

The Home Circle.

MRS. HARRIOT T. CLARKE, EDITOR

THAT BOY.

Is the house turned topsy turvy? Does it ring from street to roof? Will the racket still continue? Spite of all your mild reproof? Are you often in a flutter? Are you sometimes thrilled with joy? Then I have my grave suspicions That you have at home—that boy.

CHOICE RECIPES.

Lemon Pies.—Mrs. M. L. Parker gives the Pacific Rural this recipe for lemon pies: One cup sugar, one cup sweet milk, one tablespoon flour, two eggs (whites for top), juice and grated rind of one lemon. Stir juice and sugar and add eggs and milk.

Coffee Cake without Eggs.—One cup coffee, two of sugar, half cup butter, teaspoon soda, all kinds of spices, and three cups flour.—Molly.

Graham Rolls.—Three cups graham flour, one of fine flour, one of molasses, two and a half cups milk, one egg, one teaspoon soda dissolved in the milk, and a little salt. Have the gem pans hot.—Con.

Corn Starch Cake.—One cup butter, two of sugar, one of sweet milk, one teaspoon soda, whites of seven eggs; mix thoroughly, and add one cup cornstarch, three of flour, and two teaspoons cream tartar.

Mock Oyster Soup.—Prepare the brains of either a hog or beef; and put on to stew in a cup of water with little salt and pepper; put on one quart of milk to boil, add a lump of butter; when the milk comes to a boil, pour in the already cooked brains, and serve hot with crackers. Some say it tastes precisely like oysters.

Cheese Pie.—The yolks of four eggs, one cup each of sugar, cream and preserves, and a half cup butter. Beat the whites to a stiff froth, stir in a half cup sugar, and flavor with lemon; when the pie is cooked, spread this over the top and return to the oven a few moments until a light brown. I prefer a plum preserve for this pie.

Old-Fashioned Sponge Cake.—Six eggs, one cup white sugar, and one cup flour; flavor to taste. Beat the whites to a stiff froth, then beat yolks, adding sugar and heating well; next add whites, then flour, and flavor with lemon or vanilla. The pan must be greased well, and if your cakes have been in the habit of sticking, cut paper to fit the bottom. Bake twenty minutes.

Pumpkin Pies without Eggs.—Cut up a good dry pumpkin, stew dry as for ordinary pies; mash and beat lightly with a fork. For each cupful use one and a half pints of milk, and pour boiling hot over the pumpkin, stirring briskly all the time. Add three tablespoons each of sugar and add good molasses, and a tablespoon each of cinnamon, allspice, cloves and ginger. Bake slowly.

Apple Jelly Cake.—Pare and grate three apples; add two-thirds cup sugar, and one egg; mix all and cook, stirring to prevent burning; when done, cool and add two teaspoons extract lemon. Cake: Beat the whites and yolks of three eggs, add one and one-half cups sugar, half cup butter, half cup milk, three cups flour, and three teaspoons baking powder. Bake in sheets; use jelly while hot.

Never reprimand a child in the presence of others. It may shame and mortify him for a few times, but he will soon become hardened; and a hardened child is about as good as lost from the standpoint in which you view him. And, another thing, it is disastrous for one parent to criticize the method of other parents in dealing with a child, in the presence of the child himself. Reserve such matters for private and kind consideration.

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LAUNDRY HINTS.

To remove mildew, rub common yellow soap on the damaged article, and then salt and starch on that. Rub well and put out in the sunshine.

Tea and coffee stains: Dip the stained linen in boiling water and let it stay a minute or two; stir a little, and lift out with a stick; wring, and wash in the usual manner, and you will be surprised at the result.

To wash doubtful calico: Put a teaspoonful sugar of lead in a pailful of water and soak the calico in it fifteen minutes before washing. To set the color in blue cambric, dip it into a solution of salt petre, using two or three cents worth to a pailful of water. Salt injures the fabric.

Starch should be boiled from ten to fifteen minutes. A good table-spoonful of coal oil added to each quart of starch before boiling and stirred thoroughly while boiling, will add a nice gloss to the clothes and prevent the starch from rubbing up while ironing.

To wash black cashmere: Use warm water containing considerable spirits of ammonia. Rinse in well blueed water of about the same temperature. Remove from the line before entirely dry, and and iron. Do not fold, as that will cause more wrinkles to be ironed out than if ironed directly from the line.

A friend has this to say of silk socks: Wash in a lather made of soft water and castile soap. Do not wring, but drain them out of this water and rinse in two or three waters. Then place in a towel and twist the ends of the towel until all the water is out. Hang up to dry between two towels. On no account hang in the sun unprotected. Do not iron.

