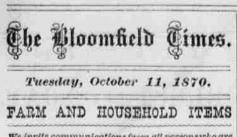
The Times, New Bloomfield, Pa.



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We invite communications from all persons who are interested in matters property belonging to this department.

Household Expedients.

BY SUSAN SNAPP.

OF all the women I ever knew, my Aunt Benedict is the best at devising expedients. She never balks at a difficulty nor turns back at a mishap. Her nature is a sort of universal antidote for home perplexities.

One summer, when Uncle Benedict hired an old half-tumbled-down cottage for the summer, she moved there, taking no heavy furniture-yet out of packing-boxes, boards, and barrels, she contrived to fit out a kitchen, a parlor, and three bed-chambers, to say nothing of a state apartment for honored guests. Her present suburban home is a curiosity-simple, unpretending, and so very pretty ; but almost every thing in it is "a contrivance." Uncle Benedict is only a bank-clerk on a moderate salary, and there are three children ; so, of course, there is no surplus of ready cash. Whose business is it that the pretty ottomans in the parlor are just pine boxes, cushioned and covered with striped chintz; that the chairs were bought direct of the manufacturers, unpolished, and with just the first covering (of unbleached canvas) on the seats, and were afterward covered with chintz by Aunt.

The flower-stand in her parlor is lovely, but it is improvised out of a high nurseryfender made of heavy wire. She fitted a pan-top of wood to it herself, painted the fender brown, fastened pine-cones around its upper edge, and filled the top with charcoal and soil-planted her variegatedleaved plants and vines, allowing ivy to creep in and out among the fancy meshes of the fender; and you've no idea how pretty the effect is. Her old-fashioned centretable was too small, so she obtained a big pine-wood top for a dollar, screwed it on, enlarged the little square table-cloth by sewing on a pretty horder, and now on winter evenings, all the family can sit around it and have room to spare. She bought second-hand carpets, put all the best parts around the edges of the room, and the worst in the middle, and covered the centre with a square drugget, that corresponded charmingly in color; and, for the halls, bought this patent wooden veneering (maple and walnut), and laid it down herself, at a cost much less than of good oil cloth, and found it much more durable. I haven't time to tell half. She found two old bedroom chairs somewhere, rubbed and oiled them, stuffed out the seats, and covered them with lovely stripped material, which I learned yesterday was made out of an old green waist and a pair of Uncle Benedict's away pantaloons. She mends her canebottom chairs with twine, and then varnishes the seats so that you scarcely can tell they are mended. She makes her own soap-stones for her stove, by taking three parts in bulk of potter-baker's clay to one of wood-ashes, stirring in water till a thick paste is formed, and plastering it thickly in place with a kitchen-spoon. It soon hardens and the fire bakes it harder, and it will last for months. If her shoe is too tight, she slits it over the toe till it is easy, and conceals damages with a big rosette. She turns old window-shades upside down, and leaves the old faded part rolled up at the top ; or if she has a chance to buy new ones, always buys plain buff linen, and makes them up herself. I never shall forget the time Aunt and I went on a visit to Boston. She carried half her knick-knacks in her hoop-skirt cover. How she managed to wear the article so burdened, I cannot imagine ; but she insisted it was perfectly convenient and comfortable. The weather changed suddenly during our journey to Boston, and Aunt Benedict found herself growing very cold; so she took a big newspaper, folded it kerchief fashion over her bosom, pinned another around her waist, put her black shawl neatly over all, and declared herself to be perfectly comfortable. I believe she pinned another newspaper over her petticoat so as to keep her knees warm, but I am not sure. She told me that often when she got her shoes damp, she would put in a double paper sole, and so protect her feet

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perfectly until she had a chance to obtain dry shoes. In travelling, she sometimes puts newspapers between the scanty covering of hotel-beds, considering two big newspapers equal to a quilt. One day, during our visit, I found myself unexpectedly out of clean lace collars. We were dressing for dinner, and I was in no little dismay. "Never mind," said Aunt Bendict, ecstatically, "I'll manage it. Light, the gas-I always carry a little case-knife with me and some sugar." While I was starting at this very irrele-

vant remark, Aunt lifted one of the long pockets out of the Bureau drawer temporarily devoted to her use, took out two parcels and set to with work washing my collar, stiffering it slightly with weak sugarwater, and ironing it between two sheets of letter-paper with the flat blade of the caseknife ! She heated the knife at the gas-jet beside the bureau, and used it with great dexterity. My collar looked like new. The sugar gave it just the right 'body," without stiffening it, and the flat blade smoothed it without giving it the tight, hard look that lace is sure to acquire under the weight of an ordinary iron.

