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THE HOUSEHOLD---Supplement.

A QUEER WOMAN.

Such a strange woman you never did see!
And such another there never will be,
Chances to marry were plenty and good,
Still she preferred not to do as she could.

This seems so queer, too, surpassingly queer,
Telling her age now—she dares, it is clear.
Truly, she sometimes forgets "thirty-four,"
Smilingly, cheerfully, adds one year more.

Then there's another thing calmly she does—
Wears them and hides not, some No. 5 shoes;
Soles that are thick enough, broad enough too,
Mark her a woman with something to do.

Gray hairs are coming in locks that are brown,
Gleefully showing, she calls them her crown.
Time swiftly passing but fills every hour
Full of good deeds—never time to grow sour.

All her friends wonder and watch with surprise;
Some call her crazy, with half alien eyes;
So unlike others—so happy, so free—
Laughingly counting the years as they flee.

—Phoebe Parmalee.

FOR CHRISTMAS.

A wonderfully pretty pillow for the lounge may be covered with as common a material as blue jean or denim, with the lighter side for the outside. Mark a conventional design on it and outline it in chainstitch with white crochet cotton, or white macrame cord button-holed down. Make the pillow oblong instead of square, and finish the ends with a fringe of the cord. Cut the cord in 22 inch lengths, take two, draw them through the denim an eighth of an inch from the edge, twist, and tie a little two inch tassel of cord in the end. If you cannot get a design to suit you, work crescents or stars or circles, or daisies, or any small figure irregularly over the top, with rope linen. These pillow covers are not expensive, do not require much work and can be washed as often as desired.

As simple a material as bed ticking may be used for a lambrequin. Get the striped, cut it six inches deep, letting the stripes run up and down. Feather-stitch alternate stripes with pretty contrasting silk or cotton floss, and tie a fringe of macrame twine in two colors in the lower edge.

Blotters are easily made even by inexperienced fingers, and are always convenient gifts. Do not make them too large, the size of a legal envelope is about right, or they may be cut like a palette or in a long oval. Use what is called water color paper for the outside, decorating it with a scrap picture, or with a little painted scene, or even a few irregular lines of gold paint and an inscription in

fanciful letters. With water color paints you can obtain many decorative effects; the edges of the cover may be tinted, or splashes of blue or carmine blend with the gilt paint. Then cut from blotting paper three leaves the size of your cover, make a hole through cover and leaves in the upper left hand corner and tie with a ribbon.

Make a "John Chinaman" for the baby; it will please her better than a handsome doll. An exchange tells how to make one: "Use light brown canton flannel in the shape of a rag doll with somewhat wide skirts, the widest part about eight inches across. Chunky feet and ankles should come about two inches below the skirt. Round the arms in place of hands. The entire length should be about thirteen and a half inches. Cut two figures like the pattern out of the canton flannel, leaving top of head open for stuffing. Use cotton batting for stuffing, as it is lighter than bran. Sew up the head, buttonhole the seams all round with red worsted. The shoes are to be made to exactly fit the feet, and made in two pieces. When finished and on the feet, feather-stitch round the top with purple worsted. The pigtail is braided in three strands of two threads of black zephyr in each strand, tied at the end with yellow worsted. Make a cap of two pieces of bright red cashmere in two boot-shaped pieces feather-stitched on. Make a scarf long enough to pass from one from one shoulder to the opposite side and tie in rather long ends. Make of blue or yellow flannel, and feather stitch with silk; gather each end and fasten a gilt belt. Put another bell at the top of the cap, which is also drawn together, and one at each side of the cap and at each end of skirt. Sew three or four rows of braid of different colors on the bottom of the skirt. A few Chinese hieroglyphics placed on the uncovered portions are ornamental. Paint the features with black ink."

