

DETROIT, APRIL 8, 1884.

THE HOUSEHOLD --- Supplement.

A LOOKER-ON.

Yes, 'tis a merry sight, these happy girls,
Their frank eyes sparkling underneath their curls,
Moving with lightsome steps as gracefully
As sunny waves upon a summer sea,
And giving many a smile and witching glance
To those blest swains who lead them in the dance.

And yet it makes me sad—it does in truth;
I seem to see the shadow of my youth
Dancing among them. gayest of the gay—
The youth, alas! forever fied away—
The youth that I, grown old in grief and years,
Sit here to night and mourn with unshed tears.

For though we women strive ourselves to cheat Into believing autumn blooms are sweet,
Too well we know the loveliest of them
Have but the scentless beauty of a gem;
And, sooth, we'd give them all without regret
To pluck one fragrant, spring-born violet.
—Margaret Eytinge.

THE FARMER'S GARDEN.

By the working of the same principle under which the shoemaker's children go barefoot, farmers, with every appliance at their hand, rarely have a good kitchen garden. Possibly after the spring field crops are all in, a man may, as a great concession to his wife's "notions," with the inward conviction that it is "all blamed nonsense," graciously consent to plow up the "garden," and put in a few rows of sweet corn, some onions, and a few peas and beans, with no particular care as to varieties, and no pains whatever to secure a succession. The seed once in the ground his whole duty is done, save for an occasional half day when he has no especial work for the hired man, and sends him to "hoe out the garden." The result is a bountiful crop of weeds and a few half-grown vegetables, and at the end of the season the deluded man is more than ever convinced that a good garden is a luxury for "bloated bondholders" only. He can reason clearly enough that if his cornfield is not properly cultivated, the returns will be proportionally small, but when it comes to the garden it is a foregone conclusion that garden "truck" should grow itself.

The farmer's excuses for this neglect to provide seasonable vegetables are usually two in number: he "hasn't got time to putter," and he can "buy such stuff cheaper than he can raise it." If a man's purpose in farming is to carry out that now famous Illinois programme of raising corn to feed swine to buy land to raise corn to feed more swine to buy more land, &c., he probably will not be able to see the propriety of securing a good living for himself and family as he goes

along. We are coming to understand more and more that the gospel of good food tends to promote that other gospel of good will to men; in other words, that good living keeps a man healthy and consequently good-natured. A man with dyspepsia is worse than a turbaned Turk in temper, and it would give a goat the dyspepsia to live on bread, meat, potatoes, and pie and cake, the year round, as so many do. The man who "hasn't time" to make and tend a garden says he has not time to attend to one of the most important of duties, his own health and that of his family. We are vegetarians by nature; the race was born in a garden. The fresh vegetable food of spring, the "greens" and salads, are nature's antidote to the biliousness and torpidity of liver engendered by the winter's diet of greasy meats, buckwheat cakes and mince The system craves the change of food, the jaded appetite is stimulated, healthy food gives healthy blood, of which comes strength and vigor. The man who "hasn't time" should not add an untruth to his shortcomings, he should say frankly that in his haste to make money he has no time for considerations of health. Yet it is true that more than one man who renders this time-worn excuse, wastes hours enough telling stories over the fence or gossiping with a neighbor, to keep a half-acre garden as 'neat as a new pin" the year round. The half days when he goes to town on slight occasion might count to better purpose in the garden.

As for the other excuse, that he can buy vegetables cheaper than he can raise them, we beg leave to differ. If the garden is arranged so that it can be cultivated with a horse, as it should be, the cost of caring for a half acre in vegetables is but a trifle more than that of the same area in any other crop which must be tended with hoe and cultivator. The extra expense would not at a most liberal estimate exceed five dollars. Five dollars for all the fresh vegetables for the season! Like the soap of the advertisement, it is " cheaper than dirt." Moreover, we are going to have yet another profit from that half acre. It is conceded that a good garden is one-fourth of a family's living. Credit the garden with one-fourth the living expenses in a garden-less year, and see if you do not owe it something when the balance sheet is struck. The flour, meat, butter, eggs and groceries that you don't eat when you have vegetables, will in nine cases out of ten pay for the expense of cultivation, not to mention the

benefits of a healthful, plentiful and varied diet.

A certain grim humor attaches to that second excuse, too. A man professes his willingness to buy "garden sass" when his nearest village is from three to six or eight miles away, and no vegetables in market when he gets there! Country towns, where every village resident has a little bit of land which is made to help out the cuisine, are remarkably barren of both fruits and vegetables, and prices are often higher than in the neighboring city. Moreover, when it comes to an actual expenditure, "the shoe's on the other foot," and the holder of the family purse gravely inquires: "What's the use of buying such stuff when we can raise it right at home?" Between the buying because it is cheaper, and the raising it because it takes money to buy it, the family table is decked with few vegetables. But even where vegetables can be bought. there is a noticeable difference betwen the fresh, crisp, dewy article, and that which is wilted and stale through handling and exposure in the market, a difference both in flavor and healthfulness.

Every housekeeper knows what a constant tax upon her invention and resources it is to provide the inevitable three meals per diem, and so vary them that the appetite is piqued and the palate pleased. A garden is a godsend to the cook; it saves her both work and worry. Instead of baking her brains over a stove making pies, cakes and the eternal doughnut in the tropical July and August days, when the air outside fairly scintillates with heat and the air inside is ten times hotter, she gets a breath of fresh air as she gathers plethoric peas and beans, husks the nutritious sweet corn, and hunts out the yellowest "Golden Neck." There is a virtuous consciousness of well doing in every woman's heart as she summons her family to a dinner which she knows does her credit, which it is a husband's duty to foster and encourage. A good garden is a great incentive to good housekeeping, and only women know how much trouble and annovance it saves.

