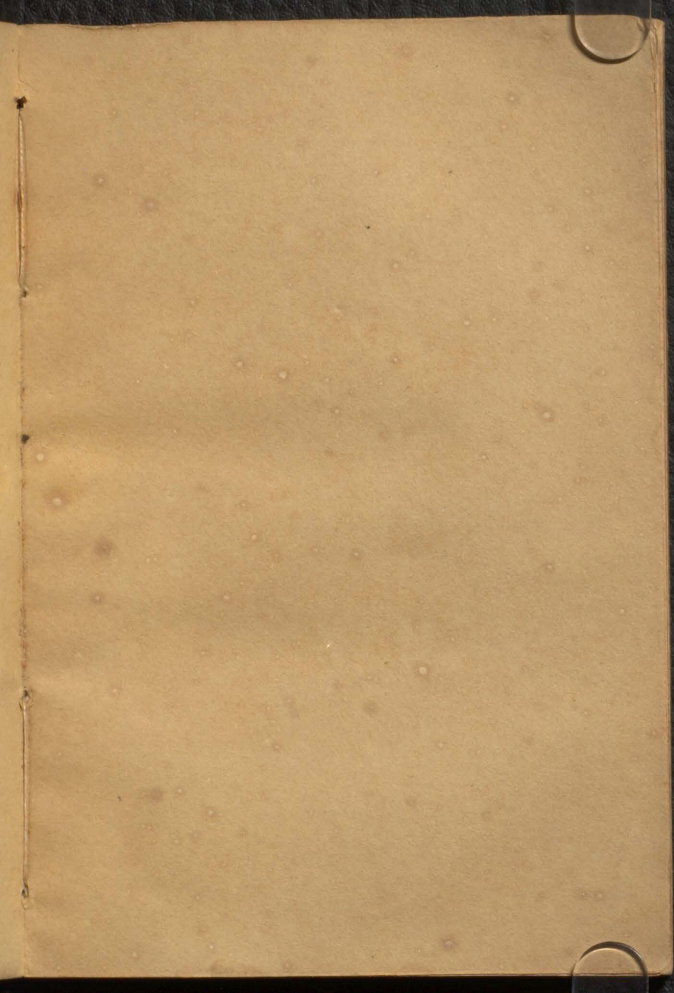


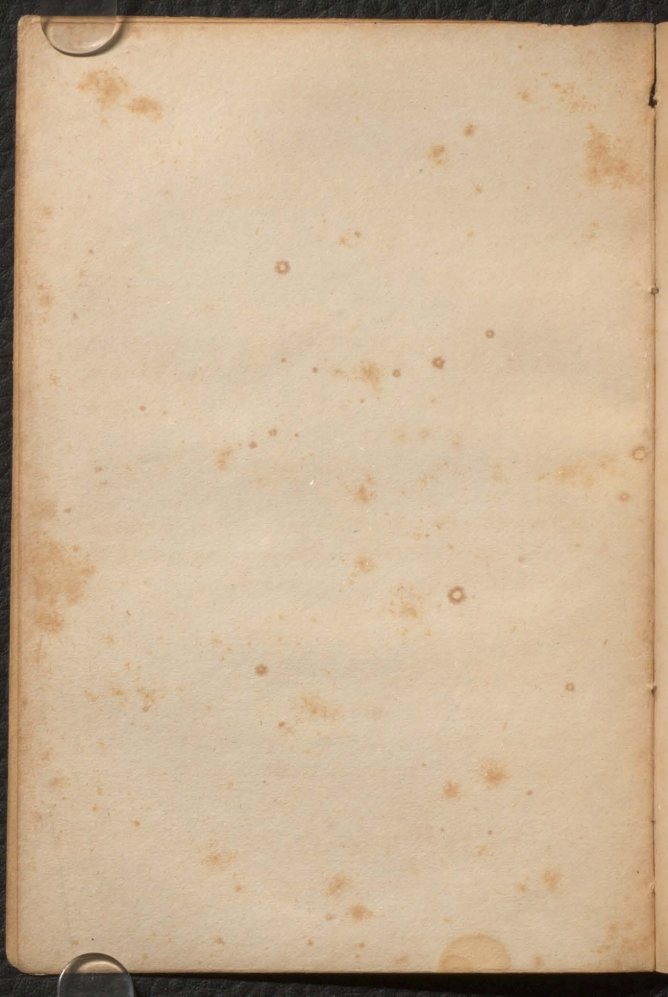
B.A.B.Y.



LINEN.







THE
LADIES' HAND-BOOK
OF
BABY LINEN:

CONTAINING

PLAIN AND AMPLE INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PREPARA-
TION OF AN INFANT'S WARDROBE.

WITH ADDITIONS BY AN AMERICAN LADY.

NEW YORK:
J. S. REDFIELD, CLINTON HALL.

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INTRODUCTION.

AMONG all the events, which cast their lights and shadows over human life, no one is more calculated to call forth serious, and at the same time, pleasurable sensations, than the birth of an infant. In all ages, the introduction into life, of a being, perfectly helpless, but endowed with faculties capable of exhibiting the most extraordinary phenomena, has been regarded with peculiar interest, and hailed with rapture and delight. We find decided traces of this feeling in the records of tradition which have come down to us; and the sentiment was exhibited with considerable energy in the brightest eras of Grecian and Roman history. But the event has become invested with ten-fold importance, as exhibited in the light, and under the influence of revelation. It was the highest glory of a Jewish parent to be the progenitor of a numerous offspring, while to be doomed to barren-

ness, was deemed the direst misfortune that could befall the Israelitish female. Christianity has invested the subject with still higher sanctities ; and has taught us to consider the helpless babes, who claim our sympathy and tenderest care, as not only the heirs of immortality, but also as the peculiar favorites of Heaven. We see the Incarnate LORD taking infants into his arms and blessing them ; we hear him declare that it was not the will of their heavenly Father that "one of these little ones should perish." And the same delightful truth was, in tones of triumph and exultation, proclaimed to the penitent multitude by St. Peter, on the day of Pentecost, "the promise," he says, "is unto you, and to your children ;" in accordance with which, they have been, from the earliest times, admitted by baptism as members of the Christian church.

It must be admitted, that these considerations are, in themselves, amply sufficient to invest the entrance of a babe into our world, with a feeling of deep and pleasurable interest, to every rightly-formed mind. But there are also minor considerations, which are by no means devoid

of interest. The child, whose infant cries call forth our sympathy, may come to maturity; and, according to the training it receives, the principles it imbibes, and the examples it is taught to follow, must become either a blessing or a curse to the sphere in which it moves. In that little embryo human being, are lodged, faculties and powers, which if rightly directed, may tend to the further development of art, the perfection of science, or the adornment of the literature of the age and country. He may charm an audience to virtue by his powers of eloquence, "break the rod of the oppressor" by his fervid and devoted patriotism, or allure the rebel spirit back to its God and Savior, by his Christian zeal and fervent piety. Or should the babe, whose entrance upon the stage of time demands our assiduity and care, be of the feebler sex, how transcendently glorious does the prospect become, on the supposition that her feminine endowments are directed into their proper channels, by a father's enlightened judgment, and a mother's warm and well-regulated affections. Thus trained, under the influence of practical piety, and judicious parental love,

she will indeed become "like a corner stone, polished after the similitude of a palace;" and to her, in all probability, will become strictly applicable, the delightful picture drawn of the virtuous matron, by the wise king of Israel: "Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also; and he praiseth her. Give her of the fruits of her hands, and let her own works praise her in the gate."

