

# MICHIGAN FARMER

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## THE HOUSEHOLD---Supplement.

### WHAT IS A GENTLEMAN?

What is a gentleman? Is it a thing  
Decked with a scarfpin, a chain and a ring,  
Dressed in a suit of immaculate style,  
Sporting an eyeglass, a lisp and a smile;  
Talking of races, of concerts and balls,  
Evening assemblies and afternoon calls,  
Snoozing himself at "at homes" and bazars,  
Whistling mazurkas and smoking cigars?

What is a gentleman? Say, is it one  
Boasting of conquests and deeds he has done?  
One who unblushingly glories to speak  
Things which should call up a flush to his cheek?  
One who, while railing at actions unjust,  
Robs some young heart of its pureness and trust—

Scorns to steal money, or jewels, or wealth,  
Thinks it no wrong to get honor by stealth?

What is a gentleman? Is it not one  
Knowing instinctively what he should shun,  
Speaking no word that could injure or pain,  
Spreading no scandal and deepening no stain?  
One who knows how to put each at his ease,  
Striving successfully always to please—  
One who can tell by a glance at your cheek  
When to be silent and when he should speak?

What is a gentleman? Is it not one  
Honestly eating the bread he has won,  
Walking in uprightness, fearing his God,  
Leaving no stain on the path he has trod;  
Caring not whether his coat may be old,  
Prizing sincerity far above gold,  
Reckling not whether his hand may be hard—  
Stretching it boldly to grasp its reward?

What is a gentleman? Say, is it birth  
Makes a man noble or adds to his worth?  
Is there a family tree to be had  
Shady enough to conceal what is bad?  
Seek out the man who has God for his guide,  
Nothing to tremble at, nothing to hide,  
Be he a noble, or be he in trade,  
He is a gentleman Nature has made.

—The Pilot.

### CHILDREN AND MONEY.

I believe it is one of parents' most important duties to teach their children the right use and value of money. I am very much opposed to the idea that children are never to be trusted with money, for fear they will waste it. It is a well known fact spendthrifts are made in two ways, one, by allowing too much, so that plenty creates a host of superfluous wants; the other, by having had little or none, so that it is wasted for the pleasure and in the wantonness of spending. A limited sum ought, I believe, to be given to every child as soon as he—I use the pronoun to include children of both sexes—is old enough; not too much, but a sum proportional to his parents' means and out of which certain small needs should be required to be supplied. A better way than giving is to encourage some work by which they may earn money;

they know how it comes then. But this is not always possible. However, the fact remains that whether we give or they earn, if we wish them to save or spend wisely, we must influence them to that end. Generally, in town at least, all the pennies find their way to the candy store, or go for "treats." I have been amused many times by the importance of the ten-year-old miss who marshals a trio of her playfellows up to the fountain and orders ice-cream soda with a grown-up air which is quite comical, as is also the perfect frankness with which they discuss whose turn it is to treat next, or the "stinginess" of some mate who is more ready to accept such obligations than to discharge them. But is it not unwise to indulge this spirit of self-gratification and lavishness? Does it not make improvident men and women, who are ruled by their momentary desires, and cannot deny themselves the satisfaction of small wants? The early years of a child's life are those which form his habits and inclinations, to a large degree. First lessons in prudence and self-denial, not to the extent of deprivation or absolute renunciation, are likely to be remembered.

Ingersoll, in one of his lectures, tells how he would manage the boy's spending money. He would put money in a drawer and tell the lad to help himself; when the supply was exhausted he would renew it. That would be the ruin of nine-tenths of our boys. To spend lavishly the earnings of another for whatever whim is uppermost never did any one good. Moreover, I have seen that plan in practice. The lad I have in mind grew to the age of sixteen with no realization of the value of money. Misfortunes closed the drawer and he was obliged to earn. But his earnings slipped through his fingers like water through a sieve. He was always in debt, always anticipating next month's income. And this was largely due to the unwise policy which permitted him unrestrained expenditure of what he had not earned.

