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HOW TO CLEAN OILCLOTH. Methods Recommended in The Industrial

Never use soap in the water when cleaning officioth. It fades she colors and breaks up the paint. Ammenia slee is to be avoided, because it gives the cloth a dull, dead look. If a brush is used it should be a soft one but it is better not to use any, except in cases when the olicloth has been long neglected or poorly washed for some time previously. Take a clean fiannel cloth and apply clean warm water, which is finally to be removed by scaking it up into the house flammel again after it has been wrung out. The oilcloth is then wiped dry with another piece of clean fiannel. After the viicioth has become thoroughly dry, apply to it some warm linseed oil. The housekeeper who tries this for the first time will probably use too much, and make the cloth so sticky that every article of dust will adhere to it. Only a very little is to be used and slightly rubbed into the cloth, giving it a handsome gloss. Skimmed milk is sometimes used in place of oil, and it gives the cloth a beautiful gloss. Too frequent washing, no matter how well it is done, will not improve oilcloth in the end. Usually this is the kind of treatment it receives, for few housewives seem to recognise the difference between dusty offcloth and a dirty one, and treat both the same. After it has had a thorough sweeping, if it looks dull and dusty, go over it, a little at a time, with a dry moneight, and it will look as bright as though washed, and will wear a great deal

Much of the table glass is in old English shapes and cuttings. Mauve has been a fashionable color in Paris all season, and new we have menya glass. The new forms in "glass vases are slender and columnar. Shell-Mice bodies mounted on standards. with handles tipped with gold, are seen. Pierced work is now in such vogue that the newest lamps have great globelike bodies of pierced metal mounted on columnar standards of marble, enamel and

There are decided novelties in silver fruit dishes. One is a low, round bowl with raised and perforated work. A fruit dish intended for an apple or two, a few peaches and a bunch of grapes and suitable for cream lace and finished with a pretty only a very small dinner is platelike and mounted on a central standard. The edge of the receptacle is a rich band of raised silk or shot glace, and with immense work with perforations, and the dish has a sleeves and perhaps a plaited frill round distinct stamp of elegance. A large flaring fruit dish diss a smooth surface, and the ornamentation is formed by the perforations. Some fruit bowls are basin abanal with raised flutes half way up, and a plain lustrous border above. Artistic laf spoons grow in numbers every day. A specimen is a lily leaf for the bowl and two twisted tendrils with buds for the

Pickled Pears. The little brown Seekel pear is incomparably the best for the following pickle, acsording to a writer in Good Housekeep-"To one quart of vinegar put 21% pounds of augus, and for apiece a tablespoonful met st ground charmon and mace, half that amount of cloves, a pinch of mustard seed said a small piece of ginger. To this put five pounds of fruit, cover and simmer until tender. Then take out the pears, cook the sirup down, pour over the fruit and seal in glass jars."

An Grange Bestert. Prepare some oranges by cutting them about a third of the way from the top and taking out the pulp. With these make a jelly. Following is a good: recipe for it: Soak half a box of gelatin in a cup of cold water. When soft, add two teacups of boiling water. When entirely dissolved, add one teacup of sugar, the juice of six oranges and two lemons. Strain this. Fill the grange skins with this jelly replace the upper part and tie with a narrow ribbon.

### Anchory Eggs.

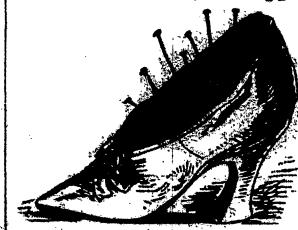
Boil three fresh eggs for ten minutes, allow them to cool, then peel and cut in halves. Carefully scoop out the yolk, and mix with it a tablespoonful of cream and a teaspoonful of anchovy paste. Beat these ingredients well together, and then fill each little half egg with the mixture. Piace the corsing cool over for a few minutes, and then serve when cold on a dish strewn with mustard and cress.

