The Home Circle.

MRS HARRIOT T. CLARKE, Editor

SAM GREEN'S RESOLUTION.

While Sam Green weeded, and dug and hoed,
But had no luck with the seed he sowed.
His friend, Jim Browning, across the fence,
Was glad at the sight of his crops immense.
Glad, yet sorry, was Jim in his heart,
That his neighbor Green should stand apart,
With envy gnawing beneath his ribs,
When he thought of big Jim's bursting cribs;
Of all good things which seem'd to have flown
Over to Jim's place, out of his own.

"Now, Sam," said Browning, "I tell you what
I'm going to lose more'n half I've got,
Unless you borrow what there's to spare;
So, fetch your teams, draw home your share.
I haint forgotten ten years ago,
When wife and I, in the great big blow,
Lost all we had but the bare red land,
And you were the only friend at hand;
As you dealt by me in that day of need,
Let me deal by you, old friend, indeed!"

CHOICE RECIPES

Cold Meat Dish.—Take any sort of cold meat and suet, mixed; chop very fine; add salt, onions, minced ham or tongue, a slice of bread; soaked in milk, two well-beaten eggs, one ounce of butter; stew all together for fifteen minutes; turn it into a mould and bake till brown. Turn out on a hot dish and cover with the gravy strained off when moulded.

Boiled Rice Pudding.—Soak a coffee cup rice in cold water one hour; drain it well and spread it on a strong cloth. Peel and quarter a few tart apples, and place in the center, gather up the cloth and tie rather close; put into a kettle of cold water, with a tablespoon salt to four quarts water; heat gradually, and boil one hour. I sometimes use raisins instead of apples, but leave more room to swell.

Potato Salad.—Slice half a dozen large cold boiled potatoes, put into a salad dish, and season as follows: Two tablespoons best salad oil, half teaspoon sugar, same of salt, pepper and made mustard, and about the same of royal celery salt. Rub to a smooth paste and whip in a teaspoonful at a time, five tablespoons best vinegar; when well mixed pour upon salad and serve.

White Mountain Cake.—Mix well together one cup of butter with three of sugar. Then add half a cup of sweet milk with a teaspoonful of cream tartar in it, and the whites of ten eggs beaten very stiff. Lastly add three and a half cups of flour with half a teaspoon of soda in it. Flavor with essence of lemon and bake in three flat cakes. For icing take one pound of pulverized sugar and the whites of three eggs. Flavor with vanilla, and put between the layers and over the top and sides of the cake.

Cocoanut Cake.—Two eggs, one cup of white sugar, half a cup of sweet milk, quarter of a cup of butter, one and one-half cups of flour, one and one-half teaspoonful of baking powder. Bake in a moderate oven in pans one inch deep. To prepare the desicated cocoanut, beat the whites of two eggs to a stiff froth; add one cup of pulverized sugar and the cocoanut, after soaking it in boiling milk. Spread the mixture between the layers of the cake and over the top.

Oatmeal Gruel.—Take two ounces of oat meal and and one and one-half pints of water. Rub the meal in a basin with the back of a spoon, in a small quantity of water, pouring off the fluid after the coarser particles are settled, but while the milkness continues repeat the operation until the milkness disappears. Next put the washings into a pan, stir until they boil, and a soft thick mucilage is formed. Sweeted to taste.

Ribbon Cake.—Stir together until very light, half a pound of fresh butter, and the same of powered sugar. Beat twelve eggs very light and stir them into the eggs and butter alternately with a pound of sifted flour. Bake on a tin or iron plate as you would buckwheat cakes, taking care to have all the size of the tin and a good shape. Spread lemon butter between each layer, and sprinkle powdered sugar over the top.

Apple Dessert.—Pare and core large, sweet apples and fill with butter and sugar. Set each on a round piece of stale, crustless bread. Put a little water in the pan, sprinkle sugar over all, and bake till done. Carefully remove to the serving dish and cover with an icing made of the whites of two eggs and powdered sugar. Dot over with bits of red, acid jelly. Or the apples may be baked without the bread, piled up in pyramid form and frosted.

About Washing.

I have never tried washing in any way that suited me like putting clothes to soak in warm soap suds, and letting them lay a few hours; I then rub, ring, boil, suds and rinse. I always shave the soap and disolve it in hot water. My granite washdish is just the dish for it. I always use soft water for the blueing water unless I am obliged to use hard, which is very seldom. I often put my clothes to soak Monday morning, rub them out after dinner, and lay them in clean water until the next morning, when they are ready to be boiled; and the washing is done with much less expenditure of strength than when it is all done in one day, and the clothes always look clear.

But I am always on the lookout for some easier way, and have tried most of the varieties of soap so highly advertised, and am not entirely satisfied with any. For two weeks I have tried using kerosene, and I can see that it is a great help in the rubbing, but I am afraid clothes would get dingy after a while. Please tell me how I can better my formula. I put them to soak in strong suds, and when I put them on to soak in the morning, I added, as nearly as I could guess, a tablespoonful of oil to a pail of water. When they had boiled, I put them into clean water and rubbed them more or less as they seemed to require, rinsed them thoroughly, and hung to dry. Of course I only boiled the cleaner garments the first time, and put in more when I took them out. The first time I put the oil in when I put the clothes to soak. Which is the best way? Last week it seemed to me that some of the clothes looked a little dingy, but may have been mistaken. I hope to hear reports from others in this matter.

