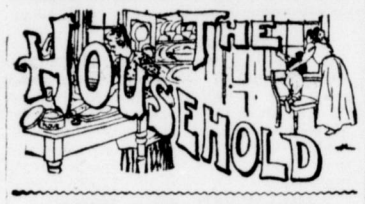


SAND FOR CHILDREN.

The Cheapest, Most Satisfying and Altogether Least Objectionable of All Playthings.

"First in a child's outfit should be a sand heap if the young ones are quite young," writes Charles M. Skinner of "Gardens for Children" in the Ladies' Home Journal. "Almost the first thing that human beings want to do, after they learn to eat, is to dig. A cartload of sand is one of the cheapest and most satisfying playthings in the world. It is worth a houseful of dolls, and painted monkeys on sticks. Watch Johnny and Nelly at their work and you will wish most heartily that you could find the same novelty and enthusiasm in your employments. That sand pile is very cosmos. Mountains are builded from it with the use of tin shovels and beach pails; there are caves in the cool depths near the foot of those Himalayas—caves big enough for the cat to turn around in; Johnny makes a fort on his side, and Nelly lays out a garden on hers. Johnny's fort mounts murderous clothespins, and the garden has trees and flowers and fountains made of burned matches, wisps of paper and broom straws, while china dolls walk abroad there and take the air. 'What trifling!' did you say? Not so. This is one of the most serious affairs in life. Don't you see that in this play the little ones are learning? Probably they acquire more exact information in an hour than they gain all day in school. They are gathering ideas—facts—about this physical world that they must use their whole lives long, for all knowledge rests upon them; ideas about substance, gravity, density, form, distance."

THE GINGHAM BABY.

She Is the Neatest and Most Comfortable of All the Pretty Little Maids of Summer.

The gingham baby wears a dress made of three or four different kinds of gingham. Her yoke may be plain gingham edged with a band of ribbon below which may be set out a broad ruff of figured gingham, and to the yoke

THE LITTLE GINGHAM GIRL.

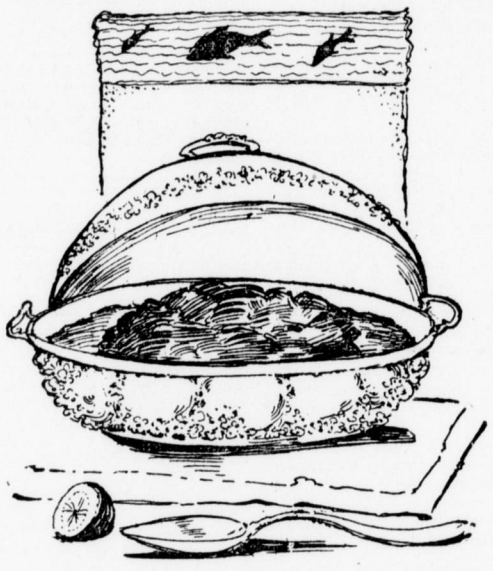
of her dress can be sewed a double box plaited skirt of gingham.

The prettiest trimming for this gingham dress is wash ribbon, which comes in narrow widths at six cents a yard. Sew it around the yoke in loops that lie close together so they form a sort of ruffle. The ribbon around the neck can also be wash ribbon. If the gingham dress is washed carefully this wash ribbon will keep nice all summer, and you will have very little trouble with the dress until it is worn out.

BAKED SALMON AND POTATOES.

A New Luncheon Dish for Those Who Are Fond of the Golden Orange Fish.

If you want a delicious luncheon dish take the cold remnants of baked salmon left from the dinner of the day before and break up with a fork. Break it in pieces not too small after having removed the skin. Mix the pieces with the salmon sauce or gravy.



Cream Irish potatoes until very soft, using considerable milk and butter. Place in a baking dish and leave a big place in the center for the fish. Smooth down the potato with a buttered knife, leaving the salmon rough in the center, and bake in the oven until a light brown. Canned salmon can be used, but be careful not to have the fish too dry. Place a piece of butter the size of an egg on top of the salmon before baking. Serve hot with sliced lemon.

FRANCIS TAYLOR.

MARYLAND CHICKEN.

A Dish Which May Well Be Called the True Masterpiece of American Cookery.