### Banana Shortcake.

Cream one-half cup butter and one cup of sugar, stir in one beaten egg, half a cup of milk two cure of flour and two teaspoonfuls of baking powder. Bake in two robe is quite the latest thing there. spread a pint of whipped cream sweetened to taste, into which has been stirred one large banana sliced very thin. Lay the other over it and serve hot.

A Pretty French Knickknack. This little novelty in way of a pincushion has its ministure shoe foundation cut out in cardboard and covered with yel-

The cushion is stuffed with bran and fastened inside the shoe with strong glue.



A SHOE PINCUSHION. It is covered in ruby velvet, while the bow is an artistic combination of the two colors, and forms an attractive and useful knickknack for the toilet table.

Escalloped Cauliflowe Parboil a head which has been broken into small pieces. Butter a pudding dish and place in it a layer of cauliflower, then create sauce and grated theese, then another layer of capliflower. Alternate in this way until the dish is full, then cover with bread crumbe and bits of butter. Bake twenty minutes.

Ohlokon Tonat Take two takespressfuls of cold chicken. the panel flux. Builts on Michael water to make a cupful of the whole; thicken alightly with constant in maked butter, your was author of study topsed bread

NEW EVENING BODICES.

Zouave and Eton Jackets of Lace to Be

Worn Over Colored Slips. Among the new evening bodices hardly anything prettier can be found than the model illustrated here, which is made of soft black silk, with a yoke of the same material in pale blue, covered with a dainty trellis work of narrow black ribbons studded with small jet, sequins. The sleeves are made in the favorite fashionfull and baggy at the top, but tight in the lower part-and the flounce around the shoulders is black lace. The deep belt is black silk and the buckle gold. A pretty bodice for full dress occasions is of cream surah silk, the fullness of which is drawn under a deep belt like that of the one just described. The neck is cut low and quite round and trimmed with a frill of cream lace embroidered with pearls.



Other becoming bodices are of soft, delicate colored silks, closely veiled with lace or the new spider web net. A good example is in pale blue, entirely covered with corselet belt of black velvet ribbons. Dressy blouses for day wear are of tartan the shoulders. One of the most delightful adjuncts to evening dress are the lace zouave and Eton jackets trimmed with bright ribbons. These are intended to be worn over colored slips. A pretty zonave is in cream lace, with short sleeves of the same, mixed with peach colored ribbons and a peach colored sash. A lovely combination for a tea jacket is moss green and coral pink, and a new model is of coral surah, with a moss green velvet band round the collar, waist and bottom of each sleeve. It has a lace corselet, a rather deep lace

Fashion Ignores the Stout Woman. It is a painful thing to inform the stou woman that fashion is treating her with greater neglect than ever. But such is the case. In fact the people who make the new things seem

flounce below the waistband, lace ruffles

hanging from the sleeves, and a soft, light

bow at the neck. Another jacket is cream

surah, with a deep row of narrow tucks,

forming a sort of Swiss belt, and lace trim-



what with short waisted evening dresses. sashes shoulder frills and big sleeves it is difficult to see what the poor thing will do pres-

rock in the illustration will be one of the prevailing styles for evening wear, and surely no one would like in a dress like

A PARIS EVENING GOWN, that. It may be made of flowered brocade, with a yoke of embroidered net, and watered ribbon sash, or of crepon or silk crape over silk, with sleeves and yoke of brocade. The sleeves would, to most eyes, be prettier if finished with frills of cream lace. This sketch came from Paris, and the designer of it tells that this kind of simple, short waisted

### Items About Bridal Gowns.

Ivory satin makes a much more becom ing wedding dress than dead white brocade, its beautiful soft sheen not being half so trying to the wearer's face, which. as a rule, is either extremely red or absolutely without color.

A lovely wedding gown worn recently was of ivory satin and had an empire velvet belt, fastened in front with a diamond clasp, and large velvet sleeves with deep lace frills. The bodice was cut a little low at the throat and lightly trimmed with lace, and the skirt had a moderate train.

