### THE "SWEETEST SPOT."

The sweetest spot in the house to me
Is the spot which holds my treasure wee.
What is the treasure? Come and see—
Only a blue-eyed baby.
Only a bundle of dimples and love,
Dropped in my arms from somewhere above;
A white winged, cooing, and nestling dove,
Or, a bundle of mischief, maybe.

Now creeping here, now creeping there,
Calling me hither and everywhere;
Playing with sunbeams on the floor,
Cooing—'a-gooing" over and o'er;
Climbing up and clambering down,
Bumping and bruising his tiny crown;
Sticking his toes through the dainty socks,
Soiling and tearing his dainty frocks;
Falling and crying and catching his breath,
Till mamma is frightened almost to death;
Laughing and shouting in frolic and play,
Having a world of his nonsense to say:
Showing the dimples in cheek and in chin,
Where frolic and mischief peep out and in;
Asking for kisses and getting them, too,
On cheek and on chin and on eyes so blue;
Ready for play when the sunbeams rise,
Ready for sleep with the twilight skies;
And the sweetest spot in the house, you see,
Is the spot which holds my treasure wee—
My blue-eyed baby, my bundle of love,
My white-winged, cooing and nestling dove;
And long may he find his haven of rest
In his mother's arms, on his mother's breast.

—*From "Home Life in Song."*

## THE HOME.

### Children's Nerves.

There are few ways in which many otherwise sensible people show so little judgment as in romping and general play with little children. It is not an uncommon thing for a strong man to toss a helpless little infant in the air till it trembles with excitement. Now, as a matter of fact, the nervous system of a child is a very delicate organism. Till the child is two or three years old it is exceedingly liable to diseases of the nerves and brain. It is impossible to tell how often fatal illness may be traced to the foolish fondness of some relative who insists on making the little one "notice." Doubtless every physician knows of at least several such cases. An able practitioner, in discussing this question recently, while he urged a young mother to keep her child as quiet as possible, said: "I have an especially sad case at present, due to following an exactly opposite course. A little one, a year old, who is an only child and an only grandchild, is lying at the point of death with brain fever. I do not think it possible for it to get well, but if it does, the parents and grandparents will have learned a lesson they will not forget. The grandfather was in the habit of tossing the child up every night after he came home, and the whole family watched it, themselves amused, while it was trembling with excitement, and never realized the danger until one night it went into spasms."

Very little children should be allowed to sleep as much as possible, and other children should lead as quiet, even, monotonous lives as possible. For this reason a nurse girl of an amiable, even slightly phlegmatic, temperament is preferred to a nervous and more energetic person. Such a girl will easily learn to follow the routine necessary in the care of the children. Children should not be hurried. When a child is old enough to go to school, it is time for it to learn that time is valuable. While it is little let it develop slowly and naturally, expanding its life as deliberately as the rose or lily unfolds its buds. Do not dare to meddle with the law of Heaven, that growth, either physical or mental, must be a gradual growth, step following step. Forced children are like forced flowers; they may make a brilliant show for a time, but it is at the expense of a vital force which once gone cannot be regained. Like the poor blossoms of the hothouse, they droop and die before their time, while their sisters and brothers of the garden that have been subject to no such artificial pressure, live out the natural period of their existence. Too many parents stimulate the mental energies of their children, because of a foolish fear that the world shall think them dull heads; there is no pride more foolish than this. If they have a genuine parents' love, they should be unwilling to pose those whom they love as puppets to foster their vanity. Let every mother and father remember the holiness of the trust that is given them in the care and guidance of a human soul for which they must render a strict account.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

### How to Set a Table.

"Learn first," says Delmonico in an article to the November *Ladies' Home Journal*, how to set a table. A round table is better than a square table, if the dining-room is large enough to permit it. If not, then the ordinary oblong extension table must be used. The round table is much more preferable and easier to seat people at, besides it gives a suggestion of the famous "King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table." A few prominent society women still cling to the old-fashioned long, narrow table. Mrs. Astor, for example, still uses that style of dining-table in order that her gold dinner-set may be placed at the best advantage. Mrs. August Belmont, on the contrary, prefers an oblong table, and the decorations for an elaborate dinner are carried out to make the shape more pronounced. Flowers should never be absent from the dinner-table. No matter how homely, they add to the picturesqueness of the feast.

