by my host I left the parlor, and at his invitation went up to "the den" as he calls it. He, a man of seventy, ran up the long flight of stairs as nimbly as a boy of seventeen, and as we ascended he explained that this was his work shop. The den is over the dining-room, and is an ideal place for work. Well lighted and ventilated, tastefully carpeted and papered, is a charming apartment. A bright fire glows and sparkles in the grate, a rich warm rug is in front of it, and the large table is drawn up close so as to get the full benefit of the heat. The desk is piled with legal looking papers; from out of the half open drawers peep others of the same character, and on a little cleared space stands a half emptied coffee cup. As for books, there are hundreds of them, all arranged in precise rows in the bookcases, and covered in conventional sheepskin. They are all law books, you see no novels, or poems, no newspapers scattered asound. In every

THE WAITE RESIDENCE.

available spot on the walls where the book cases do not interfere, are hung engravings of Judge Waite's predecessors, large photographs of Webster, Clay, Grant, Hayes and other distinguished men. From the top of a huge bookcase, a great stuffed owl, that emblem of pompous wisdom, looks wisely down, as if sitting in judgement on the Chief-Justice and his visitors. It is in this cozy room that Justice Waite does most of his work. When he first came to the Supreme court some ten years ago, he began doing or trying to do his work in the evening, but he soon found that social duties demanded that portion of the day. He made up his mind that he must work in the morning, so he rises early, and with no companion save his cup of coffee, he does his work while most of his colleagues are still in the land of dreams. He has his breakfast at 10 o'clock, and then goes back to his work, only leaving it when noontide draws nigh and his presence at court is demanded.

RO. L. CLUTTER.

For Sale.

At the Thoroughbred Stock Farm of Mrs. A. H. Montgomery, one mile east of Pilot Point, a large lot of bull calves, ages ranging from six months to fifteen months old; prices to suit the times. For further particulars address Mrs. Montgomery, or Thos. Cummins, Superintendent of the Montgomery Ranch.

HENRY WARD BEECHER.

He Does Not Believe All Should Suffer for the Sins of a Few.

NEW YORK, Feb. 5.—In the course of his reply to a toast at the annual banquet of the Amherst Alumni Association last night, Rev. Henry Ward Beecher said: "This abomination, the Knights of Labor, is the result of this infernal idea of paternity of goverment. This is from want of intelligence. God knows I am the friend of the workingman. I am a workingman, I came from a working stock. My grandfather and his father were blacksmiths and my mother's people worked in leather. The working people are being taken care of by the Knights of Labor instead of taking care of themselves, and people all over the land are being punished and business is stagnated because of it, just because a few men in Jersey have done wrong. The destruction of the poor is their ignorance."

THE CUMBERLAND.

High Water Now and a Further Rise Coming.

NASHVILLE, TENN., Feb. 4.—The Cumberland river at this point is booming. The heavy rains of the past few days have covered a large area and have caused a rise of about six feet since Monday. The low lands adjacent to Nashville are overflowed and many families have been run out of their homes. Reports from Carthage indicate a heavy rise yet to reach here that will cause a further rise of from three to five feet. This will force at least 100 families to vacate their homes.

For sick headache, female troubles, neuralgic pains in the head take Dr. J. H. McLean's Little Liver and Kidney Pillets. 25 cents a vial.

LADIES' COLUMN.

Twitterings of Birds in Leafless Trees Waken Visions of Spring to Feminine Minds.

The Love of a Bonnet Discussed in all Aspects—Masque Costumes in Two Seasons.

A Common Trial Among Housekeepers—Plain Directions for a Simple Dinner—Notes, Etc.

The note of the mating birds in their tender love chat, hints of spring, and the young woman's thoughts turn not lightly but seriously to thoughts of loves of bonnets. Nor is it too soon to catch some far-off whisperings of the coming styles. The prophets who venture to predict on so uncertain a subject, wisely say that large hats and small bonnets will be worn; the crown of the former still high, inclining to slope back. In spite of an effort to introduce low crowns, the fancy is for those that are high and square. In bonnets the trimming is still massed in front, and great license is granted in material used, ribbon, piece velvet, flowers with gauze, all being used according to the taste. In headgear as well as in other matter pertaining to a woman's toilet there is now a tendency to originality and individuality, and perhaps there is no department where it is more important than in the selection of bonnets, the nearness of the face making it imperative that there should be no incongruity either in shape or color. Milan straw of all shades will be popular, and is being imported in fancy braids. In elegant bonnets for state occasions, real jewels are introduced in the trimming. There is a disposition manifested for subdued colors, or when rich colors are used they are so artistically blended as to avoid all bizarre effect. Feather edged ribbon will continue in use, much of it in fancy styles, striped and checked.

