

# MICHIGAN FARMER

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DETROIT, APRIL 14, 1885.

## THE HOUSEHOLD---Supplement.

### SEPARATION.

A wall was grown between the two—  
A strong thick wall, though all unseen;  
None knew when the first stones were laid,  
Nor how the wall was built, I ween.

And so their lives were wide apart  
Although they shared one board, one bed;  
A careless eye saw naught amiss,  
Yet each was to the other dead,

He, much absorbed in work and gain,  
Grew soon unmindful of his loss;  
A hard indifference worse than hate,  
Changed love's pure gold to worthless dross.

She suffered tortures all untold;  
Too proud to mourn, too strong to die;  
The wall pressed heavily on her heart;  
Her white face showed her misery.

Such walls are growing day by day  
'Twixt man and wife, 'twixt friend and friend—  
Would they could know, who lightly build,  
How sad and bitter is the end;

A careless word, an unkind thought,  
A slight neglect, a taunting tone—  
Such things as these, before we know,  
Have laid the wall's foundation stone.

### SOME QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

A correspondent asks how the Household can be bound, without the expense of taking them to a book-binder. From the many requests for missing numbers to "complete my file," we are vain enough to believe that the "little paper" is thought worthy of preservation by many ladies, some of whom may be glad to know how to put them in form to keep permanently. One of our exchanges gives a plan which can be "adapted" by any ingenious woman. A carpenter's vise is the only tool necessary. First arrange the numbers in proper order, and fold two or three sheets of blank paper for fly leaves. Get two boards, one a little smaller, the other larger than the Household; put the papers between the boards and put them in the vise. With a sharp knife trim the edges to the smaller board, and if you like, color them with Diamond dye. With a small awl make five or six holes through the back, brush the back over with thick mucilage and paste on a strip of paper wider than the back. Take the papers out of the press, put strong, fine cord through the holes. Cut covers of pasteboard a little larger than the book, and paste the edges of the strip on the back to these; put into the vise till dry. Then paste a strip of muslin over the back, letting it extend well on to the covers. Get some fancy paper, or if you choose, use cloth, to paste on the outside of the pasteboard cover, letting it extend

over the edges; and, turning neat corners paste one of the fly-leaves down on each cover, and cover this with a white or cream-tinted fancy paper; put in the vise and let dry between the boards. The result will not equal bindery work, but will suffice to preserve the papers in neat and compact form for reference.

A lady wishes to be told some pretty way to make up print dresses, also how to make children's summer dresses. There are so many cotton fabrics that are so much more durable and beautiful than calico, at a very slight advance in cost, that it seems economy to make up prints only for work dresses. Calico at five cents a yard is not what it was at a shilling and eighteen cents; it fades, and is thin and sleazy when the dressing is washed out. A good gingham, chambery, or percale will outwear three calico dresses, and the making is always an item to our busy housekeepers. So we would say make the calico dresses very plainly for service in the kitchen. A round skirt, with gored front width, furnished with a deep flounce or a narrower ruffle, and a loose blouse waist which may be cut long enough to form a frill below the belt, is a suitable style. If an overskirt is thought essential, an apron front and straight back widths is neat and "fashionable," and the material is in good shape for the ulterior end of calico dresses, the carpet rags. The tucked waist and "housemaid" skirt, which is simply a round skirt tucked to the belt, is also a suitable model for any wash goods, but too much trouble at the ironing-table to "pay" for every day wear. Sometimes a wide sash of the dress material, with tucked ends, is worn with it. Mother Hubbard wrappers are shirred in the back and have a half belt sewed in under the arms, confining the front. If there is anything particularly abominable in appearance it is an unbelted Mother Hubbard. Make children's dresses like the Gretchen dress described in a late Household. The "Mother Hubbard" holds its own, but is now worn with a belt. A pretty, simple dress for a girl of seven or eight shown at a recent opening, had a round, moderately full skirt, with three inch hem and five two inch tucks, about three-quarters of an inch apart, above it. The waist had a yoke, to which the lower part was laid in side pleats, lengthened to form a frill below the belt. The model was in white, and was very neat and pretty. There seems to be nothing distinctively new in children's fashions, most are models in miniature of cos-

