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THE HOUSEHOLD---Supplement.

THE PERPETUITY OF SONG.

It was a blithesome young jongleur,
Who started out to sing
Eight hundred years ago, or more,
On a leafy morn in spring;
And he caroled sweet as any bird
That ever tried its wing.

Of love his little heart was full—
Madonna! how he sang!
The blossoms trembled with delight,
And round about him sprang,
As forth among the banks of Loire
The minstrel's music rang.

The boy had left a home of want
To wander up and down,
And sing for bread and nightly rest
In many an alien town,
And bear whatever lot befell—
The alternate smile and frown.

The singer's caroling lips are dust,
And ages long since then
Dead kings have lain beside their thrones
Voiceless as common men;
But Gerald's songs are echoing still
Through every mountain gen.

—James T. Fields.

FASHIONS FOR LITTLE PEOPLE.

The question "How shall I dress the children?" is quite as important to the mothers as what they shall wear themselves. So far this season, there seems to be nothing particularly new for either boys and girls. Misses' dresses are usually modeled quite closely after those of their big sisters, so far as short skirts and immature figures will permit. A neat and pretty wool suit for a girl of twelve has a jacket waist with velvet waistcoat, and a skirt with two box pleats down the centre, plain sides, and long back drapery; the pleats can be ornamented with passementerie if it is desired to make the costume more dressy. Such dresses are suitable in cashmere, challi, or the novelty suitings that are part cotton, and will last just about till the dress is outgrown. Pleated waists, a modification of the Norfolk jacket, are very pretty in wash goods; these waists are fitted to the figure; the ever popular yoke and belt waists are also worn; while there is a revival of the "Garibaldi" waist promised us: this is simply a gathered waist with a band of ornamental needle-work down the front. Sleeves for such waists are loose. Skirts to be worn with the above styles of waists may be perfectly straight all round, or with apron draperies over a foundation skirt. The double gathered skirt is a novelty; it is simply two skirts, the upper being half the length of the lower, and trimmed with embroidery. Guimpes and the Gretchen waists of last season are to be worn again. A very quaint and pretty

dress is extremely simple; it has a plain, low square-necked waist slightly pointed in front, with revers, to be worn over a waist of white nainsook; the skirt is full and straight, gathered to a band.

The short-waisted, long-skirted dresses for girls from three to seven, are just as quaint and pretty as they can be; I wonder they do not find more favor both in town and country. But we are so accustomed to the extremely abbreviated skirts and ruffles of past styles, that it is hard to introduce such a decided change. Nevertheless it is a fact that all dresses for girls show a decided improvement in the matter of length. A very pretty dress for a five year old has a white yoke, tucked, and white sleeves. A strip of gingham is then gathered or pleated to the yoke, with embroidered edge, scallops upward, to finish the joining. The skirt is tucked and sewed to the waist, with a belt of insertion to which is added, being sewed on the belt under the arms, a sash six inches wide, and long enough to tie in a large bow behind; the ends of the sash are trimmed with embroidery. Small boys and girls alike can wear sailor blouses and kilt suits; the blouse is often of white, with deep sailor collar, cuffs, and box pleat for button holes like the kilt, which is always of colored goods. The blouse has rubber tape at the bottom, and droops over. Ten year-old boys wear one-piece dresses with the waist laid in five box pleats before and behind, which are sewed down just below the waist line. Those from three to five wear dresses with jacket fronts, which the small wearer admires because they are boyish-looking. There is a long waist which fastens in front, to which a box-pleated skirt is sewed. The back of the waist is made of two broad forms, which slope outward at the bottom of the waist, where they are crossed by a shaped band which gives the appearance of a jacket and hides where the waist is sewed to the skirt. The jacket fronts are sewed in with the shoulder and under arm seams, and slope away from the throat; they are edged with embroidery, but for every day wear might be bound with braid. Trowsers of the goods of the kilt are worn by boys of five or six, those younger wear white ones. The "St. George" suit, for boys from five to seven, is made of blue serge, and has trowsers, kilt skirt with pleats held in place by elastic ribbon, and a sailor blouse, which may be of white with blue cuffs and collar. With it is worn a Scotch cap, with white crown and blue band. The Eton suit has the kilt and waist, and takes its name from the Eton jacket, which is not particularly pretty. This slopes from the throat to the

waist line, where it is square cornered, and is slightly pointed in the back. A pointed vest with a lap trimmed with pearl buttons, is set on the front of the waist, where it is revealed by the jacket. The kilt has a wide box pleat in front, with side pleats elsewhere. There are also cutaway jackets of the suit material, worn over white vest waists and with kilts, which come well down over the hips, two wide forms in the back, and are slashed in the middle and on the sides and corded all round; clusters of small pearl buttons set on the front and slashes form the only trimming. Serge, flannel and chevots are favorite materials for boys' wool suits.

