

HINTS ON COOKING, HOUSE-KEEPING, DOMESTIC EDUCATION AND SERVANTS.

[From the Springfield (Mass.) Republican.]

There is no house-keeper who could not learn most useful lessons from the French. The refuse of our kitchen would give them a dainty dinner. From the well-picked bone, the dried bread crust, and the odds and ends of vegetables a delicious soup can be concocted. The old ham bone, which, with us is thrown away, gives a delicious flavor to pea soup; even chicken and turkey bones can be made of service in soup making. If the economical house-keeper would keep a soup jar into which could be thrown all scraps of meat, all crumbs of bread, every bit of potato, cabbage or onion used, for one or two days, then in the morning add two quarts of boiling water, salt and pepper, and simmer slowly for several hours; half an hour before dinner strain it, add tomato catsup, or any seasoning desired, and heat to boiling point and serve it—she will find that out of what Bridget may style refuse and rubbish, she has a nicely seasoned and appetizing soup. We all acknowledge that soup is a great addition to our dinner, yet daily we throw away the needed materials.

Very good soups can be made without one particle of meat. Take one quart can of tomato, or twelve large tomatoes. If the latter, prepare them as usual, and chop very fine, then boil one hour; if the former, chop them, and the soup can be made directly. When boiling add half a small teaspoonful of soda or saleratus; when the effervescing has ceased, sprinkle in two Boston crackers, finely powdered, and add one and a half pint of milk, salt, pepper, and a teaspoonful of butter. Boil all fifteen minutes and you will have a soup, resembling oyster soup. This, with canned tomato, can be prepared in twenty-five minutes. It is economical and nourishing.

White soup can be made with onions, bread and milk. Crumble through a colander one quarter of a common sized loaf of bread, boil one quart of milk with two good sized onions, chopped very fine, boil half an hour. By putting the milk into a pail, and the pail into a kettle of water, there is no danger of burning the milk. Sprinkle in the bread crumbs (cracker crumbs can be used as well), add one large tablespoonful of butter, salt and pepper to the taste, serve, and you will find a most relishing soup. Two eggs well beaten, added just before you take it from the stove, stirring so they will not curdle, will make it richer. White soup made from veal bones is delicious. Boil your bones three hours with one onion, one turnip and two carrots. Strain and boil again; just before you serve it add one pint of cream (milk will do if cream is not at hand), with three eggs well beaten. This recipe is much liked, and is not expensive where milk and eggs are abundant. There are many richer soups but the above are very economical.

We might imitate our neighbors across the water in rechaffes. We roast six to ten pounds of beef or mutton, and if our families are small, live for a day or more on the cold remnants, then give or throw away the bone. Few of us care for cold meat for any length of time, but we can make a delicious dish out of those despatched slices of beef or mutton.

Take a deep, yellow nappy, cut your slices of meat thin as possible, and cut off the grazed edges; put a layer in the dish, dust over pepper, salt and sifted sweet marjoram or sage, or, if liked, a chopped onion. Fill your dish half full, in this manner, then add the cold gravy left from the roast, taking off every particle of fat. Turn in half a tea-cup of catsup, or if canned or ripe tomatoes can be had, a quantity of those. Fill the dish nearly full of boiling water and put a dish over it, right side down. This keeps all the flavor in the dish. Bake two hours in the oven; mash your potatoes with butter, or cream and salt; make a high wall around the edge of a heated platter; if appearances are to be consulted, beat up an egg, with a brush or feather egg over the wall, and brown in the oven. At any rate, turn your meat and gravy inside the wall, and you have a dish fit for a patriot, if not for a king. Indeed, it is often preferred to the freshly-roasted meat of the previous day. Uncooked beef or mutton can be cooked by the same method, but must remain in the oven one hour longer. The toughest morsels of beef are tender as turkey, cooked in this manner. The raw meat must be cut as thinly as possible.

It is a great pity that our daughters cannot be educated as housekeepers, as well as to play on the piano and to read French and German. The literature of the last named language might teach them a lesson. These young girls of respectability are taken into the households of the more affluent, and regularly trained in all the duties of a housewife. What would our young girls think of such a procedure? Yet how invaluable would the training be! How many pale-faced, sad-eyed wives say, "If mother had only taught me to cook, to iron starched clothes, to clean house, how much easier all the work would be to me."

We are really in a pitiable condition at present. Our young men cannot marry. Few of them can attain to \$1000 income; most of them earn from \$500 to \$700 a year. On this, could the young wife do her own housework, the wheels of the household would run right merrily. She could hire her washing—or buy a Doty's washing machine, which is said to make washing day as easy as the all powerful sewing machine makes the year's sewing. Then, with the help of a woman "to clean house" once a month, how smoothly the sands of life would run. Now our young couple must board—or if housekeeping is tried, Bridget or Dinah must come to the fore, as the Scotch say. Then there is waste and misrule. Bridget or Dinah knows no more than the young wife—and she is fretted and harassed by their misdoings.

Newhouse, a rising English jockey, weighs 44 pounds.

There is a dwarf in Lancaster (Mass.) forty years old and only three feet high.

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