My child should have his allowance—a certain sum every week, as his own. But he should account to me for its spending. This in itself is a check; no one likes to confess to having spent money foolishly. As he grew older I would increase the allowance, at the same time making him responsible for certain personal expenses, a part of his clothing, etc.; and also make part of his pleasures dependent upon his own purse. I would help him to earn, and pay his wages cheerfully. I might, on occasion, do as I once heard of a father's doing; go to the manager of a business,

tell him if he would make a place for my boy I would pay his salary; this gave the boy work, an interest in it because he was earning, and kept him away from idle companions and consequent mischief.

The meanest man who was ever called father is he who gives to his child a colt, a calf, a lamb, lets the child tend and pet it as his own, then sells the animal and puts the money in his own pocket. No man can afford to be so dishonest and dishonorable; he loses his children's confidence, respect and esteem, and deserves the loss.

Some children are too generous, others are inclined to hoard. The generous must be taught prudence, the stingy induced to give. Dispositions must be studied and trained, for "as the twig is bent the tree's inclined."  
BEATRIX.

### MICHIGAN APPLE BUTTER.

Yes, Beatrix, there is such a thing as Michigan apple butter, and a pretty good article it is too. I make a few gallons every year. I prefer sweet apple cider, and nice sour apples; but if we do not have sweet apples enough then I use sour apple cider, and stir in sweet apples. In either case a little sugar improves the taste of the same. We have a hand cider press and make our own cider for apple butter; then we know it is clean, and besides we know it is made of good apples, and that is more than can be said of much of the cider that comes from the mills. Beatrix is not wrong, nor altogether right, about its requiring considerable stirring towards the last. It certainly does, and towards the first too. It requires constant stirring after the apples begin to cook to pieces, which is not long after it begins to cook. If Beatrix could sample my apple butter I am sure she would—well, I think she would order a few gallons at least, to be shipped to her boarding house without delay.

I sincerely wish Huldah Perkins could have a hole in my back yard fence, I would give her a speedy opportunity to bestow her reserved conversation on an appreciative audience.  
BUSY HOUSEKEEPER.

DUNDEE.

A TOPIC suggested by one of our correspondents for discussion in the HOUSEHOLD is the cause of unhappiness in the marital relation and the remedy. We invite the opinions of our readers. Another vital question is, what can farmers' wives do to make our district schools more efficient. There is great need of improvement; how can it best be brought about?

## NATURAL SELECTION.

I think Polly must be one of the seemingly sensible people of this enlightened age. I wonder if she places the human family on a level with the brute creation. In talking of colt raising she has lost sight of the fact that this very act is actuated by the expectation of compensation—viz., money; stock being worth more in the market. I have an idea that Polly must be one of those estimable persons who are left in the shade by the sterner sex; and I think she would be much benefited by reading the following extract from *The Library Magazine* of November 20th, 1886, under the heading of "Falling in Love:" "What we fall in love with, then, as a race, is in most cases efficiency and ability. What we each fall in love with individually is, I believe, our moral, mental and physical complement. Not our like, nor our counterpart; quite the contrary; within healthy limits our unlike, and our opposite. That this is so has long been more or less a commonplace of ordinary conversation; that it is scientifically true, one time with another, when we take an extended range of cases, may, I think, be almost demonstrated by sure and certain warranty of human nature.

"Brothers and sisters have more in common, mentally and physically, than any other members of the same race can possibly have with one another. But nobody falls in love with his sister. A profound instinct has taught even the lower races of men (for the most part) to avoid such union of all but identical characteristics. In the higher races the idea never so much as occurs to us. In minor matters, it is of course universally admitted that short men, as a rule prefer tall women, while tall men admire little women. Dark pairs by preference with fair; the commonplace often run after the original.

"People have long noticed that this attraction towards one's opposite tends to keep true the standard of the race; they have not, perhaps, so generally observed that it also indicates roughly the existence in either individual of a desire for its own natural complement. It is difficult here to give definite example, but everybody knows how in the subtle psychology of 'falling in love,' there are involved innumerable minor elements, physical and mental, which strike us exactly because of their absolute adaptation to form with ourselves an adequate union. Of course we do not definitely seek out and discover such qualities; instinct works far more intuitively than that; but we find at last, by subsequent observation, how true and how trustworthy were its immediate indications. That is to say, those men do so who were wise enough or fortunate enough to follow the earliest prompting of their own hearts, and not to be ashamed of that divinest and deepest of human intuitions, love at first sight."