Many of the new spring wraps for girls are short jackets with hoods, which are pointed in shape and lined with some pretty silk. Ulsters are long enough to nearly cover the dress, and have capes, which are very pretty on slim figures but make a fleshy girl look larger. Hoods are worn on these ulsters, and often the capes also. A new model for spring wear is a deep cape fitted to the shoulders, with one of these pretty pointed hoods.

BEATRIX.

GASOLINE vs. KEROSENE.

Having used both for fuel, I would give preference to gasoline by all odds—one of which "odds" is that a gasoline stove costs from three to four times as much as a kerosene stove. Another is that a kerosene stove is the very nastiest thing that ever was invented. And unless I decided to keep my face covered with moustaches—made of "pot black"—to wash my hands perpetually, and to have my house as grimy as a wigwam, I wouldn't take one as a gift and use it. But the gasoline is the reverse of all this, being perfectly neat. I can heat a flat iron in the blaze of a burner and not "smudge" it a particle. So with everything; there is no black and grime of smoke on anything except the piece of sheet iron that I put in place to catch what little smoke the burning of the gasoline in the generator makes when starting the fire, and after that the flames are made by gas. My stove is a New Lyman, four-burner, including oven. I could cook and do all the kitchen stove work for a family of six or eight by it.

The closed patent bakers are very nice for these stoves, as they insure the food against any effects of the gas.

As for the cost of fuel, I should say the kerosene stove would be most expensive. It was in my experience. Gasoline is for me less expensive than wood would be, and I think my stove is "a daisy."

FLINT.

E. L. NYE.

A YOUNG HOUSEKEEPER'S METHODS.

My mother nearly went wild over that dish-washing machine "M." mentions; she thinks it would be splendid. I think I can tell you why she happened to be so delighted with the idea. I have been sick for about a week and she has to wash the dishes herself. I should think such a machine might be made, still I am afraid glass and delicate china would not be handled so carefully as we handle it; but we certainly need some way of lightening a task that must be done over a thousand times a year.

Since I have been sick I have been doing some fancy work, for when I am well my fancy work is all men's shirts, boys' pants and such things, but when I am sick I do just as I please; so I have been making lace with feather-edged braid; it makes pretty lace, though I like the novelty braid better.

I wonder if "Temperance" likes to read. Some people don't seem to like to read at all, but I am like an aunt of father's; her daughters said when she objected to any of their doings they gave her the arm-chair and a pile of papers, and she never knew what they were doing as long as the pile remained by her side. Two good books I think she would enjoy, are "Zig-zag Journeys" and "Boy Travelers in the Far East," by Thomas W. Knox. I have forgotten the author of "Zig-zag Journeys." In Ypsilanti we have a Young Ladies' Library Association, which owns nearly four thousand volumes; by paying forty cents for three months we can get a book every Saturday. I like the idea very much, for I have read many books in that way that I might never have even heard of if it had not been for the library. Of course the money we pay is used for paying librarian, rent of the rooms, and other necessary expenses, and in buying new books, of which a number are added to the library every year.

I didn't think the "dose" of Beatrix we received was as bad as some of the "doses" I have taken some times, still I think we ought to be ashamed of ourselves to let her do the writing and we the reading all the time, hearing but not heeding her call for "more copy."

I must tell you my way of making bread, which may be new to a good many: I take about six good sized potatoes, peel and boil, putting a few hops in a little thin cloth, in to boil with the potatoes; when done, mash the potatoes well and strain through a colander, stir in about a teacupful of flour, and pour a dipper of boiling water in; stir well, then put in a crock, or prepare in the crock if you wish, (I use a four gallon crock) and fill the crock up nearly full of cold water, of course leaving some room for foaming, then add three yeast cakes, previously soaked until soft in warm water. When ready to make bread, (for it must stand by the stove or in a warm place for half a day at least), take one coffee-cupful of yeast and one cup of warm water to each loaf of bread. It will not hurt this yeast to freeze. As usual I forgot, you must put a little salt in when you mix the bread.