I had a private view of a drawer-ful of Christmas gifts the other day, the handiwork of a young lady who has more leisure than money, and who has a large circle of friends to remember. She is quite skillful with the brush, and this is a great help to her. There were chamois button bags, pointed at the bottom, the chamois cut in fringe which was gilded with the ever-useful gold paints, the legend "Who Wants a Button?" on one, "Button, Button, Who's Got the Button?" on another in irregular letters. There were pincushions made on pasteboard foundation; one side rounded out to a comfortable plump-

ness with cotton and covered with pale blue satin with a bow to match, and on the other a laundry list; these were to hang on the wall. Blotters cut the size of a small sheet of paper, were variously decorated. One had a pretty little winter scene framed in an oval band of gilt, the snow being represented by mica powder; another a funny full moon face, and crescents strewed irregularly about it; while the outside of a third was decorated with a rustic pen and three pigs running from it, with the motto "Escaped from the Pen." A postage stamp case was like a sealed envelope with one end cut open.

A little girl can make a shaving paper ball for father or big brother. Cut from 75 to 100 circles from tissue paper of various colors—about the size of a large saucer. Take each by the centre and draw through the fingers, which will slightly crimp it. String these circles on fine wire, arranging them in an evenly shaped ball, and when perfectly round make a loop in the end of the wire and run a ribbon through to hang it up by. B.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

The materials for cuff-holder are a piece of Panama canvas seventeen inches long and six and one-half inches wide; a piece of golden brown plush same size and shape; two yards old pink ribbon three-fourths of an inch wide; embroidery silk to match ribbon. Lay the wrong sides of the plush and canvas together. Cut one end in a point, turn the other over three and one-half inches and fasten securely. This forms a pocket in which is placed one end of the cuff. Now bind plush and canvas all around with the ribbon. Three inches from the point work in cross-stitch the word "Cuffs." Fasten a piece of ribbon by the center to the point of the holder, long enough to tie round the cuff-holder when filled. This article is especially useful to gentlemen in traveling, as it keeps the cuffs clean, and prevents crushing.

A pretty Christmas present may be made as follows: Cut several thicknesses of pasteboard in the form of a shield; put them together and cover. Let the front cover extend about half way up, the top being cut diagonally. Cover the left upper corner with light blue satin, put this part on smoothly. Make a plain lining for the lower left hand corner; then cut one of satin somewhat larger than the lining and puff gracefully on it. This satin should be of peacock blue; finish the top of this

with pleated ribbon. This is to form a pocket in the right hand lower corner. Paint a spray of lilies of the valley on the light blue satin. These flowers may also be obtained in plush and ribbon work that will only need sewing right down through the work to transfer them to the material, and look as if embroidered upon it. Take ribbon No. 9 to hang by, fasten on each upper corner. Put a little bow of the ribbon on the front of each fastening, and in the middle of the ribbon. Cut the front cover large enough to permit the edges to go over the edge of the shield and fasten under the back, lining nicely. This makes a very pretty letter or card holder. The pasteboard should be about one foot square, from which you cut this shield. A pretty cover for a small round table or stand can be made of a large silk handkerchief, hemstitched, if possible. With rope silk matching the handkerchief in color etch a running design. Finish with single tassels sewed around the tablecover.

A very pretty apron is made of Lonsdale linen, ornamented with strips of long stitch embroidery worked with flax threads. The embroidery is worked on rather open Congress canvas, the edges of which are folded underneath the embroidery when it is finished. Use three strips of this embroidery, and separate them when sewed on the apron by insertions of drawn work made in the linen of the apron. Finish the bottom of the apron by a crochet edging in cream white linen threads.

A rather novel design for a key rack is a common wooden mixing spoon. Gild the spoon, and if more ornamentation is desired paint a tiny landscape in the bowl. Put six small brass hooks in the handle, and suspend with a ribbon, or cord and tassels.

A very pretty glove sachet is made of a square of electric blue satin, cut twelve inches wide and folded over exactly in the center. This satin must be lined with maize colored quilted satin, scented with sachet powder. One inch from the edge must be laid a strip of maize corded silk, couched to the electric blue satin by a slender gold cord caught down by maize colored silk. The upper corners are turned over on the blue satin to display the pretty maize colored quilting. The sachet may be further decorated by a central band of embroidery of Oriental design, worked on Congress canvas in long stitches with floselle in three shades of maize and two of terra-cotta. This design is set between narrow borders of vandyke pattern. The edge of the pattern is turned in before it is sewed to the satin. Bows of electric blue ribbon are set one on each corner of the lower side of the sachet, contrasting prettily with the maize-colored lining.