The New Gold Bracelets. The new gold bracelets are extremely pretty. They are sectional, but closely fit-ting. Some of these are covered with raised work and have the appearance of a continous band; others have the folded tape designs seen in sleeve buttons; others, knots of gold and platinum. An altogether new design is a scalelike arrangement of oval coins.

Fashion's Echoes. Magenta pink is one of the new shades for evening dress.

Shot serge-is becoming and serviceable material for a winter dress. Moire antique in shot effects is to have a revival, to replace satin for handsome

POWILS.

The new shot velvets and shot sating will be much used for trimming gowns and bonnets. The broad empire belt of folded silk or eatin is giving way to a deep correlet belt

formed of inch wide velvet ribbon. New evening bodices are very light and lacy in appearance, and are usually orns. mented with either bibs or frills of lace. The latest item from Paris is concerning a seamlese dress akirt made from a double bride on her father's or guardian's arm. width of material just manufactured. The The groom enters the church through the

FILTRATION OF WATER.

House Filters That Are Breeding Places for Organisms of Disease. Filtration which is a mere straining—as

for an example, continuous filtration through sand or animal charcoal-may clarify a water without otherwise improving it in any respect, and if after a time the filter becomes foul the water may be polluted rather than improved, according to Dr. W. G. Tucker, who regards with disfavor most of the old fish loned filtering appliances, which not only gave a false sense of security, but often served as breeding places for the grawth of living organisms. A house filter which is not easily cleaned is an abordination, being generally allowed to take onre of itself and in time becoming a source of real danger. A few years ago a case of no little inter-

est was reported. Two samples of water were analyzed for a family, in which one member was ill with typlioid favor. One of the samples was from the bouse supply direct, and the other was the same water filtered through a portable charecal filter of the common type. This latter sample vielded a much larger amount of albuminoid ammonia than the former, decolorized five times as much permanganate of potassium, and was in every respect objectionable. On inquiry it was learned that the filter had been in use for more than a year, and that in the place where the owner had formerly resided he had found the water so bad that he had made use of it to filter that which he used for his bath. Filters which allow of easy cleaning by reversed currents of water are free from most of the objections attending the use of the older forms.

### Hints on the Care of the Eyesight. Dr. L. W. Fox gives the following in The

Franklin Institute Journal: Avoid sudden changes from dark to brilliant light. Avoid the use of stimulants and drugs

which affect the nervous system. Avoid reading when lying down or when mentally and physically exhausted. When the eyes feel tired rest them by

looking at objects at a long distance. Pay especial attention to the hygiene of the body, for that which tends to promote the general health acts beneficially upon the eye.

Do not depend on your own judgment in selecting spectacles. Old persons should avoid reading much by artificial light, be guarded as to diet and avoid sitting up late at night. After fifty, bathe the eyes morning and evening with water so hot that you wonder

how you stand it; follow this with cold water that will make them glow with Do not give up in despair when you are informed that a cataract is developing; remember that in these days of advanced surgery it can be removed with little or no

danger to vision.

Cracked Ice for Invalids. One thing there is that many nurses apparently do not know, and that is, according to a writer in the Philadelphia Ledger, the value of cracked ice in cases where a prolonged drink of any fluid is next to an impossibility. Finely cracked ice, administered in a teaspoonful of champagne or brandy, has been the rallying point for many a sinking patient, or the ice alone, finely crushed, so that it simply melts away in the mouth, trickling down the throat rather than being swallowed as a draft, is a most useful stimulant. The use of ice itself is quite a different matter from deluging the stomach with a cold fluid. The melted ice is not of the ice water temperature when it is swallowed. People who take cracked ice get the stimulus of ice upon the nerves of the month and tongue, and not the flooding by water of



the feeble throat and stomach.

# WEDDING PRELIMINARIES.

Announcement of the Engagement, Choice of Maids, Best Man, Etc. It is decidedly better form for a gentle-

man to gain a parent's or guardian's consent before offering himself to a young lady, especially is it deemed necessary, writes a lady of society and fashion in a little handbook on manners, if he be in moderate circumstances and the lady wealthy. When the engagement is formally settled, the near relatives: and, most intimate friends are first informed by the mother or young lady herself. A dinner is generally given by the parents, to which some of the relatives of both families are invited. Subsequent dinners are apt to be given by the relatives and intimate friends to the engaged couple.