tumes designed for older persons. The kilted skirt, attached to the Princesse waist having a full front, with sash of the dress material, or of surah simply hemmed, is still the leading idea. Strings of the dress material are added to the children's Mother Hubbard dresses, to tie in bow knots over the shoulder. More low neck dresses than usual will be worn this summer, the neck being-but half low, and round, and a two-inch frill is put on under a narrow binding, to droop down in the bodice. A sash is added. Some embroidered white dresses have a little overskirt, which is merely a straight ruffle half the length of the skirt, and gathered with it into the belt. The right side is caught up under a full bow of long loops and ends, and a square bow is worn on the left shoulder. This is very pretty made of wide embroidery. A pretty apron for a six-year-old is cut Princesse, has a yoke joined to the lower part by a line of embroidery or a tiny lace edged ruffle; the yoke is then cut out moderately low in the neck, and finished with the trimming. A wider ruffle of the same or of embroidery is added to the bottom, making the apron within two inches as long as the dress. A short, wide sash is sewed in at the under arm seams and tied in a large bow behind. Skirts of little girls' dresses are made considerably longer this season.

A. E. J. asks what can be substituted for rings in home-made curtain fixtures, which ingenious fingers have manufactured out of gilded poles and harness hooks. Buy harness rings at the harness shop and gild them or wind with worsted to match draperies. She also wants to know what cheap material can be used for portieres. Double-faced Canton flannel at twenty-five cents per yard can be bought in very desirable colors, and makes handsome draperies while new. Being cotton, we presume it would fade with use, but being so inexpensive, might be renewed as occasion serves. Felt and jute are also cheap materials suitable for the purpose; the former does not fade, and, embroidered in the showy Kensington work, would prove both durable and pretty.

The same correspondent asks which is most fashionable, bonnets or hats. Bonnets are most worn for dressy occasions, but it would be hard to say which is most fashionable. Buy that which is most becoming. Any one with taste and skill could trim one of the tiny bonnets now worn, but which this spring seem to be



mostly of straw. Elaborate bonnets should be entrusted to a professional; though many of our town girls are very ingenious in manufacturing little bonnets to match their suits.

A lady, writing from St. Louis, Gratiot Co., asks if there is any place in this city where fancy work or small paintings on satin can be sold. The Woman's Exchange, 220 Woodward Avenue, we believe permits fancy articles to be exhibited for sale in its windows, charging a commission on all goods sold. The Exchange does not purchase, merely acts as agent. Our correspondent should write to the address given, describing the articles she wishes to offer, and ascertain the probabilities of making sales.

To "Aunt Nell's" query we would say it is the host's or hostess' duty to announce the hour for retiring when guests are present.

#### WHERE IS THE GAIN?

Why is it that so many of the writers for our little paper are inclined to find fault about the men? Some will even dare to speak ill of their own husbands. Of all things we should avoid a fault-finding spirit. It will not only injure the health, but it will destroy the happiness of married life, and the wife will lose her husband's love and respect, and that she cannot afford to do. I think those silent ones of whom "Crocus" speaks are the contented ones, whose domestic machinery runs without jars or contention. If it were not so we would hear from them; they would not miss their only chance of exposing the husband's faults. We have a farmers' club in our neighborhood, and find it has a remarkably good effect on our farming community.

In my associations with mankind I have found men and women about equal, some who are bad enough in both sexes, but they are not all among our farmers. When girls marry they should try and get a mate and not a tyrant. The husband should be the head of the family; but that should not rob woman of her rights. If we expect equal rights we must prove ourselves trustworthy. I for one enjoy all the rights that are necessary to a farmer's wife. Some girls have been petted and spoiled by their parents while growing up, and when they marry they expect the cream of life should be theirs, and the burden should all belong to the man; who sees when it is too late that he has married a doll; that his wife is not capable of bearing her share of the burdens, and they begin to drift apart and both become fretful and dissatisfied, and fail to make their interests one. I think that the majority of our farmers are honorable men, and treat their wives with respect.

Fathers do not always give their daughters who marry the poorest. I knew a father who let his daughter take her pick out of a dozen cows, and she knew enough about a cow to take a good one. She was offered one hundred dollars for her choice and refused it. Do not let us condemn all our worthy farmers

because a few have proved penurious. We know there are those who will even deny themselves nourishing food that they may count their miserly dollars. Last week while at the farmers' club, as I looked at the cheerful faces of our thriving farmers and their wives, and as I saw contentment and satisfaction written there, surely, I thought, these are not the tyrants our writers speak of.