Under the influence of these sentiments, the following pages have been prepared, and are now presented to those who have a reasonable ground of expectation that, at no distant period, they will be called upon to sustain the important and arduous character of mothers. As to the utility of the work, that will be decided by those for whose assistance it has been composed. The aim of the author has been to make the various directions at once concise and clear; and, at the same time, to give an elevated moral tone to the whole, worthy of the subject treated.

"Hail, mother, hail! To thee, thy God has given
A babe to train, for virtue, use, and heaven."

B A B Y L I N E N .

CHAPTER I.

NECESSARY ARTICLES FOR THE FIRST DRESS OF AN INFANT.

IN making up the linen, necessary for the health and comfort of the expected stranger, it is impossible not to develop some of the most precious and ennobling feelings of the human heart. The aid of mothers, sisters, and friends, is called into active requisition. Fathers and brothers evince an increased interest, as the anticipated event approaches, and the fond husband feels his heart beat with added quickness, as he sees each article assume its appropriate finish, and become deposited in its appointed place, till the moment redolent with hope, though chastened by an affectionate fear, shall

make him the joyful parent of an infant heir of immortality.

In the midst of this pleasing activity, much care is needed that the various portions of the infant's dress may be not only prepared, but so prepared as to reflect credit upon those who had the charge of making them, and to secure the greatest possible degree of comfort to the helpless babe. Everything should be made of suitable materials, and be put together with the utmost neatness. It is most disgraceful, to all concerned, to see the linen for a baby made up in an untidy or careless manner; and it evinces a want of proper feeling, which we hope none of our fair readers are capable of exhibiting. But, with the utmost care, sometimes things are done wrong, from want of the necessary experience; and it is with this conviction that we now present to the mother expectant, and her anxious friends, such plain directions, as will materially aid them in the proper performance of their delightful task. Before entering upon any description of particular articles, we wish to remark in general, that in making up, care should be taken not to have any hard

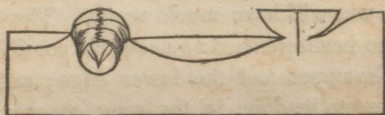
seams, or ridges, in any part of a garment, that can by possibility press upon the tender skin and flesh of the infant. All articles should be so made, as to be put on, and taken off, with the greatest ease possible; and as the use of pins is extremely dangerous, all the parts of the dress should be provided with strings, buttons, or hooks and eyes, which should invariably be put on, on the outside. These general remarks will be admitted to be just and necessary by all who have had any experience in the care and management of infants. We now proceed to give a list of the articles necessary for the first dress of a baby, and to give plain instructions for the preparation of each.

The first dress of a new-born infant should consist of the following body garments: shirts; flannel bands; flannel caps; night and day caps; napkins; bed-gowns; night and day flannels; first day gowns; petticoats; robes; flannel cloak; flannel shawl; pinafores; pilchers; socks; hood and cloak: these, we now proceed to describe, in detail.

SHIRTS.—The material is cambric, lawn, or cotton-cloth; and the quantity necessary to

make twelve shirts, according to the following directions, is six yards and ten nails. The depth of the shirt, which is to be cut down the selvage, is five and a half nails; and the length, which is to be cut in the width, is eleven nails. You cut off the bodies, and, folding one down the middle, fold it again, so as to have the quarters equally divided. You then cut a slit for the arm-holes, one and a half nails deep, down the two quarter-doubles, from which, have three quarters of a nail for the shoulder space, and slit down the back and front flaps one nail. You cut the sleeves down the selvage, making them in length one and a quarter nails, and two and a half nails in width; the gusset is exactly one nail, and the sleeve is to be set in, and fulled in very small gathers at the top. All the seams must be as flat as possible, and as narrow as they can be made. The bottom of the shirt, if not a selvage, must be hemmed neatly with a narrow hem, as must also the side and the flaps. In hemming the latter, care must be taken, so to do it, that when turned down, the hem may appear the right side out. The shoulders are to be neatly seam-

ed and felled, and the sleeves hemmed, and two strings of a proper length are to be sewn on to the corners of the flap in front. The accompanying plate shows a very pretty pattern. It is composed of fine lawn frilled with French cambric.



The epaulet is hemmed to turn over the sleeve, and frilled, and the seam on the shoulder and sleeve finished with hem-stitch.



The sleeve should be cut as by the annexed outline, and frilled round, a very narrow *strengthenener* being put on over the gathers; the flaps are hemmed to turn over, and fastened, to prevent tearing, with button-hole stitch at the corners. The usual width is ten nails; the length five and a half or six nails. Some persons prefer them without a sleeve; in that case, they have a small gusset, and are frilled, which has also a pretty effect.

FLANNEL BANDS.—These are essentially

necessary for the warmth and comfort of the infant. They are to be cut lengthwise of the flannel, twelve nails long, and two and a half wide. You may get six out of a breadth of flannel, if you are careful to purchase the material fifteen nails wide; if this is not attended to, you will have much waste. The band is to be herring-boned as neatly as possible, on both the upper and the lower edge; and the ends are to be done in the same manner, one with a broad, and the other with a narrow hem. The length is to be reduced to eleven nails, by two broad plaits in the middle, which should fall opposite to each other, and be herring-boned down. You then set three strings of tape on to each end, setting the three at the one end, close to the edge, and those at the other, at a distance of three nails.

FLANNEL CAPS.—Much difference of opinion exists as to whether or not the infant should wear caps, and on this subject physicians differ. Many think that after washing the head of an infant, it is necessary that it should be covered with a flannel cap, to prevent its taking cold. Get the supplest and finest Welsh flannel you

can procure, and be careful, in order to prevent waste, to have it fifteen nails wide. The width of the cap is three nails; and the length, cut selvagewise, is seven nails. They are made as follows: Having cut the breadth of flannel into five pieces, three nails broad, and seven long, fold the pieces in half, and measure at the back one nail and a quarter from the bottom or open part, which you are to slit into the cap, one nail, then slope off the crown, and gather it as neatly as can be into the slit previously made. The caps are to be neatly hemmed, and it is an advantage to run the hem at the edge with a fine thread, or they may be flattened with a small herring-bone stitch, which looks extremely neat. The back should also be herring-boned in small stitches, and a piece of calico, or riband, hemmed over the plaits of the crown in the inside. Two string cases, or slots, are to be made, by setting on two bits of tape or riband in the inside of the cap, at a proper distance from each other, one of which is not to be carried quite to the bottom, but only a little lower than the slit for the crown. You must have two tapes for strings, which

must be on the outside. The tape-holes are worked in button-hole stitch, and some ladies bind the edges of the cap with a white sarce-net riband.

NIGHT CAPS.—These should be made of soft muslin; and to make eight caps, you will require three quarters of a yard of a material that is sixteen nails in width; double this into four, and cut it, selvagewise; after which, cut each strip into two, which will be four nails broad and six long. Then take one of the pieces, and turn one nail backward on the long side; this done, double it crosswise, and it will form a square. The nail you turned down is to be neatly hemmed, and a slot for a bobbin at the edge; these form the front of the cap. You round the ends, and form a slot quite round the edge. In order to form the back of the cap, you first measure one nail from the bottom, and then cut, by a thread, one nail into the cap, slope the crown in a circular form, and gather it neatly into the slot just made. The seams are neatly seamed and felled, and a piece of calico sewn into the cap over the gathers is an advantage, as it makes it

lie softer upon the head of the child. In order that the cap may not fall off, it is necessary to have a chin stay, which should be three nails long, and half a nail wide, cut selvagewise of the calico. It is doubled and sewn up neatly, having a button at one end, and a button-hole at the other; by this means it can be removed at pleasure. A more convenient way is to make two button-holes in the stay, and put both buttons on the cap. You are to put a muslin frill to the cap; a breadth and a half, of a good material, will be sufficient for the frill.

