#### Old Kitchen Reverles.

Far back in my musings, my thoughts have been cast To the cot where the hours of my childhood

were passed; I loved all its rooms to the pantry and hall, But that blessed old kitchen was dearer than

Its chairs and its tables, none brighter could be, For all its surroundings were sacred to me— To the nail in the ceiling, the latch on the door, And I love every crack on the old kitchen floor. I remember the fireplace with mouth high

and wide,
The old-fashioned oven that stood by its side,
Out of which, each Thanksgiving, came puddings and pies,
And then, too, St. Nicholas, slyly and still,

But the dearest of memories I've laid up in

store, Is the mother that trod on the old kitchen floor. Day in and day out, from morning till night, Her footsteps were busy, her heart always light, For it seemed to me, then, that she knew not

a care,
The smile was so gentle her face used to wear;
I remember with pleasure what joy filled our eyes; When she told us the stories that children

so prize; They were new every night, though we'd heard them before From her lips, at the wheel, on the old kitch

I remember the window where mornings I'd

As soon as the daybreak to watch for the sun; And I thought, when my head scarcely reached to the sill,

That it slept through the night in the tree on the hill,

And the small tract of ground that my eyes

there could view
Was all of the world that my infancy knew;
Indeed, I care not to know of it more,
For a world of itself was that old kitchen floor.

To-night those old visions come back at their

will, But the wheel and its music forever are still; The band is moth-eaten, the wheel laid away, And the fingers that turned it lie mould'ring

in clay;
The hearthstone, so sacred, is just as 'twas then,
And the voices of children ring out there again;
The sun through the window looks in as of yore,
But it sees strange feet on the old kitchen floor. I ask not for henors, but this I would crave, That when the lips speaking are closed in the

grave, My children would gather their's round by

their side, And tell of the mother who long ago died Twould be more enduring, far dearer to me, Than inscription on granite or marble could be, To have them tell often, as I did of yore, Of the mother who trod on the old kitchen floor.

#### AN OREGON BOY

Has painted a most beautiful picture other painting that we have seen of small quantity of butter makes it of Mount Hood, that excels any that grand old sentinel of the Cascade range. It is quite large, and is now on exhibition at Mr. Shanahan's picture store, in Portland. The view was sketched last summer by Clyde Cooke, of Salem, from a point just called "The Dalles." The little details are perfectly carried out, the coloring true to nature; the lichens and mosses that cover the rocks vie with nature in loveliness of variety and tint. Even the slimy water left in pools after the spring rise is faithfully delineated; the rude Indian good recipes that we have tried. hut of poles and matting fitly ac- An onion sliced very fine and company the wild scene. He has stewed with tomatoes adds to the caught the tint of sky peculiar to flavor of the dish, for those who like that locality-though at the price of that vegetable. Also sweet corn and much criticism. The order was given tomatoes are good cooked together. for this picture by Mr. D. P. Thompson, who is not only a lover of art, but also desires to practically assist and encourage home talent.

## Starching Shirts.

If there is any one plece of household work that we dislike to do more than another, it is to "do up" shirts. With twenty years of experience we are not perfect yet, but we will give a few hints that may help some younger sister out of difficulties.

For half a dozen shirts take two heaping tablespoonfuls of best starch, add just enough cold water to dissolve it; add a pint of boiling water, stirring it at the same time; boil slowly for half an hour, stirring it occasionally to keep it from scorehing. Stir a moment with a spermaceti candle; if this is not available use a piece of mutton tallow the size of a chestnut; strain the starch through a strainer or a piece of thin muslin. Have the shirts turned wrong side out and dip the bosoms carefully in the starch and the bosoms carefully in the starch and until the bosoms are thoroughly and evenly saturated, then proceed to dry. Two hours before ironing dip the bosoms in a weak solution of cold starch and roll up tightly. First, iron the back by folding the shirt lengthwise through the centre; next the wristbands and both sides of the sleeves, then the collar band; now place the bosom-board under the bosom, and with a dampened napkin rub the bosom from the top downward smoothing and arranging each plait neatly. With a smooth and moderately hot iron, begin at the top Many allow water to stand for some continuing the operation until the bosom is perfectly dry and glossy. Remove the board and iron the front of the shirt. If the iron becomes rough or smoky, lay a little salt on a flat surface and rub them well; it will prevent them from sticking and make them smooth.