In my experience I find rag carpets are just the thing for farmers' every-day rooms, such as the men's sitting-room, the dining-room and kitchen. I like to have a nice, cosy place for the men to sit when they come in from their labor and are tired. A rag carpet is not very expensive. If I make twenty-five yards once in three years it keeps three rooms carpeted. I count the cost of twenty-five yards as follows: For colored warp, six knots to the yard, \$1.84; for dyes, \$1.31; weaving, \$3.75. Total sum paid out, \$7. I have my carpet woven by a weaver whose brains are equal to her strength; one who can make a stripe according to the rags taken her. We can buy a rag carpet for fifty cents per yard, but I prefer making my own; then I know my rags are good. As I do not worry or fret over doing my work, I cannot make my carpet run up to \$3 per yard, as one of our writers has done. MRS. R. D. P.

BROOKLYN.

[Is not Mrs. R. D. P. mistaken in saying that our writers find fault with their husbands in the Household? Unless the Editor's memory is at fault it is always some other woman's husband whose shortcomings "point the moral and adorn the tale." That would be a venturesome woman who would criticise her own husband in a paper he might read; more than venturesome, hardly womanly or wifely. A newspaper is not the place to air home grievances and domestic troubles. ED.]

#### HELPS FOR "HOUSEHOLD" PEOPLE.

I want to tell Mrs. W. J. G. to have her soap barrel made of pine, as no other wood will hold soap after being once dried. I find the half barrel fish kegs make excellent soap tubs; they can be bought at the grocery for fifteen or twenty cents apiece, while the smaller ones are not to be despised. They can be filled and stacked in a dark corner, not of the cellar, but the wood house. A cooper will charge a good round price for making a good soap tub.

If S. A. G. will look in the Household of May 27th, 1884, she will find a recipe for making hard soap that I know to be good.

No, no, Jannette, never introduce politics into our happy Household. It is as much as we can do to keep the machinery in running order now without taking any greater responsibilities upon our shoulders.

The sewing machine ordered from the FARMER was received in good order; we think it well worth the money. The freight charges were but forty-five cents.

PLAINWELL.

AUNT NELL.

#### HOW TO LIGHTEN LABOR.

"There was an old woman who always was tired,  
For she lived in a house where help wasn't hired.

Her last words on earth were, 'Dear friends, I am going  
Where sweeping ain't done, nor churning nor sewing;

And everything there will be just to my wishes,  
For where they don't eat there's no washing of dishes;

And tho' there the anthems are constantly ringing,  
I, having no voice, will get rid of the singing.

Don't mourn for me now, don't mourn for me ever,  
For I'm going to do nothing forever and ever."

How many tired housekeepers whose eyes fall upon the above lines will heartily breathe amen! That a great deal of the domestic drudgery is unnecessarily drudgery, our wise little women freely admit, and in the hope of throwing a little light on a dark subject to some little woman, I offer a few hints which have come to me from my own sad experience.

If order is heaven's first law, surely system is the housekeeper's. It is not necessary that everybody should pursue the same plan, but it is absolutely necessary that one should have and practice some system about her housework, if she would have that rest of body and peace of mind so essential to the well being of every individual. Generally speaking, one week is but a repetition of all the others, and if each day has its set of duties they glide by without much friction. If Monday is washing day don't make it scrubbing and ironing day as well; and because Tuesday is ironing day don't attempt a big baking too. "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof," in other words, don't wear yourself out with one day's work that might be done in two, and which requires more than that for the body to recover from the effects of it. After having apportioned your work as equally as you can for the six days, consider the various ways of getting through each day, and adopt the best, which means also the easiest way. I find that it is an amazing help to time one's self. If you don't believe it try it some morning and see how long, by the clock, it takes you to get through the morning's work, how long to get breakfast, how long to wash dishes, how long to skim the milk, etc.; you will find as others before you have done, that instead of four hours it really only takes two, even if you have the baby to wash and dress.

Have you ever thought how much more particular a man is about his tools than a woman is about hers? Just here I think we can learn a useful lesson from our brothers, for nothing lightens labor, next to system, so much as good tools or utensils. Now don't grow frightened and talk about "money." It really is not always a matter of dollars and cents, though assuredly always of sense. If you will spend a great deal of the latter, and a little of the former you will find that cooking and cleaning need not take all your time and strength. The greatest help and most indispensable tool in housekeeping is a sharp knife. It saves hours of time in a single month paring vegetables and cutting bread or meat. I ought to have said "knives," because one needs at least three, a big one, a lit-



the one and a middlesized one. Next, a japanned tea server costing fifty or seventy-five cents is "worth its weight in gold," because it saves miles of travel in the course of a year, and oh, so much time. With it I can set the table for eight (mind I'm a little woman) in two trips, and clear away with three trips; and without it, I have observed women make thirty trips between table and pantry to perform the same labor.