ANOTHER CAP.—This may serve either for night or day. It is made as follows. The material is cotton cloth, which should be fifteen nails wide; for twelve caps, you will require one yard and two nails. You cut the cloth into four strips, and each length into three pieces. The width of each piece is three and three quarters nails, and the length six nails; you turn down the three quarters of a nail for the runners, and then doubling the piece in the middle, it will be a square of three nails. Of this, measure one nail from the bottom, at the

back, and slit into the cap one nail; then cut the corners of the back part of the cap like a quarter circle, and full them into the straight part of the slit just made. In making up the cap, hem it neatly all round, so as to admit slots of bobbins, and make them on four runners in the three quarters of a nail you turned down at the front. You gather in the crown as small as possible. Seam up the back, and make the runners at a regular distance from each other. You add a back stay of cotton cloth over the gathers in the inside, and put on the frill and chin stay as in the former pattern.

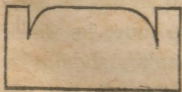


Those made with a *round* (either worked or plain) inserted in the crown are now almost exclusively used. The horseshoe and the foundling are considered by many almost out of date; but for the benefit of those who are fond of variety we have given a plate of both, viz., those with the round and the fondling or foundling shapes.

The former are cut selvagewise of the

material across the cap from the ears; the length next the face should be about six nails, and the depth from the front runner to the round crown, three nails. This cap is generally cut in one (see plate), but it may have a small square piece inserted to form the back, if preferred. It must be neatly seamed and gathered; the round must also be neatly hemmed and quartered, so that the gathers are sewn in quite equally. The material for night caps should be fine lawn, frilled with French cambric and edged; three bobbin runners must be drawn in at the back of each frill, and one round the back of the cap.

DAY CAPS are made in the same manner, and are generally composed of worked cambric or lace, and trimmed with a full border of quilled lace, of a light pattern, and runners of riband; for boys, a cockade of lace is added, and girls' caps may be ornamented with loopings of riband in the border.



The foundling is cut the same way of the material as the round caps, and should be about the same length; they

must be seamed very neatly at the back and stitched up twice, and also across, when the gathers are put in. They are finished in the way before described as regards runners and frilling. The size before given we consider a convenient one, as it will suit a child several months old; but if made in sets, some may be smaller for first caps; if not, they can be easily tacked to any size.

NAPKINS.—These are indispensable, and should be provided in as great quantities as the circumstances will admit. They are made of soft diaper, or other materials, and in the following manner: The material should be twenty nails wide, so as to make two out of one breadth; they are to be twenty nails in length, and doubled, so as to form a square of ten nails. The doubled part is to be sewn round, leaving the raw edges on the outside, and a space large enough to admit the hand. When sewed, the napkin is turned inside out, and the opening seamed up as neatly as possible. The edges and seams must be made particularly smooth. The napkin should be provided with strings and a loop, as pins are

apt to be injurious. Sometimes they are made single, and hemmed round, and are only doubled when in use. This is the most expeditious way of making them, but the other method is the most preferable.



BED-GOWNS.—The bed-gown for an infant should be made of fine twilled muslin, dimity, or cotton cloth. As they are much worn in the daytime during the first two months, it is advisable to have two or three sizes. They are cut the body and skirt in one: the length should be a yard, including the body, which is formed by three gaugings at the waist, over which fine bobbin is neatly sewn.

The sleeve should be small gigot, or bishop, finished with a cuff according to fancy, and gauged at the top to



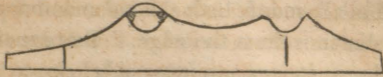
correspond with the waist. The skirt may be gored or straight; the former is decidedly the most convenient. Two strips hemmed, to form a sort of sash, are attached to the gaugings in front, and the neck ornamented with muslin-work or edging.

Or you may make the bed-gown eighteen nails long, and two breadths in width: the material should be what is called yard-wide. You are to fold each breadth down the middle, taking care to have the folds even, and at one end put in a pin at the distance of two nails from the selvage; put in another pin about one nail from the bottom, and, creasing the breadth across by these two pins, cut off the gore. Do the same with the other breadth, and reserve the gores for bands and wristbands. You are then to sew up the seams, and to form the arm holes and neck. You slope the shoulders a little, making it one nail and three quarters deep; hollow the bosom and back, and make the slit behind, which should be three nails deep. You are to make the sleeves wide at the top, so as to be full'd neatly into the arm hole, and they come to tapering to the wrist, on which a wristband is set

and fastened with a button. The arm holes should be slightly curved. You make the gown up as follows. First hem the neck, then, at three quarters of a nail below it, run a row of the finest gathers possible, leaving a space of one nail and a half plain between them and the sleeve. You form another row of gathers across the gown, one nail below the former gathering, and then you are to sew on, with very small stitches, a piece of muslin insertion work over the gathers. Next make two bands, ten nails long and one deep, and set them one on each end of the insertion work. Put a narrow lawn frill round the bosom, and make the wristbands two and a half nails wide, and three quarters of a nail broad when doubled; a low frill is then put on, and the gown is finished.

NIGHT FLANNEL.—This is indispensable to the warmth and comfort of the baby, and is made as follows. The body is about nine nails long, and is to be cut lengthwise of the material, and two nails deep when doubled; pin it properly, and cut the arm holes; then the body must be folded in two, and from the end measure two nails for the back; and make

the arm holes one nail deep, and one nail and a half across. You then open the body, and run round the arm holes with small stitches, of course, on the wrong side of the flannel; the sides are to be sewn up, and having turned the body inside out, form a large plait in front, which is of much use in supporting the body of the child. This plait must extend to within two and a half nails of the arm holes, and is to be neatly secured all round by a row of herring-bone stitch, within which a row of scroll stitches are to be run, at about three quarters of an inch from the edge. This gives to the whole a neat and elegant appearance. You are to sew three strings of tape to the end of the body, at equal distances, and one nail from the edge; the other strings are set close to the end to correspond. You finish by sewing up the skirt, having the bottom neatly bound; and a pocket-hole made in one of the widths, to the depth of two nails, is also to be bound; then set the skirt to the body in small plaits, or gathers. There are other ways of making the night flannel; this, however, is the most preferable.



DAY FLANNEL.—The following are the directions for making this portion of infant attire, and the above cut will show the mode of making them. The body is to be made of twill, lined with lawn, or of jean, which some persons prefer. You are to make the body eight nails long, cut the right way of the material, and one and a quarter nails deep; if the material be fifteen nails wide, half a yard will make twelve bodies. You fold the body in two, and, measuring from the edge, one and a half nails, cut the arm-holes, which are one nail across, and in depth three quarters of a nail; about one quarter of an inch must be sloped off both at the top and bottom, which will make it sit neater upon the child. Next cut out the lining, and run both together, so as to be flat and look neat. You run them along the sides and top, and also round the arm holes; then turn the body inside out, and flatten the seams with the thumb and fore-finger. This done, you back-stitch it in as even a manner as

possible all round, both the sides and top, at a little distance from the edge. You are then to put three strings on one side close to the edge, and on the other a like number to be set half a nail on. You are also to sew on the shoulder-strap. Make the skirt of two breadths, and rather more than a yard long; seam the two breadths neatly together, and in the back one make a pocket-hole about two nails in length. Bend both it and the bottom, and set the body on in small plait at the sides, leaving two nails plain for the middle.