PARMA.

MOLLY.

MRS. ED., of Oxbow, was a welcome caller upon the HOUSEHOLD Editor last week. She came, she saw, she survived, and promised to come again. She brought a sturdy, blue-eyed boy with her, too; and has promised as a picture for the HOUSEHOLD Album.

## A LIBRARY OF FICTION.

I have been requested to make up for publication in the HOUSEHOLD a list of fifty volumes of fiction, which my correspondent asks shall be "Beatrix's personal choice," and "books Beatrix has read and knows are good." Since the list is to be simply my individual preference in fiction, I have much less reluctance in furnishing it than I should have under certain differing conditions. For our tastes differ in the matter of reading quite as much as in appetite for other things—food for example; and a book one person would admire might be tiresome to another of more or less acquaintance with standard literature. But here is my list:

Titles.	Authors.
Shakespeare.	
The Newcomes.....	Thackeray.
Vanity Fair.....	
Pendennis.....	
Henry Esmond.....	Dickens.
David Copperfield.....	
Our Mutual Friend.....	
Pickwick Papers.....	
Nicholas Nickleby.....	George Eliot.
The Mill on the Floss.....	
Romola.....	
Adam Bede.....	
Middlemarch.....	
Felix Holt.....	Scott.
Ivanhoe.....	
Kenilworth.....	Victor Hugo.
The Heart of Mid-Lothian.....	
The Bride of Lammermoor.....	
Quentin Durward.....	
Les Miserables.....	
Lorna Doone.....	
Cristowell.....	
On the Heights.....	
The Moonstone.....	
The New Magdalen.....	
A Princess of Thule.....	Black.
John Halifax.....	Miss Mulock.
King Arthur.....	
Last Days of Pompeii.....	Bulwer.
Rienzi.....	Chas. Kingsley.
Hypatia.....	
Unknown to History.....	Charlotte Yonge.
Ben Hur.....	Wallace.
The Scarlet Letter.....	Hawthorne.
House of the Seven Gables.....	
Ramona.....	Helen Hunt.
Esie Venner.....	O. W. Holmes.
Anne.....	Miss Woolson.
Guenn.....	Blanche Howard.
Nicholas Minturn.....	Holland.
Reveries of a Bachelor.....	Mitchell.
Indian Summer.....	W. D. Howells.
Little Lord Fauntleroy.....	Mrs. Burnett.
That Lass o' Lowrie's.....	
Little Women.....	Louisa Alcott.
The Maid of Athens.....	Justin McCarthy.
Sketch Book.....	Irving.
History of New York.....	
The Late Mrs. Null.....	Stockton.
Looking Backward.....	Bellamy.

I have endeavored to include in this list no books which will not pay for perusal; for books are goods which must be paid for twice, first in money, then in the equally precious coin of time. There is a great multiplicity of books nowadays, many of which are not worth the dignity of covers, and the destruction of which would be the gain of the world at large. Those I have named will I think be found interesting, and in many cases profitable, sometimes, what is almost as good, amusing. Wilkie Collins said once that it was much easier to select 300 books than three; that is undoubtedly true. So many books have good qualities which recommended them for a particular reason, thus McCarthy's "Maid of Athens" is said to give very accurate as well as finely written descriptions of the famous Athenian ruins, while Bulwer's "Last Days of Pompeii" has become almost a classic since its beautiful character of the blind girl has been immortalized by

Randolph Rogers in his exquisite statue of Nydia.

A few good books, which we find pleasure in reading again and again, are those from which we gain the most. A book is worth little when one reading satisfies us. I have for some time made this a test of merit. There are some books I can pick up in an idle moment, open at random, and read on, becoming almost as interested as at first; others are like a squeezed orange, one reading takes the goodness—all there is of it, and leaves what might be blank paper so far as further interest is concerned.

