

HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS



A Handy Book Rack.

An attractive and handy book rack for the table or floor is of leather in a dark green or brownish tint. The rack revolves on a wooden pivot set in a wooden base matching the color of the leather. A dozen books can be accommodated on this rack.

Spinach Soup.

Ingredients: One quart of milk, pepper and salt to taste, two tablespoonfuls of flour, enough onion juice or extract to flavor and spinach.

Rub the spinach through a sieve, and use only the parts that pass through. Scald the milk in a double boiler, mix the flour with a little milk and stir it with the heated milk. Add the seasoning, stirring the milk constantly, and add enough spinach to make the soup the thickness liked. Some people use double the quantity of spinach named in the above recipe for one quart of milk. This soup belongs to the cream class, and when carefully made has a delicate flavor. If a double boiler is not used for the milk, care must be taken that it does not burn.

Stuffed Onions.

Ingredients: Six onions, half a pound of finely chopped, uncooked lean beef, the yolks of two eggs, half a cupful of melted butter, half a cupful of bread crumbs, pepper and salt to season and parsley to garnish.

Prepare the onions as for baking, and when they have boiled sufficiently drain off the water. With a sharp knife slice off the top of each onion like a lid, and scoop out nearly all the inside with a teaspoon. Mix the chopped beef, bread crumbs, yolks of eggs, seasoning, and a tablespoonful of butter in a bowl, then fill each onion with this preparation, replace the top and bake for three-quarters of an hour. By baking these in gem pans each onion will keep its shape. Pour the remainder of the melted butter over each when serving, and garnish with parsley.

Some Artistic Lamps.

The mystery of the many lamps seen in homes but never duplicated in shops is explained when it is realized that made-to-order lamps are very simple and very common. Any cherished bowl or jar may be converted into a lamp by the mere mounting with metal oil vessel, burner and globe support. A rare piece of Satsuma lent itself in this way, and the lamp was the envy of all who saw it. A large umbrella stand of terra cotta was converted into a useful light producer with equal ease, the assortment of globes and shades in any lamp shop offering choice to fit any standard. In this way it is possible to have lamps correspond and harmonize with rooms, a fact of which artists have been quick to take advantage. It is rare, indeed, that a studio lamp is other than unique and original, and it is to this class, indeed, that indebtedness for "lamps to order" belongs.



For cleansing paint cold tea is capital, but milk is better for white paint. Borax and white sugar form a good compound for destroying ants and cockroaches.

A dish of quicklime in a damp cupboard will dry the air, but as it loses its power it must be renewed occasionally.

Every housekeeper should have a blank book in which to copy or paste useful hints or directions about cooking and other housework. This book should be kept in the kitchen.

Curried eggs is a favorite dish with many people. Make a cream sauce of one tablespoonful each of butter and flour and a cupful of milk. Add four hard boiled eggs cut into large pieces. Season with curry to taste.

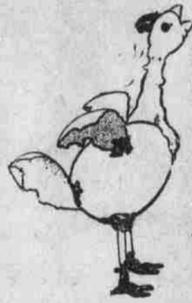
Writing tables covered with velvet instead of felt have been seen recently. The velvet is in a dark rich shade, and is mounted with the same bit of gilt band that is used with the felt. The effect is good, but in use the velvet may not be satisfactory.

To clean the ivory handles of knives that have been discolored mix ammonia and olive oil in equal parts and add to the mixture enough prepared chalk to make a good paste. Rub the ivory with this and let it dry before brushing off. Two or three applications may be necessary.

To make boiled vegetables look white and delicate, put plenty of water in the kettle and add salt; when the water boils, briskly skim, and quickly drop in the vegetables, and remove the minute they are done. Cooking vegetables after they are tender darkens them and detracts from the flavor.

Evening Fun With Egg-shells

EGG shells, that are usually thrown away in the kitchen, can be used for the purpose of making the loveliest, daintiest little objects. For both girls and boys nothing could be more interesting than building candlesticks of these



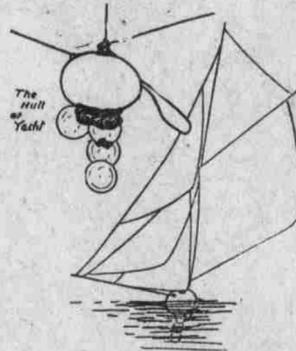
EGG SHELL ROOSTER.

fragile materials. A writer in the Ladies' Home Journal gives the following direction: To make the candlestick place upon a piece of cardboard three eggs, and fasten to cardboard and to each other with sealing wax. On top of these three fasten another egg, and on this again a stick about five inches in height. Upon the top of this stick fasten a "half-shell," which has been previously scalloped, and place in a dainty candle. The illustration shows exact-

soaking a number of "half-shells" in warm water for twenty minutes. Then scallop the edges of these with a pair of sharp scissors. Fasten a small piece of candle in each with sealing wax and float upon the water. A most enchanting scene is produced by floating these in an aquarium containing goldfish. All other lights in the room must be turned out.