I take a cup of this yeast, a cup of water, half cup of lard, a pinch of salt, and flour to mix well; divide in three parts, roll each

part out the size of my pudding dish, stew a few dried cherries in as little water as possible, and lay the dough in the pudding dish, placing cherries between the layers; let rise till light and steam three hours. For the sauce take four cups of sweet milk and two cups of sugar, a piece of butter and a little salt, put it on the stove, and when it boils, stir some flour in a little cold water, "thickening" it is some times called, and put this in, then flavor. Here is a method of preparing potatoes which I have never seen in print: Pare and boil as to mash; when you pour the water off, put in sweet milk enough to cover them nicely; when this boils, stir in some of the flour thickening spoken of above; they are delicious. Did you ever chop up onions and prepare as you do cabbage for cold slaw? MARY B.

YPSILANTI.

IN PEACE PREPARE FOR WAR.

I think the housecleaning battle half won when I have well decided just what must be done, and how. When I have decided just what carpets must be ripped and re-sewed or renewed outright; just which rooms must be newly papered and what must be the prevailing tint, in the paper, that I may not be obliged to renew everything else in the room, or have everything making fun of its neighbor, as inharmonious as people singing opposite keys, I feel I have made a good beginning. I find this a good month to lay a supply of good rags for cleaning, over a peg in the woodshed; to procure a paper sack of plaster Paris for filling cracks, and many other things which make the work—always hard enough—much lighter when the tug of war comes. I also find this a good month to look over the various catalogues and decide just what our flower garden shall be next summer. We always start a great many of our annuals in the house, and thus prolong the season. I wish every member of the HOUSEHOLD might have such a sweet pea hedge as we had last summer. I can scarcely believe that so much fragrance and beauty was ever before procured at an outlay of five cents; I can scarcely wait for the beautiful spring time. Returning from a visit to our flower bed, I find that Dame Nature is already rubbing her eyes and asking whether it is really getting-up time, Roman hyacinths, crocuses, etc., being already up.

Some of my friends say they have no time to "fool" with flowers, but I really can not see that they get along any better with their work than I do. Still I may not be able to see myself as others see me, and probably it is just as well I do not. Mr. G. says I remind him of an old Irishman he knew, who was always digging in the dirt, but I can stand that, for I know that for me at least there is virtue in the soil, and I would rather take a little "garden cure" than all the medicine in the shops, be it sweetened ever so sweet; and though I can not have the grand old ocean where I gathered shells, and scaled the old red sandstone rocks, as in days of yore, I will still worship at Nature's shrine, and get as near to Nature's heart as possible; not however forgetting Nature's God.

In reply to E. L. Nye regarding routine,

I think it especially valuable to children; it is so much better for a child to get up in the morning, knowing just what his or her work is before going to school, and the same after their return at night. Be it much or little, have them responsible for certain tasks, and then let the time be theirs sacredly. With regard to myself I am old-fashioned enough to think that if duty points the way, I must not chafe at the routine, but make it rather my ladder, by which I am to rise above difficulties and make the most of the talent given me. A routine that binds the subject heart and soul to earth and earthly things I despise, and will not submit to.

What does Beatrix think of buying books sold by subscription? We regard the whole business as a nuisance. I have known of many who bought what they did not want—under pressure—and much to their regret afterwards. We always have our minde made up months, perhaps a year, ahead, just what the next investment in literature shall be, so we live in anticipation of the joyful time when the long looked for "ducats" shall make their appearance; and I must say we prize those possessions the most, for which we have waited most longingly.

I inclose a little poem, written by the late James T. Fields, which I think well illustrates the fact that genius will not be quenched by untoward circumstances.

HOWELL.

MRS. W. J. G.

[The poem alluded to will be found on the first page of the HOUSEHOLD.]

