

Against a Cat-Astrophe.
Frank R. Stockton's "Reformed Pirate" had a harmless and absorbing occupation. To keep himself out of mischief, he had taken to knitting tidles. M. A. P. says that among the classes held at the East End of London for the instruction of the poor was one devoted to ambulance work.

One day a woman came to say that her husband had been drinking immoderately, and to beg that something might be done for him. A clergyman sought him out, persuaded him to become a member of the club, and put him into the ambulance class.

In a short time the man became earnest in the work, and was a regular attendant.

"How is your man doing now?" asked the clergyman, the next time he met the wife.

"He never goes to the 'pub.' sir," said she, proudly. "He spends his evenings at home, bandaging the cat."

Hated to Do It.

During the last congressional campaign the candidates for the honor of representing a certain East Tennessee district, says the Washington Post, gathered to meet the voters at a country courthouse.

There was a rough-looking old mountaineer in the audience. He looked over the aspirants on the platform with a critical eye. One of them had done him several favors, and he felt in duty bound to vote for him.

"Not a very promising lot, are they?" he remarked in an audible whisper to a man three seats away. "Them's only the kind we used to run for constable when I was a boy. That's my candidate—that yaller-headed chap, third from this end. I've got to vote for him, but I'd give ten dollars if I hadn't seen him first."

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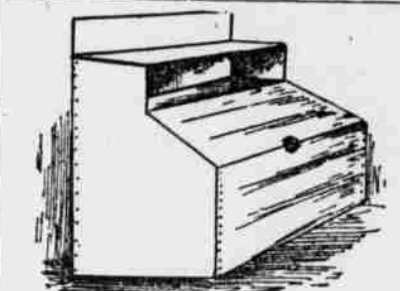
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Tidy Wood Box.

No kitchen is complete without a wood box. The tidy housewife has a place for everything and kindling wood is an everyday necessity in the farmer's home. The accompanying cut illustrates itself and shows a wood and kindling box that has no equal. It



TIDY WOOD BOX.

can be made any size and of very cheap material and small cost. It is finished in half-inch beaded lining or ceiling and painted to match the kitchen, it is really a nice piece of furniture. The top is used for laying anything on. Underneath is a shelf for kettles, pots, etc. Under that is the main part for wood and kindling.

Dutch Pie.

Use two eggs, half a cupful of sugar, a tablespoonful of melted butter, a fourth of a cupful of chopped almonds, the grated rind and juice of half a lemon, an eighth of a teaspoonful of cinnamon, a pint of Dutch or cottage cheese and half a cupful of milk or cream; rub the cheese through a sieve, adding to it the cream and milk; beat the eggs and sugar until light, add the melted butter, almonds, lemon, cinnamon and cheese in succession, then cook in a double boiler until thick, stirring constantly; fill into a baked pastry shell.

Pork Cake.

Without milk, butter or eggs. Chop one pound of raw pork very fine, add a half pint of boiling water, one pound of seeded raisins, one-fourth pound of shredded citron, two cupfuls of sugar and one cupful of molasses, one teaspoonful of soda, dissolved in a little water; mix these ingredients together, then add a tablespoonful each of cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg; stir in sifted flour to the consistency of common cake mixtures; bake slowly for one hour and forty minutes; test it with a broom splint, and, if nothing adheres, it is done.

Peach Compote.

Use either fresh, canned or dried peaches, and stew until very soft; sweeten well and allow them to simmer in the water in which they are cooked; then remove from the fire, and when cold strain and turn into moulds of rice. Make the moulds by lining ordinary teacups with boiled rice and leaving a deep depression in the center, this depression to be filled with the peach mixture, which may require a little gelatine if it does not "ball down" to the right consistency.

Oyster Bisque.

Chop a quart of oysters fine and put them over the fire with the liquor which has been strained from them, and boil just two minutes after a hard boil is reached; have ready a cupful of rich milk thickened with a tablespoonful of butter rubbed to a paste with a heaping tablespoonful of flour and stir the oysters slowly into this; season to taste and pour gradually, beating steadily, upon the whipped yolks of two eggs. Return to the saucepan for half a minute and serve.

Delicious Caramels.

