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DETROIT, MARCH 17, 1885.

THE HOUSEHOLD---Supplement.

GOSSIP.

Oh! could there in this world be found
Some little spot of happy ground
Without the village tattling,
How doubly blest that spot would be,
Where all might dwell in liberty,
Free from the bitter misery
Of gossip's endless prattling!

Oh, that the mischief-making crew
Were all reduced to one or two,
And they were painted red or blue,
That every one might know them!

Holmes.

IS IT INDEED SO?

Two letters in the Household of March 3rd associate themselves in my mind, although superficially they are totally without connection. I refer to the article by Beatrix, "A False Position," and "Equal Rights," by Edith Gray.

I have never questioned the fact that women have equal rights with men, but that there might be rights and duties appertaining to each, equal but dissimilar, as their respective situation and needs might make necessary, has always seemed to me to be the true solution of the vexed question.

It is often said that all the light possible has been thrown on the question, that all that can be educed or adduced has been brought forward, and nothing new can be spoken or written on the subject. But like "Banquo's ghost," it will not "down," and gifted minds and brilliant intellects are still agitating the question of "Woman Suffrage."

Among late efforts, our honored Senator, T. W. Palmer, has spoken on the subject in the Senate, making on it the first speech he has made in that august body. Like all the Senator's efforts, it is readable, logical and forcible, as well as to many minds convincing. His statement of the premises and grouping of facts in supporting arguments shows careful study and research; and, although brief, is from his standpoint a most exhaustive showing.

His conclusion is that women have the same right as man to the ballot, and that their duty is to use it; that although many, in fact a majority, may oppose it, the interest of humanity at large demands it, and they, if unwilling, must respond to the world's necessity. He supposes that prior to the emancipation of the slaves, many would have preferred to remain in bondage, feeling that they were kindly cared for without having to incur sponsibility; but he thinks once having been forced to taste the sweets of freedom, none would willingly return to the former state of irresponsible serfdom.

My own experience is that more men are in favor of giving the ballot to women than there are women who desire it. Is this another proof of the superior wisdom ot the masculine intellect? Are women in a "false position" on this question?

I have always taken the negative side of the question, *i. e.*, have been opposed to woman suffrage, but if I am in the wrong, when I am convinced of error, I will fully surrender; even though I hug my chains to the last, and surrender them with a sigh of deep regret.

One thing is sure, the opinion of the world in general seems setting in the direction of using the leverage of woman in all possible ways to hoist their pet pretensions upward. One of the last fancies is for men to refuse to give ladies their seats in the street-cars, for the reason that women will not stand, and will make such a row that the officials will be compelled to give better service. This strikes me as an novel idea, but I am watching with interest to see if the suggestion is acted on, and if so, what the outcome will be.

If men succeed in convincing women that they are indispensable in the political world, as well as in the social, there is no end to the possibilities that are opening to the sex. Their power will be practically unlimited; they may succeed in convincing even husbands that they are of some consequence, and that they have equal rights in the home treasury.

Ah me! I hope the scales of justice, if they have been so long tipped wrongly, will not dip too far in the opposite way when they start up on their time-rusted pivot. But most earnestly do I second Beatrix's position, that it is better to accept new light and keep step with progress, even when we are obliged to discard opinions long held and openly advocated. To own that we were mistaken yesterday is only proof of being wise to day. But we should make sure we were mistaken, before accepting change, as all change is not progress.

A rut is hard to get out of, and if well worn the easiest riding is often found by keeping in it, but the jolts felt in rising out of it sometimes awaken us to the bad state of the road, and we set about mending its defects. So if men are unable to fix up politics in a presentable shape without us, we must enter in and possess the land; but they must be made to feel *who were victors.* A. L. L.

INGLESIDE.

FEEDING THE LAMBS.