Fine flowers like Scottish heather bloom, elderberry blossoms, forget-me-nots and tiny close rosebuds are at hand. These will be used as piques, or aigrettes to build up the front of bonnets to the regulation height. There are some broad flat bandeaus of fine flowers shown for the sides of bonnets and they are arranged in the center so that they will mingle gracefully with the high trimmings on the top of bonnets; or they may be used with bonnets having a lower crown if the trimmer desires.

In the matter of dress there are no new developments, the season being scarcely far enough advanced to expect much until Easter preparations begin. There is as much said of sateen and ginghams as last week, and designers seem to be taxing their ingenuity to render these serviceable and attractive. Mention is made of the following designs exhibited in some of the New York houses: Sateen in dark bright tennis stripes and checks. In small figured foulard designs, with their closely twilled surfaces, they are softer, smoother, lighter, more like India silk than ever. The special novelties show dark grounds of green, brown, indigo or gray blue, with broad bars of hieroglyphics and quaint, strongly marked eastern figures in white. There is also a new weave in gingham to resemble drawn work in linen. A navy blue ground, for instance, has cords of red and tan, or tan and white, or red and white run through the open spaces of the drawn work, making piquant and picturesque stripes to be made up in combination with plain goods.

So graceful a garment as the polonaise cannot long remain out of use, and the signs of its complete restoration to favor are unmistakable. The one demand seems to be that it shall button in all sorts of eccentric fashion, and then it may be worn of any material and on all occasions.

As carnival approaches masquerading parties will be a feature in entertaining, and they are an agreeable change from the regulation style of evening entertainments. In order to aid the masker, two pretty costumes are given, but the charm of costuming consists in the originality of the design by the wearer. An argument in favor of this is, in that case the action is suited to the word, or perhaps better said, one can more easily assume a character of their own choosing.

NEW MATERIAL.

The fashion for tailor-made clothes among the ladies is probably the origin of the present run upon a new material for ladies' dresses, heretofore worn almost exclusively by the sterner sex. I refer to the silk serge with which men's overcoats of a fine grade are usually lined. The colors and texture of this article doubtless caught the fancy of some fashionable dame while she was undergoing measurement at her tailor's, and a dress from it proved to be, as she inferred it would be, just too lovely for anything. The fashion is spreading, and as the serge is usually kept only at tailors' shops, the latter are invaded daily by bevies of women, much to the surprise of the Sartorial fraternity. As the quantity of cloth desired is more than is necessary to repair a husband's coat under ordinary circumstances, the nature of the sudden and extensive demand was not at first easily understood. The merit of the stuff lies in the fact that it will preserve its original luster without turning "shiney." Nor will it lose its shape under pressure, or retain the creases of a cramped position in a carriage or other sitting posture. The prediction is made that it will ever remain fashionable, like broadcloth for a gentleman's attire. As it comes in a great many varieties of color and quality, the taste and purse of the wearer may be employed freely in a selection of material.—[Exchange.

COSTUMES EN MASQUE.

Another very original dress represents a summer storm. One-half of the skirt is in sky-blue satin, on which is worked in gold a half disc and the long rays of a setting sun. From this side are drawn back full skirts of black tulle, striped with lines of silver to represent rain. These widths fall full and are unconfined over an under lining of black satin at the other side of the skirt. The corsage is of black tulle, striped with silver, made full and crossed transversely with a gauze scarf in the prismatic colors to represent a rainbow. This scarf is attached at the waist to that side of the skirt which is composed of black tulle and over which its two long ends are allowed to fall. A very pretty costume, representing winter, has a short skirt entirely formed of swansdown and a corsage in white satin, bordered with swansdown. A pair of silver skates is attached by a white satin ribbon to one side of the waist. A Polish cap in swansdown and a muff of the same material complete the dress.

A FAIR NUN.