ODDS AND ENDS;

A friend of mine says her mother is quite a monomaniac on the subject of saving "fats." Although I am not quite as bad as that, still I must rebel at Evangeline's "soap-grease," as she says everything but pork fat (and farther on we see the surplus of that too) is consigned to the soap kettle. I always save the drippings of roast beef, the skimmings of corned beef, and use with pork fat to fry doughnuts; and think it better than clear lard to use. I have used a small percentage of roast mutton dripping when the lard crock was low, could see no difference in the cakes, and as I said nothing to "John" about the economy, of course he never noticed the difference. Although a young housekeeper, my fried cake recipe has been copied a number of times, and as it only uses one egg, is sometimes quite convenient, so I send it for the regular column of recipes.

In noticing the pumpkin pie recipes in the household columns of the several papers that we take, I have noticed but one that did not take more than one egg to a pie. That is all I ever use, and sometimes use them in the ratio of two for three pies. Pumpkin pies are as different as the people who make them; and every woman has her pet spice for them. I always use cinnamon, ginger and nutmeg, and sweeten with sugar, not molasses.

I presume the hired girl is not appreciated in many homes, but in many of the places about here they rule us as with a rod of iron. We have to take whom we can get, and just as we need them most they take French leave. They all ask the same wages, 19

gardless of merit. It is not the wage of a servant that counts up so much as it is the countless small wastes—slices of bread, fried cakes, remnants of pie and puddings, are all, consigned alike to the swill pail. Our pigs ought to thrive and grow as no common fed pigs can. The question of what we are to do about help in the house for the future is staring us in the face, and the answer is beyond me.

M. I. G.

BATTLE CREEK.

A FASCINATING SUBJECT.

The discipline and the development of life enlarge our view of humanity, and increase our desire to better apprehend the aims and purposes, the governing principles of the lives moving around us. The value of life, as related to our fellow creatures, lies in what we contribute to it of use, of helpfulness in thought and action.

I am glad to see the subject of work for girls discussed, but I hope it will be extended beyond the single phase thus far considered. It seems to me the ladies of the HOUSEHOLD all find housework a congenial occupation, and are intent upon showing it up in so attractive a light, that I wonder all the girls are not in haste to answer the "Wanted, a girl to do housework in a small family," a number of which always appear in our daily newspapers. Is it not a little strange that only small families desire girls to do housework? Yet after all the advantages offered by this work, I do not suppose the advocates of housework claim it to be the only thing girls should attempt, nor do I believe any of them would choose for their daughter the situation of "hired girl" in another household, and risk their "opportunities for culture" in that position without first instituting a keen search for their capabilities in some other direction.

There's an awful lot of bosh talk about housework, and about girls, too. To me, this repugnance to housework as a vocation, exhibited by most girls, has a spice of healthful sentiment. Girls have had housework and marriage served up to them in every conceivable form, until I'd like to see them shuffle off the idea of both for a while, and see what it is like to achieve a little independence outside the established rules which have been laid down for them from the foundation of the world.

The home-keeper has my highest respect. Any woman has but to realize the difficulties to be met and overcome, to appreciate the skill necessary to success. The sense of comfort and rest a "home" affords, who can tell it? Yet it is the spirit of that home as much as the tidy rooms and good food which gives health, just as it is the education of "our girls" which makes them sensible, helpful women, or shallow "ladies," despising honest labor because they know no better.

I should like to know how many girls in well-to-do homes in country or town are taught the need of independence in developing a well-poised character? The fact is, girls are not expected to do anything, or to be anything. They are not taught or required to work with any aim in view. This being the case, who can expect those who are obliged to earn their own bread, to take

kindly to the kitchen? This dislike to housework is a part of a very respectable prejudice. The principal argument in favor of housework seems to be "You'll need it when you're married." That's very well, provided you marry. But is it just to require years of preparation for a work upon which the girl may never enter? Then, unless a girl marries the coachman or hired man, she usually knows of the important event far enough ahead to get sufficient knowledge of housework to carry her on to final success, for she has opportunities for plenty of experience. Keeping house is natural to girls, and any girl of sixteen ought to be capable of preparing all the essential dishes. There are few who dislike helping at home, and the young girl is often found who carries on the household work during her mother's illness or absence from home, and takes genuine pride in so doing. The larger part of this housework question hinges on the universal expectation of marriage. Everybody expects the girls to marry. Indeed, we expect it ourselves, even though we choose to wait a hundred years for the propitious time. However, it seems girls who do not wed are generally considered superfluous, though any anxiety in regard to the matter on their part is made a subject for ridicule. What we want is a grand substitution of ideas in this line, and it must come to woman and through woman. Perhaps the world has yet to learn that woman alike with man is subject to the laws of life, that she is alike spurred by its necessities, stimulated by its compensations, and developed by its activities. So slowly courses the circulation of vigorous, healthful principle through the sluggish veins of custom!