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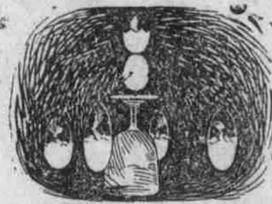
To make an egg yacht, first empty an uncooked hen's egg. Do this by making a small hole in each end, when the contents may be blown out easily. Then close up both openings with sealing wax; join a number of coins together for the keel, fasten this firmly



RACE FOR THE EGG-CUP.

to the egg—all fastenings to be made with sealing wax—and your yacht is ready for launching. If it floats properly cut out the mast and spars from very light wood; fasten these to hull and to each other with sealing wax. Place the delicate wooden rudder and bowsprit in position, and proceed to make sails of tissue paper. Fasten the main and top sails in place with prepared glue—the jib sails first to long pieces of thread, and these, in turn, to mast and bowsprit. Flags and pennants may be made to adhere with mucilage or glue. The exact dimensions of mast and spars cannot be given, as so much depends upon the lightness of the material used and the size of the egg hull. Select as large an egg as can be procured for the hull; make the mast and spars as light as possible, and see that your yacht always sets perfectly even upon the surface of the water.

To make the revolving fairy lamps, fasten to an emptied egg four slender sticks, each four inches in length. Upon the lower end of the egg fasten a tack, point downward, with sealing wax. From the tip of each stick sus-



EXQUISITE FAIRY LAMPS.

pend with delicate wire a scalloped "half-shell," and on top of the egg place another. Set the whole upon the bottom of an inverted tumbler. If rightly made it will balance perfectly upon the tack point. Place pieces of candles inside of scalloped shells and light. Wire may be fastened to the egg shells by boring a hole with the point of a penknife and then passing through wire and fastening on the inside.



EASTER JOLLYTY.

This is Very True. "There is one thing which may be said about Easter eggs," remarked Gilgal. "Say it," replied Ricketts. "They are not as fresh as they are painted."

Resignation. Mrs. Boscawen—"Is Lent a season of rest with your husband?"

Mrs. Cobwigger—"Indeed it is, my dear. I make him accompany me to church every day, and he never fails to go to sleep during the service."

His Time of Vogue. "Aguiinaldo doesn't seem to show much concern about his future." "Why should he? He can come over here and sustain life on afternoon teas for a couple of years."

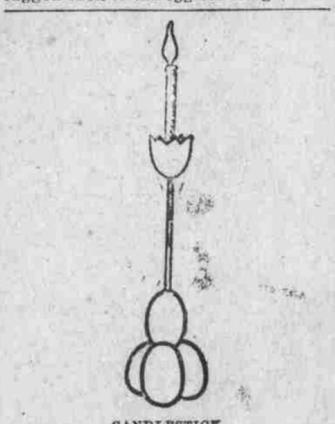


CANDLESTICK.

slender piece of tallow, taken from the side of a candle for the neck, and on top of this place a small chunky lump of the same material for a head. The pieces of tallow may be easily jointed together by first slightly melting the ends where adherence is desired. The rooster's bill is made of two small fragments of shell stuck into the tallow head. The eyes are two tiny drops of sealing wax. The comb is a piece of flattened sealing wax, and the

tail is a ragged piece of egg shell. The feet may be made of sealing wax drawn into shape while it is still soft. Night lilies may be made by first

So stainless the flowers of Easter,
All woven in looms of the light
So radiant the thoughts we would
bring him,
So pure would we stand in his sight!
Oh, lift a long chorus to praise him,
Our King who is mighty to save,
Who has ransomed from death and
destruction,
And broken the power of the grave.
To the church with our snowy sweet
blossoms,
To the bed of the sick and the sad,
To the last resting-place of our dar-
lings,
These flowers that always are glad,
For they lift in their silence and sweet-
ness,
A song without jar in its chord,
And every rich note of their music,
In praise, Easter Morn, to the Lord.



CANDLESTICK.

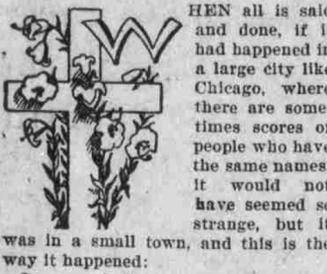
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PUREST OF NIGHT LILIES.