A visiting dress for a young lady is of light gray and mouse colors. The underskirt is of plain gray velvet. The tunic gray velvet. The tunic forms a polonaise of fine cloth in the same shade. It buttons on the side and is draped high. A cording falls over the draped part and on the skirt. It is of gray silk and beads. On the upper part of the waist is a piece of embroidered velvet. The cloth sleeve is half long and laced by means of a silk lacing over a second velvet sleeve, which is very narrow. Over the waist is a small cape of gray cloth, with a beaded collar and epaulets. The hat matching this dress is of very fine gray felt, lined and trimmed with gray velvet. The fancy ornament is of gray beads.

A PARISIAN DRESS.

This gown is of a dark brown woolen material, combined with bands of the same fabric, covered with very fine braid appliques. The front breadth of the skirt is very narrow, and of the branded material, while from each side a jaboted drapery starts, which is caught at the center of the side by another band of the braided material, which corresponds to the skirt panel. The back drapery is made bouffant above the hips, and also jabots towards the sides; the basque is laced down the front and has a pointed plastron of the braided material.

REDINGOTE.

The dress of a matron recently worn at a New York reception was a gray cloth over grey plush in a darker shade; the cloth redingote slightly bouffant at the opening over the plush skirt. The body part was buttoned down to a point below the waist with old silver buttons, but was otherwise quite plain; and three silver buttons were placed on the back of each wrist, where they met the Quaker gray gloves. The bonnet was of gray velvet, with ornaments of silver and gray feathers.

HOUSE DRESS.

A favorite garment with middle-aged ladies is a demi-train of black satin with ruffles of white lace graduated from the throat to the toes. If constant wear is exacted the front is covered with white silk and flounced with black lace, making a very pleasing toilet, and an inexpensive one, too. If silken textures are beyond the income, any black woolen texture may be used with equal charming effect; low-toned merinos or serges, especially plum and maroon.

NOTES.

Gray and pink are favorite combinations.

The coat sleeve is giving place to puffs.

All shades of violet and heliotrope are in demand.

Black and gold is the latest and most decided combination.

Low heeled, sensible shoes grow more and more fashionable.

Small clusters of ribbon are being worn extensively on evening dresses.

The tournure is neither greater nor less—it remains stationary.

Tan-colored gloves retain their popularity, though gray is coming into favor.

Pretty ribbon bows are meeting with favor among ornaments to be worn in the hair.

Skirts are short for the street, demi-trained for evening, and full trained for dinners and receptions.

Dinner cloths or tray cloths are now fashionable when made of the new Irish linen with colored borders in so-called peasant work.

Long streamers of narrow ribbon are fastened at the back of evening corsages and allowed to float out over the trained skirt.

The latest fancy from Paris is a little pompon of crisp tulle, from which rises a heron's plumes, to be worn in the hair with dancing toilets.

The fashion of low inner bodices, with the outer waist of transparent material, high in the neck and with half-easy sleeves, is returning and promises to be popular.

Lengths of wide ribbon, finished with a bow, tied around the arm, are sometimes worn as a finish with the long gloves so popular for evening wear.

Pleated fronts to basques are worn by persons who have very slender figures, even in the heaviest velvet materials. They have two pleats at the top of the shoulders next the collar, and then drawn to the middle, becoming plain at the waist line.

Among the new and pretty devices of fashion is a bow of ribbon tied to the button-hole, midway between the neck and waist, and turned gracefully to one side. Ends are short, and ribbon one inch or inch and a half wide.

Large brimmed hats will probably reappear next season, and cotton dresses—white, pale pink and electric blue—will be made with full sleeves falling over straight cuffs; full, belted in waists and straight skirts with draped fronts. No flounces, no ruffles, no lace trimmings.

A novel effect in embroidery is produced by mixing silver with black jet upon Rubens brown. It is considered very distinguished. A large Rubens hat in brown, with silver and jet net over the crown, and brown ostrich feathers would accompany such a costume.

Pale blue crape is used for a kerchief fichu, which forms a soft, delicate dressing for the neck and throat: it is laid from the collar down across the bust, one fold passing beneath the other and ending in a point, with a knot of picot edged ribbon; the folds are edged with Pompadour lace.

Skillful needle women are working panels for reception and tea gowns in applique designs of velvet on satin, buttonholed around the edge to prevent fraying. A favorite design is a spray of cherries and leaves in black velvet, edged and veined with steel beads, on a background of gray or white satin.

