

Don't permit your palate to get your stomach into trouble.

Taking in fresh air is healthier than putting on fresh airs.

When you give health for money you exchange wealth for trash.

Have thought for the capacity of the baby's stomach; it is not built or operated to suit the mistaken notions of fond but ignorant mothers.

### OPEN THE DOORS

A bright, intellectual mother told me how she had grieved over the fact that her only son seemed to positively dislike reading in any form. One day, after she had been urging him to read a new book which she had purchased for him, the boy said earnestly, 'Mother, I'll read it if you will start it for me. I can't bear to start on a new book by myself. I feel just as I do when I have to walk up to a house and ring the bell. If some one I know opens the door and makes me feel welcome I'm all right, but I couldn't walk in alone. Won't you open the door of this book?' My friend said that she sat down with her boy and read the first three chapters aloud, and after his interest had been aroused he plunged into it with his whole heart, and could hardly lay it down until he had finished it. After that the mother always read aloud the first chapter of a new book, and she had no further complaint to make of her boy's dislike for reading, but even now, when he is a great boy, a graduate of the high school, he likes best to read new books with his mother. I tell this little incident because I have heard other mothers lamenting the fact that their children do not care to read, no matter how much good literature is purchased. Perhaps other children have this same feeling of timidity about entering the realms of history or fiction; and what a privilege it is for mothers to be able to open the doors which will lead their children into the paths of all that is purest and best in literature! The time spent in giving a child a taste for good reading is well spent, so never be too busy to open the door to new books.

### SING A SONG OF SIXPENCE

'Sing a Song of Sixpence' was sung by boys and girls as long ago as the time of James I. of England, 1603. The 'four and twenty blackbirds baked in a pie' are the twenty-four hours of the day. When 'the pie was cut'—that is, when the day opens—the birds begin to sing. So you see the simple rhymes were intended merely to illustrate a natural phenomenon.

### A THING OVERLOOKED

It is the fashion of the day to attribute all splendid results to genius and culture. But genius and culture are not enough. The quality of simple manhood, and the universal human traits which form the bond of union between man and man—which form the basis of society, of the family, of government, of friendship—are quite overlooked; and the credit is given to some special faculty or to a brilliant and lucky hit.

### FAMILY FUN

To Find a Number Thought of.—This is an arithmetical puzzle which, to those who are unacquainted with it, seems very surprising; but, when explained, it is very simple. There are various methods, of which the following is an example:—Ask a person to think of any number under 10; when he says he has done so, request him to multiply it by 3, add 1, multiply by 3, add to this the number thought of. Let him inform you what is the number produced; it will end with 3. Strike off the 3, and inform him that he thought of the remaining number.

## On the Land

The Departmental report on afforestation states that during the year the operations were very satisfactory. In the four nurseries 8,951,045 trees were raised from seed, and 7,588,285 trees were sent to the plantations. The acreage under plantations was increased by 2600 acres, making a total of 16,310 acres planted since the commencement of operations. The stock of trees in the nurseries at March 31, 1911, was 21,786,740, and of this number about nine million were to be transferred to the plantations during the winter.

At Burnside last week there was a large yarding (195) of fat cattle. The sale started with prices if anything a little better than those ruling at the previous sale, and although it was anticipated that, owing to the large yarding, prices would be easier towards the end of the sale, the market was firm throughout. Quotations: Best bullocks, £12 to £13 10s; extra, to £14 17s 6d; medium, £10 10s to £11 15s; best heifers, £8 to £9; extra, to £11 17s 6d. There was a yarding of 4086 fat sheep, composed chiefly of prime wethers, with a few pens of medium quality ewes. Prices for really prime heavy wethers were about 1s per head above previous week's prices, while medium and unfinished sorts were close on 1s easier. Quotations: Prime wethers, 22s to 24s; extra, to 26s; medium, 18s 6d to 20s 6d; light, 12s 9d to 16s 6d. Owing to the small yarding of pigs, competition was keen throughout, and consequently prices were better than those ruling at the previous sale.

The subdivision of land is still proceeding within a radius of some miles of Hawera. Here is an instance (says the *Taranaki News*). One farm was originally 313 acres, but it has been recently cut up, and is now carrying four separate families. This also shows the rapid tendency towards closer settlement in that portion of the Dominion. The prices resulting in the subdivision averaged £61 15s per acre. One piece of 50 acres, with nothing on it but a live fence and no subdivisions, changed hands at £60 per acre. The absence of all improvements furnishes a correct view of the value which buyers and settlers placed upon the actual soil, which is said to be one of the finest pieces of land in Taranaki. It is reckoned that the 50 acres will carry 40 cows, and of the 50 acres probably five will be broken up each year for cultivation.

At Addington there was a fairly large yarding of stock and a good attendance of buyers. There was no change in the values of fat cattle. Store sheep were irregular, hoggets being easier. Fat sheep showed an easier tendency, many wethers being down from 2s to 3s per head. Fat pigs were much dearer. There were 240 head of cattle penned of fair average quality. Notwithstanding the yarding being smaller than of late, the demand was not keen, and a number of lots were passed over. Steers made £7 17s 6d to £11; extra, to £14 5s; heifers, £5 15s to £10 17s 6d. The entry of fat sheep was large. At the opening of the sale prices showed a decline on late rates, heavy sheep being easier by 2s to 3s per head. The market became a little firmer towards the close, but prices generally were 1s to 2s below previous week's rates. The range of prices was: Prime wethers, 22s to 27s 6d; others, 16s 3d to 21s 6d; prime ewes, 18s to 23s; extra, to 24s 6d; others, 13s to 17s 6d. The yarding of store sheep was of a mixed character. Hoggets formed the larger proportion, the balance being chiefly ewes. For two-tooth ewes on offer there was a good demand at firm rates, but other classes were dull of sale. There was a small entry of fat pigs, and prices showed a sharp rise. The sale was one of the best held for some time. Choppers made up to £5 15s; heavy baconers, 60s to 70s; and lighter, 50s to 57s 6d (equal to 5½d, and in some cases up to 6d per lb).

For Children's Hacking Cough at night,  
Woods' Great Peppermint Cure, 1s 6d, 2s 6d.