"Aunt Benedict," said I, putting it on you're a genius! Oh ! there's an ugly grease-spot on the end of my neck-ribbon. Now what shall I do? It won't do to cut the ribbon shorter than it is."

"Never mind," said Aunt Benedict 'you can fringe it in a minute."

So I fringed it ; the spot disappeared, and my bow was really prettier than ever .-Hearth and Home.

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LEWIS POTTER,

NEW BLOOMFIELD, PA., Agent for Perry County.

From the Daily Miners' Journal of July 22, 1870. Yesterday James H. Grier. Agent of the Leb-anon Mutual Fire Insurance Company, promptly paid Lewis Harris \$150, his insurance policy in full, which he lost by fire on Railroad Street, last Fri-day.

Mr. Grier also paid John Pettinger \$80, his in-surance pollcy in full, which was on a horse that died last Saturday, and was insured in the Pena-sylvania Cattle Insurance Company, of Potts-ville.—416

KITCHEN CRYSTAL SOAP.

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THE KIDNEYS.

THE Kidneys are two in number, situated at the upper part of the loin, surrounded by fat, and consisting of three parts, viz : the An-terior, the Interior and the Exterior. The Anterior absorbs. Interior consists of tissues or velus, which serve as a deposit for the urine and convey it to the Exterior. The Exterior is a conductor also, terminating in a single tube, and called the Ureter. The Ureters are connected with the bladder. The bladder is composed of various cover-ings or tissues, divided into parts, viz. : the Upper, the Lower, the Nervous, and the Mucous. The upper expels, the lower retains. Many have a desire to urinate without the ability; others urinate without the ability to retain.— This frequently occurs in children.

To cure these affections, we must bring inte action the muscles, which are engaged in their various functions. If they are neglected, Gravel or Dropsy may ensue.

The reader must also be made aware, that however slight may be the attack, it is sure to affect the bodily health and mental powers, as our flesh and blood are supported from these courses

GOUT, OR RHEUMATISM.—Pain occurring in the loins are indicative of the above diseases. They occur in persons disposed to acid stomach and chalky concretions.

THE GRAVEL.—The gravel ensues from neg-lect or improper treatment of the kidneys.— These organs being weak, the water is not ex-pelled from the bladder, but allowed to remain ; it becomes feverish, and sediment forms. It is from this deposit that the stone is formed and gravel ensues.

DROPSY is a collection of water in some parts of the body, and bears different names, accord-ing to the parts affected, viz.: when general-ly diffused over the body, it is called Anasarca; when of the abdomen, Aseltes; when of the chest, Hydrothorax.

TREATMENT.—Helmbold's highly concentra-ed compound Extract Buchu is decidedly one of the best remedies for diseases of the blad-der, kidneys, bladder, dropsical swellings, rhenmatism and gouty affections. Under this head we have arranged Dysuria, or difficulty and main in passing water. Scanth Scentlon, or and pain in passing water, Scanty Secretion, or small and frequent discharges of water ; Strangury, or stopping of water; Hematuria, or bloody urine; Gout and Rheumatism of the kidneys, without any change in quantity, but increase in color, or dark water. It was al-ways highly recommend by the late Dr. Phys-ick, in these affections.

This medicine increases the power of diges-tion, end excites the absorbents into healthy exercise by which the watery or calcareous de-positions, and all unnatural enlargements, as well as pain and inflamation, are reduced, and it is taken by men, women, and children. Di rections for use and diet accompany.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Feb. 25, 1867. H. T. HELMBOLD, Druggist :

DEAR SIR-I have been a sufferer, for upward of twenty years, with gravel, bladder, and kid-ney affections, during which time I have used various medicinal preparations, and been under the treatment of the most eminent Physicians,

the treatment of the most eminent Physicians, experiencing but little relief. Having seen your preparations extensively advertised, I consulted with my family physi-cian in regard to using your Extract Buchu. I did this because I had used all kinds of ad-vertised remedies, and had found them worth-less, and, some guite injurious; in fact, I de-spaired of ever getting well, and determined to use no remedies hereafter unless I knew of the ingredients. It was this that prompted me to use your remedy. As you advertised that it was composed of buchu, cubebs, and juniper berries, it occurred to me and my physician as an excellent combination, and, with his advice, after an examination of the article, and conafter an examination of the article, and con-sulting again with the druggist, I concluded to try it. I commenced its use about eight months ago, at which time I was confined to my room. From the first bottle I was astonished and gratified at the beneficial effect, and after using it three weeks, was able to walk out. I felt much