Children under four years old wear skirts reaching to the ankles. This length is gradually shortened until for girls of eight or ten years the skirt reaches just below the knees, while for misses of twelve it is half way between knee and boot tops, and for those of fourteen it touches the top of the boots.

The fancy for wearing ribbons in the neck and sleeves instead of linen finds a prompt response in the shops where ruchings are shown on the edge of which is sewn narrow ribbons of all colors. The taste for colored ruching grows and it is shown in all shades, to contrast with or exactly match the costume.

The tendency in draperies is to make them long and full and quite dissimilar to anything hitherto fashionable. The draperies have heavy, pointed fan folds and very little looping. The effect is obtained by the varying length of the points in which the drapery hangs rather than by loops. These modes are seen with plain skirts and large tournure.

Costumes of woolen fabrics and even those of silk and wool, are often either perfectly plain or have only a flat band on the lower part. Dressy toilets of light material have several rows of narrow, gathered silk, alternating with tulle, gauze or lace flounces to match the dress. There are two or four of these flounces, according to their width. The drapery is so arranged that these flounces are not entirely concealed.

The spring styles in dress are extremely close at the sides and bouffant at the back; the tournure coming more pronounced than ever, though remaining high and narrow. The styles for spring seem to necessitate the use of soft, yet strong cloths, which will lend themselves to graceful draperies and the strain of the smooth, close-fitting portions of the dress. Silk underskirts, which were formerly considered a luxury, become a necessity with the close fronts and sides of spring dresses. The silk lining, no particle of which must be seen, as it is merely a support for the wool skirt, gives a spring and grace to the carriage and is thus entirely different in effect from the wool skirt over a cotton lining, which clings to the wearer, impeding the movements and rendering the walking ungainly and awkward.

The Household.

DEAR KATE—Do you remember in my last the mention of "a perfect treasure?" It was a most unfortunate betrayal. By what code of honor a woman justifies her approaches to another's cook I do not know, but this is not among the least annoying vexations housekeepers encounter. Of course I know the laborer is worthy of hire, but because one woman is able to pay more for service than another fails to justify the underhanded measures so often resorted to to entice domestic servants from their homes. A more fair and honorable course would be to see the employer and openly appeal to her sense of justice regarding the employe. There is an old injunction in regard to covetousness that includes in its enumeration of prohibitions the coveting of thy neighbor's servant, and yet this is too often disregarded by those who claim to govern their lives by the book that contains it. The acquirements which render the girl desirable generally result from patient teaching on the part of the employer, and simple justice requires that she should reap some of the fruit of her wearisome labor. There is something radically wrong in a state of social intercourse where a woman dare not breathe to another that she has good house service. At present the only redress seems to be the "eye for an eye" law, which ought to be repugnant to the genuine woman.

The lessons of experience of which I spoke in my last letter have fitted me to meet such emergencies, but my soul recoils from the task of always teaching in the primary department. The first applicant could cook, wash and iron, so she said, and while not elated over the prospect, these lessons being too recent to be forgotten, I hoped for at least some return for the wages demanded. Yesterday morning found the lady of color ready for business, and I ordered a plain breakfast, leaving to her its preparation. Now, Theo is a patient man, but half hours passed to hours and no summons came from the breakfast room. Let me tell you, Kate, when the best of husbands begins to walk the room, take out his watch, go to the window and hum softly, it is wifely wisdom to interview the cook. I descended to the kitchen to be met by a mingling of odors that, to say the least of them, was not appetizing. On opening the door I saw a negro man quietly sitting by the cook-stove enjoying his morning pipe, after having had, as the signs betrayed, his cup of coffee. "Dis is my ole man," was the explanation of his presence, and I quietly submitted to the inevitable, although not so set down in the bond. To my query, "Is breakfast ready?" her cheerful "Yes'em," seemed encouraging, but not so her deliberate movement. To all things there is an end, and it holds good in the cooking of a breakfast, but such an array! Shade of Epicurus, what could appease you? A broiled steak, cooked on a griddle until it resembled leather in color and taste, biscuit greasy with lard and yellow with soda, and the coffee! oh, she knew it was good, for she just let it "bile and bile." The "bile and bile" I readily believed, for the wasting aroma had been diffused over the entire house. I kept my courage and my temper, although Theo's grave attempt at a smile was such a ghostly reminder of our common woe that I almost cried. A hasty parting at the hall door, then I turned to the work in hand. With content rarely equaled, I saw my aid-de-camp comfortably seated by the kitchen stove, one of my pretty china cups upon the hearth and the presiding genius fingering over the steak. She quietly looked in and said: "I liked to got too much sody in dese briskit." I made no comment; it was unnecessary and only remarked: "When you have finished I will show you about washing the dishes." I thought I heard: "She's mighty perticklar: reckon I knows how to wash deches."