To wash flannels slice the soap in a pan, pour on water and boil until clear; pour in cold water; put in the flannels and wash; rinse in cold blue water and dry. I never hang out to freeze any blue garments, but those of any other color, even fine white nubias or the baby's flannels are not harmed.

If those who have tried coal oil and failed would dispense with boiling they would be pleased with results. I have ready clean water, boiling hot, and when the clothes are washed, pour it over them, cover to retain the steam, and in twenty minutes or less, I pound a minute or two, wring, rinse, blue and hang out, and have every reason to be satisfied with my washing. The clothes are white and sweet.

Prohibition in Iowa.

There is cumulative evidence that Iowa does not find prohibition the delightful thing its friends have pictured it. The latest development is a circular in favor of high lincense issued by W. R. Vaughan, Mayor of Council Bluffs, and chairman of the executive committee of the Mayors of Iowa. The circular is the outgrowth of the recent convention of Mayors. The convention included the chief magistrates of many Iowa cities, and the circular declares that this body of men, belonging to all political parties, regards the prohibitory law as obnoxious, tyrannical and unenforceable.

This is just such testimony as was to be expected. Prohibition often makes some approach to attaining its end in rural communities, though only after it has reduced respectable citizens to humiliating devices in exercising an ordinary right; but such laws usually fail in cities, and weaken the regard in which the whole body of laws is held. About the time when the prohibitionists of Iowa achieved their first triumph, an enthusiastic woman lawyer of that State went about the country delivering lecutures upon the several campaigns that led up to the enactment of the law in question, and she never failed to announce that tobacco would be the next citadel of vice attacked. The one prohibition would be but the natural sequence of the other; and it difficult to see where this governmental supervision of men's eating and drinking would end if these fanatical reformers by law should have their way.

Charles Dudley Warner's delightful summer-resort serial, "Their Pilgrimage" deals in the second part (Harper's Magazine for May) with the Catskills. His management of the subject is unique, and the clever illustrations by C. S. Rinehart, enhance the attractiveness of the chapters.

Notwithstanding much is said about the importance of a blood-purifying medicine, possibly the matter has never claimed your serious attention. Think of it now! If, by using Ayer's Sarsaparilla, you avoid scrofula, and transmit health to your offspring, thank us for the suggestion.

For The Children.

A RAINY DAY.

The day is dark and dreary,
And the rain drops slowly fall,
From the foliage of the forest
Like tear drops on a pall.

And the listless zephyrs faintly
Move the branches to and fro,
And the sounds that fill the forests
Are mournful, sad and low.

The waving shadows tremble
Beneath the hemlock tree,
And the streamlets leap and quiver
As waves upon the sea.

And like those waters rushing
Through the falling rain and mist,
A flood of thoughts come over me
That my soul cannot resist.

And I think of those in sorrow,
Where the shaft of woe has sped,
And the vision seemed to haunt me
As futures of the dead.

And trials and disappointments,
Life's sorrows, pain and care,
Are the reluctant burdens
That encumbered mortals bear.

And the comforts, joys and pleasures,
Of life that come unseen,
Are but as shifting shadows,
With the light of the sun between.

And the falling rain and mist,
Flows on to the ocean's wave,
Like the passing army of life
March onward to the grave.

—*Horace Prosser.*

OUR LETTER BOX.

May is here with all her beautiful garb of flowers; the fruit trees too have been white with fragrant blossoms and the air is filled with the sweet smell. The birds are singing from every tree and bush. Those of our little friends who get up early must just stop and listen to the hundreds of different voices that carol as the sun rises over the hill top. At no season in the year is all nature so beautiful. One cannot help but think it is good to live where everything seems so joyful and bright.

Strawberries are just beginning to ripen; then the fun begins for those who live near the best "strawberry patch." Every year crowds the wild berry away—oats and wheat have over-grown the bright red fruit, so that those delightful pic-nics we used to have are only remembered in the pleasant memories of the past.

Little Edith sends one of the very best of letters, for she writes just as she would talk if she was talking to Aunt Hetty. It is too bad about old mother turkeys ill luck, but my dear Edith, was mother turkey shut up, or did she draggle her little ones in the wet grass these cold mornings. It is not possible to raise turkeys unless they are kept warm and dry, then they must have hard boiled eggs to eat at first, with pepper and chopped onions. Just watch and see how quickly their little eyes will discover the onions in the feed. They must be fed but little at a time, but must be fed often. After two weeks they will not need such care. Write us again Edith, and set the turkey once more. "Try, try, again." We are sure Edith will be thoughtful and kind to those motherless little girls; try to see if it does not make one happier by trying to make others happy. No matter if it is thankless, your own heart is better for it. It is so nice to be able to add to the comfort of others.