The old-fashioned cook of Maryland had a special reputation for preparing chicken in a superior manner. Select a tender, plump young chicken. Singe, dress and cut it up as if for a fricassee. Wipe each piece, season it with salt and pepper, dip each in melted butter and then lightly in sifted bread crumbs. Arrange the pieces on a baking pan and put them in a hot oven to bake. Let the chicken cook in this way for three-quarters of an hour, basting it every 15 minutes, and turn it after it has browned well on one side. While the chicken is cooking prepare corn fritters to serve with it. To make these fritters, cut off the cob a cupful of fresh corn, or if it cannot be obtained use a cupful of canned corn, drained a little and chopped. Add pepper and salt, two well-beaten eggs and also a tablespoonful of cream if canned corn is used. Add a cupful of flour and half a cupful of milk. Divide the corn fritters and fry them in butter in a very hot pan, turning them from one side when they are done to the other. Prepare a cream sauce by pouring a cupful of cream in the dripping pan in which the chicken was baked. Thicken the gravy with an even tablespoonful of butter mixed with a teaspoonful of flour. Let the gravy thus formed simmer slowly for five minutes. Season it with salt and pepper and strain it and scatter in a teaspoonful of minced parsley. Set the gravy in the oven a moment or two, then pour it over the chicken, which should be garnished.—N. Y. Tribune.

Recipe for Spiced Cake.

Yellows of seven eggs, two teacupfuls of brown sugar, one teacupful of N. O. molasses, one teacupful of butter, five teacupfuls of flour, one teacupful of sour cream, one teaspoonful of soda, one pound of seeded raisins, one-half pound of citron; cinnamon, ginger, nutmeg and spice to taste.

How to Round the Throat.

To have a rounded throat exercise the throat by singing; sing, whether you have a "voice" or not, deeming the exercise valuable. At night wrap the throat in a linen cloth, wet with scented oil. This will nourish the skin and soften its outlines. Exercise the throat every day by turning the head from side to side slowly, and never fast. Try this ten minutes every night and morning. If the hair falls out change your diet and improve your general health. Friction is too rough treatment for ordinary skins. If used to prevent wrinkles it should be gentle and with a little oil on the fingers.

Homemade Cream Cheese.

Cream cheese may be made at home, providing you follow carefully the rules. Take four quarts of good, thick milk, pour into it two quarts of boiling water; turn into a bag and drain over night. Next morning rub this cheese to a smooth pulp and press through a fine sieve; add gradually a tablespoonful of melted butter or two tablespoonfuls of thick cream. Pack this into small cups and stand in a cool place for about two or three weeks; at the end of that time the top may be removed and the cheese turned from the cups for use.—Ladies' Home Journal.

A Japanese Pot-Pourri.

Lavender flowers, one pound; rose leaves, one pound; ground orris root, half a pound; crushed cloves, two ounces; crushed cinnamon, two ounces; crushed allspice, two ounces; table salt, one pound. Thoroughly mix these several ingredients, and then keep in a tightly sealed jar till required to be used. For sachets, to place among clothing and house linen, this potpourri will be found very fragrant and refreshing.

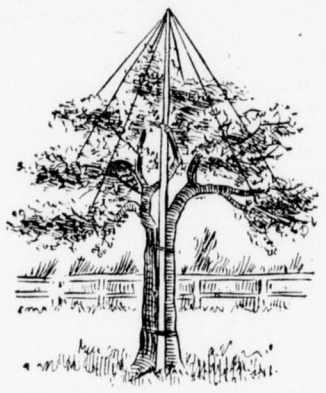
London has 600,000 houses; Paris has 80,000, and New York has 115,000.

SUPPORT FOR TREES.

Just the Thing for Orchards in Which Hogs, Sheep and Other Animals Are Pastured.

The practice is becoming more and more prevalent of pasturing hogs and sheep in orchards. The animals thrive on the grass and fallen fruit, and they in turn enrich the orchard and destroy countless grubs and worms. With animals in an orchard, however, it is impossible to prop up heavily-laden boughs, for such props will very quickly be knocked down. Fig. 1 shows a plan that can be used in almost any tree. The central branches furnish a fulcrum for the support of the poles used. One end can be placed under the branch to be supported, or tied to it,

A SECURE SUPPORT FOR FRUIT TREES.



TREE SUPPORTED BY POLE AND WIRE.

and the other end brought down under a branch on the opposite side, or tied to a branch if it is not possible to confine it under a limb. Another way is to fasten a pole to the trunk of the tree, as shown in Fig. 2. Wires extending from the top of the pole to heavily-laden branches will support these in the best possible manner.—American Agriculturist.

FIRE BLIGHT IN PEARS.

A Disease That Has Done More Damage to Growers Than All Other Afflictions Combined.

Bulletin 145, Cornell university experiment station, Ithica, N. Y., gives some valuable information concerning that most pestilent disease, fire blight in pears, which has done more damage to pear growers than all the other afflictions combined.