One of my neighbors shows a great genius in amusing children. Her home is their favorite resort, the one first recognized by the native infantile mind, and the goal of the earliest attempts at running away. She lets them set up housekeeping in a dry-goods box, turned up in a corner of her kitchen; make an ocean in her dish-pan to sail their chip fleets upon; and seldom fails to send a child home happy over some simple trophy of its visit. It may be only a fried cake or cookie cut in some fanciful shape, the cover of a small tin can to serve as a bake-dish; or perhaps the can itself made into a miniature pail by punching some holes at the top and inserting a wire for a handle. Paper hats, dolls and fans are produced in abundance, but her parasols are really masterpieces. She makes them by folding a newspaper fan-fashion, slipping the center into a slight split in the top of a stick, then spreading the paper open and fastening it into a circle by pinning the covers together. We often see quite a brigade out with these imitations, holding them up as proudly as if they were rich combinations of whalebone, silk and fringe. One real umbrella which, owing to a broken rib or two, and general shabbiness, was given up for the children's use must have caused more pleasure than any diamond that ever sparkled. Then she makes turtles of raisins and cloves, and makes them stick around on a frosted cake or cookie in a way to bring certain delight to the unsophisticated infant. A large raisin flattened, four cloves inserted, forked end outward for the feet, one with the sharp end outward for the tail, and one containing the berry for the head, is the formula.

It is a simple thing to amuse a little child, but many people who succeed in great things, fail in this. To write stories, to draw pictures, to sing songs, or to construct toys to suit the undeveloped mind, requires a peculiar gift. Hans Christian Anderson was great in his way, and my neighbor is in hers. She will need no marble monument, for she will be remembered by many for many years as one who was kind to children and loved to consider their little needs. A. H. J.

THOMAS.

SOME ingenious mothers make very neat caps for the small boys out of the pieces of their suits. Lined with red flannel and neatly stitched, they save buying at the store.

HELP IN THE HOUSEHOLD.

One of the questions that puzzle the brain of mothers and fathers at the present time, is "What shall we do with our girls?" We have more than we know what to do with. In every town, and in the country also, we find them, bright, loving, energetic, ambitious, but sphereless. There is no satisfactory niche to be found for them; they are not all needed at home; there are no available husbands for whom they can make homes; they must be clothed and fed, even though the parental purse is scanty. They are willing to support themselves, but what can they do? Business men from the lakes to the gulf will tell you there are fifty applicants for every position. School teachers are more numerous than schools, seamstresses, book-keepers, clerks, every place is full. While we are racking our brains over this matter, there arises another which is equally as puzzling, the kitchen question. Our great America is full of housewives who are staggering under the weight of home duties, combining the care of the household, of little children and social duties. Now what is wanted is good strong willing girls to take some of these multitudinous cares off the weary shoulders, girls who will appreciate the importance of the home machinery, and not only keep the fires going, but see that the cogs are well oiled and smoothly running. Now the only way to adjust matters and satisfy the want, is to make the plus of the first problem satisfy the minus of the second; to so arrange it that the thousands of poorly paid girls who are standing behind counters, or sewing and those who are waiting for something to do, will take up the general housework in these homes where they are so needed. "Oh!" one says "That's out of the question; I'll starve first," while some thrifty housekeeper says "It is not practical."

Let us look at the dollars and cents for a moment. Let us take the girl who clerks, sews in a shop, copies; $1 per day, counting Sundays out and supposing she loses no time will amount to $313, her board at $4 will amount to $208, leaving a balance of $105. She must wear wool dresses, and adding gloves, hats and various little articles, all of which seem necessary, there is often nothing left over for a rainy day; in fact I am told there is no money for car fare, and in stormy, sloppy weather she is obliged to walk to and fro, sitting with wet feet all day. Now the girl in the kitchen will receive from $2 to $3 per week, no Sundays out, seldom a lost day charged. Her board costs nothing. Calico answers every purpose, no fancy shoes or hats are required, she is fairly dealt with by her mistress, her money is ready when she wants it. It leaves a cash balance in favor of house work. Is it because the work is so undesirable that help is scarce? Housework is undeniably hard, there is a great deal of drudgery about it. But the washing, ironing and scrubbing does not occupy all the week, any smart girl will get this out of the way in three days and have some time to sit down, her evenings are her own in which to pursue what she chooses, the work is healthy, her step is elastic, color good, eyes bright, what tires the body does not stretch the nerves, appetite good, and a good night's sleep leaves her fresh for another day's work. To be sure the hands are brown and rough, but what is that compared to good health and a clean conscience? Housework is respectable; for if it is not considered disreputable for the mistress to do her own work, it will not unfit the maid for social standing.

