Some Things One Had to Do in 1864
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What a pleasant thing it is to be disturbed by the following language from your better half after dinner while you are endeavoring to enjoy yourself with a newspaper and fragrant cigar:

“My dear, I wish before you return to your business that you would bring up a few armfuls of wood; then take the tub down to the cooper’s shop and have a hoop put on it; then hunt up a drayman and get him to haul a barrel of soft water from the river; then go over to Ankeny & Dart’s and get a supply of sugar and coffee; then go to the different stores in town, and keep hunting around until you find some eggs; then take this shoe to Mr. Corning and have it repaired; and then if you have time, you may bring in a pail of water; and before you get up from your chair if you have a handkerchief in your pocket, you will be so good as to wipe that child’s nose!”—Daily State Register, Des Moines, February 21, 1864. (In the Newspaper Division of the Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa.)