Nor are these accruing benefits confined to summer alone. Lima beans and sweet corn "furnish fitly forth" the winter's table; peas and string beans may be canned, the autumnal squash will give us pies in December; parsnips, salsify and cabbage lengthen out the fall and begin the spring, while beets, onions and turnips "chink in" through the season, giving that variety which we rightly name "good living." Now let the men who of

fer the time-honored excuses before mentioned omit them for 1884, and try an ex periment. Set off a piece of land adequate to the size of the family, where it may be tilled with a one horse cultivator, plant at the proper season with seeds from a reliable grower-not the venerable stock of the corner grocery,-give attention to providing a succession of crops, and see that the young plants have fair show." Keep an account of the cost of every seed planted, every hour's work, every atom of fertilizer applied; and conversely, credit the garden with what it yields you at the market price of such commodities. Or, as before suggested, give credit for one-fourth the living expenses of the family, estimating those things you would have to buy if you did not raise them. If the garden does not balance up to suit as regards a money profit, let the excellence of the family table turn the scale. Try it. It won't hurt anybody, and you may get some new ideas.

SCHOOL GROUNDS.

The advent of the springtime gives occasion to again call attention to the bare, bleak, desolate appearance of the grounds surrounding many of our country school-While many of them are a houses. source of honest pride to the community where they are situated, and many more of our schoolhouses are very decent and comfortable, yet many of the latter class are shamed by their neglected surround. The yards are in many instances far too small, and offer the best excuse for using the highway as a play ground for the pupils.

Large or small, the yards are often ungraded and undulating, as left by nature or former cultivation, here a hillock, and there a hollow; very often a depression of greater or less extent about the entrance to the house, where children have to pass through a pool of water after every rain. Thistles, mullein, burdock and other noxious weeds exercise right of "eminent domain" over the greatest extent of the grounds; the grass, if any ever finds foothold, is never cut, and with the weeds succumbs only to the frost king, when in ragged disarray they nod their protest to the blast.

There is frequently no woodhouse, or but a shabby apology for one. The out buildings are in a shameful state of filth and dilapidation; sometimes without doors, open to the scrutiny of passers-by or of impish urchins.

Not a tree to give pleasure to the eye, or afford shade from the blazing sun rays; not a shrub or flower to minister to a child's love of the beautiful. This pic ture is true to nature, and exists in many localities where beautiful homes abound highly cultivated farms forming a strong contrast with the surroundings of the 'temple of learning."

The ready excuse for this state of things is that children are so destructive, that it is no use to "fix things up" about the schoolhouse. Then why do you fix things up around your own home, and

destruction? Oh! it is not your children, it is those little reprobates of your neighbor's! Ah, me! it is always some other family that owns the "bad boys."

Well, my friend, I believe you are mistaken in thinking it so utterly impossible to preserve order and thrift on the school grounds. It is at least worth a fair trial. Don't wait for director or other officer to inaugurate reform, you are each one as much interested as they. Of course some one has to take the lead, so start out at once, see the officers and as many more as you conveniently can, fix a day,—with an understanding that if that day prove stormy, you will meet another stated time,-take your team, with plow, drag and scraper. Go to work with a well de fined plan, grade the yard level, with proper arrangements for drainage; then seed thick with good lawn grass. See that the outhouses are clean, and placed in good repair, put at a good distance from the house and properly screened from observation by a close, high fence, or thick growth of evergreens. See that you have a good woodhouse, well stocked with dry wood in the proper season. Plant trees, not in formal lines, but in picturesque groups or singly, and in variety. Place stout protecting frames around them, and interest the children by planting trees in their names. Allow them to take slips of their favorite shrubs or perennial flowers and see them nicely planted. Then make a rule that the teacher be required to look after the safety of the property, him the support of and give parental authority in carrying out the rule. Teach your children at home that these things must be respected, and show your good will by an occasional visit, and give them a little generous personal

These things will tend to elevate and refine the morals of your children, while the opposite will as surely lower and debase their sensibilities. There are many cases where parents will send children to school where the condition of things is so bad they would blush to tolerate it at home; yet when the natural result of congregating so large a number of children together, with their varied natural proclivities, becomes apparent in their boisterous, bold manners, they wonder what has caused the change. A. L. L. GREENFIELD.

WORDS OF APPROVAL.

May I become one of the members of this family, for I believe the family constitutes the Household; and after reading the article in the issue of March 25th, by Mollie Moonshine, I determined to try my ability to write a few lines for our little paper. I think we can truly say "our" paper, as it is confined to the wants and demands of the wife and mother.

We have taken the MICHIGAN FARMER for two years prior to this, and as our time expired we were going to send on again for it. I urged the objection that I would rather take the Detroit Free Press, on account of the Household Supplehow do you manage to keep them from ment, but after due deliberation, we con-

cluded the best was the cheapest, and that was certainly the FARMER; and when the first number came, imagine my surprise to find that little sheet so carefully folded within! I could keep still no longer. So after reading the urgent solicitations for the farmers' wives to help support it, I felt as though I must give if I received.

Seeing the inquiry of Tom's Wife for a recipe for making hop yeast bread, I will say I make excellent yeast bread, but as my recipe is so nearly like E. S. B.'s, I will recommend her to try that. Fearing this will be doomed to the waste basket, I will apologize by saying it is my first attempt at writing for a paper. Shall it be SARACENECE. the last?

COURTLAND, March 25th.

[Not if you will accept an invitation to come again.—Household Editor.]

"GOOD BREAD" AGAIN.

It is Tom's Wife this time, who wants to know how to make good bread, and she is referred to E. S. B.'s article in a recent issue. If she follows that recipe I know her bread will be satisfactory, but let me whisper in your ear, all that fuss is quite unnecessary. Ilong ago reduced that recipe to the following proportions: Scald your yeast jar, and into it put three tablespoonfuls of flour, two of sugar and one of salt. Stir thoroughly and add enough boiling water to make a stiff batter. Boil a dozen and a half large potatoes until they fall to pieces, drain the water in which they were boiled into the jar, mash the potatoes and add them and enough cold water to make two gallons of the mixture. When lukewarm add four yeast cakes. They will soften in a few minutes; give one final stir and set in a warm place to rise. If your yeast cakes are good, the yeast will be "as light as a feather" in six hours. Set in a cool place.

When ready to bake take one pint of yeast for every loaf, using no other liquid. In cold weather sponge over night. In the morning knead until fine grained, put in bake pans, set in a warm, not hot, place to rise. If well baked this bread will be uniformly good. In warm weather knead the bread in the morning, without any preliminary sponging.