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The new cottons are principally in lighter tints than usual, fewer medium and dark colors being seen. Patterns are either small and dainty or very large and showy, the former prevailing in percales and cambrics, which sell at 15 and 12½ cents respectively. Shaded balls, last season's polka spots shaded from light to dark by tiny spots of color, crescents, small points of color in squares and parallelograms, cubes, clover heads, daisies

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A popular way of making up these wash dresses for young ladies and misses, is to have a blouse waist gathered to a belt, with a full round skirt tucked nearly to the belt. Often a narrow flounce or pleating is set on at the bottom to break the severe lines, the lower tuck falling over the joining seams. These full skirts seem odd and old-fashioned to us yet, despite the persistent effort to restore them which has been made for several seasons. More elaborate dresses have basque and apron overskirt; many yoke waists are to be worn with overskirts.

Plain and figured satteen are usually combined in one costume, and as it may be worn a long time without washing, the designs are more elaborate. There are side panels of the figured goods, a full back drapery, and the skirt is ruffled. Perhaps the prettiest style is the polonaise with full shirred front and plain back, worn over the skirt of plain goods, which is ruffled. The Gretchen dress is very simple and becoming for girls. This is a round, full, gathered skirt, tucked or embroidered, with a plain round waist fastened behind, a square pleated plastron in front, and a sash of the material sewed in the under arm seams, and tied behind in a large bow with short ends. There is a fancy for making this sash of colored surah for white dresses, using the full width of the goods, and simply hemming all edges. There is a fashion of tucking the yokes of white nainsook dresses horizontally instead of perpendicularly; embroidered flounces are gathered on the skirt, but where this makes the dress too costly, the ruffles and draperies are very handsome when tucked in quite narrow lines.

In woolen materials there are the usual standard goods, which are preferable to novelties for people of limited means. Light weight cashmeres, camel's hair, serges, etc., are more expensive than some other materials, but being all wool and 44 inches wide, are more economical in the end. Nun's veiling and wool batiste make beautiful dresses for summer wear, especially if lace trimmed; they are quite as desirable as silk. There is a tendency to plainer skirts, without flounces, (though the *Bazar* figures some skirts covered to the waist with narrow ruffles), and long full draperies are very popular because of their simple elegance. It takes considerable more goods to make such dresses, but there is the advantage that it is not cut up into strips good for nothing but carpet rags when the dress needs renewing. The skirt pleated in kilt or box pleats, holds its own in all the new patterns; the latest modification is to make five triple box pleats, the top pleat at least a quarter of a yard, perhaps more, in width; these pleats constitute the entire skirt. Another pretty skirt has the visible part of the front covered with two deep flounces cut on the lower edge to form leaves that curve toward one side. Above this are two full, irregular draperies, each of which is carried up to the waist on the sides to meet the long breadth that covers the back of the skirt, the drapery on the left side makes a deeper curve than that on the right. If becoming the back may be laid in side or triple box pleats from the belt to nearly the foot of the skirt. Or the back may be caught up in a bunch of pleats on each side and in the middle near the top. Polonaises and basques divide popular favor. The former are very long, the back often without draping, being laid in four box pleats defined the whole length. The front is provided with a vest, and is open from the waist line down. Double breasted basques are worn, and afford a pleasant change from the vest, which however is so dressy an adjunct that it holds its own yet. The outline of the lap curves over the bust, narrows at the waist line and again curves outward. A pretty style has two triple box pleats in the back. Many of the new basques are somewhat pointed in front, short on the sides and back, and with smooth, plain backs, with no fullness whatever. A pretty way to trim the front of a basque is to set in a very narrow vest of velvet with collar to match, and on each side of it add a shirred scarf, set in at the shoulder seam very close to or partly upon the neck, and meeting at the waist line under a fancy buckle. Sometimes there is a velvet revere on the the right side of the corsage, and a shirred scarf on the left which crosses the bust low down, and ends under a bow and ends of ribbon at the waist line. Sleeves are still tight fitting, but not quite as skin tight as heretofore; they are set in with a slight fullness at the shoulder, but not so exaggerated as last season. There is a tendency to more elaborate finish at the wrist, ribbon bows, reveres, and slashes showing lace are seen. Collars are regular "dudes," the higher the better, indeed the neck must be dressed very high to be "in fashion;" the new collars require an abnormal development of throat to prevent them from sawing off the ears. Buttons are small and round, the most stylish not larger than a pea, and are of braided silk. Galloons and braids, especially those having an admixture of gilt, are the favorite trimmings for wool dresses; the new wool laces are popular but more expensive. Lace, with heavy, fine cut jet passementorie is the most elegant trimming for silk dresses.