Let us see how a table is set for a fashionable dinner-party. On the table is first placed a thick flannel cloth—the thicker the better, as it prevents noise of the dishes as they are placed on it. Over this is spread a snowy-white damask table-cloth, bearing the family crest or coat-of-arms. Sometimes over this is placed still another, of elaborate embroidery and lace, lined with pink or yellow satin, as taste dictates, or whatever color is to predominate at the dinner. The plates are first placed upon the table. As these are to remain after soup is served, they are always the handsomest in the gold or china sets, as the case may be. Don't crowd. Each guest should be allowed a space of two feet or twenty-six inches, if the table will admit of it, and the plates placed at equal distance apart. Place two dinner forks to the left of each plate; also an oyster fork with prongs resting on the edge of the plate. On the right must be a dinner knife and a spoon for soup. The glasses are arranged at the right of each guest on a line with the inner edge of the plate. The water glass is set next to the plate. Then glasses for whatever other beverages are intended to be served. A glass, whether of water or of any other liquid, should never be filled more than three-quarters full.

### Nuts for Nutrition.

When Dio Lewis had a boarding-school and the girls teased for nuts at dinner, he promised they should have all they wanted. The next day the usual meat and vegetable dishes were filled with several varieties of nuts. "Now, girls," said Dr. Lewis, "eat all you want and you will be as well off as if you had your usual dinner, but nuts taken after a hearty meal are too much for the stomach to bear, and surely bring on indigestion." Scientists have pronounced nuts an excellent article of diet. In this case they are not to be taken as a dessert, but as the main staple of the meal. Nut trees beautify a lawn and serve for utility and ornament at the same time. The cost of planting and growing is small. The market for nuts is assured. They may be called one of the staples of commerce. Since the extraction of oil from nuts has become a business, it makes a new opportunity for using large quantities. In the South the raising of nuts for profit is a foregone conclusion. The pecan is the nut preferred, from its large yield, and from the oil which the nuts hold. This can be used for table or cooking purposes, and the demand for it is steadily increasing. —*Massachusetts Ploughman.*

## THE FARM.

### A Thought for Thanksgiving.

Farmers' wives sigh frequently, feeling that their lives are hid, and no opportunities for doing good open to them. But to all come possibilities which only need to be improved. Many country women have shelves loaded with canned fruits, jams and jellies in greater quantities than they can use in a year or two. But they never think of the hospital in town, only a few miles away, where the surplus would be appreciated by sad and suffering charity patients. To get the full enjoyment from this kind of service the woman should carry her gifts, not send them. At once her quick sympathies will go out to the recipients and she will find her mind elevated for weeks out of the rut which has so long held it. Thus the act will result in two-fold happiness. God does not give folks great things to do until they have done the little ones right in line of their own work. Perhaps she thinks of how much good she could have done had she been a missionary, forgetting that for years scores of young men, hired hands, have been sent to her door, men who have needed her patient care and kindly influence quite as much as the heathen. A good woman is a home missionary.—*Belle P. Drury.*

— The farm should be looked upon, not as a mere machine for speculation, not as a mere means of living, but as the home of generations, where children and children's children may find the truest development of life.—*The Industrialist.*

— We know of a dairyman who, when about to buy a cow, rides through the country gathering samples of milk from the cows offered for sale. He tests the milk at home, and buys accordingly. He makes money out of his dairy.—*Tennessee Farmer.*

— It is folly to expect milk free from odor, and wholesome, if the milking be done in foul atmosphere. An isolated, clean stall, or even the yard, would be better; but do not think to leave odors behind by milking in a clean place if the cow is covered with filth.

— Giraffes are made to feed high; but it was designed that horses should feed from the ground; and to follow nature is usually the better way. When feeding from elevated rack, certain muscles of the horse's neck are not used and by disuse they become powerless. This may have much to do with the absence of arched necks in our horses, and the presence of them in Arab horses, which feed from the ground.—*W. C.*

— The plan of marking for lifetime the variety, date, etc., of trees or vines planted, by merely writing on paper and placing this inside a small round bottle of clear glass, then corking, sealing, and either setting in the soil or wiring to the tree or stake, is to be recommended. The memory of names seldom called up is uncertain, and allows of changes and substitutions sometimes very puzzling.