To wash very dirty rag carpet: Rip the seams and take one width at a time; soap the greasy spots, and then put into the boiler with plenty of soft suds in which coal oil has been mixed, (half a cup of oil to one quart of soap) and warm soft water; boil half an hour, then rinse in several waters, each time pounding the carpet with a stamper, and putting through a wringer. You will be surprised to see how nice your old carpet will look.

Matilda, Dak., tried the experiment of pouring hot suds over her white clothes, letting them soak while she washed the flannels. Then she merely "sudsed" each piece up and down, and put through the wringer without rubbing. She then boiled and rinsed as usual, and they looked just as white without any of that hard rubbing. Clothes ought to be put to soak Sunday night, if washed on Monday, but who can do it with her best dress on?

Statistics show that one-quarter of all the insanity in the world, and in Paris one-half, is caused by drink. In the department of the Seine, in France, there are six times as many lunatics as there were in 1801, while the population is only three times as great. The chief of the "physical" causes producing mental diseases is excessive drinking, which is responsible for 562 out of the 1,067 admitted in the year. Of the "moral" causes "domestic trouble" stands first, with 59 cases, and after it in order come money losses, alarm, surprise, domestic affliction and religious mania, which last appears to be comparatively rare in Paris. That is it everywhere; drink leads as a cause of disease and crime. The drink curse is more fatal to human welfare than war, famine and pestilence combined.

A letter in the Lancet says: "As the merits or demerits of tobacco appear to be coming to the front again for discussion, I think the following question worthy of attention, viz: How far the injurious effects of tobacco are entailed upon the offspring of smokers? I can call to mind several families of my acquaintance who are delicate, whose fathers were great smokers. The effects of tobacco on the heart and muscular fiber generally are clearly shown in the instances referred to, in an annotation which appears lately in your columns as having been practiced years ago for the reduction of hernia and dislocations. May not the cases which come before the profession daily of delicate hearts in children be traced to this cause?"

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For The Children.

BABY'S LESSON.

Written for the WILLAMETTE FARMER.

Stand up baby! That's a darling, Mamma's precious little man, Don't laugh at his funny notions, Daby does the best he can.

See him now, with one foot forward, Hands outreached and face aglow, Steps out bravely one, two, three, Truly walking, though its slow.

But you see he don't stop trying, If he falls he's up again; Older ones may learn from baby Just to do the best they can.

Sit not down discouraged, whining At the downfall of your plan, Rise up nobly stand up firmly, Always do the best you can.

IN THE FIRELIGHT.

The fire upon the hearth is low, And there is stillness everywhere; Like troubled spirits here and there The freight shadows fluttering go, And as the shadows round me creep, A childish treble breaks the gloom; And softly from a further room Comes "Now I lay me down to sleep!"

And somehow, with that little prayer And that sweet treble in my ears, My thought goes back to distant years And lingers with a dear one there; And as I hear the child's "amen," My mother's faith comes back to me; Crouched at her side I seem to be, And mother holds my hand again.

Oh, for an hour in that dear place— Oh, for the peace of that dear time— Oh, for that childish trust sublime— Oh, for a glimpse of mother's face! Yet, as the shadows round me creep, I do not seem to be alone— Sweet music of that treble tone, And "Now I lay me down to sleep!"

OUR LETTER BOX.

Aunt Hetty again ask pardon of a good friend of the Circle: "The Old Boy," who takes such interest in young people. However, it has lost nothing by keeping, for it is such a good letter. We can only wish that our kind friend may write often, and good care shall be taken that it is printed at its right date.

Belle sends another of her good letters. We can tell her where she can get a canary, and a good singer for a small sum of money. We hope some one will answer her good question. The riddles she sends are always those of a high character.

Benjamin sends a real boys letter full of matter which shows his mind is on business. A live boy he is; we should like to get another from him. Yes, it's better to keep cats and dogs than to put out poison. A dog or cat needs to be well fed to make good hunters. Some think it is best to starve them into ambition, but that rule would not work well with a boy and certainly would not with Kizer.

Alfred is one of the very youngest of our circle, but he can write a letter that us old folks enjoy to read. There is no doubt the visit at grandpa's will be full of fun. Grandmas are more indulgent than mammas and its a lucky boy that has these dear homes to visit.

SALEM PRAIRIE, MARCH 2, 1886.