FIRST DAY GOWN.—This should be made of jaconet muslin or twilled muslin, or they may be made of print. The pattern is as follows. The length of the skirt is eighteen nails, and having three breadths in the width. It must be sixteen nails wide when doubled. A slit is to be made in the skirt, two and a half nails long; and the bottom is hemmed with a hem four nails broad: of course this must be allowed for in the cutting out, as the skirt is to be eighteen nails in length when made up. The body is made full, and the following are the dimensions: depth, selvagewise, thirteen and a

half nails ; the length, which is cut widthwise of the material, is fourteen nails. The arm-hole is one nail deep, and one and a half across. You must first double the length in half, and then again into quarters ; after which the arm-holes are to be cut as above described. You may make the body open in either of the following ways. First, merely hemming the top and bottom ; hemming the ends with a broad hem, and setting it upon the skirt full, but throwing more of the fulness to the back and front than to the sides. You then set the sleeves into the body full, with the shoulder-straps, and put tapes on, to draw from the shoulder-straps behind, at the top ; there must also be another string to draw in front ; a tape must also pass through the hem on the waist. Or you may make it up thus ; gather the body at the top, and set it into a long narrow band, which will form both the hem and the shoulder-straps. You also gather the bottom of the body firmly, and sew it to the skirt with very strong thread. The skirt is to be so gathered as to bring the principal part of the fulness to the front.

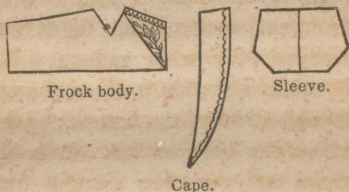
You may bias the front in two or three rows, if you please.

PETTICOATS.—These are easily made. The material is generally muslin or calico. They are made with a waist, which serves to strengthen the body of the infant. For the first size, the following are the dimensions: length of body, nine nails; and the depth, cut selvagewise, one and three quarters nails. The arm-holes are three quarters of a nail deep, and one and a half wide; a slit is made behind, which is about three nails long, and the body is made with shoulder-straps, which must be one and a half nails in length. You set the sleeves into the arm-holes, which, when opened, are to be four and a half nails long, and two and a quarter deep; in some cases they are only three quarters of a nail in depth. This body or waist is set on to a skirt, having two breadths in width, and sixteen or seventeen nails in length. The length here given is that of the skirt when made up; it is hemmed with a deep hem at the bottom, and has generally two or three tucks; for these an extra quantity of the material must be allowed.

It is unnecessary to give special directions for cutting out the waist; it is, of course, to be doubled into quarters, and the arm-holes cut in two side folds; the sleeves are slanted so as to form a gusset. The top is hemmed to admit a tape, and the shoulder-straps are to be stitched on to the body. The sleeves are hemmed at the bottom, and fullled into the shoulder-straps with small gathers. You are to make moderately wide hems at the ends of the waist, and a slot at the bottom; gather the skirt, and set the body on full. It is fastened with strings, the top ones coming from the shoulder-straps, and the bottom ones are run into the front and tied at the side.

ROBES.—Infants' robes, or frocks, are made of various materials, and in a variety of patterns. Pretty frocks may be made without robings, of jaconet muslin, trimmed with muslin-work or insertion, or even with a plain broad hem at the bottom of the skirt; they look exceedingly neat. The bodies should be worked in front to form the stomach, and the cape and sleeves edged to match. The sleeves may be finished with two or three frills according to

taste, and they look very pretty looped up with a row of coral beads of moderate size. The length of the skirt should be one yard exclusive of the body, and two widths of wide jaconet is sufficient for the frock; it must be equally frilled into the waistband in fine gathers.



Another pattern is as follows: First, the full body; the body is cut down the selvage, and is one and a half nails deep; its length is one and a half nails: you double this strip into four, and in the side folds cut the slits for the arms, making them one nail deep, and one and a half wide. You may adopt either of the following ways in making it up: In the most simple mode, you have only to hem it round, making the end hems wider, and, having previously gathered the skirt, setting it on full both at the back and front, and leaving the sides

comparatively plain, but not entirely so. You set in the sleeves to the shoulder-straps, which are to be one and three quarters nails in length. You must insert a tape to draw from the shoulder-straps behind, and another string is required to draw in front. You must also have a tape through the hem at the bottom of the waist. The other mode of making up is as follows: You gather the body at the top, and set it on to a narrow band eight nails long, which is to form the shoulder-straps and the hem. You must also gather, as firmly as possible, the bottom of the body, and sew it on strongly to the skirt. In this case, the fulness of the latter is thrown principally in front. Biasing the body in front, in two or three rows, gives it a neat and elegant appearance.

The next pattern we shall give is the plain straight body, which is made as follows: The body is in length ten nails; and in depth, down the selvage, one a half nails. You double the body, as in the former case, in the middle; down which you are to run a tacking thread; and another on each side, at a full half nail from the middle, at the top; but slanting quite

to the middle, at the bottom, at three quarters of a nail from the last; at the top run two others, slanting them to a full half nail's distance at the bottom. These are as guides by which you are to work the pattern, which is done in riband, common braid, &c.; or you may let work in, if you prefer it. You can work satin-stitch in the muslin, or introduce very minute tucks; indeed, the varieties are so numerous that it is impossible to describe them in a hand-book. The following is extremely neat: On each side of the tacking-thread sew two bobbin-lines, between which a small space is to be left, and filled up with ornamental work, or small eyelet-holes. You then put on the bobbin as neatly as possible, and in any pattern your fancy may approve. Work the shoulder-bits and the bands so as to harmonize with the front. Put in the sleeves, set on the capes, and finish the whole with a border of edging or other ornamental work. The body is sometimes worked in fancy button-hole stitch, and the shoulder-bits and the sleeve-bands in chain stitch. It is also common to work the capes and the ends of the body with horseshoe

stitch, which is extremely pretty; in these cases, the border is composed entirely of fancy bobbin edging. We subjoin the following scale, as without a guide much waste is occasioned in the cutting out. The arm-hole is one and a half nails in width, and in depth three quarters of a nail; the length of the band is eight nails, and that of the shoulder-straps one nail and three quarters. The sleeve-bands are three nails long, and the length of the band at the top is nine nails. The length of each cape is also nine nails; and the depth, cut selvagewise, is three quarters of a nail.

The sleeves are made so various as to almost preclude description. The two following will be found the neatest; but any pattern may be adopted which will harmonize well with the waist of the frock. The round sleeve is thus made: You first cut a square piece, seven nails each way, out of which the circle for the sleeve is to be taken. You then fold it from corner to corner, and continue so to do until it is doubled in eight or sixteen folds: of course one side will be longer than the other; and you, previously to cutting it, make both sides

of the same length, and then cut it across : when it is opened, it will form a circle. This is to be made to sit neatly under the arm, by being hollowed out on one side. A hole must be cut in the centre for the opening of the sleeve, and it is better to do so before the piece is opened. The diameter of this opening is one nail, and the length of the sleeve-band is three nails. You are to cut the shoulder-straps one and a half nails in length each, into which the outer circle is to be neatly gathered. The opening is bound by a sleeve-band half a nail in breadth ; and the sleeve is confined by loops, riband, or a small piece of work of a neat pattern, and in a triangular form. The triangular sleeve is a general favorite, and it is made as follows : You double the material crosswise, like a half handkerchief. Having cut out a paper pattern, lay the long straight end upon the cross double, so that it will lie crosswise, and then cut carefully by the paper ; by this means you cut both sleeves together. The straight part forms the bottom of the sleeve, and is gathered into the band ; the sloped side is to be whipped or gathered into the shoulder-strap,

which is one and a half nails in length; the sleeve-band is in length three nails. The largest depth of the sleeve is two nails, and the smallest one nail; and you slope from the top downward, to about half the length, which is, when doubled, three and a half nails. Having thus prepared what may be called the body of the sleeve, a piece of worked muslin, in the shape of a triangle, is hemmed round, and the sleeve is set into the arm-hole, with a mantuamaker's hem, as neatly as possible. You may run and fell it; but the other is by far the neatest method, and it should be the aim of every mother to have all her baby linen done in the most perfect manner possible. After setting on the portion of the sleeve which goes into the arm-hole, you are to whip and sew on the remainder to the triangular piece. A cape, both behind and before, is formed by a narrow frill, set on full upon the sleeve, very near to the edge of the triangular piece of ornamental work before spoken of. An attention to these rules will enable you to make a baby's robe of almost any pattern. The skirts are of the same material as the body of the robe;

the width is two breadths of the kind of material known as one and a half yards wide, and the length eighteen nails. They are ornamented in various ways ; broad hems and tucks look the neatest, but some persons choose to insert a piece of worked muslin at the top of the hem, which is certainly a pretty finish. Others work various patterns in cord or braid. Sometimes robings are added in front, in which case they are a continuation of the small capes set on to the body ; they should be one and a half nails broad at the top, and sloped down to half a nail at the bottom, which should not descend lower than the top of the broad hem. You must be careful to sew them on so that the edge of the work may appear outward.