#### CHOICE RECIPES.

MUTTON HAMS CURED

Are nearly as good as venison hams, and where people live so far from market, it is well to lay in a little supply of wants that are always handy in an emergency. A little chipped off thin, stewed and seasoned with cream or milk and a little flour, makes a dainty breakfast dish.

Take the hind or fore legs of a sheep, and rub them with the following: Mix two tablespoonfuls of sugar with the same quantity of table salt, and half a tablespoonful of saltpetre. Place the hams in separate pans, and rub each one with the same quantity. Turn twice a day for three days, and rub thoroughly with the hand at each Came down every Christmas our stockings to time, turning away the liquor which flows from the meat. Then make a new mixture, and turn and rub daily for ten days. At each rubbing take care to leave that side uppermost which was under before. Then smoke the hams like those made from pork, and boil in the same way. Hams prepared in this way will be relished so much that you will always have a good supply of them in the larder.

HAMBURG PICKLE.

Take one gallon of boiling water; one pound of common salt; one pound and a half of brown sugar; and two tablespoonfuls of saltpetre. Add to this halt a pint of vinegar. Simmer until all the ingredients are dissolved. Pour over the meat boiling hot. In two or three hours it will be ready to smoke.

TO MAKE DUTCH CHEESE.

I was given this recipe some years ago and give it to you, as it proves to be excellent, and the cheese will be appreciated by all who are fond of this cheese-and who are not? It is as follows: Allow the milk to thicken; then heat gently over a fire in a large kettle till the curd separates from the whey, then dip out into a colander or other suitable vessel, so that the whey can be pressed out of the curd as dry as possible; after all the curds are pressed out, crumble up with the hands as fine as can be done, then press them down in an earthen vessel, and let it stand a few days till it becomes heated. Don't omit to stir it throughout daily, afterwards pressing it down, so that every portion may become heated alike; now take it out and salt to suit the taste. A richer; but it is not positively necessary, as it is very good without it. Then take a deep basin or basins (according to the quantity), grease them well, press them even full of cheese and set them in a stove or oven, and bake till slightly brown do not think that many farmers' families would do without it.

TOMATOES.

The season for this excellent vegetable is at hand, and we give some

SCALLOPED TOMATOES.

Peel as many ripe tomatoes as required; cut into slices, and place in a pudding dish, first a layer of tomatoes, seasoned with butter, pepper and salt, then a thick layer of bread crumbs, also seasoned with butter, pepper and salt. Thus alternate the layers until the dish is nearly full, having tomatoes last; cover tightly, and bake one-half hour or longer if the oven be not hot.

## A "Cluck" and Six Kittens.

Mr. Aarvin, of West Leesport, Pa., has a "cluck" which tenderly cares for six kittens about three weeks old. The cluck had been deprived of a brood of young chickens, and feeling the loss very keenly, she no doubt considered the taking charge of the kittens a just compensation. The kittens seem to listen to her call, and will nestle under her wings and feathers like little chickens. No one squeeze out, repeating the operation but she seems satisfied when the kitover to the mother cat in the next corner. This is indeed a great curiosity. Quite a number of persons have watched with great interest the old hen caring for the kittens. She "clucks" and calls them, plays with them and scratches, and endeavors to find for them. The kittens jump about the old hen and make a big fuss with their two-footed, feather-tailed mammy.

