

THE GOLDEN HOUSE BOOKS

The Housekeeper's Knowledge

*Laundry, stains, rooms, dishes and everything else that kept a
house in order*



From the book «The New Golden House Book»
Riga, about 1905

BLUSABOOKS

The Housekeeper's Knowledge

Laundry, stains, rooms, dishes and everything else that kept a house in order

Book 3 of the series «The Golden House Books».

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Please note. This book is a historical document. Some of the advice and some of the substances of that time are today known to be unsafe. The recipes are to be read as evidence of their age, not as instructions.

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How they lived then

Without a washing machine, without a shelf of cleaning goods in the shop and without electric light, the house was still kept clean. With soap, ashes, soda, vinegar, sand and chalk — and with the knowledge of which stain comes out with what. This chapter is the household manual of its day: washing and bleaching, stains, clothes and leather, floors, windows, dishes and metals, the air of the room, lighting, vermin in the house, and a great many small turns that today would be called household tricks.

HOW THIS BOOK WAS MADE

The text is *word for word* from the original. We have retold nothing, shortened nothing and “improved” nothing: the recipes, the figures, the measures and the advice are exactly as they were printed.

Only the letters have been changed — the gothic type and the old orthography have been put into modern letters, and from Latvian into English. The language itself is that of 1905, so some words and sentences sound unusual today. That is how it is meant to be.

Old, foreign and obscure words are explained at the end of each section, where they first appear. All of them together are in the glossary at the end of the book, along with the table of old measures.

Square brackets [like this] mark places where the scan was damaged or cut off and the word has been restored from the context; [...] means the word cannot be read.

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laundry and bleaching

stains

clothes, leather and furs

floors, windows, furniture

dishes and metals

lighting and heating

vermin in the house

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