FLANNEL CLOAK.—The use of this article of baby attire is, to wrap up an infant when it is found necessary to carry it from one room to another during the night. They are also of essential service when it is deemed advisable to give the child a cold or warm bath, as wrapping it up in flannel prevents it taking cold afterward. The following are the dimensions of a cloak for an infant from birth to the age

of twelve or eighteen months. The material should be fine Welsh flannel, fourteen nails wide, of which three breadths form the width of the cloak; the length of the skirt is twenty nails, and the arm-holes are made four nails from the top, and are two nails in length. Some persons make them with a cape, but it is quite unnecessary; it tends to heat the child too much, and that is equally to be avoided with undue exposure to cold. You make up the garment as follows. Having sewed the breadths together to form the skirt, make the slits for the arms, and bind both them and the cloak with flannel binding; then gather the skirt evenly all round to the size required, and lay the edge between the edges of the shoulder pieces, which are to fall down against the skirt on each side; then back-stitch them firmly so as to hold them strongly together. The edges must be entirely concealed on both sides of the cloak; for which purpose you turn up the shoulder-pieces, and set the collar on neatly to their other edges, making a wide case of soft calico for the strings, by which the rough edges will be concealed.

FLANNEL SHAWL.—It is always advisable to have a shawl in which to wrap a baby during the first three months. Warmth is absolutely necessary to their tender frames; which, besides the thickness of the shawl, prevents any injury occurring to the infant through the unavoidable pressure of the arms of the nurse. The shawl should be made of what is called Saxony flannel; it may be made of merino, Indiana, or other material, but fine thick Saxony flannel is decidedly to be preferred. The shawl is made with deep hems, about one nail and a half broad, and braided round with silk braid. Working it at the corners is a neat finish. A shawl to be used when company are present, may have the hems formed of rich silk, or of pearl-white satin, but they are too costly for common use. The silk would soon spoil, and then the shawl would have a shabby and untidy appearance.

PINAFORES.—These are extremely useful, are frequently used with long clothes, and are indispensable when a baby is short-coated. They should be made of the finest diaper, width seven eighths, and the length about half



a yard. A tuck can be made so that this size may suit for first pinafores, which will save much trouble. The sleeve, or rather epaulet, is formed without a seam on the shoulder, by cutting a slit in the form of a half circle (see the above cut); and a plait being stitched down from the arm-hole to the waist, you then gather the front and backs twice, about the depth you wish the waist to be, and finish each gauging with narrow white braid. The epaulet is finished with a frill of French cambric, and the neck neatly hemmed and drawn in with tape. They can be fastened up behind if desired; and they are then often worn by children during warm weather instead of frocks.

PILCHERS.—These are sometimes called savers, and their use is to put over the napkins to prevent the wet from passing to their clothes, which is very detrimental to the health of young children. They are made in the following

manner: The material is fine flannel, thick, and of a good quality, and the piece is about eleven nails square. This is to be cut in half crosswise, so as to form two pilchers. Round off the two extreme corners, and to the third one sew a piece of strong cotton cloth, doubled, in which a button-hole is to be made. Plait the cross part into a band of cotton cloth, doubled; the band, when open, must be two nails in breadth, and be half a yard long. A button-hole is made at one end, and a button-set on at the other, by which the band is fastened round the waist in front; the lower corner is brought between the legs of the infant, and fastened by the button-hole to the button in the band.

SOCKS.—The patterns for these are extremely various. They are generally bought ready knitted. Those ladies who prefer making them will find ample directions in the "Ladies' Work-Table Book," or in the "Ladies' Hand Book of Knitting, Netting, and Crotchet," both by the author of this little work, and published by J. S. REDFIELD.

CLOAK.—The first cloak for a baby should

be of a warm and serviceable material, and of a good standing color, that is not liable to fade. The material varies so much in width that it is impossible to lay down any definite rule as to the number of breadths which will be required for the cloak; it should be thirty-four nails wide at the bottom, and so sloped as to have about twenty-four nails at the top. The length of the skirt is nineteen nails. The back is made straight of one half breadth, taking the width of the material at twenty nails, and one whole breadth is crossed for the sides. This is to be doubled so that the two pieces will be six nails broad at the top, and twelve nails at the bottom; the sloped sides are set on to the back, and the straight ones come in front. The shoulders are two nails in length, and are sloped half a nail; the arm-holes are also two nails in breadth, and are curved into the skirt, which makes the sleeves sit much neater than they would otherwise do. In making up, the front of the cloak should be lined with silk, and the top part of the body, as well as the collar and cape, must also be lined in like manner. The back breadth of

the cloak is best lined with cambric muslin, or any other material that is deemed suitable. In preparing the sleeves, you must cut them selvagewise of the material, and make them five nails in length, and two nails and a half in width, when doubled. They are to be sloped off, commencing at the wrist one nail and a half, and are then to be gathered into the arm-holes. Having completed the shoulders and sleeves, into which you can introduce any kind of fancy work you please, you hem the neck at the top; and (having drawn the skirt to the width required) you draw a tape through it, which is to be fastened at both ends. The width of the top of the skirt is about three nails wider than the space required for setting round the neck. The neck is furnished with a case of some soft material, through which a riband is passed, which is fastened in the middle and ties in front. The bottom of the skirt is hemmed with a hem one nail and a half deep, and the sides, cape, and collar, are also hemmed, but the hems are only three quarters of a nail deep. In cutting out, it is essential that a sufficient space is left for these hems.

A band or girdle, of ten nails in length, is set on to the back of the waist, which buttons in front. The cape and collar are both of a circular form, hollowed out at the neck, and bound with riband, edged with fine piping, or ornamented with needlework according to taste.

HOOD.—This should be made of the same material as the cloak, and be lined with silk, having a middle lining of wadding or flannel to make it sufficiently warm and soft. In making it up, you must observe the following directions: Take a piece of the material, and cut it seven nails long, down the selvage, which you are to double in half its length. You measure at the bottom, or open end, one nail, and slope it off in a straight line to the corner of the part doubled; the straight part forms the front of the hood; the linings of silk and wadding are next to be cut of the same shape, and, having done so, proceed to cut the crown as follows: The shape is that of a horseshoe. You take a piece of the material two nails and a half long, and two nails wide; this you fold in half its width, and slope off one third of a nail from the bottom; the top must also be

rounded off. Cut the linings the same shape and sew them together, and then to the centre crown. You are next to sew the crown thus lined into the head piece, which has previously had the linings inserted into it. You may ornament the crown in a variety of ways, piping it with silk or satin, or braiding it with silk braid. Some work round the crown in chain stitch, or in some other neat or becoming device. All the thicknesses should be stitched together with small stitches, as near to the ornamental work as possible. In the head piece you make two runners for ribands, one three quarters of a nail from the edge, and the second the same distance from the first. You draw up the hood to its proper size by these ribands, which must be left of a sufficient length to allow the hood to be entirely undrawn. You put another riband to draw behind. To form the tippet you must cut a perfect circle from a square of eight nails, from which a triangular piece is to be cut out, leaving a gap of two nails in the circle: you set it on quite plain along the horseshoe, and then full it to the ears. Insert a circle of thin whale-

bone round the crown, to give it a little stiffness, and set on a rosette or cockade : if for a boy, on the left side ; if for a girl, in front. They are made of satin riband, and a small bow of the same is set on behind.