There is something in a good example. Now Sarah Annie saw that Edith was writing a letter to the Circle and so she writes too. When we see this force of example we should be careful that whatever we do should be right and of good import. We would not like to see any one imitate our faults, though perhaps if we could we would be cured of such faults; little brothers and sisters are sure to talk and do just as the older ones do, so try dear children, to set the example of a sweet, kind voice in speaking to the little ones, and when playing with them let everything be such as will bring out the best of our natures; be loving and kind and don't be afraid of kissing the little ones. It is better than to play at whipping when playing at keeping house, or keeping school. We all love the sweet tempered girl.

We must tell Emma that it is nice to get her letter, even if she is left handed. Aunt Hetty had a little left handed girl and now another little left handed girl calls Aunt Hetty grandma. Emma will find the world hold many who use the left hand best. There is no reason why except custom that gives the right hand the preference. Come and see us again, Emma, your letters are all right, and they will never get left.

Rosa gives a charming story about her pigeons that all will read, and wish she would write again. Aunt Hetty's little folks were once made happy by a white pigeon that lived many years with us. He would try to figbt the rooster and once came in with all his scalp hanging over his eyes, and Aunt Hetty sewed it back in its place again with a silk thread while four pair of tearful eyes looked pittifully on. The poor bird seemed to know that we were sorry, for he sat still and quiet in Aunt Hetty's lap until the job was done, even to the final application of fir balsam with which we covered the wound. It was only a little while till his head was all right again, and he was again trying to win a lady bird to come and take the place of his partner who had early left him a despondent widower. It was in vain that he showed the pretty places, the comfortable roost and all; each fickle lady would follow him, swooping in under the porch and trees, taking an interest in and inventory of his lonely home, but not one would share it with him, and he died an unwilling widower.

HUNTSVILLE, W.T., May 12, 1886.

Editor Home Circle:

I see so many little children writing I thought I would try it, and if you think this is good enough to print I will try and do better next time. My pa takes the FARMER and I love to read it. I am nine years old. I have a number of pets and among them I have a pigeon; it will go with me to Sunday school, and I have a mile to go, and it will fly upon the house and wait for me and as soon as school is out it will fly down and go home with me. Everything is just lovely; the flowers are all in bloom and the wheat fields are waving in the wind. We will have lots of fruit this year, such as peaches, apples and prunes.

I will close, ROSA E. KIRBY.

FAIR VIEW, Near Salem, May 8.

Editor Home Circle:

I think it is so kind of you to print so many letters from us little girls, so I thought I would try to write one, for if others are like me they will always read the letters first. As I write left handed my writing may be hard to read. I have no pets but one—a kind hearted old cat. I will answer Lorena's riddle, it is a blacksmith. May Taylor must write again. I go to school and like our teacher. Put my name on the temperance roll. It has rained very hard to day. I am nine years old.

Yours truly, EMMA ELGIN.

GRANT'S PASS, Or., May 1, 1886.

Editor Home Circle:

I am a little girl and eight years old and grandma says I can write a letter to you. Aunt Edith is writing to you. I and my sister are living with my grandmother, and my papa is in Walla Walla. I and my sister go to school with my uncle Frank and aunt Edith. Please print this and put my name on the temperance roll. SARAH A. HUTTON.

GRANT'S PASS, May 4, 1886.

Editor Home Circle:

I am a little girl nine years old and I go to school and Sunday school. There are two of my little nieces staying with us; their mother is dead. We have lots of fun playing together. I have a little baby sister and she is the sweetest little thing you ever saw; her name is Electa. We do not take the FARMER but grandpa does. I wish we did as I love to read the letters. We have lots of little chickens and turkeys; our turkey set on six eggs and hatched them, but they all died. She set on ten more and they hatched, but they all died except three. It is not a very nice day to-day as it is cloudy and it has been raining. I send Aunt Hetty some wild flowers. I will close,

EDITH WILLIAMS.

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The Harpooner's Story.

New Bedford, June 1, 1883.

DR. J. C. AYER & CO.—Twenty years ago I was a harpooner in the North Pacific, when five others of the crew and myself were laid up with **scurvy.** Our bodies were bloated, gums swollen and bleeding, teeth loose, purple blotches all over us, and our breath seemed rotten. Take it by and large we were pretty badly off. All our limejuice was accidentally destroyed, but the captain had a couple dozen bottles of AYER'S SARSAPARILLA and gave us that. We recovered on it quicker than I have ever seen men brought about by any other treatment for Scurvy, and I've seen a good deal of it. Seeing no mention in your Almanac of your Sarsaparilla being good for scurvy, I thought you ought to know of this, and so send you the facts.

Respectfully yours, RALPH Y. WINGATE.

The Trooper's Experience.

Masen, Basutoland (S. Africa,) March 7, 1883.

DR. J. C. AYER & CO.—Gentlemen: I have much pleasure to testify to the great value of your Sarsaparilla. We have been stationed here for over two years, during which time we had to live in tents. Being under canvas for such a time brought on what is called in this country **"veldt-sores."** I had these sores for some time. I was advised to take your Sarsaparilla, two bottles of which made my sores disappear rapidly, and I am now quite well.

Yours truly, T. K. BODEN,
Trooper, Cape Mounted Riflemen.

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