Editor Home Circle: I see some of my schoolmates writing to the Circle. I am not going to school this term. We have got some of our garden in. I have not got many flowers, I have a few house plants, and some seeds to sow when it gets warm enough. I have not got a canary bird, but I want to get one. I have not seen the answer to my riddle yet, so I will answer it: The answer is a man. In the morning of life or babyhood he goes on all-fours, at noon or manhood he goes on two, and at night or old age he goes on three, that is he walks with a cane. I will answer Willie Millers riddle; the answer is three sheep. I will close by sending a riddle. "Beneath the skies a creature once did dwell, So sacred writers unto us do tell, He lived, he breathed in this vain world 'tis true, Though he never sinned or any evil knew, He never shall in Heavens high kingdom dwell, Or e'er be doomed to feel the pangs of Hell; Yet in him an immortal soul that was, That must be dam'nd Or live have among the just."

If somebody don't answer before long let Aunt Hetty try. Your friend, BELL OSBORN.

BRENTS, W. T., March 2, 1886.

Editor Home Circle: The farmers are going to begin plowing in a few days. The ground squirrels are coming out of the ground, I and my brother drowned out five the other day, I have been putting out poison, they do a great deal of damage in this country. We have 28 hogs, and about 50 chickens we get from 20 to 25 eggs every day, we sold seventeen dollars worth of eggs last winter. Papa and my oldest brother are going to work on the railroad this

summer. We have 9 head of horses, we milk two cows. Well as all the little boys and girls tell about their pets, I will tell about mine. I have a little dog in name is Kizer, he a great little fellow to catch squirrels and mice, we have two cats they can't be beat catching gophers and squirrels and mice. I will try to answer James A. King's riddle. When the clock strikes thirteen it is time to get a new one. As I cannot think of anything that would be of interest I will close. From your little friend.

BENJAMIN F. CARPENTER.

SALEM, Or., March 17, 1886.

Editor Home Circle: I wonder if any of the other little boys who write you letters like to visit their grandpa as well as I like to visit mine, we are going on the cars to-morrow to grandpa's, and I expect to have lots of fun. I was going to school 'till the first of April, but my teacher got sick so I don't go now. I will be eight years old in May, and I am half way through the second reader. My little brother is two years old, he is very cunning, he tries to jump off the stool, but steps off and says "dump," he thinks he can jump. I am reading "Swiss Family Robinson," to my mamma, the words are all in one syllable so I can read them easy.

Your little friend, ALFRED.

AUMSVILLE, Feb. 16, 1886.

Very gratefully I accept my welcome to the Circle, and do not propose to be open to the criticism of brevity. Minnie loves to feed the birds. Good. Let others do likewise. There is more benefit in feeding the wild birds than the "nice time" it affords, or the "blessing that goes with kindness." Kindness toward created beings, and a love for the beautiful in nature, has a refining and elevating influence upon the mind hardly found elsewhere. Besides this, the birds which Minnie fed, and which "disappeared" as soon as the snow was gone and they could obtain a supply of their natural food, are now making for her (and her neighbors) not quite disinterestedly perhaps, but doing it all the same; doing work which must be done, and which Minnie could not do, to save her life; that is, catching the bugs and worms that would otherwise devour the fruit, flowers, "garden truck" and farm crops. And, bye and bye, when the berries, and cherries, or the grain, or other seeds are ripe, these same little birds, having left them clear of insects all summer, will come for their share. They will not come and steal. They will come boldly, taking what is theirs by right, and will pay in music and entertaining antics at the same. Men, perhaps Minnie's practical father will get mad (after the manner of men generally), and call the birds bad names, and her big brother will shoot at them, and her little brother will throw stones at them, never reflecting that were it not for them there would be no crops or fruit at all. But I expect to have more to say about this bye and bye. Oh, yes, I have just happened on a letter by Bessie May Sutton, of Basket Mountain. She also feeds the birds. She says "there are three blue-jays, two bald-heads and a big magpie." I do not know what she calls "bald-heads," but the jays and magpies are a bad set. They are the thieves and robbers among birds, and Bessie's big brother should shoot them. Belle Osborne answers Clyde's question, "Where does the spirit go after leaving the body until the resurrection," by reference to certain passages in the Bible, which she thinks "will be satisfactory." Belle may be surprised perhaps to be told that only about one-tenth of the people in the world accept or believe in the system of religion taught in our Bible. How will her answer satisfy the others? Clyde's other question, "Why is a dog able to follow the track of his master," no one has yet attempted to answer, although Aunt Hetty says it "is quite easy to answer." It appears to me that Clyde has, perhaps unwittingly, sprung the "boss" conundrum. How came a camel to be hump-backed? Can anyone tell?

T. O. BOY.

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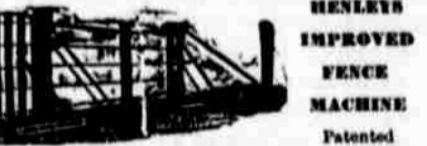
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