Fire blight has been known in this country for a century, but was ascribed to a great many different causes until Prof. J. T. Burrill, of the University of Illinois, took the matter up and discovered that it was due to the work of bacteria, which reproduce themselves in the cambium or new wood growth that forms between the bark and wood each year. This growth is soft and full of sap, and is exactly adapted to the reproduction of the bacteria—producing the blight. Here it increases very rapidly, extending its field from cell to cell and absorbing the nutrent juices of the tree to such an extent that the branches infected finally succumb to their attacks, the foliage showing this condition by turning brown as if burned by intense heat.

The only remedy is the heroic one of excision, and the knife and saw should be used at any time when the disease manifests itself. Cut the affected branches off and burn them, and be sure to cut them far enough below the visible effects to cut out any part that may be infected in the slightest degree.

It has been found that no pear tree is safe from the attacks of these bacteria, although some are sold as blight proof. If the affected branches are cut away as soon as the disease shows and a careful watch is kept all through the summer to keep the disease from spreading, it will often be stamped out in a single season.

Ridding the Soil of Ants.

In sandy soils especially, ants are oftentimes troublesome and more or less of an annoyance on trees, shrubbery and plants. They may be destroyed by pouring a tablespoonful of bisulphide of carbon into the ant hill and closing the opening with soil. The liquid will permeate the soil in every direction and kill all animal life, while being harmless to vegetation. As it is exceedingly inflammable, it must be kept carefully away from fire. A remedy quite as effective and less dangerous to handle is sweet oil. Place this where the ants can get it and they will come in quantities. The oil renders them unconscious, and those not killed by it may be quickly gathered and destroyed.—Prairie Farmer.

DRAFT OF VEHICLES.

Methods of Harnessing a Horse So as to Get the Best Result Described by Prof. Edgerton.

Prof. J. J. Edgerton, of the Iowa agricultural college, has been making a special study of the methods for harnessing a horse so as to get the best results. It is an old and popular idea, he says, that a loaded wagon will draw easier when the greater part of the load is placed over the front wheels. As a rule, the horse will do his work more easily if he is placed near it; there being less lost motion. The driver also will be able to keep his operations more completely under his control. In the case just cited the opposite of the general supposition is true. This is due to a difference in the size of the fore and hind wheels. The surface over which a load is drawn being more or less thickly set with obstacles over which the wheels must pass, it stands to reason that a wheel with a diameter of five feet will be much more easily raised over a given obstacle than will one of four feet; the leverage being so much greater in the first case. If we suppose the load brought to a curbstone six inches in height, over which it must be raised, the load on the five-foot wheels will be brought over one-third easier than an equal load on the four-foot wheels, because the leverage in the first case is one-third greater. It must not be supposed, however, that the present tendency toward low-wheeled wagons is a move altogether in the wrong direction, for the greater width of tire preventing the wheel from sinking so deeply into soft ground, lessening the height to which the load must be lifted, helps to counterbalance the evil tendency.—Journal of Agriculture.

DOCTOR'S EXPERIENCE.

Illinois Physician Has an Adventure That Should Teach Country People a Lesson.

The condition of country roads affects the rural doctor perhaps quite as much as anybody, especially as his duties compel him to use them pretty constantly, no matter what shape they may happen to be in. A Bloomington paper says that a physician in a small Illinois town has lately had life made a burden to him by the roads over, or rather through, which he had to travel. "In some places the mud is actually a foot and a half deep. It is at times almost impossible for a horse to get through it. Yet he has calls to make a distance of ten miles or more over that kind of roads. Recently he was on a good horse galloping through the mud, in spite of the fact that, at every jump the horse went over his ankles—when the horse slipped and fell. The doctor was thrown bodily over a ditch of water, while the horse went into the ditch head first. The soft ground let both rider and horse escape unhurt, but they were both so covered with mud that it was impossible to tell what color they were. The doctor had on a waterproof and did not get wet. He caught the horse, mounted and went on. It was not an unusual occurrence."

ALL AROUND THE DAIRY.

Hoard says that if the cow has a hard, dry hacking cough, suspect tuberculosis.

There is not much difference in the merit of churns except that some work easier and more rapidly.

Oats and peas sown together at the rate of about three bushels to the acre, make nearly green crop for cows.

If the calf is permitted to suck the cow more than three or four days the cow will be injured for dairy purposes.

Educate the people to know that oleomargarine is a dirty, disease-breeding compound, and then let the courts protect it as much as they like.

It is said that placing fresh water before cows in the stable, so that they can drink a little whenever wanted, increases the yield of milk sufficiently to repay cost of pipes and appliances in a very short time.

One dairyman raises his calves on separator skim milk, with a little white middlings stirred in, after they are two weeks old, and until they are four weeks, when he adds wheat middlings and old process meal.—Western Plowman.

Good Roads and Vacationists.