A very handsome collarbox may be made by covering a round wooden box with golden brown plush, on which is appliqued a pattern of cream cloth and old-pink plush outlined by Japanese gold thread; the edge of the cloth is scalloped and buttonholed with gold silk. Line the box with old pink satin.

A pretty table cover can be made of

olive-green felt, any size desired. Pink the four edges, then take four squares of old blue plush, on each of which embroider a set design in shades of terra-cotta and olive; outline each design with Japanese gold thread. Finish by couching to the felt with silk cord of the color of the plush, or else in olive green caught down by same colored silks.

Towels composed of alternate momie and canvas stripes, may be converted into lovely chair-backs by working the canvas stripes in a handsome cross-stitch design in shades of olive and dull pinks. The fringe of the towel ends completes the ornamental effect. Such a chair-back has the quality of being washable. Pretty cross-stitch borders are much in favor for decorating pinafores, aprons, bibs and nursery toilet cloths.

Dinner napkins can be ornamented in this way in three colors or shades of flax threads.

FOREST LODGE.

MILL MINNIE.

CHRISTMAS.

I have only two things to describe for the HOUSEHOLD this year, but both are quite useful, inexpensive and satisfactory articles. One is a stocking-bag made as follows: For mine I used dark wine colored cotton satteen, one yard, costing 35 cents; two yards of inch wide ribbon to match, eight cents a yard; and two spools of button hole twist, the same color, cost five cents for the two. Out of pasteboard cut four circles seven inches in diameter, cover them with the satteen and overhand the edges of each pair together neatly. Cut a strip of the satteen a yard and a half long and a foot wide, gather and sew around these circles, making a puff which will connect them, make a place large enough to insert the hand readily; this is for the dilapidated hosiery. Cut another circle out of pasteboard, cover with the satteen, lining it neatly, and ornament one side if you please. Cut from white flannel smaller circles, and buttonhole the edges with the blue silk; fasten these on one of the end circles of the bag, covering with the last made circle and placing a bow of ribbon over the joining. This makes a place for the darning-needles. On the other end make a pocket of satteen, gathering it at the bottom; make a casing at the top for the elastic, and let the pocket cover a little more than half the circle. This is for the yarn for darning. Use the remainder of the ribbon to hang it up by.

The next is a "bag of bags." Cut a six-sided piece of pasteboard and cover and line with silk, overhanding the edges of outside and lining neatly together. Make six little bags of ribbon or silk, making them to fit the sides of the octagon, one to each side, and overhand them to it. Turn in the tops of each to make a ruffle and casing for drawstrings of No. 1 ribbon, or for elastic—the drawstrings are more trouble but look much better. Sew a hook on each side of the bag, through which a cord is passed to hold them together. These little bags are convenient for the odds and ends which accumulate in everybody's work basket.

If you are intending to dress a Christmas

tree, you will find strings of cranberries, and popcorn colored with pink dye, add much to its beauty without much cost or trouble. Another quite ornamental feature may be the sachets, made of orange satin, to imitate ripe oranges. Cut out of stiff writing paper just such a shaped piece as you would use for a ball cover, cover it with the satin, overhand the sections together, and fill with scented cotton. A small gift may be thus prettily conveyed. A twenty-five cent box of mica powder gives a glistening, frosty look to the boughs of an evergreen which seems to almost lower the temperature. Brush the flat leaves with liquid glue or gum arabic and sprinkle with the powder, holding a paper under to catch what falls off.

BRUNEFILLE.

BUTTER-MAKING.

As housecleaning has brought to light my "paper and pencil on the shelf" I will mount one of my hobbies and answer some questions I saw last spring in the HOUSEHOLD. This was written then, but my process will bear the recommends given to patent medicine. While it will keep butter cool in summer, it will keep it warm in winter—always just right.