If however "Ephraim is joined to his idols," and insists upon bread which has taken the greater part of two days for its manufacture, Tom's Wife can do no better than to carefully study the chapter on bread making, in Marion Harland's "Common Sense in the Household."

CLIMAX, March 26th.

HOP YEAST BREAD.

I would in reply to Tom's Wife give my recipe for hop yeast bread, which will be good every time. I make my yeast in this way: Boil 12 good sized potatoes with a handful of hops tied in a bag, mash fine and put them through a colander, add the potato water and enough from the teakettle to make two quarts. Add one-half cup white sugar, the same of salt, one tablespoonful of ginger, one cup of yeast after it has become cool; set in a warm place to rise, then put in a tight jar and set in a cool place. To set the bread: For three loaves boil three or four potatoes, mash them fine and run them through the colander, add the potato water and enough warm water to make three pints; add one tablespoonful of salt, stir thinly with flour and set in a warm place to rise. Do this at noon. At night stir stiff with flour, in the morning mix into a solid mass with flour, and knead upon the board one-half hour. Set to rise in a warm place, then separate into loaves, kneading very lightly and just enough to shape; bake from one-half to three-fourths of an hour in a moderate oven.

If you have fresh yeast and good flour your bread will be always alike, moist, sweet, and good enough for the most fastidious.

ANNA.

Napoleon, March 27th.

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MATTERS OF MOMENT.

Ye Editor shuts the door in my face by saying, "We will hear from some of our hop-yeast bread makers, etc.," but, for all that, I'll knock at the door and await the result. Now, why is it all hop yeast? If everybody used that kind, or all the farmers' families used it, or even a major ity of the farmers, I should not be slow to understand, but my experience in board. ing 'round and the like is not such. There is poor bread and poor bread, and I have yet to learn that hop yeast is always good and salt rising (or natural rising,) always poor, or vice versa. Last night about six o'clock I poured a half-pint of warm water into a pitcher, added a pinch of salt, thickened with flour and set in a kettle of warm water on the oven. This morn I warmed the water, stirred and warmed the emptyings, and in an hour or so they were ready to make the sponge, for which I used only warm water and a little salt, all so easily and quickly done, and I don't believe E. S. B. has whiter. sweeter or more nutritious bread than were those three loaves. Since nature has provided all that is required, why add more? Poor flour needs coaxing with hop yeast, "lightning," etc., but good flour will do its own work without the forcing process. Many women have trouble with bread because the supply of flour is kept too warm. I know this because I have one of those adjustable flour boxes in my own pantry which is simply perfect in its way, but experience has taught me that a pantry that is warm enough for milk is too warm for flour for bread, so I keep the bread supply in a barrel in the store-room, and have that for other purposes in the pantry. One drawer of this receptacle is devoted to prepared flour, which I consider indispensable for quick biscuit, chicken pie dumplings, steamed puddings and the like. One of my neighbors makes as nice hop yeast bread as I ever saw, but she never seems free from the care and thought of it, and as soon as one batch is baked begins to make preparations for the next. Her husband said to me, not long since: "Bell didn't make as good bread for a while as Martha (his first wife) used to, but I told her more time and attention

must be given to the matter, and now it is all right." Poor girl! she's a slave to making bread for that family of seven, and sometime ere long I shall feel like scribbling on her tombstone, "Died of bread making." (If, indeed, she has a tombstone, though the first wife is not thus remembered.)

A sturdy six-year-old son of that father was necessarily detained in our home to dinner one day, but, for all my urging, he would not even taste a mouthful of bread, and only said, "No, ma'am, I don't eat salt rising bread"; but even at that age his ideas of hospitality were such that he would not add what I afterward learned was the reason, "My pa says salt rising bread isn't fit to eat," but not every youngster follows his "pa's" example as this one did. Just so we influence our children, and who can tell the result? often think I shall pity the wives of that family of boys. Last spring a bride said, "Oh, I just dread to go to housekeeping on account of making bread. Will don't eat anything but hop yeast and I'm so afraid I shall fail for I've never been used to that." I very well knew she would do her best, but I guessed from his style that a failure would not be readily overlooked. I've no patience with those men who require everything served just so; sick or well, hot or cold, in season and out of season, they must have a certain thing for a certain meal. One neighbor will have cookies to soak in his tea or coffee three times a day. Another, with an invalid wife, will not eat cold bread; only hot biscuit, gems, or pancakes are ever placed on the table.

That article from the pen of Beatrix is excellent. I endorse every word of it except, perhaps, what she says about our not enjoying a guest's visit unless there is pie or cake in the house. Are we 'cowards" because we conform to custom? Is it not said that "custom makes law?" There is no need, when people are well, that a woman's cupboard should be like Mother Hubbard's, neither will a women of sense be foolishly extravagant. Some women will drag their housework along till "ten o'clock at night" and even later, and those who do might as well fry cakes as anything else. When she says "I have memorized poems while paring potatoes," etc., I am interested at once, for I so often do likewise, and a pencil and paper are always at hand. It is well to catch these bright thoughts, for they oft take to themselves swift wings. Not boastingly, but in support of her theory, I may add that a sudden "inspiration," when in the midst of the Monday washing not many weeks ago, was thus written down, with but little delay to the work, which received a prize over all other competitors; and, that being the case, it evidently did not carry an aroma of "suds" to the editorial sanctum; but, waiting until arrayed in "good clothes" and with well sharpened pencil, I might have wooed the muse in vain.

I have been a reader of this particular Household but a little time, but would like to join if I am welcome, and, in closing, cannot do better than to quote the words of Mollie Moonshine: "I will sign my old nom de plume, which may not be strange to some of the Household readers though never before seen in its columns.

WASHINGTON, Mich.

[El See's nom de plume is recognized by the Household Editor, at least, and she is indeed very welcome.]

FOR THE PLANTS.