Independence for woman, occupation, business discipline for woman! Let it be housework, fancy work, let it be anything you will, only let it be a business which makes woman responsible for something, makes her of some use under the sun, though she never marries.

(To be continued.)

THE HIGHEST TYPE OF THE RACE.

[Paper read by Mrs. B. F. Batcheler before the Institute of the Ocella Breeders' Association at Howell, Feb. 18-19.]

To me has been assigned the theme, "How to Make Farmers' Sons and Daughters the Highest Type of Their Race." I can appreciate the greatness of the work and the need of the same among farmers, as an important factor in the great mass of humanity, much better than I am able to specify the methods necessary to employ to attain these results.

The statement of the question presupposes the workings of outside influences upon plastic minds, endowed with reason and conscience and capable of choosing between right and wrong. We must assume the medium between the extreme radical statements that man's character is formed by the influences that surround him, and that man is the architect of his own character, for we must confess that these mighty forces are strangely mingled in the general make-up of character as we find it to-day. An artist must have a high and delicate conception of his task, a clean canvas, and the best of materials, or his work will never be pronounced the best of its kind; the standard must be high or the achievements cannot be satisfactory. The sculptors of ancient times

used the famous Parian marble, the quarries at Carrara were known to them, but have been more extensively wrought for modern use; the marble obtained there derives its value to the sculptor from its texture and purity. However great the skill required to produce those masterpieces of statuary which have been pronounced again and again the highest type of their kind, we cannot fail to ascribe their success largely to this selection of material which embodied the largest possibilities. We wonder not that they passed by those specimens that contained fissures and seams through which had slowly trickled the moisture which had found its way thither, leaving stains that could not be effaced, avoiding those that had mixture of baser material and were honey-combed by impurities; that only was accepted which gave token of firmness and purity, strength and durability. I must claim that to attain the highest results man must be taken at his best estate. The same laws, to a certain extent, control success in the training of the mental and moral faculties, as in the best efforts of skilled artists.

If we would that our sons and daughters become the highest type of their race, we must understand the importance of the work and prepare ourselves for it; as we cannot teach successfully what we know not of. It is not a light thing that we are parents, and into our hands is given the moulding of immortal minds; great responsibilities rest upon us, and no desire to shift them to other shoulders or to ignore them altogether can release us. If one is heedless with regard to shaping the conduct by the rules of right and integrity, what will arouse to a sense of present incompetence and a desire to be fitted for the claims duty has upon us, if the position of parent fails to do so? If we find ourselves not fit patterns, in these things, for our children, the safest way is to become so without delay.

The homes of the people are called the stronghold of the nation, and these farmers' homes of ours contain our precious sons and daughters, and our success or failure in the world is marked largely by the results that are found in them. If we as parents and guardians are recreant to our trust, to whom shall we look for success? Where early training is deficient the best results cannot be expected. 'Tis easy to remember this with reference to physical culture, but how strong is the tendency to smile at, and even encourage the "sowing of the wild oats," and we see this among those to whom experience should have proved that the soil is not thereby improved and fitted for a longer and richer fruitage.

Why should we so willingly allow the pure marble, which at our hands should receive only skillful handling to bring out the ideal of beauty, symmetry and strength, to become seamed and scarred and permeated with impurities? Can we hope thereby to attain better results? Though we may hope to have our children greatly benefited in later years by mingling with, and receiving instruction from those who are amply qualified to direct their minds, it is to the home of their youth that we look for the earliest and deepest impressions of truth and purity and right. If we have an ideal, which we wish them to reach, we must teach them by example as well as precept.

Should father and mother by their lives give them incorrect ideas of the cardinal virtues, if with them they see that truth is a matter of convenience, purity is the straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel, and right is simply the placid surface of a stagnant pool; can we sincerely expect these youths to grow up as strong oaks of the forest in stately grandeur, upon whom we may look with pride and satisfaction, without a fear for their overthrow, when trials and temptations may come as a tempest to test them, if they be rooted in soil of this nature?