I copy: Such hot May weather at a time when everything should be perfect for butter-making. As the last daily churning of forty pounds was pressed into the tub, hard and golden from the churn. I wondered how many women were in perplexity asking, "Where can I set this to have it ready for the next working so there will be no oily line on bowl or ladle?" Feeling philanthropic, I ask space to give an easy method of handling butter. Yet from conversation with many butter-makers I know that while they will change their dress as often as the fashion plates, on butter-making they are conservative. The mother, grandmother or great-aunt will be quoted, and their process and machinery rigidly adhered to. But dear, tired, over-worked sister, longing for a leisure hour, do try my way once, then tell the HOUSEHOLD its faults.

Sour the cream and churn at about 62°; always use a thermometer. When the butter granules are the size of radish seeds or lie distinct in the buttermilk, add plenty of water at 48°; churn a little more and draw off. As a little of the butter will run out, tie a piece of cheese-cloth over the pail so it can sag in the middle. Now wash with a saturated brine—about a pint of salt to one quart or a little more of water. Stir with the ladle very gently and let stand five minutes at least, fifteen or twenty is better. Draw off this brine and drain thoroughly. Now for ordinary tastes sprinkle on the butter about an ounce of sifted salt to a pound of butter (by guess), and incorporate by stirring the butter and adding salt from a sieve slowly. In five minutes stir again, and in five or ten more it is ready to pack or make into rolls. Positively no working. As taken into the bowl pack with straight, steady pressure here and there over it but never draw the ladle, and as soon as compact (two or three pounds in the bowl at

once) put into jars and pressing down there completes the operation. Warranted no streaks, for these are caused by the uneven distribution of salt when put in. This is no theory, for we have handled thousands of pounds this summer, and the price received for it all summer has been above the present quoted price for butter; but there is not a single process in butter-making but is of itself a topic for much discussion. There are papers which make these topics their specialities.

About white specks in butter, Prof. L. B. Arnold, in his book entitled "American Dairying," page 19, says: "The usual cause of flecks in butter is the coagulation of milk by the action of germs caused by the faulty condition of the milk." His remedy is to scald the milk before setting. I think warmth and air must be essential to their development, as I have never seen any where the cream is raised by the use of ice. I do not suppose much of this is new, for Solomon says there is no new thing, but I should like to prove that butter does not need to be "worked" nor to "set." I gave stated times in the process but the length of time can without difficulty be arranged to suit convenience while doing other work. This does away with the most laborious part, and the trouble of keeping it at the right temperature. We recently visited an extensive creamery where the process of salting was a reminder of the process used thirty years ago in making home-made crackers, but busy housewives have neither time nor strength to waste.

FAIRFIELD.

MRS. J. M. WEST.

HOME-MADE CANDIES.

If there is any one thing people living in the country and in small towns *don't* get that is good it is candy. The rocky aggregations miscalled candy ordinarily kept on the merchants' shelves to the delusion of customers, are no more to be compared with a box of Kuhn's or Murray's French creams, fresh every day, than the melting flesh of a juicy cherry is to be contrasted with its stony kernel. I remember buying candy "to kill time" while waiting at a little station in Northern Michigan, and thinking we had bought by mistake a section of old red sandstone and a collection of marbles. We could not eat it, so we walked away a little and laid it on the rails of a side track, and I've always had compunctions of conscience lest it may have caused a railroad disaster if a train ever struck it. Tons of candy are sold in this city at the holiday season, at retail, and Christmas without confections would be no Christmas at all to the children and not a few older ones who admit the possession of "sweet teeth." Don't squander your money on fossils, but make your own Christmas candies. Herewith are given a few recipes which are highly commended by those who have tried them, as being eminently satisfactory:

CHOCOLATE CREAMS.—Two cups of white sugar; one-half cup of water. Boil three minutes; stir in a half-cup of corn-starch, flavor with lemon or vanilla, work up quickly into little balls, and dip into

melted chocolate, placing them on a buttered paper or plate to harden. Use Baker's chocolate, and melt over a steamer or in a water bath.

