

**A PRIMARY COOK BOOK:
FOR NEW BEGINNERS IN
HOUSEKEEPING, RECEIPTS
SUITED TO THE TIMES**

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A Primary Cook Book: For New Beginners in Housekeeping, receipts suited to the times by
Mrs. E. Putnam

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MRS. E. PUTNAM

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BY

MRS. PUTNAM,

FOR

New Beginners in Housekeeping.

RECEIPTS SUITED TO THE TIMES.

"The world has not yet learned the riches of Frugality."—CICERO.

SECOND THOUSAND.

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PRIMARY COOK BOOK.

I HAVE been solicited by a gentleman, who is always engaged in promoting the pleasure and instruction of all with whom he comes in contact, to write a book for young people who wish to begin house-keeping on small means, — that they may have a home of their own where they may preach and practice to suit themselves, instead of marrying and going to a boarding-house, which is but half way “settled in life,” as getting married is termed.

I will begin by giving my advice to a young woman in whom I take a great interest. She has not had a home for many years; she has earned her own living very

comfortably, and has always been respected by her employers. She has an opportunity of marrying a very worthy young man, who bids fair to rise in the world.

If I am very plain you will know it is all for your advantage; perhaps you will think I am inclined to be mean, but I shall advise you to be very economical at present. Now you wish to do your own work, this is beginning as people did in old times; it will be good for your health and happiness. You will have no one to trouble you by half doing what you want well done. "But," you say, "how am I to know how to do well?" I will try to tell you.

In the first place your husband will feel it his duty to provide you with all he can, by his industry, to make the house comfortable. In return, you must feel your duty is to do all you can to make yourself an agreeable companion, and by your faith-

ful care of what he provides, and constant attention to his comfort, try your best to make his home so pleasant that he will not care to go elsewhere.

You think part of a house enough to take care of at present, — you do not want any more room than is necessary; then I think three rooms sufficient, — a parlor, chamber, and kitchen. You wish to furnish your kitchen neatly, that you may take your meals there, as most convenient when you do your own work, and besides, you will only be obliged to have one fire at a time. In so doing you will save a great deal, as fuel is a great item in one's expenses. We will have a small range, or cooking-stove; there are very many of the latter on a small scale which are very convenient, and burn but little fuel. In the parlor we will have a nice grate; and in the chamber an air-tight stove is very economical and convenient. To make a fire

in it take an old newspaper and four small sticks of *dry* wood, this is the best way to heat a room quickly ; if you wish a fire all day or night, put a few sticks of not very dry wood, when it is fairly burning shut the damper, and it will keep your room quite warm enough. I think well of this in case of sickness, when you would wish to get ready without much trouble. For the parlor fire, have a little light wood split fine, put the paper at the bottom, then the wood, then a lump of soft coal if you have it. When you wish to have a fire just light the paper, and you have no more trouble ; if you wish to put on more coal use hard coal. This is the cheapest and best fire you can have. It is of great importance to have your house warm, and a clean hearth is one of the brightest spots in it.

Let us begin to furnish now. We will go to the kitchen first, as that is the main-

spring of the comfort of housekeeping. I like a yellow-painted floor and maple-colored furniture, as it keeps nice longer than dark. We will suppose the range or stove furnished with usual utensils. Here is a list of articles needed for the kitchen :

- Coal hod.
- Shovel.
- Tongs.
- Poker.
- Pail for ashes.
- Tea-kettle.
- Two pots.
- Frying-pan.
- Two saucepans.
- Small coffee-pot.
- Gridiron.
- Griddle.
- Meat-pan.
- Bread-pan.
- Two cake-pans.
- One 6-quart tin pan for mixing bread.