

THE HOME CIRCLE.

Conducted by Mrs. Harriet T. Clarke.

The True Statesman.

The man whose purpose lies within his will knows that success comes not by chance, but by skill; Sees that the gifts which fortune can bestow...

SHE ANSWERED NO.

By Mrs. H. N. H.

They stood at the altar; the one at his side All blushing and trembling would soon be his bride; Kind friends gathered round them, the young and the fair...

A BACHELOR'S DINNER.

"Aleck," said Mrs. Hastings, with a troubled look on her face, "do you think you could get your own dinner to-day? Bridget has gone to spend the day with her sick cousin..."

"Flour," he said, reading from the book. "There it is. Getting rather low, I guess," he muttered, as his head disappeared in the barrel. When it emerged he looked as though twenty years had been added to his life.

"Saleratus," he added scanning the book "What is that? It must be that white stuff in the bottle. I will put in a double dose of it so as to have them extra light; for Bridget's biscuits are always a trifle too heavy."

They were soon ready and placed into the oven. "I'll get everything ready first, and then build such a fire as will cook it in a short time," priding himself on his forethought. "What next?"

At this moment a little boy appeared at the kitchen door. "Here is a fish that was ordered yesterday," said the grinning urchin. "Is it fresh?" asked Aleck. "Yes, caught this morning," replied the boy, running off.

"This is an unexpected addition," he murmured. "I'll fry it," and dashing water upon it, he placed it in a pan with a huge lump of butter, and put it on the stove! "That is ready. Now I suppose I must have a pudding of some kind. Here is one—rice pudding. That looks easy, and I remember now that I upset a paper of rice while searching for the saleratus. Two cups of rice," he read slowly. "But where is the use in measuring; there is not much more than that in the paper; I'll put it right in," and suiting the action to the word, he soon concocted a peculiar looking mixture, under the head of "rice pudding."

He was just instituting a vigorous search for the tablecloth which he was startled by a ring at the door-bell. Forgetting his appearance he opened the door and encountered a young lady whose blue eyes were sparkling with mirth. Entering unceremoniously, she said, "I am Mary Carroll, and have come to make Nellie Hastings a visit, and thought I would surprise her. Are you not her brother Aleck?" she asked, and finding it impossible to control her mirth, she burst into a ringing laugh, in which Aleck was forced to join, for he had caught a glimpse of himself in the lookingglass as he ushered her into the family sitting-room.

ly, as May tried to describe his appearance at the door. "I thought at first it was a ghost, but caught a glimpse of his patent leather boots, and this convinced me of my error, and I boldly entered."

OUR CONTRIBUTORS.

It is gratifying and encouraging to know of the interest our lady readers take in the Home Circle. This interest is apparent in the frequent contributions to its columns of matter that is really interesting. Whatever is written by our friends, acquaintances, or neighbors, is always read with satisfaction, more so than if it came from the pen of a stranger.

THE BLESSED BEE is the title of a book written by John Allen, which is very neatly gotten up, and as its title indicates, is all about the busy honey makers. It is written in a gossipy style, and is the experience of an amateur, and, to any one engaged in that business, it would be of much value, as it contains many useful hints in the management of an apiary.

FLORAL NOTES.—Calla blossoms are said to be increased as follows: As soon as the first flower is cut or begins to wither, pull the stalk down through the open sheath clear to the bottom. At the bottom will be found, standing close to the stalk, another bud, enclosed in a delicate covering; cut the old stalk away as close as possible, without injuring the bud, and if it has not been kept back too long it will grow up quickly.

THOSE BULBS.—We find requests for bulbs coming in so fast that we are afraid they won't "go around," so we will only send as many as will weigh twelve cents postage, and will return the remaining stamps with the bulbs, if there should be more than that amount sent.

DOMESTIC ECONOMY. CHOICE RECIPES. FRENCH CAKE.—One cupful of sugar, one-quarter of a cupful of butter, one-half a cupful of milk, two eggs well beaten, one and a half cupfuls of flour, one teaspoonful of cream-tartar, one-half teaspoonful of soda, one cupful of Zante currants, or a few slices of citron and a teaspoonful of mace.

GOLD CAKE.—One-half cupful of butter, one cupful of sugar, two cupfuls of flour sifted, one-half cupful of sweet milk, the yolks of four eggs, one teaspoonful of soda. Stir the butter and sugar to a cream; beat the yolks five or six minutes, and add to the mixture.

DELICATE CAKE.—Two small cupfuls of white sugar, one-half cupful of butter, one cupful of milk, the whites of four eggs, one teaspoonful of cream-tartar, one-half teaspoonful of soda, and three and a half cupfuls of sifted flour. Stir the sugar and butter together, add the milk, dissolve the soda in a little boiling water, beat the whites very stiffly, and stir them in with a little of the flour, after mixing the cream tartar with it. Bake in thin cakes, and ice. It is very delicate cake. If desired it can be flavored with grated lemon peel.

A Massachusetts man is farming the huckleberries, and it is thus that by cultivating...

OUR BOOK TABLE.

The December number of Scribner's contains more than the usual amount of interest. "Haworth" and "Falconberg" are continued. The illustrated article on "Bird Architecture" is charming.

THE PAPER DIME.—It was collection day, and Will had forgotten his contribution. There was the good superintendent with the hat in his hand, coming strait to their class, and he hadn't a penny in his pocket.

A VENERABLE CONSOLER. REV. DR. TALMAGE.

Take an aged mother seventy years of age, and she is almost omnipotent in comfort. Why? She has been through it all. At seven o'clock in the morning she goes over to comfort a young mother who has just lost her babe.

THE HORSE. Walking Horses. Everybody concedes that there is no gait which so greatly adds to the actual value of the horse as a fast walk, and yet it is notorious that there is no gait so little cultivated.

POULTRY.

Something for Beginners. The fall of the year is the best time for beginners to commence the business of fowl-raising, for the reason that they can at no other time in the year find matured young stock to operate with.

SMALL FRUITS IN GARDEN.—But few people seem to know the value of small fruits to a family, when grown in their own gardens. You commence with strawberries; they continue about a month. You pick, perhaps, from six to twelve quarts a day.

THE FARMERS' ACCOUNT BOOK. COMPLETE SYSTEM OF BOOK-KEEPING FOR Farmers, Planters, and Gardeners.

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FOR THE CHILDREN.

The False Oracle.

She picked a little daisy flower With fringe of snow and heart of gold; All pure without, and warm within, And stood to have her fortune told.

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