The gentleman's parents, relatives or friends call as speedily as possible upon the young lady and her parents or guard-

The wedding day is usually selected by the bride elect and her mother, and the arrangement for the wedding, the trousseau or bridal outfit, the breakfast or reception, the choice of bridesmaids, the style Lately it has become the fashion to curtail the length of engagements, and unless there is a prospect of the marriage taking place within six months the annonncement of the engagement had better not be made public.

Bridesmaids are selected from the families of the bride and groom, and from the intimate friends of the bride, the maid of honor being the sister of the bride or the most intimate unmarried friend. Groom. best man and usher should dress according to the hour of the day in the same fashion as for any other entertainment, but they should be dressed as nearly alike as possible. The best man is the choice of the groom elect—usually his brother or most intimate friend.

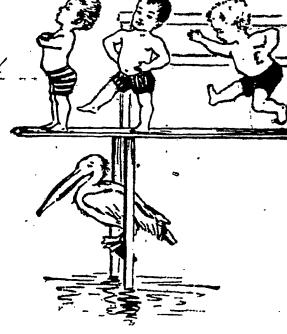
Ushers are selected by the gentleman, though the lady is usually consulted in the choice. Six is the number ordinarily, and their duties are to show people to seats in the church and to present the guests to the bride and groom at the wedding reception. The unbern walk up the church nide in pairs, then the heldesmaids, followed by the long heralded fuller and shorter walking vestry door, followed by his best man, who skirt is also seen in the new Parisies imstands beside him during the comment, holds bis bet, etc.



THE BYCKERING BIRD.

A Ballad of Three Merry Little Men Whe Looked Before They Leaped. It was three merry little men-Not one had reached the age of ten-Who, disregarding every warning, Set out to bathe one summer morning.

"Boware the fricksome fish's jaws. The crafty lobster's clinging claws. You think you're strong and able men But if they snap, where are you then?



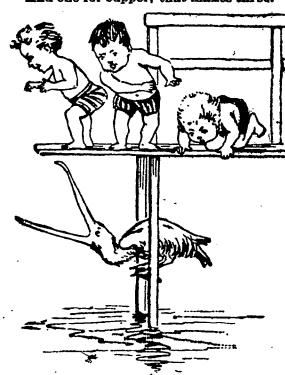
THEY LAUGHED AT DANGER. "And heed, oh, boys, this parting word— Beware, beware the Byckering Bird. If he presents his little bill You may, in sooth, fare very ill."

Our merry men skipped off with glee,

And each one cried: "They shan't catch me For we can swim, and we can dive. And fear no bird or fish alive. "And if a lobster comes our way, We'll take him by his claws and say,

'Be you alive or be you dead, You shall be boiled until you're red.'" The sea was calm as calm could be: They laughed at danger, did our three; The Byckering Bird, who lurked below, Laughed to himself: "Ho, ho! Ho, ho!

"I know they're young, I think they're fa And tender, too, I quite hope that. One for my dinner, one for tea, And one for supper; that makes three!"



ISH LITTLE MEN, YOU WELL MAY SHRIEK "Come, let us jump! Oh, what's down Rash little men, you well may stare;

You well may shiver, you well may shrick At sight of that long and gaping beak. Now see them fly as if they'd wings, Poor little foolish frightened things, While a fisher bold, so I have heard, Knocked on the head the Byckering Bird.

An Amusing Parlor Game. "Let us play at 'I've been to Paris,' "said Millie. "All of you sit in a circle," and the chairs were quickly arranged and all

the children and Aunt Pollie seated on "I've been to Paris," said Allan to his right hand next door neighbor.

"What did you buy?" asked the neighbor, who happened to be Bob.