In the Household of March 11, I noticed an article from Mellesenda in regard to white worms in her plant dishes, saying she has had to repot most of her plants. I will give my experience in taking care of house plants. Those white worms and green flies once annoyed me so that I was almost persuaded to give up my plants, of which I have one hundred and twenty. But I adopted a way we had of doing when at home in England. I take about two quarts of fine soot, put it into a bag made of any old thin cotton cloth, place this in a pan and pour boiling water over it; let it stand for use. For a sprinkler that holds one gallon, put one teacupful of the soot water into it, fill the sprinkler with water and use upon the plants, and you will be surprised at the result. It may not kill all the first time, but use it twice a week. It is a fertilizer as well as a fly destroyer. If the worms are numer ous, sprinkle fine soot on the top of the pot, and by sprinkling the plants the strength of the soot will go down and kill all the worms. Be careful not to use too much, say one teaspoonful of fine soot to each pot; the soot water in time will kill all. It is six years ago since I commenced to use it, and I have not seen a green fly nor a white worm. It will also destroy the mealy bug. I have plants in bloom all winter. I read L. C.'s article with pleasure, but there is one thing I do not like in using tobacco smoke on plants, and that is it will kill the buds most of the time.

We have been readers of the MICHIGAN FARMER for a number of years; think now it is complete with the new Household. It is a welcome guest. How much I like it!

A FARMER'S WIFE.

LANSING, Mich.

NOTES ON BACK NUMBERS.

The time of the singing of birds has come, and the voice of the robin is heard in the land. Snowdrops and crocuses are each trying which shall be the first to proclaim that spring is here, and "God hath remembered the world." Truly there is much in life upon the farm to compensate for its isolation.

It is very pleasant to think that the Household is read sometimes in far away California, but for a resident of the city of "St. Francis," is not H. G. rather mixed in his theology?

With regard to the unexpected guest spoken of by A. H. J., that never troubles me in the least. I always have a good time with uninvited company, because I give them just what we happen to have, be it much or little, and take it for granted they came for a visit, not for a meal; but I freely admit this state of equability

has only been attained by force of circumstances and within the last few years. It would be well, I think, if we could all bear in mind that "Martha" was not re proved for "serving," but for the "much There lies the solution of the serving." whole difficulty, to my mind at least.

But I really must close, for here comes a whole flock of blackbirds, and I feel it my duty to enjoy them and their company. MRS. W. J. G.

HOWELL.

FLOWERS.

Seeing the article in the Household of March 18th, entitled "Flowers for the Farm," I feel prompted to write a word. While the March winds are lifting the snow in a mantle of vapor, and hiding the sun, and making a time of general muddy "disagreebleness," I comfort myself with the thought that

"The flowers that idly sleep and dream Within the frost-bound sod, Shall wake ere long by vale and stream, To wear the smile of God."

I never see a bright or delicate blossom, with its wonderful workmanship, without being reminded of our Father's love for us; and each variety expresses to me a new thought of the great creative mind.

My little boy at six years of age, after gazing intently at a bed of brilliant zinnias, came in with face aglow, exclaim-'Mama, do the flowers smile at me when I smile at them?" I wish we were all more childlike in retaining our unnate love for the beautiful; then the flowers would teach us not only to be bright and cheerful, but to be pure and perfect.

And now let me tell you how I made a mound for my gladiolas. After raking the dooryard litter into a heap, I cut some sod eight inches wide, and set it around the pile, then filled the top in with soil from the chipyard four inches deep; and the first of May planted the bulbs, and could you have seen the tall spikes, with their brilliant colors of varied hues, you would have said "A thing of beauty is a joy forever."

If any readers of the Household wish a few choice gladioli bulbs at eight cents each, I will mail them post-paid before the end of April, upon the receipt of MRS. C. F. MORSE. stamps.

FARMERS' CREEK, Lapeer Co.

EASY BREAD MAKING.

May I count myself hereafter as one of this Household band? I have been an interested reader for some time, and I think our little paper grows better every week.

I want to tell you our way of making bread. We make a yeast by boiling and washing twelve good sized potatoes, then adding one quart of boiling and one quart of cold water. Take three tablespoonfuls of flour and make into one pint of cooked starch, and put in while hot. When cool enough not to scald, add three tablespoonfuls of salt, three of sugar, and one yeast cake (we use National yeast,) and set in a warm place until light. This will make over a gallon. Take as much of this yeast as you want for a baking, mix in flour and mould at once into loaves and let it rise, and I think you will be pleased

with the result. It is an easy way of baking, as there is no sponge to see to, and but one mixing.

The subject of an educated housekeeper has been pretty thoroughly discussed, but I will simply give my opinion, that if one wants to be a good housekeeper, education will not prevent them from becom-

No more this time, or you will weary of so long a letter, even from a

NORVELL, March 28th.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

FRIEND.

An exchange says that if the pretty pink ginghams now so much worn by children, are dipped in water with enough vinegar in it to give a sour taste, the pink will be brighter than if rinsed in water alone.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Husbandman gives the following recipe for dyeing "Turkey red:" "When the cloth is saturated with alum, it is to be placed in a decoction of madder-root for one hour, rinsed in clear water, and plunged into a lye of common soda, and again washed in clear water.'

A CORRESPONDENT of the N. Y. World describes a home made receiver for soiled clothes, which does away with the unsightly and awkward clothes basket. She thus describes it: "The foundation is a common flour barrel. This is covered on the inside with paper. The outside is covered with pretty olive-colored cretonne, flowered in small bright sprays. The cretonne is laid in box-plaits, extend ing from top to bottom of the barrel. The lid of the barrel is covered with cretonne and has a pretty fancy bronzed handle, shaped like a trunk handle, attached to the middle, by which to lift it. Around the cover is a full box-plaiting of cretonne. Any one who wishes to put additional work upon it can improve the appearance of the receiver by arranging a tasty lambrequin of olive-colored felt around the top of the barrel. This can be embroidered and pinked around the edges, or cut in large fancy points and finished with tassels of worsted in colors to match those in the cretonne.'