BIB.—This is used when children are cutting their teeth, and at other times. You take fine diaper and fold it three or four doubles, sewing it on the wrong side, and then turning it inside out, you hollow it so as to fit the chin, and tie by a riband round the neck.

RECEIVER.—This is the wrapper in which an infant is received immediately on its birth, before it is washed and dressed. It is to be made of the finest Welsh flannel, with a warm and soft nap. The receiver is a perfect square, and should be two breadths in width, and one yard and a half long ; if it be two yards square, so much the better ; one side of the receiver is covered with fine cotton cloth or cambric muslin, and both are fastened together by a suitable flannel binding.

CHAPTER II.

ARTICLES OF DRESS NECESSARY FOR AN INFANT, FROM THE PERIOD OF SHORTENING, TO TWO OR MORE YEARS OF AGE.

THESE are for the most part, as to materials and shape, the same as those already described. We shall not, therefore, repeat the directions for making them up, but merely give the dimensions which are required for each, in order that waste may be avoided, and the material cut in the most advantageous manner possible.

CLOSE SHIRTS.—These are generally begun to be worn when the infant is about nine months old. We give the dimensions for two sizes, and these will form a guide for the others. First size, width of the material fourteen nails; second size, fifteen nails. The shirt is cut in the width of the material, and is made a full breadth for the first size; the length is to be for the second size five nails and a half. The length of the sleeve, cut selvagewise, is for both sizes one nail, and the width three nails;

the sleeve-gusset is one nail ; and the slit for the arms is, for the first size one nail and three quarters, and for the second two nails. In both, the space for the shoulder is the same, one nail and three quarters ; the slits for the flaps are also the same, one nail and a half. The openings at the bottom of the shirts are one, and one nail and three quarters, respectively. The space between the arm-holes and the opening of the shirt at the bottom is to be seamed up, and the bosom flaps cut rather sloping to the arm-holes, as this fits neater than when cut entirely straight. Hem the bottom of the shirt and all the flaps and openings, and set in the side gussets. You must be careful to hem the bosom flaps so as to be the right side out when folded down. The shoulders are to be seamed and felled as neat as may be, and the sleeves set in quite plain nearly to the top of the shoulder, and the remainder as full as possible, with small gathers. The shirt is then complete.

ROBES.—A full description of the manner in which infants' frocks or robes are made up will be found in the first chapter. The following

are the necessary dimensions for the next two sizes : Length of skirt for the first size, fourteen nails (this is preparatory to the long robe being laid aside) ; for the second size, eight nails : the hem at the bottom of both is four nails deep, and the slit in the back of each is two nails and a half. For the bodies or waists, the following will be found the proper directions for a child of one or three years of age. Depth of body two nails, and two nails and three quarters, respectively ; length of body sixteen nails, and twenty nails : the waistband is, for the first nine, for the second ten, nails in length ; and the length of the bands for the hems at the top is nine and eleven nails ; the sleeve bands are three nails and three quarters, and four nails long ; and if shoulder-straps are used, they must be in length two nails and a half. The depth of the arm-holes is one nail and a quarter, and one nail and a half, respectively ; and the width across the arm-holes is two nails, and two nails and a half. By attending to these directions you will have no difficulty in making robes for a child at a more advanced age.

FLANNEL CLOAKS.—These are to be made up as previously directed: the subjoined scales are proper for children of from three to six, and from six to nine years of age. For the first, three breadths, and for the second, four, are required for the skirt. The material to be fourteen nails wide; the length of the skirts is one yard and a half, and one yard and three quarters; and the distance of the slit for the arms, from the top, is in the first size five, and in the second six nails. The length of the arm-holes is, in one, two nails and a half, and in the other three nails; and for a large cape two breadths, and two breadths and a half respectively, of the material will be required.

SILK OR MERINO CLOAKS.—The following gives the dimensions of these cloaks for the two next sizes after the first: For the first size the length of the skirt is one yard, and for the second fourteen nails; the width round the bottom is, of course, regulated by the number of breadths in the skirt; the width of the top is in both cases twenty-four nails. The length of the shoulder is also the same in both, two nails and a quarter; and so is the slope from

the shoulder, which is just half a nail. The length of the sleeve is, for the first size six, and for the second size seven nails; and the width is six nails for both sizes. The slope off from the wrist is two nails, of course you double the sleeve before sloping it. The arm-holes are two nails and a half and three nails in length, and they are to be curved into the skirt about half a nail. The cases to be sewed on to the inside of the cloak for the strings, are, for the first five nails, and for the second six nails in length; and the whole length of the band to go round the waist is eleven nails and twelve nails. You make the collar and cape, and ornament the cloak in any manner you please.

INFANT PETTICOATS.—The first of these sizes is for a child of eighteen months; the second for one, two, or three years old. The material must be, for the first, fourteen, for the second, sixteen nails wide. The length of the body is ten and eleven nails; the skirt is two breadths in width; and for the first size thirteen, for the second eighteen nails long. The depth of the bodies is two nails, and two nails

and a quarter, and they are to be cut selvage-wise of the material. The arm-holes are one nail, and one nail and three quarters in depth, and one nail and two nails in width. The slit behind is in both three nails; and the length of the shoulder-strap is for the first one and three quarters, and for the second two nails. The short sleeves are, when opened, cut seven and eight nails in length, and the depth is made as the judgment may determine.

PINAFORES.—The directions for making up are the same as before given. The two sizes here subjoined are for children of two and six years of age. The length is ten and twelve nails, and they are made the full width of the material, which should be for the first size fourteen nails. The piece left as the shoulder-piece must, for the first, be one, and for the second one and a quarter nails; and the arm-holes are in both cases two and three quarters nails deep; each arm-hole is finished by a frill, set on full; eleven nails in length is required for these frills, and the depth is half a nail; a quarter of a nail is the depth of the hollowing out of the neck, and the gussets are

a half and three quarters of a nail square. The upper strings are sewn on to the top of the pinafore, and the lower ones two and a half nails down.

CLOAK FOR SUMMER.—The materials are various ; twilled muslin, cloth, nankeen, &c., are employed. The material, be what it may, should be one yard and three nails wide, in which case one breadth and fourteen nails will be sufficient for the skirt. The length is one yard. The cloak is made with a cape and collar, and three yards fourteen nails of the material are required to finish it. The sleeves are cut five nails square, and when doubled are two and a half nails wide. The wristband is cut selvagewise, and is in length three nails, and two nails broad. The band is twelve nails long and two broad ; and the cape, which is best cut by a paper pattern, is seven nails deep and two yards in the width. The five nails you cut off from the second breadth of the skirt will make the shoulder-pieces and the collar, which are to be cut by a paper model, as it is impossible to describe the method of cutting them so as to preclude the possibility

of a mistake. A broad hem, of the same material as the cloak, is laid all round it, and also round the cape and collar. To form this, stripes of at least a yard long, and one and a quarter nails broad, should be cut and joined as neatly as possible. Sometimes an open pattern of worked muslin is laid all round, which gives it a neat and finished appearance. The cloak is to be set full into the shoulder-piece, which is to be worked all round with piping. You then set on the collar, and make a case at the top, in which a riband is also to be sewn on the inside of the waist, and the band is sewed on to the outside of the cloak. These cloaks look neat and light, and are extremely serviceable. Care should be taken to have them of a color that is not liable to fade.

