

— They now say that Xantippe, the wife of Socrates, did not live happily with her husband because his income was only eight dollars and sixty-two cents a year, and she never could make ends meet. The trouble with her was that she lived away back in those old classical times when domestic economy was not understood. We know more about it now. There, for instance, is that member of the legislature of whom we spoke some time ago. He went to Albany for two winters upon a salary of one thousand dollars, and he saved thirty-four thousand dollars by going without a hired girl and doing his own washing. What Socrates and the rest of those ignorant Greeks needed was the enlightened intelligence which is the outgrowth of Christian civilization.—Ex.

— How many people are there who really know how to make a mustard plaster? Not one in a hundred, at the most, perhaps, and yet mustard plasters are used in every family, and physicians prescribe their application, never telling anybody how to make them, for a simple reason doctors themselves do not know, as a rule. The ordinary way is to mix the mustard with water, tempering it with a little flour, but such a plaster as that makes is simply abominable. Before it has half done its work it begins to blister the patient, and leaves him finally with a painful, flayed spot, after having produced far less effect in a beneficial way than was intended. Now a mustard plaster should never make a blister at all. If a blister is wanted, there are other plasters far better than mustard for the purpose. When you make a mustard plaster, then, use no water whatever, but mix the mustard with the white of an egg, and the result will be a plaster which will "draw" perfectly, but will not produce a blister even upon the skin of an infant, no matter how long it is allowed to remain upon the part. For this we have the word of an old and eminent physician, as well as our own experience.—Ex.

— In all well regulated households, the father of the family exercises a watchful care over his children. He notes their various phases of temperament and disposition; their hopes and fears; their anxieties and disappointments; their physical developments and moral progress, and he becomes in a measure answerable in society for their good conduct. With the help of the mother most youthful minds may be moulded into gentleness and obedience. Filial duty then becomes a pleasurable habit that is observed during life. A disobedient son or daughter always creates unhappiness and ultimately brings dishonor to the domestic circle. A father is without power to govern his family if the mother thoughtlessly opposes him. It is utterly impossible to prevent evil results flowing from a conflict of authority on the part of the parents. The children are insensibly imbued with a spirit of disobedience, and are quick to manifest it on the least exercise of parental authority. A good mother can exercise no holier calling than to guide the footsteps of her children in the path of duty and virtue.

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