To the list I have given above I should add "Anna Karenina," by Tolstoi, for its pictures of Russian life and customs, which I found very fascinating; Frank Stockton's "Rudder Grange" for the number of laughs there is in it, and B. F. Taylor's "Summer Savory" for the same reason. Both these are nice to read aloud. Wallace's "The Fair God" is an interesting account of the occupation of the City of Mexico by Cortez, which agrees in most particulars with that given in Robertson's History of America, which I pored over while a child. "A Little Journey in the World," Charles Dudley Warner's novelette concluded in the November *Harper*, I have enjoyed very much and mean to include in my little library. It deals with matters which have often occupied my thought—how circumstances change people, modify and alter their opinions, their modes of thought, their aims and ambitions, the whole mental and moral attitude; and how it comes about that the woman who was thoughtful, earnest, high-minded in one sphere of life, can be transformed by the agency of wealth into a fashionable butterfly, whose aim is only to outshine her compeers, and whose moral views are so perverted that what seemed formerly wrong and unscrupulous to her, is, to her new perceptions, nothing to be lamented.

There are many other books which might be included in the list above. Some will find their favorites left out and wonder why they were not included. The omission must be charged to the limit set, or to difference in literary ideals. BEATRIX.

## STRAY GLEANINGS.

Here is a bit of life's best and truest philosophy: "The people who, not being able to do as they like, determine to like what they can do, have the best times of any I know."

There's one thing about an English breakfast which I am sure I should like. It is the butter, churned fresh every morning, in time for that meal.

Take this item of wisdom for a winter day's consideration: "In ninety-nine cases out of one hundred, all that people want of advice is that it may confirm them in their own already established mental position. They feel the need of moral support, and seek in that fashion to obtain it. Or, they long to cast out an anchor to windward by securing some one to share the blame in case the chosen course turns out badly."

"Mother's room" should have a door that swings both ways. Open to all who need help, it shuts out the idle and garrulous, and securely guards family affairs.

## CHEAP COOKING.

The report of F. H. Underwood, United States Consul at Glasgow, Scotland, to the Department of State at Washington includes an account of a school established in that city three years ago by a charitable lady, for the purpose of educating the wives and daughters of workmen in the preparation of cheap and nutritious food. The school is taught by a sensible, practical woman; and there are two classes, for mothers and unmarried women over twenty years of age, and girls of twenty and under. Each class meets twice a week for lessons in cooking, and once a week for sewing, with occasional instruction in washing and ironing. The attendance is about 350, representing 200 families; and the pupils are the wives and daughters of mechanics and laborers, men who earn from \$3.75 to \$6.25 per week and whose house rent, taxes and water rates amount to from \$10 to \$50 annually for two rooms in an apartment house. It is easy to see how very small a margin is left for food and clothing, and the necessity for the most rigid economy.

In the teachings of the school, therefore, expense is the first consideration, for, as Consul Underwood says, it is easy enough to cook good dinners where there is an unlimited larder. A dinner for six persons can be prepared from materials costing twenty-four cents—a palatable, nutritious meal. Of course the cheapest meats, and cheapest pieces of these, must be bought; butter is not used in the preparation of any of the dishes, which consist largely of soups, stews and meat pies. Potatoes, onions, carrots and turnips are the vegetables used—they are the cheapest. Suet and lard are used for shortening, and "drippings" figure largely. The only fruit mentioned—aside from dried fruits, such as figs, raisins and currants, is the apple; rhubarb, or what we call pieplant, is occasionally used. Fruits and the more delicate vegetables are high-priced in Great Britain, and quite beyond the purchasing power of the average working man; they are luxuries for the rich, instead of being, as in America, the food of all classes in their season. The usual breakfast is oatmeal—"porridge"—and milk, with tea—one teaspoonful of tea to one-half pint of water—or coffee, made in the proportion of one teaspoonful of ground coffee to a breakfast cup.