— That remark about land covered with straw accumulating more fertility than can be accounted for by the mere decay of the straw, I can back up. I have seen on my farm an effect sometimes that was many times the manurial value of the straw. Land never left bare any longer than is necessary, always something growing, stubbles mowed, potato-rows near enough together to touch when the tops are grown—all these things tend in the same direction.—*Practical Farmer.*

— Nothing can be more agreeable to the eye of the traveller than a well-kept farm framed in with the soft shelter of a verdant hedge—itself a handsome object. But the osage-orange is too rough and rampant now that we have barbed-wire to defy cattle. Its trimming covers the ground near it with savage thorns. The barberry probably combines more qualifications for hedging than any other hardy plant, and one of especial importance is that live stock never break or disfigure it in the least, no matter how it is exposed or how hungry they are. The leaves, flowers, fruit and entire growth are of rare beauty. The only objection is that the rust of wheat finds a nidus upon barberry, not hurting it any, but ever ready to harm wheat plants near it.


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— The public generally regard agriculture as a subordinary business, needing little talent for its conduct. It is in reality a chain of trades or professions, requiring for full development more ability, thought and practice than any of the so-called, but misnamed, "learned professions." One skilled in most of the branches of husbandry is better entitled to the prefex "learned" than any lawyer or doctor, because he has studied more, and acquired more really useful knowledge.—*Terra.*

— It overbearing or harsh towards a servant or dependent who cannot defend himself or punish the indignity, it is proof that he would treat his equals or those above him in the same way if the restraint were removed. Bullying an inferior, treating a person below you in social standing or official position with neglect or contempt, is especially unchristian and cowardly. The injunction to be courteous applies to your treatment of the poorest and blackest laborer for daily bread, or the forlornest tramp that toils along the highway. If discourteous and harsh towards anybody, your Christian discipleship needs revising.—*Cumberland Presbyterian.*

— Wire netting is not alone of value around poultry-yards; correspondents have reported its successful use as support for edible and flowering peas and nasturtium and taller climbers. A writer in *Our Country Home* describes another notable instance of its effective employment: "We have a stretch of green nearly 20 ft. long and 5 ft. high, thickly covered this summer with Japan ivy (Ampelopsis veitchi), and it attracts admiration of all who see it. It shuts off the vegetable garden from the street view. With a bed of geraniums bordered with sweet alyssum, in the centre of a wide expanse of lawn, and the vine on its screen for a background, the view from the street is pleasant indeed."

— Visiting a farm neighborhood recently, it was encouraging to see how rapidly the earth-closet idea is materializing. Where there was one of these structures within a radius of ten miles six years ago there are now at least twenty. It is evident that the fateful vault has had its day in all intelligent communities. These closets are very simple, differing from those formerly used in being set on solid ground, supplied with a small shovel and pail of dry soil from the garden nearby, and in having a hinged door outside, back of the seat, that can be fastened down or open when required to remove the accumulations; these are readily scraped out with shovel or hoe, thrown into a wheelbarrow, dumped into an open furrow in the garden and lightly covered.

— A pig is no more naturally inclined to disease than any other animal. It is the manner of keeping and feeding it that inclines it to the numerous disorders to which it is subject. In the most healthy locality in the whole United States, a mountain region, where the air and the water are the purest, the pigs are dying of the fatal cholera, and in the midst of the wandering herds which roam through the woods, my pigs are perfectly healthy. The reason is, they are healthfully fed. They are kept in a large wood lot, where they have pure water in abundance, and are supplied with milk every day. The natural food of swine is just such as they gather in the forest, as roots, grass, insects, worms, and such plants as they desire. The milk seems to make up whatever deficiency there may be in the food supply. An animal, of whatever kind, requires a diversity of food, and wanting something of this it is not properly nourished and then becomes diseased.

— Successful treatment of a two-acre mire-hole, "a blemish" on otherwise clean and orderly fields, is recorded by *Farm, Stock and Home*: "One of the boundaries of the farm was a creek with plenty of sand in it, and I concluded to see what mixing sand with my mud hole would accomplish. So at odd times I drew sand until I had about 600 loads on the two acres. Finally, after some fall rains, I ploughed the piece and harrowed until the sand and clay were well mixed. In the winter I drew up a lot of barnyard manure and in the spring harrowed again and seeded to redtop, timothy and orchard grass. The grass did well, and after a good sod had formed it was ploughed under and the piece cropped the same as the rest of the field. After vegetation began to grow it seemed to use up the extra moisture, and no more trouble was experienced. On my last visit to the farm its owner said that old mudhole was now the best land on the place."