One great item of labor with most farmer's wives is the frequent journeys up and down the cellar stairs. Did you ever count the number of times on a busy day? Try it, and then at the earliest possible moment get two flat bottomed market baskets, costing ten cents each, one for vegetables, the other for carrying articles for table use, and then wonder you never did it before. It saves lots of backache. Of course you always pour water into your pots and pans as soon as emptied, but do you use the steel dishcloth when you wash them; or do you scrape and scrape with an old caseknife in order to get them clean, using valuable time, and ruining your linen dishcloth for nothing? I fear I've made a fatal mistake in mentioning the dishcloth, for I am apt to wax eloquent on that theme. However, I will try to hold myself in check and simply add, be sure to have plenty of them and keep them clean (oh, oh, oh, now I'll catch it!). If you are using old table cloths, cotton cloths or towels for dishwipers, fold them tenderly away for other purposes, and save eggs till you can buy a dozen yards of best linen crash, which speedily convert into towels for dishes, and use plenty of them. Learn chemistry's swift ways for doing work. Of course you want bright tins and kitchen utensils, but don't waste time scouring them; keep a small jar of weak lye beside your sink, for you will want it for all sorts of things, for cleaning rusty or greasy jars and kettles by dipping an instant in lye and then scalding and wiping dry; for cleansing, cleaning etc., a ten cent cake of sapolio soap is invaluable.

I had nearly forgotten to say put all articles of every day use at the point where they can be reached with fewest steps, and have one or two shelves fastened to the wall back of the cook stove for small tinware, salt and pepper boxes, iron spoons and the various small things used about the stove. I have three shelves in my kitchen, fastened one above the other, each three feet long, the upper eight inches wide, the next six inches, and the lower one four inches in width. Besides being decidedly ornamental it saves miles of travel, and cost seventy-five cents. It might cost much less.

Whatever you do don't feel hurried, and if you take a day at a time instead of the whole week there is no necessity for it. Keep each day and its work by and for itself, and don't work every minute. In most farmers' kitchens the work can and ought to be done by nine o'clock on ordinary days, which will give two full hours for rest and recreation before dinner. Now I know some—one good

woman in particular—are laughing and calling that "pretty philosophy," but I stoutly maintain it is fact, not fiction. I have been "through the mill," on a farm, too, and know whereof I speak. Count that day lost in which you do not accomplish two things with the regular work, viz., spend half an hour in thoughtful reading, and another half hour out of doors, the first of which fits you for a companion for your husband, children and friends, and the second as a panacea for neuralgia, headache, ill-temper, quivering nerves and other deadly sins.

I have by no means said all I would like to on this subject, but a wholesome fear of the Household Editor warns me to pause.

DAYTON, Ohio.

I. F. N.

#### ANOTHER NEW COMER.

I saw an inquiry from Mrs. W. J. G. concerning a soap vat, and will tell her what I know about it. Some six years ago a friend of mine had one made in her cellar, constructed of brick, in the manner described, and plastered with water lime, one compartment containing the old soap and the other the new, made every spring. It was allowed to get perfectly hard before using, and has given no trouble whatever since.

I should like to make an inquiry about the Wyandotte fowls. Can any one tell me where I can get a pair, of good pure blood, to start with.

E. M.

JONESVILLE.

[Read advertising columns of the FARMER for information about breeders of fowls.—ED.]

#### CULTURE OF THE PANSY.

There are few garden flowers that respond more readily to care and good culture, with plenty of fertilizers, liquid preferred, than the pansy. If the soil to be used for the bed is clayey, a mixture of sand and leaf mould should be thoroughly worked in, raking out the coarse lumps and stones, leaving the bed level and smooth. If the seed is to be sown in the bed, the soil should be pressed or rolled until firm, that the seed may not be lost; cover slightly, and if extra moisture is required do not consider the labor of applying it wasted, as water from first to last is one of the essentials for good thrifty plants and brilliant coloring. A pansy bed should be if possible in some shady place where the distance from the house is not great, that watering may be done easily, and therefore not be neglected; then the flowers will not become few and diminutive as the heat of summer draws near. Seed may be sown in the house and the bed prepared as described for transplanting while quite small; as seedlings grown indoors are apt to suffer for cool air and also from mildew. Old plants if thrifty in spring may be kept in bloom by cutting the blossoms and pruning the plants occasionally; if not of fine strain it is better to give the room to more improved ones. I had pansies of every hue and marking imaginable, and so with pinks;

by getting seed of different seedmen and giving the requisite care, I secured marvels of beauty. Verbenas and phlox left me nothing to wish for in that line, I had choice carnations and petunias, although the summer proved so hot and dry. I will send seeds of pansies, verbenas, carnations and pinks at four packets for 25 cents when not included in large order. All other sorts named before, six packets for 25 cents; 13 for 50 cents in postal note. I am glad to assist any of the FARMER readers in the difficulties so certain to arise in the first experiments in floriculture.