Consistency is as needful in these things as in minor matters. If we are indeed building, not only for time but for eternity, let us build well and cultivate a love of right for its own sake, that our reward shall

not be an eye service, but a life filled with noble results. We may well judge by the general flow of a stream of its fountain and tributaries.

One who knows better than we what is in man, tells us "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh;" from this test I fear there is that in the hearts of many parents that would unfit them to become real helpers to the young in laying the foundation of future usefulness.

I would that each father among us were worthy the tribute paid the late lamented Gen. Grant by his son, when he said "I never heard father use a word that it would not have been suitable for him to use in the presence of a lady," and his wife said of him, "In all his successes he never forgot me." He belonged not to the class of men who esteem a good wife lightly.

Let us as mothers not waste our time and energy in devising ways and means for widening our sphere, when we are already in full command of one that we cannot limit. From the home radiate those influences, which more than all others, will tell for the weal or woe of those whom we hold dearest.

We can well afford to use our best endeavor to make our homes cheerful and attractive by careful attention to little things as well as great; love and forethought invent many devices for winning and holding to what may be the dearest place on earth—assured that a good home is a safe place for any person. Good books are found trusty helpers, as are many other things that add pleasing and restraining influences; though these may sometimes necessitate a larger outlay of money than we, at first thought, feel we can afford, it often proves an economical investment, saving an amount that others who have been less considerate are obliged to furnish for purposes of a more doubtful nature.

If we are thoughtful mothers, we will see that our sphere is indeed a large one, and our anxiety will be that we have wisdom to reprove, to instruct, to direct and to encourage in the right way, and patience to endure and await the expected results. Though we guard the home as best we may, we can not always control our surroundings, but must take them as they are; if need be, supply the deficiencies where we can, losing no opportunity however small; to build up a pure and elevated sentiment. Our district schools are among the important factors in the development of the youth from farmer's homes. We pride ourselves upon our school system, and money is expended with a cheerfulness that is commendable, believing that in the liberal education of the masses lies the hope of the people; the permanence of our republican institutions; but with our liberality and zeal, we are not always wise; we are too liable to accept the judgment of another, where our own should be exercised; paying our tax is not our whole duty; we should know for ourselves whether our children are taught habits of thoroughness, or are they skimming over the rudiments of knowledge, in their haste to be classed in a higher grade. Are those branches receiving the first attention, from which will be derived the greatest benefit in the actual business of life?

Our children should be able to read the English language intelligibly and understandingly, to write it legibly, to spell it correctly and speak it grammatically, with the ability to arrange it so as to convey thought properly. This I believe to be our first need in rudimentary education; without this ability one is liable to be criticised severely though their attainments may be great in the higher branches. We need that education be practical, a benefit rather than a hindrance to its possessor, to help in the battle of life.

We see that industrial schools are gaining favor over our country, which shows that attention is being aroused to the strong tendency in these later years to substitute superficial attainments for that which will assist in real development and fitness for

the realities of life. Not that we should esteem lightly a thorough education, and the various useful accomplishments; these are desirable, but let all consider their surroundings, and if they cannot do all they would, let them do well what they can.

These considerations, as well as that of the influence the instructors are to have over the minds of the pupils, are to be taken into account, not only in the district school, but when the time comes, as it does with very many, when better advantages are sought, and our children are sent away to school, are we always as careful to consider the moral and religious advantages the institution of our choice may offer, as its literary and scientific standard? True manhood is not attained by the development of certain faculties, to the neglect or dwarfing of others.

We would that our sons and daughters be pure, strong, self-reliant, and domestic; taking their places in society and filling them well, in farmers' homes if that is best, but possessing those gems of worth which grace any position in the land, and that they be earnest factors in working out the great social problem. In the vegetable kingdom we find individual plants and single blossoms on that plant that are complete in themselves, dependent upon no other for the fulfilment of the law of being; but in the higher orders of animal creation, especially that of its crowning glory, it is not thus.

It is written, "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him, male and female created he him." Here man is a collective noun, representing distinct individuals, and requiring unity for completeness, not only physically, but intellectually and morally. How strikingly are we reminded of the knowledge of the Creator, of the needs of his creation when he decided it was not good for either individual of man to be alone. 'Tis not in the anchorite or among the Amazons we look for the best development of all the parts which form a symmetrical whole.