Consul Underwood speaks particularly of the fine physical condition of the Scotch, their ruddy, healthy complexions, firm muscles and power of endurance. This he attributes partly to inherited qualities, partly to out-door life and exercise, and largely to the daily use of oatmeal. Especially is oatmeal valuable for young children, containing, as it does, more bone and muscle producing constituents than wheat flour. Its larger proportion of nitrogenous substance and fat—15.50 of the former and 6.11 of the latter to the hundred, compared with 8.91 of the first and 1.11 of the second in fine wheat flour—renders it a more perfectly balanced food, as well as a more economical one. In the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, a Scotch soldier's rations on a foray were a bag of oatmeal.

But Consul Underwood says that in cities, Glasgow especially, the use of oatmeal has been practically abandoned for fine wheat flour, bread from which, with weak tea, forms the chief food of the poorer classes. In consequence of this abandonment of the more complete food, in favor of one which is poorer in bone and muscle-forming constituents, the children of the poorer classes, under the combined influence of innutritious food and impure air, are terribly afflicted with the disease known as *rachitis* or rickets, which is due to the want of sufficient phosphate of lime to give stability to the bones. The disease does not appear among children in the country, or those of the better classes in cities, but the deformity resulting from it in Glasgow among the very poor is appalling.

Plenty of milk and oatmeal is an excellent diet for children; there is none better, and these two should form their principal breakfast. Fortunately, the number of homes in which oatmeal is a staple article of consumption is constantly increasing.

## WHO SHALL LEAD?

I am not going to let Polly do all the scolding; I wish to have my say about a few things. Just like a woman, did you say? Of course it is, why not?

This way of showing up people's eccentricities (we'll call it that) is the only "giftie gi' us to see oursel's as ither see us."

Many women who have lived quite retired lives for a number of years get the habit of laying down the law with much decision in their own families, and in some instances with such vehemence that they are punctiliously obeyed. Therefore, when they emerge from their seclusion into any of the local societies of the day, it is not long before they are imbued with the idea that their judgment on all matters under consideration is indispensable; they soon commence dictating and directing in all matters, great or small; instead of keeping a discreet silence and a modest stand-back-ative-ness, they rush to the front with offers of assistance and advice. Here is where the saying applies, "Fools rush in where angels fear to tread."

This is one of the reasons why men always prophesy when women start any kind of a society by themselves, especially in the country, "It'll not run long; women can't agree well enough;" and when the breach appears, they say, "Well, it has run now longer than I expected."

Why is this state of things so nearly correct? I have been thinking, and this is the way it shows up: The aggressors are generally ignorant persons who have learned a little, and exemplify the saying, "A little knowledge is a dangerous thing." They show by their aggressive manner of speech, with the "I" very prominent, with bold accusations and reiterations, that they are very ill bred. The old generation is set one side; the present is being improved mostly by their children's contact with the improved conditions about them at school, at church and the associations which these induce.

Now when the above class is bound to rule, what is the wisest course for the better

bred and educated person? Is it to submit or withdraw? Can they submit without harm to themselves? Associations have much to do with the molding of character. No person's character is so firm but it is impressed for better or worse by associations. No one can associate with educated, refined people without being much improved, and vice versa.

If an ignorant, ill bred person is in a position where her influence is personally felt by the society, how many of that society must retrograde? No leaders can take their followers any farther than they themselves have gone (upward). How necessary then that the leaders should be the most refined and best educated, not merely in school books, but in experience and the wisdom that comes with years of association with books from master minds; and with the association of cultured people, if the societies are to do their best work.

With Polly's permission I'll sign myself  
POLLY'S SECOND COUSIN.

## APPLE BUTTER.

I am not ready to offer apple butter in the market, but can tell the readers of the HOUSEHOLD how I supply my own family. I prefer the Northern Spy apple to any I have used. I put the quarters to cook in clear water in porcelain and granite ware kettles, and continue stewing until the sauce fills two, holding each about twelve quarts. These kettles are supported by short legs and the sauce simmers down with very little stirring. When lowered in the kettle an inch and a half mine is as thick as I want it. Other apples require more boiling. Then I add a coffee-cupful of apple jelly, two or three pounds of sugar and a little cinnamon; increase the heat and boil half an hour, stirring constantly. From this I fill any empty cans I may have and put by for next summer. I have kept it until quite warm by waiting two or three days for the top of it to dry, then pouring over it the hot jelly. For present use store in any large jar.