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NELLIE'S EASTER LILY



WHEN all is said and done, if it had happened in a large city like Chicago, where there are sometimes scores of people who have the same names, it would not have seemed so strange, but it was in a small town, and this is the way it happened:

On one of the streets where all of the houses were large and beautiful and all their owners rich, stood one house more magnificent than the rest. From the outside it looked like a palace, and the richness and beauty of the inside proved it to be one in truth.

Here lived a young woman, Nellie Graham, and her mother, father and two brothers. And here, too, her cousin, Frank Orr, made his home during his vacations from college.

On a very different street from the one where this beautiful home was lived another Nellie Graham, a little girl of eleven. Her home was a very small and humble one of only three rooms.

Her mother smiled, too, for she was thinking of the little surprise she had planned for her sick child. She had stopped at a florist's in the afternoon and ordered a small bunch of violets for Nellie; and thinking it would be a pleasanter surprise for her if they were sent, she did not bring them home herself, and so Nellie was not now expecting anything. It was a small bunch of very modest little flowers, but it was as much as her mother could afford, and oftentimes small gifts show more love than large ones.

But Frank Orr had also visited the florists that afternoon and had ordered the most beautiful Easter lily in the store to be sent to his cousin, the Nellie who lived in the beautiful house.

Toward evening the old colored man who worked for the florist was sent out to deliver the flowers that had been ordered. He had often before taken flowers to the Graham mansion for the beautiful Miss Nellie, and he also knew about the other Nellie in the little house. He had heard of her through his own little daughter, whom Nellie had once defended when some rude boys were teasing her, and he knew that she was now very sick.

"Uncle Moses," as he was called by everybody, had ideas of his own that sometimes surprised people. So now as he neared the house where the magnificent lily was to go he looked at it, then at the small bunch of violets. Something seemed to puzzle him, for he ran his fingers through his hair, then his face fairly shone as a thought came to him.

"Land o' massy! B'lieve I'll do it, suh. De names is jist alike, and Miss Nellie heah doan no mo' need dis lily dan nothin'. She got all she wants an' mo' besides, while dat other little Nel-



We carry our beautiful lilies,
Our roses and hyacinths sweet,
To strew in the path of our Saviour
And carpet the way of his feet.
They stand at the side of the altar,
Like candles to light up a room;
For the Lord of the flowers is coming
And he will be pleased with their bloom.

He once said, "Consider the lilies,"
And bade us be fearless as they
Of the stealthy, fierce step of the stranger,
Of the peril that prowled in the way,
As the lily waves perfume before her,
So sweet be our hearts at his laud,
Let us give him our all for his service,
He'll bless it, or little, or much.



lie's so sick, and likes 'nuf never'll get well. An' if dey blame me I'll say dat it seemed to me it ought to be jist dis way I'm doin'."

So Uncle Moses left the violets at the big house, and when he knocked at the door of the little house, handed Mrs. Graham the beautiful Easter lily instead of the violets she expected.

"Why, Uncle Moses, this is a mistake, isn't it?" said Nellie's mamma.

"Doan dis card tied to it say 'Miss Nellie Graham'?" asked Uncle Moses, chuckling to himself.

"Yes, but—"

"Den it must be for Nellie, an' yuh bettah take it."

So Mrs. Graham took the lily, thinking perhaps the florist had sent it purposely as a gift to the sick child, and on Monday she would go to the store and thank him for it, and if it was a mistake they could send the lily back, but Nellie could enjoy it all day Easter, anyway.

She carried the lily into Nellie's room. "Oh, mamma! Am I dreaming? My lily! My beautiful lily! And is it all my own?"

Mamma cut off one of the six white blossoms so Nellie could hold it in her hand, and in the afternoon, as the sun peeped in to look at the white face, it saw the most beautiful, happy smile on Nellie's face, while her thin hand clasped her loved lily.

From that day Nellie got better, and no one can make her believe that it was not the Easter lily that helped her get well, and Uncle Moses never regretted that there were two Nellie Grammys in that town.—Mabel F. Scofield, in the Chicago Record-Herald.



"MY BEAUTIFUL LILY! IS IT ALL MY OWN?"

something fell from her eye onto the dish she had in her hand, for she knew how much Nellie longed to have one of the beautiful plants for her own, and she also knew that Nellie's wish could not be granted, for the plants were so high-priced that year, and every dollar that she could save must be laid aside for the rent that was now over-due. Nellie knew this, too, so she tried not to complain.

"If I could only see one and touch and smell it, even if I couldn't keep it!" she said. "And the brightest smile that had lit up the little thin face for weeks played around Nellie's mouth.