THE Boston Traveler says: "Ribbondecked bamboo frames are pretty and useful contrivances for holding the current literature of the day, but every woman knows that every man, through some inborn perversity peculiar to his kind, is always liable to demand the immediate production of some especial newspaper of a date more or less remote, and unless afraid of setting small olive branches an example of profanity, is too apt to rend the air with clearly expressed adjectives, not designed to compliment the mistress of a house where, etc., etc. A happy relief for a housekeeper who does not love to have three hundred and sixty-five newspapers upon her sitting-room table simultaneously, is a box to stand under desk or table, or, not inappropriately, in a corner by itself. Take a soap box-it would be hard to find a paper upon home-made furnishing that does not in-

troduce the inevitable soap box-nail the top on closely so that it is a complete box, and have it sawed in two, diagonally, (let an expert handle the saw, or mutilation to box or sawyer may be the result). Line both sections with thick pink satin paper and cover the outside with dark felt, putting a row of furniture gimp with brassheaded nails all around the sawed edge. Put the two parts of the box together with hinges, and by the aid of screw eyes fasten slender metal chains on each side like trunk braces to keep the lid from falling back. In putting on the hinges let the bottom piece of the box be the highest in the back, so that opening is lowest in front. A little experimenting with scissors and a paper match box will make the position clear. No fastening is necessary."

SCRAPS.

BEECHER deprecates the indignity which attaches itself to the work which provides for the bodily necessities of humanity. He says no work which is done for the sake of another is ignoble or degrading. The work we do depends for its honorable character on the intention and spirit of the doer; and it is this, the spirit and thought of the work, which raises handicraft and manual labor into an art. He repeats, in effect, old George Herbert's oft quoted lines. The highest type of character must combine with its high culture and intelligence, the doing of some work for some loved one.

Or course every thoughtful man has taken a lvantage of the pleasant days we had in March to throw wide the cellar doors and windows, and ensure a thorough airing. Decaying vegetables and fruits should be removed, and the cellar "tidied" preparatory to the spring cleaning which is to follow the removal of the seed potatoes, and antedate the transfer ing of the milk and butter to summer quarters. Every cellar should have some means of ventilation; it cannot be otherwise than unhealthy to have a reservoir of stagnant air under the house, laden with the effluvia of decaying vegetable matter, which permeates the apartments on the ground floor. Sickness comes of such inattention to sanitary rules. A damp cellar is an unhealthy one. Get as much of the sweet spring air under the house as possible.

QUEER, isn't it, how much good natured grumbling a man can do when the annual house-cleaning comes round! And yet, would he not do more if it was omitted? Does not a man enjoy the freshness and sweetness which follows, as well as his wife, even though he eats a picked up" dinner under protest? Some of this grumbling can be avoided if the housekeeper, instead of tearing the whole house upside down at once, so that there is neither a place in it to eat, sleep or sit down, will take one room at a time, beginning at the top of the house, and set it in order before proceeding to the next. In this way the work is easily and quietly done, and the terrible fatigue and

perhaps illness, of a vigorous upheaval and mad hurry to get to rights again is avoided. Spare your strength and "take things easy," even if you do not keep up with "the neighbors" in the domestic procession. The longer I live the more respect I have for people who never get in a hurry. Don't make haste to get the stoves down and out of the way; we shall have days when a fire, if only nights and mornings, will be comfortable, till the middle of June. And it is a great mistake to oblige the whole family to huddle over the kitchen stove to keep warm. The children get "the snuffles" and the old folks the rheumatism, and there's a note ajar in the domestic harmony.

SEVERAL letters which reached us in time for insertion in last week's issue were unavoidably left out. We expect hereafter to have ample room for all Household letters, so that none will be de layed. It is pleasant to find the "new departure" so well received, and to note the many new comers who write for the first time. To all these we extend a cordial invitation to "come again and come often." We ought to make the little paper more and more valuable and entertaining every week. To "May," of Kewanee, Ills., belongs the credit of being our first con tributor outside Michigan; her letter contains much "good round-about common-sense," and we hope to see her name often. We have a long list of subscribers in adjoining States, and many scattered all over the country, from the Atlantic to California. We would be glad to hear from these, too, as well as many more of our Wolverine women.

THE March issue of the Ladies' Floral Cabinet is very attractive. There] is a very good illustration of the scarlet martagon lily, and a view of a fine floral arch, suitable for lawn ornamentation. E. D. Sturtevant furnishes an article on yellow water lilies, and other floricultural subjects are pleasantly handled by various writers. Home decorations and spring fashions are given due prominence, and recipes for the cook are not forgotten. A specimen copy is sent for six cents. Address 22 Vesey St., New York City.

Contributed Recipes.

MRS. S. SAUNDERS, of Courtland Center, sends us the following recipe for

NICE WHITE CAKE:-Whites of three eggs; one cup sugar; one-third cup butter; oneland two-thirds cups flour; large one-half cup sweet milk; one teaspoonful baking powder, mixed with the flour; flavor with lemon or vanilla; put the whites, beaten to a froth, in the last thing; bake slow.

M. J. H., of Detroit, contributes the following recipes:

ORANGE SHORTCAKE. - Make a short-cake as if for strawberry or raspberry shortcake. Chop seven large oranges after paring them, and use them as you would berries.

BREAKFAST COOKIES .- One cup of sugar; one cup butter; one coffee cup sour buttermilk; two eggs; one teaspoonful soda; a little nut-meg. Mix just enough to roll easily, and roll quite thin as they rise very light.

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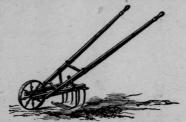
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Women and Umbrellas.

Long-continued observation has convinced us that the welfare of society demands immediate consideration of the question as to whether women should be allowed to carry umbrellas. It may be urged in defense of continuing the privilege that to refuse it would be in violation of the inalienable right of the pursuit of happiness. But if a woman gets any happiness out of knocking off people's hats and gouging out their eyes, to say nothing of tangling up the points of the umbrella ribs in the hair of other women, she ought to be induced either by moral suasion or legal compulsion to pursue happiness in some other way. It is a well recognized principle that the rights of one person end where those of another begin; and since a woman seems to be unable to keep her umbrella outside of the corporate limits of other people, it is quite evident that she ought to be limited in the exercise of her right to carry umbrellas to the Sahara, the alkali plains, and the Russian steppes. If a woman were capable of being educated in the proper carrying of umbrellas there would be some hope that with the process of education and development she might learn to wield her present death-dealing weapon above the danger-line. But it is a physicial impossibility. She is born that way. She can no more carry an umbrella as it ought to be carried than she can throw a stone without those indescribable gyrations, or catch a ball when she doesn't wear an apron. It is too true, but she must accept the consequences just as she must accept the consequence of being unable to throw straight, the inevitable consequence of never hitting anything. This being true, and moral suasion having failed to bring about the desired end, nothing remains but to protect the hats, eyes, and hair of the community by legal means. And it will be seen at once that this is a fit subject for constitutional prohibition. The aim is to secure a large portion of the community in the possession of their inalienable rights of wearing their hats on the tops their heads and keeping their natural eyes.