The Scotch have a proverb that "wishes don't wash dishes," and many a housekeeper sighs that this is true, for whether you do it yourself or delegate it to another, it is a burdensome duty. In this case the boasted knowledge was what I expected, and amounted to utter ignorance of the necessity of preparing the dishes for washing by thorough scraping, piling and sorting, a good supply of hot water and soap and two pans, one for washing and the other for rinsing. I brought with me an ample supply of good linen towels, fine for the glass and silver and heavy for the other ware. Though disposed to be economical, I do not believe it best to use rags for this purpose. Wornout table cloths and napkins are too valuable as old linen, besides leaving lint on the glass that is troublesome to remove.

I was prepared to find the breakfast service all thrown promiscuously in one pan, but hardly for the box and snuff stick that were in close proximity. Quietly but persistently I carried her my way in the cleaning up, and succeeded in reducing to order the chaotic confusion. Then preparation for dinner must be made, which I determined to supervise, the result I reserve for another letter, lest even your patience fail. The bill of fare will be very plain, but as you request, I will add my way of preparing the various dishes.

YOUR FRIEND.

SOUP.

The bone was put on at once in a kettle of cold water, to be watched carefully, and just before it reached the boiling point skimmed thoroughly. This is the golden opportunity for clearing the liquid. After boiling four hours, an hour before serving, sliced turnips and potatoes were added. Just before taking off, salt, pepper and a thickening of flour, which was mixed smoothly in cold water and stirred in, then some toasted bread cut in dice, and a few sprigs of parsley were put in the tureen and the hot soup poured over them.

ROAST BEEF.

The chef at Delmonico's being asked what he regarded as the most difficult achievement in cookery, replied, "rare beef well done." The well doing is the art. The roast weighed but six pounds, and it was not put to baking until an hour and a half before dinner time. It was carefully wiped, not washed, and the clean cut side laid on a hot pan over the fire, reversed and the other side treated in the same way until seared and brown. This prevent any escape of the juices. It was then ready for the oven. The proper degree of heat can always be known by the spattering in the pan, for when this ceases more fuel is needed. The meat is successfully cooked if at the end of the time it is well browned and in the bottom of the pan is a brown jelly from which the gravy is made. The caution in regard to the oven, was that the heat be uniform and not burning.

POTATOES.

Pare and put in cold water for an hour; half an hour will cook them. Have the water boiling and keep it so until they are done; take up, mash, add cream, a small piece of butter and a pinch of salt; put this on a pie plate, smooth with a knife and brown in the oven.

The farmers in the northwestern part of Grayson county have planted a large amount of oats. The wheat outlook is also good, some prophesying an increase in yield of 25 per cent. over last year's crop.

SHAMEFUL ABUSE

Heaped Upon a Noted Englishman for His Open Honesty.

WM. E. ROBSON, M. D., L. R. C. S. I., M. K. Q. C. P. I., late of the Royal Navy of England, has got into professional trouble for writing the following open letter to the editor of the London Family Doctor:

"I believe it to be the duty of every physican to make known any means or remedy whereby sickness can be prevented, and it is for this purpose I write to give my experience both here and abroad. I ask the publication of the statement that people may be warned before it is too late, to say to them that there is at hand a means by which they may be restored to perfect health. It is well known to the medical world, and indeed, to the laity, that a certain disease is making a terrible havoc; that next to consumption it is the most fatal, and that when fully developed there is nothing to be done for the sufferer."

"Physicians and scientists have long been trying to throw light upon the cause, and if possible, find in nature's medicine for this fatal malady. They have shown, absolutely, that the blood-purifying organs of vital importance, are the kidneys, and that when they once fail, the poison that they should take out of the blood is carried by the blood into every part of the body, developing disease." "

"In my hospital practice in England, India and South America, and also while a surgeon in the Royal Navy of Great Britain, I gave a great deal of attention to study of diseases of the kidneys and urinary organs, and found that not only was the cure of chronic Bright's Disease hopeless, but that kidney disease was remarkably prevalent; much more so than generally known, and was the cause of the majority of cases of sickness, and further, that the medical profession has no remedy which exerts any absolute control over these organs in disease."