COCKADES AND ROSETTES.—These are used as ornaments to children's hats and bonnets. For a boy they are made round; and for a girl, of an oval shape. In the first case they are called cockades; in the second, rosettes. Sometimes they are made of narrow riband, generally white satin; these are for caps, and are made upon a circular foundation of buck-

ram, the size of a half-crown. In making them, you begin at the outer edge, and sew the riband in small loops, round and round, until it is filled up to the middle. A cockade for a boy is frequently made of some kind of costly lace, of which four yards are required. This is whipped at the edges, and set on a buckram foundation as the last. Less expensive ones may be made, by setting a neat edging to a broad piece of net, on each side, and gathering it up in the middle. This is run upon a stiff circle or oval, beginning at the centre, and proceeding to the outer edge. It must be done as full as possible, or it will not look neat. Sometimes these ornaments for hats or bonnets are made of trimmings of silk, cut crosswise. They look extremely pretty, and are made, like the others, upon a buckram foundation, and commenced at the centre. Remember, that *rosettes* must invariably be made upon an oval-shaped foundation.

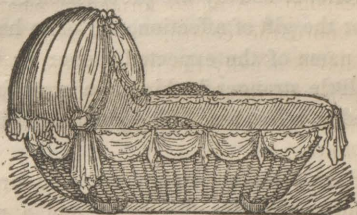
PINCUSHION.—This should be made of a rich satin, nearly half a yard long, and six nails broad; the depth should be three nails. It should be ornamented with a deep silk fringe

all round, and have silk tassels at the corners to correspond. A motto formed of small pins should adorn the centre. This article of the baby toilet is usually the preparation of friendship, or the gift of affection, and often has upon it the name of the expected comer, or "Welcome little stranger," which is a great favorite, marked in baby pins. The pincushion is filled with bran.

A BABY'S BASKET ought not to be forgotten, to contain tape for the navel, and a pair of stout scissors, sponge, soft linen, old flannel for washing the child, pins, and the dress to be put upon the baby when born.

CHAPTER III.

BABY CRADLE-LINEN.



CRADLE COVER.—The cradle we recommend is a wanded one, and the bed should be of the most comfortable material, but not too soft. The cradle should be furnished with a white cover, and drapery of dimity or muslin, to be fitted on as follows: Take two breadths of the material, and seam them together from the bottom, at the back of the cradle, until you come to the curve: fit it as neatly as you can, sloping off the superfluous pieces, and hemming the cover all round. You seam up the sloped part, which you have fitted to the top of the cradle, and the remainder forms little curtains in front, which are open in the middle.

Make a rosette at each side, round which a cord is to be hung when the curtains are drawn open. When you wish to close them, you have only to throw the cords off the rosettes. You also place a rosette in the centre of the head of the cradle, by way of ornament. A neat drapery should go across the head, and the sides and bottom of the cradle-cover should be bordered by a neat fringe.

CRADLE FURNITURE.—The following are the articles required: First, a bed or mattress composed of chaff finely cut, seaweed properly prepared, or beech leaves. This, for an infant, is all that is required; but if you furnish the cradle with a bed in addition, it should be very thin, and made of the best feathers that can be procured. Some have them made of down; but we think such beds decidedly injurious, as having a tendency to produce an unnatural degree of warmth, which is very detrimental to the infant frame. Besides the bed, you should have three blankets of the best Welch flannel, which should have the edges worked with colored worsted, or bound with flannel binding. You must also have a coverlet, of a light and fanciful appearance. A patched cradle-quilt

looks extremely neat. Some persons use sheets, but nothing can be more injurious. When a child has a good bed, a soft pillow for its head, warm blankets, and piece of flannel in which to wrap its feet, it has all that is required for the supply of its natural wants : it will discover artificial ones quite soon enough.

NURSING BASKET.—This is useful for a variety of purposes. The cover should be as full, and the plaits done as even, as possible ; and it must come over the top edge of the basket, so as to draw round it and tie with riband strings. A runner is made on the extreme edge of the cover, and the second one about three quarters of a nail from the first. Between these, slits are to be made for the four handles of the basket ; the slits are to be neatly hemmed. The bottom is covered by a piece of white dimity, and a full frill is set on to the outer edge of the cover. Strings of riband are passed through the open work of the basket, by which the cover is firmly secured.

CHILD'S BOTTLE.—This should be of earthenware or glass, washed out with warm water daily : it has a suck, of leather, parchment, cork, or a cow's teat, fastened by a string to the neck.

CHAPTER IV.

CONCLUSION.

IN the foregoing pages, we trust we have given plain and ample instructions on a subject of no common or fleeting interest. To the young mother expectant we have endeavored to afford such instructions as will enable her to prepare with neatness, economy, and elegance, everything necessary for the comfort and convenience of the anxiously-expected little one; and we hope that our labors will tend most materially to lighten hers. But we can not close our little manual without a word of friendly caution; for we know, that during the period of preparation for the anticipated event, anxious cares and mischievous forebodings will oftentimes intrude. These should be guarded against with the most assiduous care; not only by the lady herself, but by all those who come into contact with her. Much evil is certain to arise from a yielding to dark forebodings and gloomy apprehensions. On the contrary, it is

necessary and advisable that scenes of joy and gladness, not of frivolity or folly, but such as are worthy of the approval of a rational and immortal mind, should be freely indulged in. Cheerful conversation, well-selected reading, and moderate exercise in the open air, are all of the most essential service to a female under the interesting circumstances to which attention is directed in the preceding pages. Above all, let a spirit of cheerful resignation, and undoubting confidence in the unmixed goodness of the Supreme and Almighty Father, be the pole-star of every hope. Let her who is anticipating being speedily called to the performance of maternal duties, cast all her care upon, and carefully copy in her life and character the example of, the LORD JESUS; and she will find a consolation and a calm which earth can neither give nor take away; and which will be the best and only sure preventive against those fears, and that depression of spirits, which are often productive of the most fatal results, both to the mother and her unborn offspring.