There is an innate desire in all to please, and to reach out after affinity, where the better nature is not perverted; this is found in whatever improves and completes us. I believe in society is found the remedy for its greatest evils. To the American girl is imputed a tendency to frivolity and extravagance. When it is understood that those whom she is most anxious to please have a high appreciation of good common sense, even when its possessor is a woman; that a gentle manner and an opinion of her own quietly but firmly maintained, are as attractive as the dashing, daring, loud-spoken girl of the period, who hesitates to give expression to her convictions of right, least she should offend, and that it is expected of her that she has brains enough to be a financier, that she shall learn as her brothers do the value of money, how to spend it wisely, and how to earn it if it is best she should do so. When these qualifications are known to be at par, it will soon be found that the supply is equal to the demand. On the other hand, is the dude the chief object of admiration? Is it he who can wreath smoke most gracefully from a cigar, who can give you a lively mixture of the "latest phrases?" who can discourse with glib sarcasm upon subjects that should be held sacred? Is it he who can present himself in the most faultless attire and the finest turnout, regardless of other recommendations? Are these the requirements of to-day? Are solid worth and virtue at a discount? When woman, who is expected to be above reproach if she is to find a place in good society, dares to walk alone, rather than unite her fortune with one for whom a special code of moral laws must be enacted, differing widely from the one she is expected to obey, knowing that very many of the sorrows of her sex are due to the allowances she is so willing to make for the shortcomings of him who is supposed to be the strong one, capable of instructing and caring for the weaker vessel, remembering

that wrong is just as wrong in him as in herself, and that to shut her eyes to this truth is to compromise right, when she is strong enough for this, we will see broken away from her future life the firmest shackles which bind her to misery; and when this demand for purity is unconditional, and then only, will we find its full and perfect development.

When public sentiment is brought up to that point, where man and woman will look for and accept that only as a counterpart, which will improve and complete, then, may these evils of society be corrected.

Why may not our sons and daughters, as well as any in the land, be in possession of all we may covet for them? We can claim no higher award, for our best and most assiduous efforts in their behalf, than that they become strong to reprove and put away wrong because it is wrong, and to accept and be the champion of right, because it is right.

WE have several papers read at Institutes which we shall publish from time to time as space permits. Most of them are long, and were we to publish more than one in one issue, there would be little room for other letters; and we aim to give as much variety as possible. So do not dream of the waste-basket because you do not find your essays in print at once, but remember our little HOUSEHOLD has its limits, and possess your souls in patience.

STOVE POLISH WITHOUT DUST.—To the ladies who have trouble with dust from stove blacking, I would say if they would shave up the blacking, add soft water and a few shavings of soap, let it boil enough to dissolve, and apply when the stove is cooled off, they will find but little trouble to polish, and very little if any dust.

OTTER CREEK.

A. G.

THANKS are due C. B. R. for a photograph of her husband, the latest addition to the HOUSEHOLD collection.

LEONE's inquiry on "card etiquette" will be fully answered next week.

Contributed Recipes.

FRIED CAKES.—One and a half cups sugar; two cups buttermilk; two-thirds cup sour cream, not too thick; two teaspoonfuls saleratus; cinnamon and salt.

BLACK PUDDING.—One egg; one cup molasses; one cup sweet milk; two cups Graham flour; half nutmeg; two teaspoonfuls saleratus; no shortening. Steam three hours and dry in the oven. To be eaten with sauce.

BATTLE CREEK.

M. I. G.

SOFT MOLASSES CAKE.—One cup molasses; half cup butter; half cup boiling water; one egg; one tablespoonful buttermilk; three cups flour; one teaspoonful ginger; two teaspoonfuls soda.

OTTER CREEK.

A. G.

FLOWER SEEDS FOR 1887.

I will send one package of choice pansy seed, mixed sorts, for 25c, or in collection with carnation, verbena, pinks, dahlia, geranium, stocks white or mixed colors, forget-me-not, *cobaea scandens*, and canary-bird flower, for 50c. Seeds from over 100 choice varieties of perennials, everlastings, annuals or herbs, six packets for 25c; 13 for 50c or 80 for \$1. Send stamp for list.

MRS. M. A. FULLER (DILL),
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