"Some time ago when I had a case which resisted all regular treatment—which is very limited—complicated with the passing of stones from the kidneys, much against my will I permitted my patient to use Warner's Safe Cure, of which I had heard marvelous results. In his case the result was simply marvelous, as the attack was a severe one, and development very grave, for an analysis showed per cent. of albumen and granular tube casts."

"The action of the medicine was singular and incomprehensible to me. I had never seen anything like it. The patient recovered promptly, and is to-day a well and healthy man. This stimulated my inquiry into the merits of the remedy, and after analysis I found it to be of purely vegetable character, harmless to take under all circumstances."

"Casting aside all professional prejudice I gave it a thorough trial, as I was anxious that my patients should be restored to health, no matter by what medicine. I prescribed it in a great variety of cases, Acute, Chronic, Bright's Disease, Congestion of the Kidneys, Catarrh of the Bladder, and in every instance did it speedily affect a cure."

"For this reason I deem it my duty to give to the world this statement regarding the value of Warner's Safe Cure. I make this statement on facts I am prepared to produce and substantiate. I appeal to physicians of large practice who know how common and deceptive diseases of the kidneys are, to lay aside professional prejudice, give their patients Warner's Safe Cure, restore them to perfect health, earn their gratitude, and thus be true physicians."

"I am satisfied that more than one-half of the deaths which occur in England are caused, primarily, by impaired action of the kidneys, and the consequent retention in the blood of the poisonous uric and kidney acid. Warner's Safe Cure causes the kidneys to expel this poison, checks the escape of albumen, relieves the inflammation and prevents illness from impaired and impoverished blood. Having had more than seventeen years' experience in my profession, I conscientiously and emphatically state that I have been able to give more relief and effect more cures by the use of Warner's Safe Cure than by all the other medicines ascertainable to the profession, the majority of which, I am sorry to say, are very uncertain in their action."

"Isn't that a straightforward, manly letter?"

"Indeed it is."

"Well, but do you know the author has been dreadfully persecuted for writing it?"

"How so? What has he done to merit it?"

"Done? He has spoken the truth 'out of school,' and his fellow physicians, who want the public to think they have a monopoly in curing diseases, are terrible angry with him for admitting professional inability to reach certain disorders."

"That letter created a wonderful sensation among the titled classes and the public. This jarred the doctors terribly. The College of Surgeons and Queen's College, from which institution he was graduated, asked for an explanation of his unprofessional conduct, and notified him that unless he made a retraction they would discipline him.

"The doctor replied that he allowed his patients to make use of Warner's Safe Cure only after all the regular methods *had failed*, and when he was satisfied that there was no possible hope for them. Upon their recovery, after having used Warner's Safe Cure, he was so much surprised that he wrote the above letter to the Family Doctor. He regretted that the faculties found fault with his action in the matter, but he could not conscientiously retract the facts as written to the Family Doctor.

"The faculties of both colleges replied that unless he retracted they should cut him off, which would naturally debar *him from again practicing his profession*, and also prevent his securing another appointment in the Royal Navy."

The illustrious doctor's dilemma is certainly an unpleasant one, emphasizing, as it does, both his own honesty, and the contemptible prejudice and bigotry of English medical men. The masses, however, having no sympathy with their nonsense, keep on using the remedy he so highly recommends and get well, while the rich and able depend upon the prejudiced doctors and die!

A Jackson, Tenn., special of Thursday gives the following curious bit of information: "There is a shabby looking house on College street, in this city, that has for years been occupied by negro tenants. It has two rooms and rents for only $8 per month, and yet one of these rooms is, or was until recently, embellished with paper representing real estate now worth more than $2,000,000. The four sides were covered with land grants belonging to one of the volumes of the land office for West Tennessee, that has been missing since the war. Mr. John W. Gates, Register of the Land Office, has carefully gathered up these valuable documents and will soon have them in shape for future reference and preservation. One leaf represents two grants, 1000 acres on one side and 640 acres on the other side, and that, too, for lands in a county where the old records of the County Register's office are burned.—[New Orleans Times-Democrat.

In McLennan county the ascending moisture has caused wheat sowed last fall to sprout, and the prospect for a two-thirds crop is good.