Communities that look for income from the summer boarder cannot afford to ignore any feature of their surroundings that will add to their attractiveness. Times change and we all change with them. Nearly every family going away for the summer takes several wheels along, and the thousands who get away for a two weeks' vacation look for localities in which they can use their machines to best advantage. With all the character of the roads is of first importance. This fact makes it possible for less alluring spots to rival their more popular competitors, by providing superior roads and advertising their excellences, and each succeeding year will make this plan increasingly effective.—L. A. W. Bulletin.

The Horseradish Crop.

In growing horseradish the land should be rich, well manured, plowed deep, harrowed and free from lumps. As it is a great vegetable to spread, plant each root in a roomy space by itself. Make rows 15 inches apart and set plants 12 inches from each other. Plant shoots about five inches long, making holes for them with a stick, and set them about two inches under the soil. Have the shoots cut squarely across the bottom, but cut slanting at the top in order that one side may be a little longer than the other. Keep free from weeds for the first and second seasons, after which the horseradish will take care of itself.—Dakota Field and Farm.

RECONCILED TO EARTH.

An Easy-Going Individual Who Had No Desire to Visit the Planet Jupiter.

"What did you say those are?" inquired the man with the old-fashioned derby hat who had paused to patronize the curb-stone astronomer.

"Those are the moons of Jupiter," replied the proprietor of the telescope.

"Let me see. Jupiter—that's one of the planets."

"Assuredly."

"Well, there's a great deal to complain of on this earth, but it might be worse. With all the drawbacks, I'm glad I live here instead of on Jupiter."

"Of course; you have no assurance that the conditions there would be adapted to your kind of life."

"It isn't that. I'm one of the sort of people who can bunk down anywhere and be comfortable with a piece of hard tack and a cup of coffee There's only one thing that gives me the blues, and that's seeing the new moon over my left shoulder. It's bad enough on this earth having to be on the lookout for one moon every four weeks, but if I lived on a planet where there were four of them I never would know where I stood. It all goes to show that no matter how bad things are they might be worse."—Detroit Free Press.

Proposed Alliance with England.

If the United States and England should form an alliance, the combined strength would be so great that there would be little chance for enemies to overcome us. In a like manner, when men and women keep up their bodily strength with Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, there is little chance of attacks from disease. The old time remedy enriches the blood, builds up the muscles, steadies the nerves and increases the appetite. Try it.

Nearly every man has a grievance, and you will find it out if you touch him right.—Washington (Ia.) Democrat.

Dropsy treated free by Dr. H. H. Green's Sons, of Atlanta, Ga. The greatest dropsy specialists in the world. Read their advertisement in another column of this paper.

An extraordinary haste to discharge an obligation is a sort of ingratitude.—Rochefoucauld.

There is a saying that an early riser is likely to be healthy, wealthy and wise. Most very poor people are early risers.—Atchison Globe.

"Have you finished plowing the ten-acre lot?" asked Farmer Richland of his son. "Yes." "Then you may now attend to the harrowing details."—Pittsburgh Chronicle.

Long sermons are not considered so if interesting and short ones are considered long if they are uninteresting.—Denver Times-Sun.

Lionel Brough tells a story of an old country sexton who, in showing visitors round the churchyard, used to stop at one particular tombstone and say: "This 'ere is the tomb of Tummas 'Ooper an' 'is eleven woives." On one occasion a lady said: "Eleven? Dear me! that's rather a lot, isn't it?" The old man looked at her gravely, and then replied: "Well, mum, yer see, it war an 'obby of 'is'n."—Tit-Bits.

A Dainty Refusal.—The young man was nervous and excited, but still he had the courage to turn out the light. The dear girl knew the symptoms. "Photographic methods are unnecessary, Mr. Kammerer," said she; "you don't need a dark room to develop this negative."—Philadelphia Record.

Shop Talk.—"Papa's mind is full of business all the time." "How does that trouble you?" "Well, when Harry asked him for me he said: 'Yes, take her along, and if she isn't up to our advertisement bring her back and exchange her.'"—Chicago Record.

Something He Needs.—"I think we really ought to give our attention to making things that will be of value to the boys at the front," said the one in pink. The one in blue laughed scornfully. "Has that just occurred to you?" she asked. "I began on something for Charlie the very day he left with the troops." "Oh, do tell me what it was," exclaimed the one in pink. "An embroidered sofa pillow," answered the one in blue, proudly. "He always used to say that there was nothing so comfortable for a tired man as a real good sofa pillow and a hammock."—Chicago Post.

Beauty may only be skin deep, but the pride of it reaches into the heart.—Ram's Horn.

Beware of him who hates the laughing of a child.—Lavater.

Most of our misfortunes are more supportable than the comments of our friends upon them.—Colton.

Civility costs nothing and buys everything.—Lady Mary Montague.

A. N. K.—C 1716