CREAM CANDY.—Two cups of coffee A or confectioners' sugar and two-thirds cup of water; boil without stirring until it will thread. Set it off into a dish of cold water and stir briskly until it is white and creamy. Have ready some English walnuts, shelled, blanched almonds, dates, and fresh figs cut in two. Make the cream into small cakes and press a walnut meat on one side, or an almond meat or date in the centre; or remove the stone from the date and fill with the cream. If you have canned cherries, take a couple of tablespoonfuls of the cherries—without juice—and cook them in sugar till they are clear, then partly dry them on plates, keeping them separate or in twos or threes. Press these into the cream cakes and you have a delicious confection. Almonds are blanched by pouring hot water on the shelled meats, when the hard brown skin will slip off readily. Everything must be ready at hand when this candy is made, as it hardens as it cools.

FRENCH CREAM CANDY.—The French cream which forms the foundation of so many delicious confections is not cooked at all. To make it, beat the white of an egg stiff, add a tablespoonful of water and the flavor, then stir in the pulverized sugar until stiff enough to knead in the hands. Use this with dates, almonds, cherries, nut meats, etc., as directed in the recipe for cream candy made by boiling the sugar.

ICE CREAM CANDY.—Three cups of crushed or loaf sugar, one-third cup vinegar, one and a half cups water; let boil, add a piece of butter the size of a walnut; boil without stirring till it will thread, flavor with vanilla, turn on a buttered plate, and pull till white. A lovely pink color may be obtained by adding a tablespoonful of raspberry juice just before turning out.

NUT CANDY.—Boil maple sugar with a little butter and vinegar till it will harden, and pour it over a buttered plate on which you have put a coffee-cupful of hickory-nut or peanut meats. Cut in squares before it gets quite hard.

MOLASSES CANDY.—Two cups Orleans molasses; one cup brown sugar; piece of butter size of a walnut. Boil twenty minutes; then add two teaspoonfuls cream-tartar; one teaspoonful soda and one tablespoonful of vinegar. It must be boiled in a sizable pan or kettle, as the soda causes an effervescence.

COCOANUT CANDY.—Two cups white sugar; one-cup sweet cream; butter size of small walnut. Boil fifteen minutes, flavor, and stir in as much grated cocoanut as will make it easy to handle. The fresh grated nut is best, but dessicated may be used.

BUTTER-SCOTCH.—Three cups brown sugar; three-fourths cup water; butter size of walnut, and a pinch of soda. Boil till it begins to harden when dripping from the spoon; flavor to taste; turn in buttered pie-tins, and as it cools mark in squares with a knife dipped in water to prevent sticking. When cold, the candy can be

taken from the tins by turning them upside down and rapping on the bottom.

BEATRIX.

FOR THE HOLIDAY.

Christmas is nearly here again and the wise and prudent woman looks complacently at the gifts prepared during the long summer days, now nicely laid away in a drawer awaiting the time of distribution.

Unfortunately few of us belong to the class of wise virgins. In the summer and early fall Christmas looks far away and we think there will be lots of time by-and-by. Then almost before we know it the holiday season with all its crowding, rushing and worry is upon us.

I wonder if others get so disgusted in reading articles on what to make for Christmas as I do? It is always so simple and easy; just a few yards of ribbon, plush, or satin, and wild roses, or pansies, or sun-flowers painted. I have often wished that some one would write about presents which those who don't paint can make. Luckily gold ink can be bought now and used with a common pen, so that provides for the lettering and the few dashes of gold which are so great an improvement.

A postal card case is pretty and inexpensive. Take a piece of stiff notepaper or water-color paper about nine inches long and a little wider than a postal card; turn up one end so as to form a pocket large enough to hold a few cards, and keep this in place by No. 1 ribbon run through slit in the back of the case and fastened in front in a bow. Write some motto or Christmas wish in gold, and add any other decoration you wish. It is a good plan to put in a few postal cards to show what it is for.

A square envelope filled with perfumed wadding, sealed with wax and tied with pretty ribbons, makes a very pretty sachet, especially if dashes of gold are added.

To make a serviceable penwiper cut three strips of chamois eight inches long and three inches wide, pink the edges of two strips, bind the third with blue ribbon and place this on the outside. Double and tie with ribbon like the binding.

Tray cloths are etched with white silk now instead of the colored. A very good change too, for the white is much more dainty.

E. C.

FORT HURON.