One and one-half pounds of white sugar, one cake, or half a pound of chocolate, a cupful of cream, a quarter-pound of butter, a teaspoonful of flavoring. The mixture will boil up and dent on the surface when nearly done. A good test is to take a little out and rub with the back of a spoon, to see if it will crumble, when it should be taken off. Mark off in squares before it is entirely cold.

Dried Apple Cake.

Soak over night three cupfuls of dried apples, chop them and simmer one hour in two cupfuls of molasses, let them cool, and then add one-half cupful of butter, two beaten eggs, one-half cupful of brown sugar, one-half cupful of milk, in which has been dissolved two tablespoonfuls of soda and four cupfuls of sifted flour. Use the kind of spice which is preferred for flavoring.

Baked Cranberry Pudding.

Place a quart of berries in an earthen baking dish, add two cupfuls of sugar; cover with a light crust; bake in a moderate oven one-half hour. Serve with hard sauce.

A Disappointing Occasion.

"How was the lecture?" demanded Mrs. Sawin, with the impatience of one who had been denied a coveted pleasure, as Mr. Sawin stooped to remove his overshoes before entering the sitting room. "My cold's a sight better. I believe I might have gone 's well as not."

"I guess you did well to remain at home," said her husband, as he seated himself before the stove, "as far forth as the lecture was concerned. The entertainment opened with a selection by the band, then prayer by the Congregational minister, then the band again, then a song by the Methodist minister, accompanied by his wife at the cabinet organ, and then the lecture; after that the band once more, and then the benediction by the Episcopal minister."

"Well, what about the lecture?" asked Mrs. Sawin. "I can hear ministers any day."

"The lecture was on Scotland," said Mr. Sawin, slowly. "I never felt much drawn to Scotland, and I guess after to-night I shall give up all thoughts of ever going there. Folks that haven't got any more idea of the English language after all these years need a missionary, but I don't feel any call to be one. And as for their houses, there wasn't one single good two-story frame building in all the stereoptics that man threw on the sheet. If it hadn't been for the band, I should almost have felt I'd wasted my 15 cents' admission."

Very Awkward.

Mrs. Norton came home from a call one day in such a disturbed condition that it was evident tears were not far in the background. She lost no time in beginning her explanation.

"John," she said to her husband, "I am so mortified I don't know what to do."

"What is the matter, my dear?" asked Mr. Norton.

"I have been calling on Mrs. Peverill. You know her husband, Major Peverill?"

"Yes."

"Well, I have just learned to-day, to my horror, that 'Major' isn't his title at all. 'Major' is his first name."

"Why, certainly. I've always known that. What is there so mortifying about that?"

"Nothing," said Mrs. Norton, with a groan, "only that I've been calling him 'Major' every time I've met him for the last six months!"

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An Oversight.

He wouldn't hire an architect his hard-earned coin to waste; he knew he could a house erect quite suited to his taste. He did—and now the neighbors find a cause to stop and grin; for, strange to say, it slipped his mind to put a chimney in.

GOOD BLOOD TELLS ITS OWN STORY

And tells it eloquently in the bright eye, the supple, elastic movement, the smooth, soft skin, glowing with health, a body sound and well, an active brain, good appetite and digestion, refreshing sleep, energy to perform the duties and capacity to enjoy the pleasures of life. The blood is the most vital part of the body; every organ, muscle, tissue, nerve, sinew and bone is dependent on it for nourishment and strength, and as it circulates through the system, pure and strong, it furnishes to these different parts all the healthful qualities nature intended. When, from any cause, the blood becomes impure or diseased, it tells a different story, quite as forceful in its way. Itching, burning skin diseases, muddy, sallow complexions, disfiguring sores, boils, carbuncles, etc., show the presence, in the blood, of some foreign matter or poison. Rheumatism, Catarrh, Contagious Blood Poison and Scrofula, are effects of a deeply poisoned blood circulation. These may either be inherited or acquired, but the seat of trouble is the same—the blood. S. S. S., a purely vegetable blood remedy, cleanses and purifies the circulation and makes it strong and clean. Under its purifying and tonic effects all poisons and impurities are expelled from the blood, the general health is built up, all disfiguring eruptions and blemishes disappear, the skin becomes soft and smooth and robust health blesses life. Rheumatism, Catarrh, Scrofula, Contagious Blood Poison and all diseases of the blood are cured by S. S. S. Book on the blood and any medical advice, free of charge. **THE SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., ATLANTA, GA.**

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