"A pair of scissors," said Allan, moving the thumb and first finger of his right hand backward and forward to imitate the working of a pair of scissors. "I've been to Paris." said Bob to his

neighbor, Audrey. "And what did you buy?" said Andrey. "A pair of scissors," said Bob, imitating Allan. And the question and answer were asked by each one until all the children and Aunt Pollie, too, were busy moving

their thumbs and first fingers, imitating the scissors. When Allan was asked the second time what he bought in Paris, he replied, "A left hand as though he were fanning himself, and as the question and answer were passed round the circle each one imitated him, moving the left hand for the fan and the right for the scissors.

Aunt Pollie began to laugh, when, on the question being asked a third time. Allan began rocking himself backward and forward to imitate a rocking horse. And before that round was finished most of the children were laughing too. It certainly did look very ridiculous to see fourteen people fanning themselves, rocking backward and forward, and moving

their fingers. "I've been to Paris," said Allan at last, for the fourth time. "And what did you buy?" said Bob. "I do hope you didn't spend any more money.'

"I bought a pair of scissors, a fan, a rocking horse and a cuckoo," cried Allan, imof wedding, etc., are all left to the bride's itating the call of the bird. And this time the question and answer did not pass round the circle and reach Allan's left hand neighbor, for there was so much noise with "cuckooing" and laughing and Aunt Pollie was so much out of breath that it was no use trying to play any more, and the game had to be stopped.

> Mrs. Wasp and Mrs. Bec. Said Mrs. Wasp to Mrs. Bee: "Will you, favor do me? There's something I can't understand, Please, ma'am, explain it to me. "Why do men build for you a house,

And coax you to go in it, While me-your cousin-they'll not let Stay near them for a minute? "I have a sting, I do confess. And should not like to lose it:

But so have you, and when you're vered

I'm very sure you use it." Well," said the bee, "to you no doubt.

It does seem rather funny; But people soon forget the stings Of those who give them honey." -American Bee Journal

The new brocades have watered grounds shot with two or three colors, and bold eathe stripes streaked with hair lines in



PHANTON LIGHTS.

itrange Fancies in Connection with Light

alne and Elekts at Bos. The lightning which is seen at see illuminating the sky on a summer's night has not escaped the notice of the folklorist. and various forecasts have been drawn from its appearance. Indeed all kinds of strange stories have long been current in connection with lights seen at sead some of which have a tragic element. A Welsh legend tells of a phantom that which appears at times on the beach and generally before a shipwreck, and in Cornwall amilar stories are told by the fishermen. Thus, on the Cornish coast a light is occasionally said to be seen hovering mysteriously about around a certain stone locally known as Madge Figg's chair. According to common report, this light, is the ghost of a wrecked lady whom Madge stripped of her-

On the same coast phantom lights, called Jack Harry, are so named from the man who discovered them, and Hunt gives the following narrative concerning them: "Some five years ago, on a Sunday night, the wind being strong, our crew heard of a large vessel in the offing, after we came out of chapel. We manned our boat—the Ark-and away we went, the sea going over us at a sweet rate. We had gone off four or five miles, and we thought we were up alongside, when lo! she slipped to windward a league or more." Another search was made after her, but she slipped away again and was lost to sight. Numerous references occur in the literature of the past to these strange lights seen at see, and Moore in his "Lallah Rookh" tells how

Lights, like charnel meteors, burned the distant wave Bluely as o'er some seaman's grave; And flery darts, at intervals,

Flew up, all sparkling from the main. Such electrical phenomena at sea were, in days gone by, converted into indications of the guardian presence of St. Elmo, a patron saint of the sailor, in relation to which we find many curious superstitious fancies, which the meteorological science of the present century has not dispelled. French sailors call St. Elmo's light the "Wandering Candle," and with German fishermen it is the spirit of a departed comrade. According to the popular opinion of the seafaring community, "so long as St. Elmo's light shines on the mast's head the vessel is under the guidance of this aerial demigod; but, if it descends, a gale of wind the severity being indicated by the depth of its descent." Longfellow in his "Golden Legend," mentions this well known phe-