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING is one of those magazines for women which we can recommend with pleasure, feeling certain our recommendation will be endorsed by all who become acquainted with it. Its field is the home; it teaches good housekeeping, and will often prove "a very present help in time of trouble" to both the young and old housekeeper, who is searching for the best methods. Its culinary articles are especially practical and instructive. The adornment of the home is not forgotten, nor the instruction and amusement of the inmates, its writers are fresh and vigorous, and treat their subjects with animation. Taken altogether, *Good Housekeeping* is a good thing. Published fortnightly, by Clark W. Bryan & Co., Springfield, Mass. Price \$2.50.

CROCHETED HASSOCK.

I would like to ask Polly if she thinks there were absolutely no forward children in our grandmothers' days? Also if the children of the present day are all pert, forward and disagreeable? While there are many such I still think you will find some as quiet, gentle and well behaved children now as then.

I wish to say to Jessie that a very nice way to use her small balls of zephyr would be to make a hassock. Crochet it star stitch, working it from an inch to an inch and a half of each color, according to the length of the yarn, mixing the different colors according to taste. When crocheted the required size, line, fill with excelsior, and finish with a heavy cord and tassels, or balls of several kinds of the zephyr. When completed I think she will find it handsome enough to pay her for her trouble.

L. F. M.

NORVELL.

A DEFENDANT.

After reading what has been said in the *HOUSEHOLD* in regard to "true gentility," I feel quite inclined to defend the boys. In her letter, Jessie said, "If I see a man on the street meet a lady and he does not lift his hat, he is instantly set down in my mind as not a gentleman." Now Jessie, we will suppose this man to be a farmer's son (of course a city dude that you and Beatrix mentioned would not be so rude), perhaps he has not acquired that graceful twist of lifting his hat; perhaps he does not carry a slender cane that he won at the fair last year, by knocking off the "nigger's" head; perhaps he does not wear "tooth-pick" shoes without rubbers, regardless of the muddy streets. But perhaps the time he might spend before the mirror or in reading his book of deportment, he is busy about the farm fixing up a piece of fence or working at something around the barn preparing things for winter, and in this way, gradually lifting the burden to his own shoulders that father has carried so long; and maybe he was helping mother during that spare time; and then because he has neglected the polishing course for honest work he is not worthy of that title, "a gentleman." "Many a true heart beats beneath a ragged coat," and I think that in the owner of a true heart is found more real gentility than in the man who lifts his hat and bows and scrapes behind the counter; for I never could see more true gentility about a "counter-jumper" than about the sun-browned farmer boy. I will admit that I like to see a farmer's son lift his hat and be polite on all occasions, but if he fails to do the former he is not set down in my mind as not being a gentleman, for in his head is situated more common sense than in half the city dudes.

Perhaps Beatrix will think I am not "a lady," perhaps some others will say that I am a little astray, and perhaps the girls will call me an "old maid," on account of what I have said; but I am not, although I think there are many worse things in this world than an "old maid," and I will risk

but what she will see just as many happy days as the woman who is a wife at seventeen. Although I never again will see eighteen I will have to wait until the warm rays of Old Sol melt this winter's snow and swell the rosebuds of merry June before I am nineteen, for I am, as my grandfather used to call me, a "June-bug."

I too, am a farmer's daughter and a stranger to the readers of this paper, and if this letter finds refuge in the waste basket or helps to kindle a fire on a frosty morning, you will never again hear a word about true gentility from
WHITE LAKE.

NETTIE.

THE DRESS QUESTION.

It is a fact that we all do feel more comfortable, hence appear more easy, and less self-conscious if we are not dressed ten years behind the style. But dame Fashion is a fickle goddess, a dancing will-o-the-wisp, ever changing, and there are things of more importance in these short lives of ours than to be forever straining every nerve to be in the latest style. And when Mrs. Serena does meet that "representative lady" in imagination she met at Beatrix's door, may the consciousness of a mother's work, well done, of boys and girls trained to be good and true, keep her serene beneath the "pitying look of condescension." But why need any one pity us, and why need we be ashamed if we are from the country? The richest lady in the land could not live a year but for the country and country people. Fine clothes do not make us good, and I should think our Editor less of a true woman than I believe she is, if she could not discern beneath an unfashionable suit a heart with aspirations towards the good, the true and the beautiful; or if she received us coldly, simply because we were not stylishly attired. Pshaw! I believe I know her better than that, although I never met her but once. I'm not silly enough to think I was stylish and yet she used me well. But go and see her, then you will know for yourselves, and you will not be sorry you went.