I am two days making this, but as I am not obliged to lift the kettles from the range prefer that way to standing over it to stir it. Large quantities of the jelly are now made at the cider mill, and I have bought it from grocers. It is a fine tart in mince pies. It costs me four cents per pound at the mill. This apple butter lacks the flavor imparted to that in the good old times by the brass kettles, but that we think an improvement. Some would like more jelly in it.

As I write the wind rises after rain and the chickadees come for nuts and crumbs. I laid one end of a board about two feet long on the window sill and raised the other end with a prop until it could be easily seen by the little ones within, then nailed to it a bushy branch of an apple tree. The birds become very tame and give much pleasure.  
MRS. J. N. W.

FAIRFIELD.

LOOK over your HOUSEHOLDS for 1889, if you propose to have them bound. If you have missed any copies, and will notify the HOUSEHOLD Editor, she will supply them, if possible. We have a limited number on hand and "first come, first served." Send a one-cent stamp for postage.

## A DIAGNOSIS FOR POLLY'S DISEASE.

I wish to thank G. F. O., of Ann Arbor, for a painting lesson, as it was just what I had been wanting a long time.

A remedy for Dill's difficulty where breast milk is out of the question is to use goats' milk. There will be no more risk to run than when children are raised at the breast. The main thing is to get the goats.

Polly has asked for a name and remedy for the disease she describes. Here is my "diagnosis:" Name of the disease is scandal. The symptoms in the second stage are a violent itching of the tongue and roof of the mouth, which invariably takes place when you are in company with a species of animal called gossip. The remedy I would recommend is this: Take of good nature, one ounce; of an herb called by the Indians mind-your-own-business, one ounce; mix this with a little charity for others, and two or three sprigs of keep-your-tongue-between-your-teeth. Simmer these ingredients together in a vessel called circumspection for a short time and it will be fit for use. When you feel a fit of the disorder coming on take a teaspoonful of the mixture, hold it in your mouth, which you will keep closely shut till you get home, and you will find a complete cure. Should you apprehend a relapse keep a small bottleful about you, and on the slightest symptom repeat the dose. The beauty of the remedy you will find is that the ingredients used will all grow in our own dooryards with very little home cultivation.

PLAINWELL.

OLD HUNDRED.

## FARMERS AND FASHIONS.

The South Jackson Farmers' Club recently discussed the question, "Is it best, and can farmers' wives and daughters afford to follow the fashions in dress, household affairs and social relations." Mrs. Wm. Hutchins read the following sensible, practical paper on the subject:

"This is a broad question. It really takes in the whole of a woman's life; for even if her dress be plain, her household small and her social relations limited, it is her world—be she farmer's wife or daughter or millionaire's. I take the affirmative and say it is best, and that farmers' wives can afford to follow the fashions of the day, and can no more ignore everything pertaining to style and custom than can any other class of women.

"The first point of our question is dress: We must dress in some style—why not in the style of the day, and try to look like the rest of the world? Nothing is gained by doing otherwise. We may conform to fashions without following the extremes, thus avoiding oddity and remark. There is always some style we can afford, and a woman with any tact or good taste can tell at a glance a style that will be the thing for her. To be in fashion does not mean to follow to the letter the dictation of designers and originators—it means to dress in good taste. What farmer would like to see his wife or daughter in good and fashionable society, dressed without the slightest regard to prevailing styles? It costs no more to buy goods that are in fashion than it

does to buy goods that are out of date, neither does it cost any more to have our apparel made with an expression of style than otherwise. If farmers' business is such a poor one that they cannot afford to dress their families something as men in other businesses do, they had better abandon it for some other and set us at liberty that we may be able to appear like other women. Farmers' wives and daughters are entitled to all the improvements of the age, and it is their privilege and their duty to do all they can to bring up the farming society to a standard to compare favorably with that of the cities. If to be a farmer's wife means that a woman must lay aside everything that her good taste desires and everything that makes a pleasant home and life for her—then the outlook must be dark to a young lady who expects to wed a farmer. By all means pay a reasonable amount of attention to dress and personal appearance. Aim for a happy medium, and having found it, assert your rights and cling to it. Some farmers are unable to distinguish the difference between fashion and extravagance, imagining anything approaching style to be extravagance, and deeming it wholly unnecessary; but when the newspapers are booming a new country, do they not give glowing accounts of the fashionably dressed ladies of their cities as proof positive of their rapid advancement, knowing the susceptibility to the influence of fashion that endows the cultivated people of the world?