MRS. M. A. FULLER.

FENTON, Box 297.

#### THE SOAP TUB.

A brick cistern, lined with a coating of water lime mortar, is not a good receptacle for soap, because any combination of lime forms an insoluble curd or plaster with soap. It has the same effect as very hard water.

A barrel made of oak or any other hard wood is not good to hold soap for two reasons. First, the soap acts upon the oak wood so as to make it shrink very badly when it dries, and the barrel is apt to fall to pieces. Second, the form of the barrel is such that when it shrinks from any cause all the lower hoops tend to fall off, leaving the staves without support.

A good soap tub is made of pine, largest at the bottom and growing smaller as it rises. If the tub shrinks from any cause, the hoops in falling will only hold the tub more firmly; they cannot fall off and leave the staves unsupported, because the tub is largest at the bottom. It cannot spoil the soap, because the tub contains no material to chemically work with the soap. If the tub is made of seasoned pine boards, has good strong iron hoops, and has a cleat across the bottom so as to support the bottom when the tub rests on the cellar floor, it will last a lifetime, and preserve its treasures of cleansing safe from accident.

R. C. K.

Agricultural College, Lansing.

#### OLD SCHOOL TEACHER'S IDEAL BED.

Beds and bedding have taken considerable attention lately. I do not expect to give anything new upon the subject, only to tell what kind I like. I expect I will shock many to whom health is the first and only object. First, I like to sleep in a warm room in cold weather. I object to disrobing in a cold room in such weather as we experienced last winter; then I like a good set of springs, a good wool mattress, and a luxurious feather bed; not a light one, but one weighing eighteen or twenty pounds. I want a good sized pillow for my head, and a warm comfortable with a white spread for covering. My slumber is then sound and unbroken by dreams of lying upon a board with my head upon the soft side of a stone. The greatest difficulty I find with such a bed is I do not want to leave it at five o'clock in the morning, but want to



turn over and take another nap. If the bed is taken apart and the feathers well shaken immediately upon rising, the bed and room well aired before the bed is made again, and if the feathers are renovated at reasonable intervals, I will risk my health as far as the bed is concerned. If I can have only one thing about the house to my liking, I will take the bed, as I consider sleep Nature's great restorer, and I like to take a great deal of the restorer. I would not have as heavy coverings for beds as many do, as they are not as healthy or comfortable as light ones. A person sleeps better with only covering enough to keep comfortably warm without great weight upon the body.

Won't we all be glad when we have a warm, sunshiny day, so we can put those pillows and feather beds out for a sun bath? I think I would be glad of one myself.

OLD SCHOOL TEACHER.

TECUMSEH.

### HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

If you put a thick pad of cuttings from old comfortables or the bought carpet linings for the stairs on the edge of each step, you will not have so often to mend or shift a worn carpet on the stairway.

THE Household Editor would not advise mothers to do as a very prim New England matron is said to have done, make her child sit down and eat her candy from a plate with a fork, but would certainly recommend that the small people of the family be taught to sit down and not make peripatetic lunch tables of themselves when favored with "a piece" between meals. A young child requires food at more frequent intervals than grown people, and a light lunch is often a necessity, but that is no reason why a trail of crumbs should be scattered the length of the house, or sticky hands leave impress on doors and furniture, or the clothing of guests. We are largely creatures of habit, and it is important to form good habits, habits which are not injurious to ourselves, or troublesome to others; and children should be trained in habits of thoughtfulness and consideration for others.

AMMONIA is one of the housekeeper's most valuable aids. The use of ammonia on wash day saves much hard work rubbing, and considerable soap. Use about three tablespoonfuls of ammonia to ten or twelve gallons of water, with a little soap; let the clothes soak in this an hour. It will work wonders on the men's dirty shirts. In washing flannel blankets it is invaluable, as it makes them soft and pliable. A little in the dish water is a great aid in washing greasy dishes and cleaning iron ware. It makes the window glass shine in a way to delight the tidy woman. It saves elbow grease in cleaning paint and scrubbing floors. It takes the grease and dirt off the coat collars, and is the nicest thing in the world to use in renovating old black silk. The old hair brushes are cleaned and made as good as new by rubbing the bristles with water in which a

good teaspoonful of ammonia has been stirred. Clean two of them at once, rubbing them together. Keep ammonia in a bottle with a glass stopper, waxed, as it speedily destroys a cork, and loses its strength.