BEATRIX.

BEDROOM CARPETS.

I hardly need insist on the fact that the old-fashioned plan of covering every part of the bedroom with carpet so as to make the carpet hug the wall is as bad a plan as can possibly be followed. It is good to have carpet in every part of the room where the feet must regularly be placed. It is bad to have carpet where the feet are not regularly placed. By these rules there should be carpet all around the bed; carpet in front of the dressing-table; carpet opposite the wash stand; but none under the beds, and none for the space of two or three feet from the walls of the room. The carpet that is laid down should be loose, each piece complete in itself, so that it can be taken up easily to be shaken. The advantage of small carpets in the bedroom are many. They cause the foot steps to be noiseless, or comparatively noiseless; they prevent the feet from becoming cold while dressing and undressing; they make the room look pleasant, and when used in this manner save much trouble in cleaning and keeping the room free from dust.

AUNT NELL.

PLAINWELL.

BEDDING.

On the subject of beds and bedding, Beatrix has said nearly all that can be said. I would not have any feather beds, unless for some very old person. The woven wire spring with a wool or cotton mattress, is the best for health. For covering, I would have good comforts, made of some soft material that will cling to the person, with a good supply of blankets for winter, and white spreads for the outside. For summer, I think quilts are cooler than blankets; they should be very light in weight, so as to wash easy. I would not buy new cloth to cut up for quilts, but would use up the pieces left from garments, and in as large pieces as possible; not in blocks either, but in half squares or diamonds, then it is done and no setting together is needed. Most people sleep with too much covering on their beds.

I would like to ask C. if I am mistaken when I claim her as a friend. I coincide with Aaron's Wife in her views on a wife's rights.

I think our little paper has been called sensible by a great many, and it deserves all the praise it gets. I will close by wishing the Household many happy returns of its birthday

L. J. C.

GOBLEVILLE.

WASHING LACE CURTAINS.

Now that the spring house cleaning begins to hold terrors for the "house-mother," as the Germans say, the following method of doing up lace curtains will find favor among our readers:

"Before the curtains are put in the wash

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tiny bouquets, and fine broken lines of color crossed on a white ground, are the leading styles. We have ginghams in dots and stripes, as well as the more common plaids; and blue is a favorite color. A novelty in cotton satteens is a soft goods without dressing, called China crape from the peculiar crinkled effect of its twilled surface, strewn with tiny raised figures. It comes in soft blues, pinks, reseda (mignonette green) grey and cream, plain and figured, the two to be combined in one costume. Satteens grow in favor; they are the handsomest of cotton goods; the French makes being especially desirable. The American goods are not so excellent, nor yet so high-priced. The French goods are cheaper this year, being 35 cents a yard against 40 last season. Judging from the display, no young lady need be afraid to choose white for her best summer dress; there are beautiful mulls, cross-barred muslins and nainsooks at 25 cents per yard. Embroidery is the favorite trimming for them.

A popular way of making up these wash dresses for young ladies and misses, is to have a blouse waist gathered to a belt, with a full round skirt tucked nearly to the belt. Often a narrow flounce or pleating is set on at the bottom to break the severe lines, the lower tuck falling over the joining seams. These full skirts seem odd and old-fashioned to us yet, despite the persistent effort to restore them which has been made for several seasons. More elaborate dresses have basque and apron overskirt; many yoke waists are to be worn with overskirts.