A Valuable Hint.

Harper's Bazar says that when wooden houses are in process of building, it requires almost no additional expense or pains to see that the hollow shell of the house is cut off at the level of the floor joists, and the space between the joists closed. In this way rats, which may get into the cellar, are prevented from running at ease and dragging their plunder all over the shell of the house from basement to garret, and under every floor, between the woodwork and the plastering. This, furthermore, is an important precaution against the rapid spread of a fire, since, instead of having free scope to fly to the roof through the hollow walls, and spread under every floor, thus enveloping the whole house at once almost, as though a series of flues had been carefully arranged to facilitate this very end, the flames must slowly eat their way through several cut-offs, unfed by a strong draught

THE IMPROVED SINGER SEWING MACHINE!

The "Michigan Farmer" One Year and a Machine For Only \$18.00!



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The cut below represents the "Head" or machine part of the Sewing Machine. All parts are made to gauge exactly, and are constructed of the very finest and best material. It is strong, light, simple and durable. Does to perfection all kinds of sewing and ornamental work that can be done on any machine.

Each machine is thoroughly well made and fitted with the utmost nicety and exactness,

well made and fitted with the utmost nicety and exactness, and no machine is permitted by the inspectors to go out of the shop until it has been fully tested and proven to do perfect work, andrun light and with as little noise as possible. This machine has a very important improvement in a Loose Balance Wheel, so constructed as to permit winding bobbins without re moving the work from the machine.

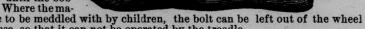
moving the work from the machine.

The LOOSE BALANCE WHEEL is actuated by a solid bolt passing through a collar securely pinned to the shaft outside of the balance wheel, which bolt is firmly held to position by a strong spiral spring. When a bobbin is to be wound, the bolt is pulled out far enough to release the balance wheel and turned slightly to the right or left, where it is held by a stop-pin until the bobbin is filled. Where the machine is liable to be meddled with by children, the bolt can be left out of the wheel when not in use, so that it can not be operated by the treadle.

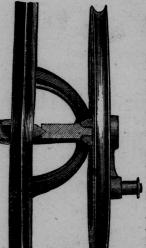
The Thread Eyelet and the Needle Clamp are made Self-Threading, which is a great convenience to the operator.

THE BALANCE WHEEL is handsomely finished and nickle plated.

The IMPROVED TENSION and THREAD LIBERATOR combined adds greatly to the value of this machine.



greatly to the value of this machine.



ALL THE STANDS HAVE The New Driving Wheel.

This Driving Wheel is the invention of John D. Lawless, secured by patent, dated Feb. 7, 1882, and is claimed to be the best device yet invented, being the simplest, easiest running, and most convenient of the many that have been tried. It can be easily adjusted and all wear taken up by turning the cone-pointed screw. It is the only device operating on a center that does not interfere with other patents. Dealers who wish to sell these machines will appreciate this fact.

The Stands have rollers in legs and the Band Wheels are hung upon self-oiling adjustable journals. Each stand is run up by steam power after it is set up until it runs very light and smoothly.

We have selected this style and finish of machine as being the most desirable for family use.

We furnish the Machine complete as shown in above cut, and include the following attachments, &c. One Johnson's Foot Ruffler, one set Hemmers one Tucker, one Foot Hemmer or Friller, one package Needles, six Bobbins, Screw Driver, Can of Oil, Extra Check Spring, extra Throat Plate, Gauge Screw, Wrench, Instructions maranteed as represented and to give satis-

Each Machine is Guaranteed as represented and to give satisfaction, or it may be returned and money refunded.

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Che Poultry Pard.

The Artificial Brooder.

M. C. Weld, in the Rural New Yorker, thus describes a simple form for an artificial brooder which he says can be made at home by any tinsmith:

"A simple form for these brooders, consists of a shallow box-say three feet long, two wide, and ten inches high. A width of eighteen inches of the top slopes to the front, has several panes of glass set in it, and is hinged to a fixed part of the top, which is six inches wide. The rear also slopes slightly to the rear, is also hinged to the fixed part, and must fit tightly. Underneath this is placed a flat tank for water. This is set on a slope, supported upon cleats. It should not fill the entire width of the box, nor should it go quite to the back end; but an air space for ventilation should extend all around. This tank is rectangular, made of zinc or galvanized iron; for the sized brooder we are contemplating measures about one foot wide, 22 inches long and four inches high, holds, when full, nearly four gallons of water, and is closed by a "screw-top" at one of the upper corners. It should be entirely jacketed in felt or several thicknesses of old blanket or carpeting, and should rest two-and-a-half inches above the floor at the rear, and four inches above it at the front end, where a curtain of flannel should hang from the top of the brooder down nearly to the floor. In the front end there should be an opening four inches high and wide, closed by a wire screen and also by a wooden sliding door. It is well also to have augur holes covered with wire cloth in the front part for ventilation. This is easily secured, however, by raising the front lid an eighth of an inch or more in warm weather, unless there is danger from vermin.

"The chicks should be taken from the hen as soon as dry, be well greased upon the heads, upon their throats and under their wings with lard, and put into the brooder, the tank of which is filled with moderately hot, but not boiling, water, by day. At night, if it is very cold, and the brooder is out-of-doors, and there are not many chickens in it, boiling water may be used. After a few days they will learn to come out from under the tank if it is too hot. They quickly become attached to their foster-mother.

"Chickens thus raised escape the various ills of chickenhood-lice, gapes, pip, etc. They are not trodden to death by clumsy hens, or dragged through wet grass, or exposed to storms, and they grow better, faster and evener than if raised under hens.