Do not give a tired horse very cold water, as it often produces colic. of the bosom and iron downward, minutes in buckets. On the road horses should be watered once in ten date, and he went at it, and before he miles at least. The stomach of a got through he had his two dollars horse is so small, in comparison to his initiation fee back and three more to body, that large draughts injuriously boot, and had knocked everybody distend it; consequently, small quan- down two or three times apiece. He tities at regular intervals is the best didn't seem greatly disturbed in

# FOR THE CHILDREN.

To a Baby.

Well, dear little mortal,
Set down on life's portal,
With never a question of choice or of will,
Small pilgrim, set out
On a journey of doubt,
With your shrine at the top of a troublesom
hill. Well, dear little mortal,

Look about with those eyes

Full of grave, sweet surprise,
And say what you think of this world, now
you're in it?

Is it best worth your while
To meet life with a smile? a frown, that you ever were forced begin it?

Ah, Life is the name Of a curious game! And whether we smile, child, or whether w

frown, We must each play in turn,

Though we scarcely may learn
The rules of the game till the cards are
thrown down;
Tis a queer hurry-skurry,
Full of bother and worry,
For each player comes in with some trick of
his own;

But the secret of winning Lies all in beginning, So be sure you are right, child, then—"Play

#### LETTERS FROM LITTLE FOLKS.

Scio, Or., July 5, 1879. Editor Home Circle:

In reading the FARMER I have seen a number of letters written by the girls. I have often wanted to write a few lines, and have read all the lethope the childrens' column will be supplied with letters from both girls and boys.

We live about six miles from Scio. on a foothill of the Cascades. Scio is our nearest post office. We have been living on a farm for two years, and like it very much. I wonder if most girls like to wash dishes? I do not. would rather milk cows and feed pigeons, turkeys and chickens. We have a little flower garden, and also a vegetable garden. I like to work in them. Grain looks well. Our peas, buckwheat, etc. all look well. We have about 1,000 cabbage plants that look very well.

Mamma says she would like to know Aunt Hetty, because she writes sound sense. This is my first attempt to write for a paper. I send my best wishes to the FARMER.

LILY D. HALL.

CHETCOE, Or., June 24, 1879. Editor Home Circle:

I am a reader of the FARMER, and like to read the girls' letters, but I think it is harder to write them than to read them. I live on a sheep ranche 20 miles from Ellensburg. I like to live on a sheep ranche splendid. I once lived in the beautiful Willamette valley.

Your valuable paper is received every week, and we don't know how we could get along without it.

There are a great many sheep and dairy ranches here. We milk a few cows and make some butter to sell. Ellensburg is a very pretty place, but would be very dull if it was not for Hume's Salmon Cannery, which American wife Jerome Bonaparte Trees. makes it pretty lively in the fall.

I will close by wishing you much success with your paper.

MIRA FORGEY.

#### A New Secret Order.

The other day, after a strapping young man had sold a load of corn and potatoes in the market, and had taken his team to a hotel barn to "feed," it became known to men around the barn that he was very desirous of joining some secret society in town. When questioned he admitted that such was the case, and the boys at once offered to initiate him into a new order called the "Cavallers of Coveo." He was told that it was twice as secret as Freemasonry, much nicer than Odd-Fellowship, and the cost was only two dollars. In case he had the toothache he could draw five dollars per week from the relief fund, and he was entitled to receive ten dollars for every headache and twenty-five for a sore throat.

The young man thought he had struck a big thing, and after eating a hearty dinner he was taken into store-room above the barn to be initiated.

The boys poured cold water down his back, put flour on his hair, swore him to kill his mother if commanded, and rushed him around for an hour, without a single complaint from his lips. When they had finished he in-

"Now I'm one of the Cavaliers of Coveo am I?"

"You are," they answered. "Nothing more to learn, is there?"

"Nothing."

"Well, then I'm going to lick the whole crowd," continued the candimind as he drove out of the barnyard. | ours of Catarrah. Consultation free.

