

## FOR THE GUEST OF A NIGHT.

PERHAPS we have packed hurriedly, or are forced by stress of weather to stay the night at a friend's house; be the reason what it may we find ourselves minus our usual surroundings; a most necessary button or hook comes off: what are we to do? Here is a very friend in need, ready to supply all we want; for notice, our desirable doll holds in her petticoats black cotton and white, needles, pins of

all sizes, and even includes a safety! Not much description is required: a halfpenny doll two inches long, scraps of flannel, white ribbon, lace and a quarter of a yard of coloured ribbon; cut two pieces of flannel four and a half inches by two and a half inches, "pink" out the edges, make a pleat at the top and fasten round the doll's waist (this is not as simple as it sounds); take the white ribbon five

inches by three inches, trim it in any way with lace to imitate an infant's robe, leave about three inches of lace at the top, make one box-pleat at the end of ribbon and fix it to the doll; fold the lace about its body, tie the coloured ribbon round as a sash making the ends at the back into a loop for hanging on the looking-glass.

"COUSIN LIL."



## "POPPED CORN."

By the Author of "We Wives."

OF all the "parties" given by us as children, perhaps "popped corn" ones were the most popular. They were so new to the little European children, and so suggestive of prairie lands and slavery! An American institution they were, and the chief guest an American product. Yet the ingredient for the entertainment cost only a couple of pence! At any flour store we could procure the dried ears of maize necessary. Cookie was always ready to contribute a wire basket. Mother let us carry off a small quantity of sugar, and thus our preparations were made.

The "party" popped the corn for themselves.

How well I remember the screams of delight as, after holding the yellow seeds over a clear fire, the first one "popped." Such a white, frothy-looking thing it was! and so good to eat. At first. Then our appetite for so insipid a luxury waned, and we rolled the corn in sugar. Sweet popped corn was an improvement. But our interest in that even subsided after a time. Our jaded taste required a savoury. Salt was substituted for sugar, and salted popped corn was declared perfection.

Those children's parties have left a pleasant memory. I would recommend them as a novelty to the English readers of the G. O. P.

The dried Indian corn may be either salted or sugared. Then put into a wire basket, with a cover over it. (An ordinary fry-basket will do, if you use a saucer or plate for a lid.) Now hold over a clear coal-fire or gas-stove till each seed is crowned with its frothy cap.

If sweet, allow the popped corn to get cold before eating. If salted, eat piping hot. A little variety may be introduced by pouring a drop of cochineal on the sugar. Pink pops look so "elegant" side by side with the white corn cobs. Red-Indians and pale-faces were nicknamed them!

But then everyone is not American.

## HOW TO TAKE CARE OF TEETH.

EVERY girl should brush her teeth night and morning from the time that she is three years old. This is the most effective way of doing it. A tooth-brush should have rather hard bristles, which should not be too closely set. Warm water should be used, with a little salt or borax. Some water should then be taken

into the mouth, the brush dipped in the water, and the teeth brushed thoroughly, first on the outsides up and down, and then backwards and forwards, from left to right, and from right to left. Then turn the brush so that the backs of the teeth may be brushed, and finally clean the crowns of the teeth. Do not be afraid of letting children be energetic over brushing their teeth; the practice will make their breath sweet, and keep their teeth sound and good. When the brushing is finished, the mouth must of course be rinsed out with water, and the brush cleaned and put away in an open, not shut up, place, so that it may dry and keep sweet. Tooth-powder is rarely necessary for children unless there is much tendency to formation of tartar, in which case, prepared chalk is as good a thing to use as can be mentioned.

If the gums have a great tendency to bleed, a few drops of tincture of myrrh may be used in the water for brushing the teeth. If iron or acid medicine has to be given to children, it should be taken through a glass tube, and the teeth brushed occasionally with carbonate of soda. Never let children drink fluids too hot or too cold, as anything which causes pain in the teeth is injurious to them.—From *A Book for Every Woman* (Longmans). By JANE H. WALKER, M.D.