

How to Sweep a Room.

To sweep and dust a room properly is an art, and like all fine arts has a right method. Well done it renovates the entire room, and the occupant takes possession feeling that "all things have become new." It is not merely a performance to be done by hands, but a work into which taste and judgement, in other words, brains, must enter. Are these closets opening into the room to be swept? Arrange the shelves, drawers or clothing preparatory to sweeping day; then let this be the first to be swept. Cover the bed with solid sheets, as also all heavy articles that cannot be removed; first, however, having carefully dusted and brushed them. Remove all the furniture that can easily be set in the hall or the adjoining room, having first dusted it; then, taking a step-ladder, begin to sweep or brush or wipe the cornice and picture cords and pictures. Draw the shades to the top of the window or, if there are inside blinds, dust them carefully. Open the windows. All the dust left in the room now is in the carpet or air, and the current of the windows will soon settle it.

Now begin to sweep, not toward a door or corner, but from the outer edges of the room toward the center, where the dust will be taken up with a small brush and dust-pan. Go over the room once more—this time with a dampened broom; that removes the last bit of dust and gives the carpet a new, bright appearance. Replace the articles of furniture as soon as the air is entirely free from dust, uncover the rest and the room is new and clean. All this seems an easy thing to do, but there is not one in a hundred will follow out the details. Some will sweep the dust into the hall, or from one room to another, and then wonder why their house is so soon dusty again. Others forget cornice and pictures: while a third class will do all but using the damp broom, which is as the finishing touches to a picture.—*Chicago Alliance.*

If the parents could realize how the young are moulded and governed by their own conduct they would labor hard to secure at least the semblance of self-government when in their children's presence.

We have known ladies to scream, or become almost convulsed, if a big bug or worm was found on or near them; or lose half the pleasure of a summer in the country through such weakness because of the busy insect life about them; afraid to touch a rose lest a tiny neat little worm or a rose bug should have sought food and shelter among the leaves.

When mothers betray such weakness it is not necessary to see their children to understand that it will be their tendency to be equally foolish. Now and then one more sensible may be found in a family where the children are brought up to see such weakness daily manifested by the mothers. Or, on reaching the years of maturity, the germs of self-control or true presence of mind, that have been choked and dwarfed by the mother's weakness, but, fortunately, perhaps, kept alive by the father's teachings or their own inherent strength, may develop all the nerve and self-control necessary to make a noble character.

"You see, boss, dar's a nigger libin up my way who ought to be taken car' ob," said an old darkey to the captain of the central station. "What's he been doing now?" "Waal, sah, las' fall I lent him my ax, an' when I wanted it back he braced right up an' refused to gib it up an' tole me dat possesshun was nine pints of law.", "Yes." "Well, de odder day I sent de ole woman ober, an' she borrowed his buck saw, an' when Julius come for it I tole him jist like he answered me, an' stood on my dignity." "Well." I had nints o' law, didn't I?" "Yes." "An, how many pints am de law composed of?" "I don't know exactly." "Well, dats what bodders me, fur dat nigger saw dem nine pints, shet up dis lef' eye fur me, pitched de ole woman ober a bar'l, an' walked

off wid his saw an' my snow-shovel to boot! Ef I had nine pints, he mus' hev had ober twenty, an' eben den he didn' half let himself out."—*Detroit Free Press.*

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