

# **COOKING AND CASTLE-BUILDING**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649556069

Cooking and Castle-Building by Emma P. Ewing

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**EMMA P. EWING**

**COOKING AND  
CASTLE-BUILDING**



# COOKING AND CASTLE-BUILDING.

BY

EMMA P. EWING.

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CHICAGO :  
FAIRBANKS, PALMER & CO.  
1883.

## PREFACE AND DEDICATION.

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TO GRACE GREENWOOD :

MY DEAR FRIEND, — To you who so nearly fill my ideal of a true American woman, I would like to inscribe this little volume; but as it is more especially written for younger women than you and I, the proper thing, I presume, is to ask you to permit me to dedicate it to your artlessly charming daughter.

I know right well you will cheerfully grant the request. But before doing so, I fancy you quizzically inquiring, and myself gravely informing you, about the nature of the volume, somewhat in this wise : —

“ Is the book a novel ? ”

“ A little like a novel. ”

“ Or, is it a cook-book ? ”

“ A good deal like a cook-book ? ”

“ Or, a volume of sermons ? ”

“ Very like a volume of sermons. ”

“ Ah, well ! then it must be a good book. ”

“ O yes ! a remarkably good book. ”

Therefore, in the hope that she will find pleasure in its perusal,

“ COOKING AND CASTLE-BUILDING ”

is

Dedicated

TO ANNIE LIPPINCOTT.

No woman of her age, I am very confident, can read it without profit. And no housewife, I flatter myself, can carefully follow its directions and advice without doing something to aid on the cause so dear to your and my heart, by having her table supplied with well-prepared food; and thus helping to secure for herself, her family, and her friends, that most desirable of earthly attainments — A PLEASANT HOME.

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## COOKING AND CASTLE-BUILDING.

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### CHAPTER I.

#### HOW IT HAPPENED.

MY cousin Emeline, after a two years' sojourn in Europe with her only child, Alice, had returned, and was loitering in New York, undecided as to where they should spend the summer.

Abroad, Alice had devoted herself assiduously to French, German, and music, while her mother had employed much of her time in writing a novel.

One day in early June, a fortnight after their arrival in the American metropolis, Emeline, looking up from the book she had been reading, exclaimed, —

"'O for a lodge in some vast wilderness!' Another week of this horrible din and confusion will be the death of me. Day and night it is one unceasing uproar. Kate, where can we hide ourselves for three months and enjoy uninterrupted rest, while I revise that book of mine?"

I answered her by asking, "Would you mind going to Westfield?"

"I feel just now as if I would not mind going to the ends of the earth, if necessary, in search of undisturbed quiet. But why go to Westfield?"

"Because my friend Jennie Douglas has a beautiful place there, which has been shut up for a year, and will so remain for a year longer. The place is left in care of the gardenor; but I have leave to go there when I will, and stay as long as I see fit,—why not bury ourselves there? We might bribe the gardenor and his wife to keep our presence a secret as much as possible."

"The very thing," responded Emeline. "Let us start to-morrow. But where shall we get our rations while there, and who will cook them for us? If we install a retinue of servants in the house, we may as well abandon all thought of rest or comfort."

"I have a plan," I said, after a moment's reflection, "which will help me carry out a pet project of my own, and at the same time enable us to dispense with servants."

"My adorable Kate! proceed, divulge, explain. I am all eagerness to know what pet project of yours can be subserved by our burying ourselves for three months in some out of the way place. I fail to see how that will do away with the evils of intemperance, or give the suffrage to woman."

"Emeline, in my wandering to and fro upon the earth, I have been in a great many houses,