— Mrs. Jane Vansickle, Alberton, Ont., was cured of liver complaint after years of suffering by using five bottles of B. B. B. She recommends it.


—"Tell me not of your doubts and discouragements," says Goethe, "I have plenty of my own. But talk to me of your hope and faith."


— "The proof of the pudding is in the eating." K. D. C. has been tried and tested and has proved itself to be the king of medicines, the greatest cure of the age, and the only perfect dyspepsia cure in the market.

**Minard's Liniment cures Dandruff.**


— "The privileges you enjoy, my son, by being an American," said the proud father, "are simply inestimable. You may some day become President of the United States; while in England, no little boy, however brilliant or good, can ever become Queen."


— Baird's Balsam of Horehound for croup and whooping cough.


### A Mother's Prayers.

A Christian mother placed a New Testament into the hands of her boy who was just about to commence a seafaring life. The lad was thoughtless, careless, and although so young, was quite unmanageable—the result of mixing with evil companions. But his mother's prayers followed him; and although many years passed away without seeing or hearing anything of her boy, the loving mother never forgot him at the throne of grace. She inquired of all she met, who were likely to know the whereabouts of her boy, but in vain.

But one day a half naked sailor knocked at her door to ask for relief. The sight of a sailor always interested her, and she heard his tale. He had seen great perils, and had also been wrecked several times, but was never so destitute as at one time, when himself and "a fine young gentleman" were the only individuals saved of a whole ship's crew. "We were cast upon a desert island, where, after seven days and nights, I closed his eyes." And while the tears stole down his face, he told of the happiness experienced by his mate, which he said he got by reading a little book his mother gave him when a boy, and which was the only thing he saved. "He gave it to me," he continued, "just as he was dying, and said: 'There, Jack take it and read it, and may God bless you.'"

"Is all this true?" asked the trembling and astonished mother. "Yes, madam, every word of it." And then dragging from his ragged jacket a little book, much battered and time-worn, held it up, exclaiming, "And here's the very book."

She seized the Testament, descried her own handwriting, and beheld the name of her son, coupled with her own on the cover. She gazed, she read, she wept, she rejoiced. She seemed to hear a voice which said, "Behold, thy son liveth!"


R. R. R.

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There will be sold at Public Auction on Saturday, the nineteenth day of December next, at twelve o'clock noon, at Chubb's Corner, so called, on Prince William Street, in the City of Saint John, pursuant to the directions of a certain decretal order of the Supreme Court in Equity made on the fourth day of July, A. D. 1885, in a cause wherein Benjamin B Bastin was Plaintiff and Mary A. Duncan Defendant, with the approbation of me, the undersigned Barrister, the mortgaged premises described in the Plaintiff's Bill as follows:

"ALL that certain lot, piece or parcel of land, situate in the City of Saint John, and described as follows:—Beginning at the intersection of the northern side line of Lot No. 164 (one hundred and sixty-four), on the City Plan (sold by heirs of Richard Simonds to the late Robert Duncan,) with the easterly side line of Brussels street, thence northerly along the said easterly side line of Brussels street twenty-five feet more or less, thence easterly parallel with the said northern line of Lot number 164 sixty-eight feet nine inches more or less, or to the western line of land sold by said Mary Ann Duncan to the Rev. Robert Duncan, thence along said last mentioned line southerly twenty-five feet more or less to the said northern line of Lot number one hundred and sixty-four (164), thence along said last mentioned line sixty-eight feet nine inches more or less to the place of beginning, being a portion of the western half of Lot No. 165 (one hundred and sixty-five) on the City Plan, together with the improvements thereon, and the appurtenances thereto belonging, and the reversion and reversions, remainder and remainders, rents, issues and profits thereof, also all the estate, right, title, interest, use, possession, property, claim and demand, whatsoever, both at law and in equity, of her the said mortgagor, of, in, to or out of or upon the said lands and premises, and every part and parcel thereof."

For terms of sale and other particulars apply to the Plaintiff's Solicitor.

Dated this thirty-first day of August, A. D. 1891.

JOHN L. CARLETON,
Barrister.

E. T. C. KNOWLES,
Plaintiff's Solicitor.


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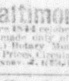

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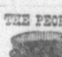

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