"AUNT NELL" asks if it is necessary to give name as well as *nom de plume* at each time of writing. Names of contributors, with addresses, are entered in a blank book kept for the purpose. If a lady writes frequently, so that the editor recognizes the signature the letter "passes inspection" without question if only the *nom de plume* is given. But if one contributes but once, twice or three times a year, the little book must be consulted. So it saves a busy woman a fragment of time to give the name, even though it be a repetition. In spite of what has been said about unsigned communications, three letters go into the waste basket this week, for that reason.

A. F. J., of Grass Lake, is glad to find that one person has found the actual cost of a rag carpet. She has just finished a "luxury" of that kind and does not consider E. L. Nye's estimate of \$3 per yard at all exaggerated. She wishes more members would write about entertaining company, and about house furnishing and decorating.

### Contributed Recipes.

HARD SOAP.—Sal-soda and grease, of each six pounds; stone lime, three pounds; soft water, four gallons; dissolve the lime and soda in the water, by boiling, stirring, settling and pouring off; then return to the kettle (brass or copper) and add the grease and boil until it becomes soap; then pour into a dish or moulds, and when cold cut into bars and let it dry. For S. A. G. MERTIE.

CHARLOTTE RUSSE.—Line the mould or dish with slices of sponge cake, with jelly spread between ladyfingers, or fruit cake; blanch and split a dozen almonds and scatter over the cake. Pour on sufficient wine to moisten nicely. Beat one pint of sweet cream and the whites of three eggs to a stiff froth; sweeten the cream and flavor with whatever you like; then mix the cream and egg froth; pour over the cake.

TAPIOCA CREAM.—Soak two tablespoonfuls of tapioca over night in just enough water to cover it; boil one quart of milk with the soaked tapioca in the morning, by placing in a pan over boiling water; two-thirds of a cup of sugar; yolks of three eggs rubbed smooth and added; stir rapidly five minutes, not allowing it to curdle; pour into a pudding dish; beat the whites of the eggs; pour over the top; sift over sugar, and brown very delicately in the oven. Serve hot.

CHOCOLATE CREAM.—Soak half a box of Cox's gelatine in half a cup of warm water one hour. Add to this half a cup of grated chocolate, half pound white sugar, one pint of new milk; stir all together and boil five minutes over water; then add half a pint of rich cream; boil one minute; flavor with vanilla, and put into moulds.

VEAL LOAF.—Two pounds veal steak, quarter pound raw pork, chopped fine; one nutmeg; six butter crackers, rolled; two beaten eggs; pepper and salt; roll in a loaf shape; bake, basting often.

EGGLESS CAKE.—One and a half cups sugar,

one cup sour milk, three cups flour, half cup of butter, one teaspoonful soda, half a teaspoonful cinnamon, half a teaspoonful of nutmeg, one cup chopped raisins. EVANGALINE.

BATTLE CREEK.

SPONGE CAKE.—Four eggs, two cups sugar two of flour, two teaspoonfuls baking powder, and two-thirds of a cup of boiling water Flavor to taste. Yolks and whites should be beaten separately.

TEA CAKES.—One quart flour, three teaspoonfuls baking powder, half a cup of melted butter, salt. Stir in enough milk to make the mixture a little thicker than pancakes, and beat several minutes. Then have your gem pans ready, and put a little of the batter in the bottom, and then some chicken, prepared just as for pressed chicken, only chopped fine; then fill up the gem pans and bake. They are very good without the chicken. M.

LAPEER.

### The "Farmer" Sewing Machine.

Mrs. Ida Noyes Beaver, of Dayton, Ohio, who recently ordered a sewing machine from the FARMER, writes us, saying:

"The sewing machine arrived in due time and in good order. After thorough trial I am perfectly satisfied with it, and can cheerfully recommend it to be all that is claimed for it. My only disappointment is that the machine is so much better than I expected."

Mrs. M. A. Wells, of Howell, testifies as follows:

"The sewing machine purchased of you in January, 1884, has been in almost daily use, with the exception of about six weeks, and it gives perfect satisfaction. Attachments all work well as far as we have had occasion to use them. If I were to buy another machine should certainly purchase of you."

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