The question has been asked "What keeps from church, from college, from society, etc., our bread-winning population?" I know the answer is often given, "I've nothing to wear." Oh dear! it makes me tired, as though going to church was for the purpose of a dress parade! The very ones who cry "nothing to wear" to church, will go to the fairs, to the shows, to the parties and never say a word about their clothes not being suitable, or if they think it advisable they will get a new suit for the occasion; and then I've known them to say they had nothing to wear to church! I believe it's a lack of interest and inclination to go, which helps to frame these weak, flimsy excuses; and for my part I think it would be much more honest and honorable to say plainly they did not want to go, for they don't fool the Lord a bit, for "ten times out of nine," He knows that is just what it amounts to.

I think it a sensible plan to keep about our work when morning callers run in, but of all things I shouldn't want that work to

be sweeping, were I the caller, or the called upon. A few mornings since I ran into a neighbor's for a few moments and it chanced that necessary part of the morning's work was in operation, and oh the dust! I thought I must beat a retreat, but I didn't. But perhaps Ella R. Wood does not stir up a dust. I fully realize there is a great difference in rooms as well as sweepers, but for my part I don't want company when I sweep; if they come I'll do something else.

FIDUS ACHATUS.

If you are so unfortunate as to tear your kid gloves, mend them by putting a piece of courtplaster under the rent, taking care to bring the edges nicely together. The tear will be hardly perceptible.

THE *Chicago Tribune* says the juice of the pineapple has long been known in Louisiana as a sovereign remedy for diphtheria. The juice of this fruit is so corrosive that it will cut out the diphtheretic membrane, and the juice of an unripe fruit will make the mucus membrane of a well person's throat sore. It is said to have cured cases where the doctors had despaired, and the victim was apparently past human aid. Given before the patient is unable to swallow, it affords speedy relief. So simple a remedy might be easily tried and could by no possibility do any harm. The juice can be bottled as is grape juice, and thus kept on hand when fresh fruit is not available. Another remedy is the chloride of zinc used as a disinfectant, with which the throat is sprayed. The disinfectant is also inhaled, a cloth wet with it being laid over the face.

Useful Recipes.

MACAROONS.—Two cups grated cocoanut; one cup sugar; two tablespoonfuls water or milk; whites of three eggs beaten stiff. Mix all together and bake in little balls, on buttered paper, in a quick oven.

CLEANING GLOVES.—Here is a recipe for cleaning gloves, which is used with good results by a good many economically-disposed ladies: Get the druggist to put up for you a quart of deodorized benzine, one drachm of sulphuric ether, two drachms alcohol, one drachm chloroform and enough lavender water to perfume it. Put a cupful of this into a basin and wash the gloves in it. Have ready a bowl in which is enough spirits of wine to rinse them, after which lay them on a table and with a piece of soft white flannel rub them smooth, so that all the wrinkles disappear. Then hang them out of the sun and wind, and let them dry. If the kid is poor, the best way is to dry the gloves on the hands.

CHRISTMAS PLUM PUDDING.—Ten Boston crackers, rolled fine; pour one quart of boiling milk over them. Mix one cup of sugar with a teaspoonful each of salt, cloves, cinnamon, allspice and mace. Break into this four eggs, stir together, and add to the crackers and milk. Then add one cup molasses; half cup chopped suet; one pound stoned raisins; half pound citron, cut fine; one cup each of seedless raisins and currants; two ounces candied orange peel. Bake in an earthen pudding dish, five hours, slowly. It fills a six-quart dish two-thirds full. Sauce: Two tablespoonfuls flour rubbed into half cup butter, one saltspoonful nutmeg, one cup brown sugar, one pint boiling water. This is a Boston cooking school recipe.