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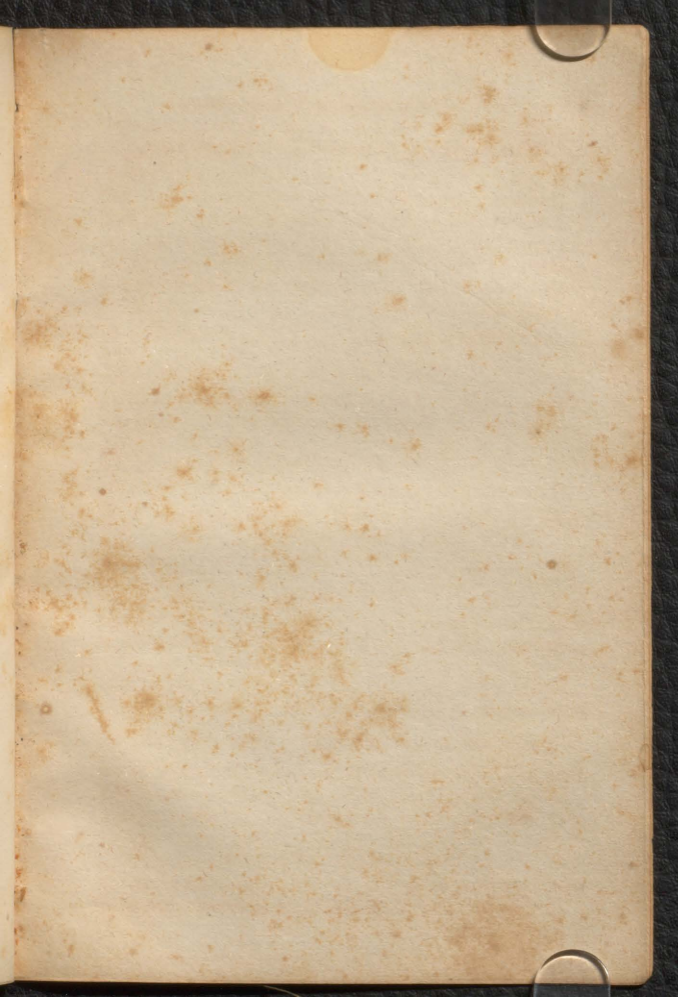
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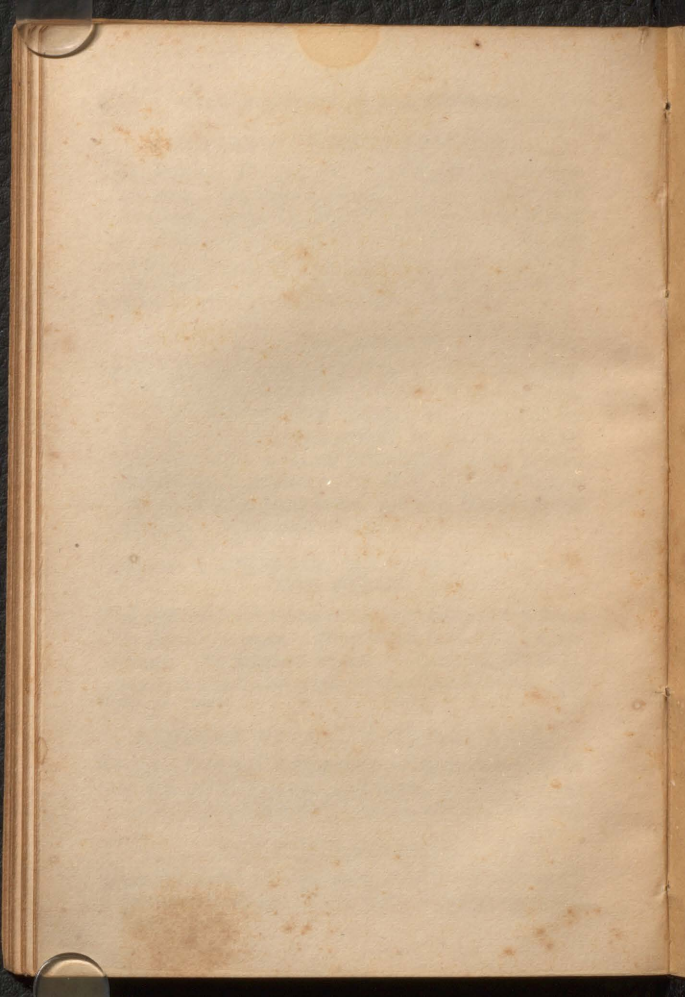
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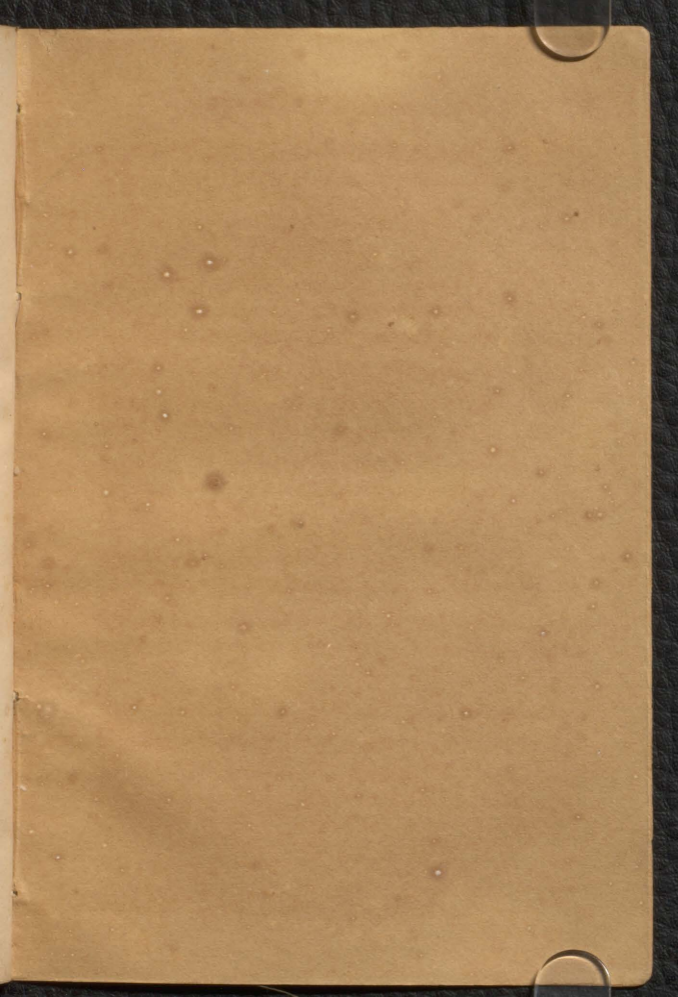
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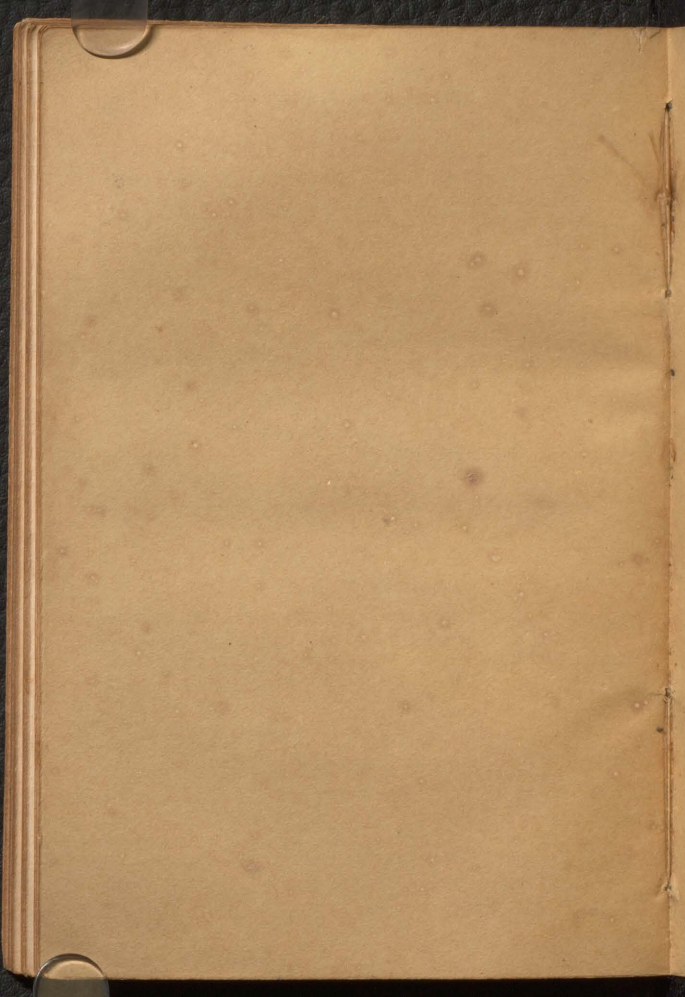
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