On the contrary his hat was slanted over, and he had a fresh five-cent cigar in his teeth, and mildly said to one of the barn boys:

"Say, boy, if you hear of any cavaliers asking for a coveo about my size, tell 'em I'll be in on the full of the moon to take the Royal Skyfugle sale. There is a plum and prune orchard of Degrees,"

A COACHMAN was often obliged to wa!t long hours while his mistress made calls. He determined to im- young people. prove the time; he found a small volume containing the Eclogues of Virgil, but could not read it, so he purchased a Latin Grammar. Day by day he studied this, and finally mastered all intricacies. His mistress came behind him one day as he stood by the horses waiting for her, and asked him what he was so intently reading. "Only a bit of Virgil, my lady." "What, do you read Latin?" She mentioned this to her husband, who insisted that David should have a teacher to instruct him. In a few years he became a learned man and was a useful and loved minister in Scotland.

#### Food for Young Turkeys. In some cases, even the best of care

fails to secure a good number of young turkeys. Before they have fully feathered up they are the tenderest of ters which have been published. I birds, but when they have put on a full dress of feathers, nothing in the way of poultry is more hardy or less liable to disease or disorder. As young turkeys, like young guineas, make such rapid growth of feathers when young, they require constant care, and food in fair quantities and often, to enable them to withstand the great strains on their systems; and not supplying them fully at that stage of growth is what causes so many to drop off suddenly, from no apparent cause. Boiled eggs, chopped fine, no doubt makes a good food for turkeys, to commence with, but it is not at all necessary. One of the most successful breeders of turkeys we ever knew of never fed a crumb of boiled eggs, but commences with stale bread crumbs, slightly mixed with new, fresh milk, giving them five or more feeds daily, but only in such quantities as they would eat up clean at every feed. Onion tops or lettuce, chopped up fine, and mixed with their food, was given, while an occasional seasoning of red, cayenne pepper was supplied. They were treated to sweet milk for drinking purposes, and when they got some little age, cottage cheese was liberally supplied -and they were very fond of it. There is as much in the care as in the feeding, and they must have the best of both to induce them to stay with us. Dampness and dew are fatal to young turkeys; the remedy suggests itself in a preventive .-[Am. Poultry Yard.

### Silenced,

Madame Patterson-Bonaparte, the discarded at the command of his I guess I had better close, or my let- brother, the great Emperor, was notter will be put in the waste basket. ed for her sarcasm. The following anecdote shows how effectually she used her power of repartee:

When Madame Patterson-Bonaparte was in Vienna, she was invited out to dinner by Lord Dundas, the British Embassador, who had been Commission Merchants. rather offended in the drawing room by the lady's championship of Napoleon I. He thought to take revenge at dinner, and got a reply that at the time went all over Europe.

He asked the lady if she had read Mrs. Trollope's book on America. She said she had.

"Well, Madame," continued he, what do you think of her pronouncing all Americans vulgarians?"

"I am not surprised at that," she said. "Were the Americans the descendants of the Indians or the Esquimaux, I should be astonished; but being the direct descendants of the English, it would be very strange if they were not vulgarians."

The subject interested the Englishman no more.

MR. BEECHER'S HORSE.-An amusing incident is related of the recent visit of Henry Ward Beecher to this city as chaplain of the Thirteenth New York regiment. The norses for the field and staff of the Thirteenth were furnished here, and when the stout and solid looking bay selected for him was led out Mr. Beecher inquired whether he was perfectly safe. The stable proprietor replied in the affirmative. "Perfectly safe and reliable?" asked

the Chaplain.

"Perfectly so," replied the proprietor. "He will go anywhere, and is

not afraid of the military or cars. There isn't a mean thing about him." Mr. Beecher looked the animal

over for a moment and then quickly

remarked, "I wish he belonged to

my church."-New York Herald. Dn. KECK is undoubtedly a success in the

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