Plain and figured satteen are usually combined in one costume, and as it may be worn a long time without washing, the designs are more elaborate. There are side panels of the figured goods, a full back drapery, and the skirt is ruffled. Perhaps the prettiest style is the polonaise with full shirred front and plain back, worn over the skirt of plain goods, which is ruffled. The Gretchen dress is very simple and becoming for girls. This is a round, full, gathered skirt, tucked or embroidered, with a plain round waist fastened behind, a square pleated plastron in front, and a sash of the material sewed in the under arm seams, and tied behind in a large bow with short ends. There is a fancy for making this sash of colored surah for white dresses, using the full width of the goods, and simply hemming all edges. There is a fashion of tucking the yokes of white nainsook dresses horizontally instead of perpendicularly; embroidered flounces are gathered on the skirt, but where this makes the dress too costly, the ruffles and draperies are very handsome when tucked in quite narrow lines.

In woolen materials there are the usual standard goods, which are preferable to novelties for people of limited means. Light weight cashmeres, camel's hair, serges, etc., are more expensive than some other materials, but being all wool and 44 inches wide, are more economical in the end. Nun's veiling and wool batiste make beautiful dresses for summer wear, especially if lace trimmed; they are quite as desirable as silk. There is a tendency to plainer skirts, without flounces, (though the *Bazar* figures some skirts covered to the waist with narrow ruffles), and long full draperies are very popular because of their simple elegance. It takes considerable more goods to make such dresses, but there is the advantage that it is not cut up into strips good for nothing but carpet rags when the dress needs renewing. The skirt pleated in kilt or box pleats, holds its own in all the new patterns; the latest modification is to make five triple box pleats, the top pleat at least a quarter of a yard, perhaps more, in width; these pleats constitute the entire skirt. Another pretty skirt has the visible part of the front covered with two deep flounces cut on the lower edge to form leaves that curve toward one side. Above this are two full, irregular draperies, each of which is carried up to the waist on the sides to meet the long breadth that covers the back of the skirt, the drapery on the left side makes a deeper curve than that on the right. If becoming the back may be laid in side or triple box pleats from the belt to nearly the foot of the skirt. Or the back may be caught up in a bunch of pleats on each side and in the middle near the top. Polonaises and basques divide popular favor. The former are very long, the back often without draping, being laid in four box pleats defined the whole length. The front is provided with a vest, and is open from the waist line down. Double breasted basques are worn, and afford a pleasant change from the vest, which however is so dressy an adjunct that it holds its own yet. The outline of the lap curves over the bust, narrows at the waist line and again curves outward. A pretty style has two triple box pleats in the back. Many of the new basques are somewhat pointed in front, short on the sides and back, and with smooth, plain backs, with no fullness whatever. A pretty way to trim the front of a basque is to set in a very narrow vest of velvet with collar to match, and on each side of it add a shirred scarf, set in at the shoulder seam very close to or partly upon the neck, and meeting at the waist line under a fancy buckle. Sometimes there is a velvet revere on the the right side of the corsage, and a shirred scarf on the left which crosses the bust low down, and ends under a bow and ends of ribbon at the waist line. Sleeves are still tight fitting, but not quite as skin tight as heretofore; they are set in with a slight fullness at the shoulder, but not so exaggerated as last season. There is a tendency to more elaborate finish at the wrist, ribbon bows, reveres, and slashes showing lace are seen. Collars are regular "dudes," the higher the better, indeed the neck must be dressed very high to be "in fashion;" the new collars require an abnormal development of throat to prevent them from sawing off the ears. Buttons are small and round, the most stylish not larger than a pea, and are of braided silk. Galloons and braids, especially those having an admixture of gilt, are the favorite trimmings for wool dresses; the new wool laces are popular but more expensive. Lace, with heavy, fine cut jet passementorie is the most elegant trimming for silk dresses.

BEATRIX.

BEDROOM CARPETS.