"Next, we have fashion in household affairs. There is some fashion in every family for the arrangement of the household. Our aim should be to have our fashion so arranged that in the receiving and entertaining of company and friends, we may not embarrass or incommode our own family or ourselves. These fashions do not require us to leave our customary duties undone; do not call us from the bedside of our sick, neither do they interfere with our hours of devotion or infringe upon our time for mental improvement. Last, but not least, can farmers' wives and daughters afford to follow the fashion in their social relations. These, in a measure, unite with our household affairs and call for our consideration, for we have social relations at home as well as abroad, that leave an impress upon our lives and make or mar our happiness, and which cannot be neglected without serious consequences. Our duty to society calls for an understanding of the rules of good breeding and refined manners. These are only the outgrowth or result of civilization, and are the silent proclaimers of our ascendancy over the heathen. It is to be deplored that the farming community does not give this question more serious consideration, for if there is any place in which we fail, it is here. If we would pay more attention to this matter and teach our sons and daughters to follow the fashion of polite society regarding manners, conversation, etc., there would be no need of their ever appearing uncouth or ill at ease in fashionable society away from home; and this is of more importance than some of us are willing to admit. We have no right to use impolite language or actions to each other. We are bound to conform to the set rules of society as far as our circumstances will

allow, and it is as easy for farmers' wives and daughters to follow the fashion in social relations as it is for any one else, and should be imperative with them. Who has not at some time felt the charm of good manners? After all, what are good manners, but the putting into practice of the Golden Rule, 'Do to others as you would have others do to you?' A truly good woman will always be polite, for it is one of the Christian graces."

## HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

TURN boiling water on the raisins and let them stand fifteen minutes, then seed them. The seeds will come out easily and without waste. Don't you remember how easily you can separate the seeds from a raisin that has been baked in a mince pie or a custard pudding?

A good remedy for croup is said to be half a teaspoonful of alum, scraped fine, and mixed with an equal quantity of sugar. Give half a teaspoonful to a child under four years of age, a little more to one older. Give also a little water to help it down. Prompt action is necessary whenever one hears the peculiar cough which accompanies this disease, and a simple remedy, given at once, will often avert the threatened danger.

The children will enjoy a treat of candied pop-corn, prepared as follows: Put into an iron kettle one tablespoonful butter, three tablespoonfuls water, one cupful white pulverized sugar. Boil until ready to candy, then throw in three quarts of nicely popped corn. Stir briskly until the candy is evenly distributed over the corn. Take the kettle from the fire, stir until it has cooled a little, and you have each grain separated and crystallized with sugar. Take care that the corn does not burn.

## Useful Recipes.

SEED CAKE.—One pound flour; half pound butter; three eggs; one cup milk; teaspoonful baking powder; two spoonfuls caraway seeds. Use milk enough to make a stiff batter. Stir the butter to a cream, add yolks of eggs, sugar and flour, then stir in the well-beaten whites of the eggs. Bake slowly a long time.

FRENCH TOAST.—Beat an egg well, add a saltspoonful of salt and a gill of milk. Dip the slices of stale bread in this, wetting both sides. Have hot butter or drippings in your frying-pan, and fry the bread a light brown.

MEAT PIE.—Cut up the remnants of a beef roast, or a cold beefsteak; removing carefully all bits of bone, etc. Put over the fire in a pan with sufficient water, or the left over gravy. Season with salt and pepper. Make a crust as for short biscuit, rolling it moderately thin, line a basin with it, put in the meat and gravy, and a lump of butter or half a cup of cream, if you desire; cover with a thicker crust, and bake from half to three-quarters of an hour, according to size of pie. Slit the top crust to permit the steam to escape.