"So long as the brooder is not crowded, big and little ones do well all together, but when it is too full, the larger ones may be separated by partly closing the door, so that when once out they cannot get back, but must find shelter in a box without heat, placed adjacent. Here they will do very well with no artificial heat except in very cold weather, when a pail of hot water may be set in to temper the air and

a horse-blanket be thrown over the box. When they out-grow this box they will be fit for broiling, or, if to be raised, it will be time to separate cockerels from pullets and thereafter to keep them apart, each with a good range.

Fowls in Spring

It must not be forgotten that our poultry need some sort of green food at all seasons of the year.

In winter we can give them cabbages or chopped turnips and onions from time to time, short, late-dried hay (or rowen) is very good for a change; cornstalk leaves, chopped fine, they will eat with a relish.

In early spring time, when the ground Arst softens from the frost, pasture sods thrown into their pens will be ravenously eaten by them; and as soon as the new grass starts (unless they can have free access to the fields or lawn) they should be supplied with this excellent succulent daily. For the young chickens aothing is so beneficial and grateful as a run upon the newly grown grass; and next to this indulgence they should have an ample supply of cut or pulled grass every day.

But, of course, while Jack Frost bears sway, "this sort of truck" is out of the question. Some careful poultry keepers sprout oats in boxes of earth, and allow choice birds to pluck the tender blades. The common Swedish turnip and the carrot are excellent for winter green poultry feed, and probably the most available and the cheapest vegetables that can be procured. If the fowls do not "tackle kindly" to them, when offered in a raw state. cook and mash, and mix with bran and meal.-Colorado Farmer.

At this season there are always many inquiries about the desirability of keeping poultry for a living. These inquiries often come from women, sometimes with children dependent upon them. In general it may be said that keeping poultry is most profitable to those who do not rely upon it for their entire support. In large numbers fowls require a correspondingly large area and much more than this of care and attention to prevent disease. In small numbers poultry will not occupy all of one person's time and will not furnish enough profit to make it worth while. But the business can always be advantageously conducted by those who do not rely upon it exclusively. If they think the prospect attractive enough they can afterwards arrange to give their whole time to it.

WE are told "it is the early bird that catches the worm." We all know that it is the early pullet that lays the first fall and winter eggs. Every prudent poulterer, therefore, should see to it that they are well cared for, as it is these early eggs which fetch the best prices.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Country Gentleman relates in that journal how an Aylesburg duck he owned laid seventy-six eggs in one season from which were hatched sixty eight young ones. He keeps them with his chickens and thinks them quite as profitable as the latter.

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EAST.		STATIONS.	WEST.	
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P. M.	A. M.		P. M.	A. M.
9 00	8 30	L Marquette A	5 50	7 00
10 12	9 42	Onota	4 33	5 45
10 37	10 35	Au Train	4 00	5 18
11 22	11 25	Munising	8 18	4 33
1 15	1 15	Seney	1 35	2 38
1 55	2 16	McMillan	12 34	1 55
2 20	2 40	Dollarville	12 10	1 28
2 25	2 50	Newberry	11 50	1 23
5 45	6 15	A St. IgnaceI	8 50	10 00
P. M.	A. M.	Via M. C. R. R.	P. M.	P. M.
5 00	6 35	Bay City	10 05	1 40
7 47	9 22	Lapeer Junctn	7 43	11 16
10 20	10 25	Port Huron	4 25	7 55
5 38	8 18	Saginaw City	8 50	11 45
8 13	10 45	Lansing	5 55	9 10
9 35	12 05	Jackson	4 35	7 50
10 15	9 50	Detroit	8 45	9 10
P. M.	A. M.	Via G. R. & I. R. R.	P. M.	A. M.
4 25	6 10	Grand Rapids	11 00	10 20
2 54	4 48	Howard City	12 40	11 50
11 20	1 00	Fort Wayne	3 15	3 10
6 10	8 05	Lansing	9 40	8 45
9 25	11 15	Detroit	6 35	5 45
	3	Via D. L. & N. R. R.		
	3 35	Detroit	9 20	
	P. M.	Via F. & P. M. R. R.	P. M.	
	3 45	Detroit	12 10	

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50 NEW Style Chromo Cards with your name in fancy type, 10c. 11 packs and this Elegant Locket, (suitable for lady or gent.) \$1.5 packs and beautiful imported silk handkerchief, 50c. Illustrated list and sample book for agts. 25c. NEPTUNE CARD CO., New Haven, Ct.

Apiarian.

Swarming, and How to Manage It.

In the writer's apiary two large tin pails filled with water are always kept near the shop door, with a fountain pump hanging over them; and if a swarm shows any disposition to leave, or is slow in clustering when other swarms are expected, it receives such a sprinkling that it soon "hangs itself up to dry." With such a pump and plenty of water it is next to impossible for a swarm to abscond. The implement is also useful to prevent unit. ing or clustering of swarms issuing at the same time. Near the tin pails stand two splint clothes baskets, lined with cotton cloth, and each basket is furnished with a burlaps cover stitched to one side of it. As soon as a swarm has clustered it is shaken into one of these baskets, the cover flopped over, and if another swarm or something else demands immediate attention the basket and its contents can be set one side, to be disposed of at leisure.

After seeing the ease with which bees can be managed when allowed to swarm naturally, the energy with which they work, and the excellent results obtained the writer is decidedly opposed to artificial swarming-and also to queens with clipped wings. In the first place, when the bees swarm, the queen has to be found and caged. The bees roam around a long time, and sometimes finally cluster. If another swarm comes out they are certain to unite with it. When the bees do return they often go piling into the wrong hive, perhaps hives; and if they do catch on to the proper one, instead of going in they often cluster all over its outside. Sometimes, after the queen has been allowed to run in she comes out again, then of course the bees will follow her. In my experience a swarm having an unclipped queen can be hived and be at work in that "whooping," "zipping," go-ahead style, in just about the same time that it takes a swarm with a clipped queen to make up its mind, sullenly and doggedly, to go back home. - W. Z. Hutchinson, in American Agriculturist.