I hardly need insist on the fact that the old-fashioned plan of covering every part of the bedroom with carpet so as to make the carpet hug the wall is as bad a plan as can possibly be followed. It is good to have carpet in every part of the room where the feet must regularly be placed. It is bad to have carpet where the feet are not regularly placed. By these rules there should be carpet all around the bed; carpet in front of the dressing-table; carpet opposite the wash stand; but none under the beds, and none for the space of two or three feet from the walls of the room. The carpet that is laid down should be loose, each piece complete in itself, so that it can be taken up easily to be shaken. The advantage of small carpets in the bedroom are many. They cause the foot steps to be noiseless, or comparatively noiseless; they prevent the feet from becoming cold while dressing and undressing; they make the room look pleasant, and when used in this manner save much trouble in cleaning and keeping the room free from dust. AUNT NELL.

PLAINWELL.

BEDDING.

On the subject of beds and bedding, Beatrix has said nearly all that can be said. I would not have any feather beds, unless for some very old person. The woven wire spring with a wool or cotton mattress, is the best for health. For covering, I would have good comforts, made of some soft material that will cling to the person, with a good supply of blankets for winter, and white spreads for the outside. For summer, I think quilts are cooler than blankets; they should be very light in weight, so as to wash easy. I would not buy new cloth to cut up for quilts, but would use up the pieces left from garments, and in as large pieces as possible; not in blocks either, but in half squares or diamonds, then it is done and no setting together is needed. Most people sleep with too much covering on their beds.

I would like to ask C. if I am mistaken when I claim her as a friend. I coincide with Aaron's Wife in her views on a wife's rights.

I think our little paper has been called sensible by a great many, and it deserves all the praise it gets. I will close by wishing the Household many happy returns of its birthday L. J. C.

GOBLEVILLE.

WASHING LACE CURTAINS.

Now that the spring house cleaning begins to hold terrors for the "house-mother," as the Germans say, the following method of doing up lace curtains will find favor among our readers:

"Before the curtains are put in the wash

tack all around them narrow strips of white cotton cloth an inch or two wide. Dissolve a little soda in milk-warm water, and put in the curtains. Let them remain for half an hour, stirring and pressing them occasionally. Wring them very carefully—rather squeezing than wringing—whenever this process is performed. Place them in cold water for an hour, then wash them with soap and warm water. Wash again in clear water, rather warmer than the last. Rinse them in bluing water (only slightly blue, unless the curtains are very yellow). Wring carefully in clean towels. They are now ready for starching. Make the starch according to the usual process, but be sure to have it clear and good, and thin for muslin and very thin for lace. Thick starch is utterly destructive to the fine, soft appearance of the lace. Stir a few times round in the starch, while boiling, a wax or sperm candle, or put into it a small piece of white wax. If the latter is used it should be melted and poured in. When the starch is ready pour half of it into one pan and half into another. Dip the curtains in one, wring them out in towels, then dip into the second and wring again. Over the floor of an unoccupied room spread a couple of sheets, one under the other for each curtain; shake the curtain and lay it down smoothly, the edges of the cotton cloth to the edges of the sheet. Pin down the top and bottom. The other sides will then come perfectly straight without pinning. Leave the curtains to dry. When dry they should not be folded, but put up at once, or, if you wish to put them away for a while, roll them tightly in a loose, soft roll, and wrap in blue paper or cotton (the former is preferable), and lay them where no weight will press against them."

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Prairie Farmer* insists that to ensure uniformity in butter, "make the best butter," there must be enough at each churning to fill the tub or crock it is to be packed in.

WHEN a knob comes off a door handle, you can fasten it on again by filling the cavity in the knob with sulphur, then heat the iron end of the handle which goes in the knob, just hot enough to melt the sulphur, put the knob in and let it cool. It will be firmly fixed in place.

THE blue denim, or stuff used for men's overalls, has been applied to decorative purposes in some fine houses east, its soft, peculiar blue being considered very beautiful in draperies with certain tints of walls and carpets. It would be very effective over a long gilt pole, a single length being thrown in a festoon upon it, with hanging ends. It is cheap; try it.

A NOVEL way of mending a woolen dress in which a round hole has been torn, and where only a patch could remedy matters, is as follows: The frayed portions around the tear were carefully smoothed, and a piece of the material, moistened with very thin mucilage, was placed under the hole. A heavy weight was put upon it until it was dry, when it was only possible to discover the mended place by careful observation.