Last night I saw St. Elmo's stars, With their glimmering lanterns all at play, On the top of the masts and the tips of the spars. And I knew we should have foul weather to-

Origin of the Violin. The origin of the violin can be traced back to a stringed instrument called the ravenastron, invented, it is believed, in 5000 B. C. by Ravena, king of Ceylon. The cryth, which was in use in Wales long before the Sixth century, and to which the Anglo-Saxons gave the name of fythel. whence our fiddle, was a similar instrument. The violin of modern form was not made until the Fifteenth or Sixteenth century, and its earliest maker was Gaspard di Salo, of Lombardy, and the Italian school of violin making was probably

founded by him at Brescia. These Bres-

cian instruments still hold a place among the best ever made. It was not long, however, after the establishment of the Brescian school when the makers of Cremona began to produce instruments which have been objects of wonder and admiration from their time to the present. The three greatest Cremonese A. makers were Nicholas Amati, Joseph Guarneri del Gesu and Antonius Stradivarius. To those who at the present time willingly pay hundreds and even thousands of dollars for a violin made by one of these great makers it may be of interest to know that they all were simple, hardworking artisans, who sold their works of genius for a few florins.

### Popular Superstitions.

We all laugh at superstitions, and yet the most of us feel at least uncomfortable when we find that we have sat thirteen at the table, or have seen the moon over our left shoulders, or have done any of the thousand and one things that are supposed to portend evil. The most sensible and practical people in the world will often take particular pains to skim off a patch pair of scissors and a fan," and moved his of bubbles that has risen to the top of their tea, because some one in jest has said it is a "sure sign of money."

It requires a distinct effort for many persons to pass a pin on the sidewalk because of that absurdly bad rhyme:

See a pin and pick it up. All the day you'll have good luck. If at the table a little salt is spilled be-

tween two people the way to avoid a quarrel is for each to take a pinch and throw it over his left shoulder. Salt always has seemed a wonderfully powerful mineral from the time when we were small. Which of us when a child did not firmly believe in that old joke about putting salt on a bird's

Drug Store Names. The following from The Bulletin of Pharmacy illustrates the funny bluffs given the dictionary by the pharmacists: Oil of vitriol is not oil.

Salts of lemon has nothing to do with a lemon, but is a salt of the extremely poisonous oxalic acid.

Soda water contains no soda. Sulphuric ether contains no sulphur. Sugar of lead has nothing to do with sugar, nor has cream of tartar anything to do with cream.

Oxygen means "the acid generator," but

hydrogen is really the essential element, and many acids contain oxygen. German silver contains no silver, and black lead contains no lead. Wormseed is unexpanded flower buds. Milk of lime has no milk.

Quicksliver is pure mercury. Origin of Drinking Healths.

Here is one of the several statements made on the subject of the origin of the very common custom of "drinking healths." In the days when the Danes lorded it in England they had a very common habit of stabbing Englishmen in the mon habit of stabbing Englishmen in the Scientific American throat when drinking. To avoid this villainy a man when drinking would request some of the sittersby to be his pledge or surety while taking his draft. Hence



Epileptic Fits, Falling Sickness, Hysterics, St. Vitus Dance, Nervousness, Hypochondria, Melancholla, Inebrity, Sleeplessness, Dirziness. Brain and Spinai Weakness.

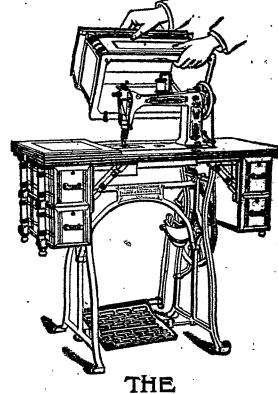
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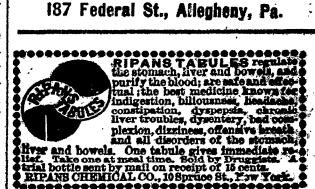
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