PROF. COOK says: "The benefit to be derived from foundation is great. We not only get beautiful, straight combs, but we secure much more honey. Wax is a secreted article and a very expensive one, as the bees must eat 15 or 20 pounds of honey to secrete one pound of wax. Suppose they eat 15 pounds; at 10 cents a pound this makes the comb worth \$1 50, while a pound of foundation can be bought for from 40 to 50 cents. This shows graphically what a benefit we derive from the use of foundation. No bee-keeper can afford to do without this article It pays well, and there is not the least objection to its use in the broodchamber and in sections. We can by no means afford to allow our bees to make comb from wax which they secrete. Foundation, though an artificial article, is exactly like the natural, only it is fashioned by man's device, and not by the bees.'

W. Z. HUTCHINSON described his method of wintering bees before the Michigan State Association as follows: He first digs a trench in a sandy hillside, fills it with dry straw, lays fence posts across, places boards over the posts, and then sets the hives in rows upon the boards, surrounding them with straw. Fence posts are then placed over the hives, their upper ends touching like the rafters of a building, straw is thrown over the posts to the depth of a foot, and then earth is shoveled on to the depth of two feet. No opening is left for ventilation. He had been more successful with this method than with any other. He had 57 colonies in such a "clamp" last season.

M. M. CARPENTER writes to the Bee Journal that his yellow Italian bees gathered pollen five days after being hatched, began gathering honey at seven days, and collected as much and as freely as older bees, at nine days of age. The experiment was made during an abundant honey yield from basswood. He is sure of the facts he states, because those were his new bees, the first he had of the yellow kind.

PROF. A. J. Cook, in a communication to the Rural New Yorker, says: "Extracted honey should always be kept in a dry room, and for a time after uncapping, in a warm room. Then we shall never be troubled with souring. Even comb honey often ferments in a damp, cool room. The fungus which causes honey to ferment seems to thrive in a damp, cool atmosphere."

A CORRESPONDENT of the Bee-Keepers' Magazine gives the following process for clarifying wax: After the wax comes from the extractor, let it cool; use onefourth gallon of vinegar, one-fourth gallon water to thirty pounds of wax, melt together and strain through cheese cloth. Wrap with woolen blanket and let stand in warm room till cool.

BEE-KEEPERS still find it necessary to reiterate the statement that pure, un-adulterated honey will always candy in cold weather. Such is the popular igno-rance on the subject that it is generally believed the candied state is evidence of adulteration.

Flushing, Mich., March 31st, 1884. Messrs Johnstone & Gibbons.

Gentlemen: I received the sewing machine, and we have given it a thorough trial on all kinds of sewing. It works well, runs easy and we call it a first class machine in every respect. Brother farmers, runs easy and we can be chine in every respect. Brother farmers, if you want a good machine at half price, subscribe for the Michigan Farmer and you will get the paper for a year and the machine for \$1800. Respectfully, J. H. ROWE.

BENNINGTON, Mich., March 17th, 1883. Messrs Johnstone & Gibbons.

Messrs Johnstone & Gibbons.

Sirs: Enclosed please find draft for \$18 00 to pay for sewing machine and Farmer, sent to Mr. A. N. Ross, of Owosso on my order. They are very much pleased with its work, and everyone that has seen it says that it is equal in every respect to the machine the agents here are selling at from \$40 00 to \$50 00.

Respectfully yours,

J. W. HIBBARD.

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Limited Express	§12.15 a m	§8.10 a m
§Daily. *Except Sunda	ys. †Excep	ot Saturdays.
† Except	Mondays.	
CHAS. A. WARREN, City P. & T. Agt.	O. W. RU	GGLES,
City P. & T. Agt.	Gen'l P	. &. T. Agt.,
Mar. 9, 1883. Detroit, M	Sich Ch	igago TII

FLINT & PERE MARQUETTE RAIL-

Depot Foot of Third Street. Ticket office 154 Jefferson Avenue and in Depot.

Trains run on Central Standard Time.

Bay City & Saginaw Mail Bay City & Ludington Exp	Arrive. *10:50a m *3:45 p m *9:55 p m	Depart. *8:40 a m *12:10 p m *5:00 p m
Bay City & Saginaw Exp . Bay City & Ludington Exp	*9:55 p m † 3:05a m	*5:00 p m †11:30 p m

Sleeping Car on Night and Parlor Cas on Day Trains.

*Daily except Sundays †Daily.
C. A. WARREN, P. & T. Agt.

TAKE SHORE & MICHIGAN SOUTH-

Trains run on Central Standard Time.

Cincinnati, Colum's and	Leave.	Arrive.
Cleve. Express	7 12 am	1 02 pm
Chicago Express	8 52 am	6 42 pm
Adrian, Toledo, Cleve-		
land & BuffaloExpress	3 10 pm	7 25 pm
Fayette, Chicago & Cin-		
cinnati Express	6 12 pm	10 22 am

The 7 25 p m train will arrive, and the 3 10 p m train depart from the Fourth street depot. Other trains will arrive and depart from the Brush street depot. Daily except Sunday.

Up-town ticket office No. 154 Jefferson Avenue

DETROIT, GRAND HAVEN & MIL-WAUKEE RAILROAD.

Depot Foot of Brush Street. Trains run by Central Standard Time, which is 28 minutes slower Detroit time. In effect December 30th, 1883.

	Depart.	Arrive.
Morning Express	6:50 a m	11:45 a m
Through Mail	10:30 a m	4:50 p m
Grand Rapids Express	4:30 a m	9:50 p m
Holly and Saginaw Ex	8:35 p m	8:00 a m
Night Express	10:30 p m	5:25 a m
* Daily, Sundays excepted	. + Daily.	‡ Daily.
Saturdays excepted.		

Saturdays excepted.

Through Mail has Parlor Car to Grand Haven.
Chicago Express at 8:30 a m has through coaches
and Pullman Parlor Day Car to Chicago.
Chicago and Owoso Express at 8:35 p m has
through coaches and Pullman Palace Sleepers to
Chicago.
Night Express has Wagner Sleeper from Detroit
to Grand Rapids.
Sleeping Car berths can be secured at G. T. R'y
Ticket Office, 156 Jefferson Ave., and at Depot.

T. TANDY, Gen'l Pass. Agt., Detroit.

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