A WOMAN with a gift for carpentering tells us in the *Country Gentleman* how she made a zinc-lined washstand for her kitchen. A box the desired size and shape was made of some old boards. An old washing machine furnished the legs. She lined it with zinc with considerable trouble and much hammering, but says it is a "household convenience" which she views with pride, notwithstanding the fact that one set of legs *will* slant inward, in spite of her.

MANY ladies claim that the unbleached cotton wears longer and is stronger than bleached, at less cost. So they buy the unbleached and whiten it before making up. A good way to do this is to scald it and spread it out on the snow, taking it up and scalding again on wash day. The same effect is produced by scalding and hanging on the line to freeze, scalding again whenever the cloth freezes dry. Others use chloride of lime, a safe process if the cloth is rinsed in a copious supply of water afterward.

SLIGHTLY soiled white woolen articles, knitted or crocheted, may be made to look as well as new if they are carefully rubbed in flour. Cover them with flour and rub gently, as if washing, until the flour becomes dark. Shake out the article and rub in clean flour until all soil is removed. Shake well and hang in the wind until no atom of flour remains in the wool. Of course one would not care to cleanse in this way articles that are worn next to the body, but for shawls, capes and head coverings flour answers admirably.

IF you have "gumption" enough to drive a nail, you can manufacture a very pretty fancy table at very slight expense. Take the handles to three worn out brooms, sandpaper and paint them black; "ebonize" them. Fasten them together firmly, crossing them at about two-thirds the length—the only really difficult thing to do in the whole process of manufacture—nail the head of a flour barrel on for a top. Cover it with dark crimson felt, on which you have embroidered a bunch of daisies, cluster of leaves, or any pretty design. For an edge, add a pretty woolen fringe, which you can buy for from 75 cents to $1 25 per yard. Or cut leaf points of the felt embroidering each, and put on a double row, the point of one appearing between the curve of two others. The result will be a very "cute" little table, quite an addition to every room.

Contributed Recipes.

PICKLED CABBAGE.—One peck chopped cabbage; sprinkle one teacupful of salt through it and let remain over night. Next morning pour off the brine, and put in a kettle with enough vinegar to cover nicely. Add two tablespoonfuls of black pepper, two of ground mustard, or whole seeds, two of ground cloves, two of allspice, and one ounce of celery seed, and one pound of brown sugar. Boil one hour. A very nice pickle is made by taking one peck of sliced green tomatoes and one pint sliced onions, and prepare as above.

CHICKEN SALAD.—Two chickens; boil tender, pick meat from the bones, and chop; two bunches of celery to each chicken, chopped also; half pint vinegar, two eggs, one tablespoonful salad oil, one of liquid mustard, one of sugar, one of salt, one salt spoon of red pepper. Beat the eggs and vinegar together until quite thick; then beat the oil, mustard and red pepper together, and stir into it; mix thoroughly with the chicken and celery. This is sufficient for ten persons.

TO COOK PARSNIPS.—After scraping cut in pieces four inches long, and boil tender in salted water; calculate the quantity of water so it will be boiled away as the parsnips are done; then add a very generous lump of butter and some pepper, and when browned nicely add a coffee cup of thick sweet cream; let remain over the fire a few minutes and serve. An old lady, a very experienced cook, learned me to cook parsnips so, and I call them excellent.

EVANGALINE,
BATTLE CREEK.

SOFT GINGER CAKE.—Two cups molasses, one cup butter, one cup buttermilk, one egg, two teaspoonfuls of soda, the same of ginger. Mix rather stiff.

FRUIT CAKE.—One and a half cups of sugar, one cup raisins, one cup sweet milk, one teaspoonful cloves, one teaspoonful cinnamon, one teaspoonful of soda, three tablespoonfuls of shortening.

WHITE CAKE No. 1.—One cup sugar, half cup butter, half cup sweet milk, two cups of flour, two teaspoonfuls baking powder, one teaspoonful of lemon extract, whites of four eggs.

WHITE CAKE No. 2.—Two cups sugar, half cup butter, three-quarters cup sweet milk, two and a half cups flour, two and a half teaspoonfuls baking powder, one teaspoonful of lemon extract, whites of four eggs. L. J. C.
GOBLEVILLE.