His Game Won. In a campaign in Kansas some years ago, when the tariff was made a dominant issue, an old German was running for a county office in central Kansas. He didn't know enough about the tariff to talk about it two minutes. More than that, he didn't care much. for it had nothing whatever to do with the office he wanted anyway. But the voters were much excited over the question and seemed to think that every candidate should be able to dis-

cuss the problem from A to Izzard. So this German and his campaign manager invented a successful subterfuge. When the German got up at the meetings to talk he would say: "Now, shentlemen. I vill talk mit you about

der tariff. It is like"-Just then his campaign manager would interrupt: "Why. John. you have only five minutes to talk. You cannot do yourself justice in that length of time on the tariff."

"Then I won't talk about dot tariff." would be John's inevitable reply, and he would go on to tell that he wanted a certain county office, and so on. His game won, and he was elected.-Kansas City Journal.

Wheat Does Not Grow Wild.

The existence of names for wheat in the most ancient languages confirms the evidence of its great antiquity and of its cultivation in the more temperate parts of Europe. Asia and Africa. From the evidence adduced by botanists of high standing it seems highly improbable that wheat has ever been found growing persistently in a wild state, although it has often been asserted by poets, travelers and histo-tians. In the "Odyssey," for example, we are told that wheat formerly grew in Sicily without the aid of man. Diodorus repeats the tradition that Osiris found wheat and barley growing pro miscuously in Palestine, but neither this nor other reputed discoveries of wheat growing wild seem at all credtble, seeing that it does not appear to be endowed with the power of persistency except under continued cul-

The Mind During Sleep. "During sleep." says an authority on mental subjects. "the workings of the mind are under no control, and yet it seems to have a wonderful faculty of building up and arranging scenes and tiny enemies no man or band of men. incidents. I remember once having a vivid dream of going into a house the furniture and inmates of which belonged to the middle ages. So clear was the dream that I had no difficulty in recalling it, and then as I went over each detail of dress, armor, jewelry, ornaments and other objects thing I had beheld was historically accurate—that is to say, that probably in a fraction of a second my mind had conjured up a scene to construct which, with the same faithfulness to detail, while awake would have taken me several hours."

The Use of Condiments.

In an article on the use of condiments the London Lancet, the foremost British medical publication, says: "The classic experiments of Pawlow have shown how important is the role of the condiments in diet, how it is they improve appetite and increase di-

gestive power. Mustard, pepper and salt, used, of course, in sensible amounts, assist the appetite, give a zest to food and partly by reflex action as well as local action stimulate the flow of digestive juices and insure healthy assimilation. Even vinegar is known to have a softening effect on tough fibers, and hence its use is justifled in so many instances."

The English Pheasant.

It is claimed that the pheasant of the English preserves can trace its pedigree directly to the brilliant bird of the same species in Japan. About the middle of the nineteenth century a few live pheasants were brought from Japan and crossed with the common species. The result of this was, it is said, that a new race of birds was introduced, and the beautiful pheasant. with its iridescent plumage, was produced and naturalized as an English

Coals of Fire. "I thought." said he. "that those people treated you so badly, and now see: They invite you to their reception Shall you go?"

"Why, certainly," said she. "Their inviting me showed they harbored no grudge against me for the way they treated me."-New York Press.

Well Answered.

"Oh. no: I don't claim to be any different or any brighter than the baiance of mankind. I expect I shall marry some fool woman some of these

"If you ever marry that's the kind of a woman you will marry, all right."-Rochester Union.

A Telitale Touch. "Is it true that sightless people can

tell the color of things by touch?" some one asked a blind man.

"Occasionally, yes." came the answer. "If. for instance, I touched a redhot poker I could tell it was red."

Swift's Sarcasm. "My brethren." said Dean Swift in a sermon. "there are three sorts of pride-of riches, of birth and of talents. I shall not now speak of the latter, none of you being liable to that abominable vice."

The Epicurean Badger.

The badger is a great epicure in eggs, and much of the hostility of gamekeepers to this animai lies undoubtedly in the fact that it will, when it gets the chance, devour a whomnest of partridge or pheasant eggs Badgers are said also to be found of honey, and, knowing the extraordinary craving of their South African cousin. the ratel, for this delicacy, I should say it is not improbable that they may occasionally partake of it. It is certain that these animals have a particular liking for the nest and larvae of wasps and wild bees, digging down with strong feet and infinite perseverance till they attain their object. These animals are said by keepers to kill and devour freely young rabbits. That they do partake of this fare at times is, I think, certain, but that they destroy any very considerable number is more than doubtful. Still, the budg er is carnivorous in his tastes and is not, even by his kindliest friends, to be absolved from devouring at times tender rabbits and even the young of game birds when he can get hold of them.-Westminster Gazette.

Strange Fishing Matches. In the olden time in England lords and ladies sometimes invented queer amusements. They were always on the lookout for some novelty, and one of the strangest they discovered was fishing by a goose. A line with a baited hook attached having been fastened to the goose, tied to its leg, she was flung into the water from the boat in which were all the gay lords and indies. Then, when a pike caught the bait, she was sport indeed, a royal battle between bird and fish, and all the time, between the loud splashings. wheelings and flounderings, the onlookers in the boat giving vent to their feelings in cheers, handclappings and handkerchief waving. But the guise was usually the victor and ended the struggle by landing its prisoner on the shore, where its quack-quack as it cleared itself from the line and waddled away ended the scene. The lake of Monteith, in the southwest of Perthshire, was often the scene of such angling matches.

The Soldier Ant. The lion is the king of beasts, but all of his magnificent strength and ferocity would avail him nothing when he faced a mere ant. But this ant is not the usual kind which peacefully goes about its domestic duties day by day. It is the terrible driver or soldler ant, said to be the most invincible creature in the world. Against these no lion or tiger, not even a herd of elephants, can do anything but hurriedly get out of the way. Among the Barotse natives a favorite form of capital punishment is to coat the victim with grease and throw him before the advancing army of soldier ants. The quickness with which the poor wretch is dispatched is marvelous when it considered that each ant can do nothing more than merely tear out a small particle of flesh and carry it off. Yes in a surprisingly short time the writining victim will have been changed into a skeleton.

Old Saws and Sayings.

A few old sayings on the subject of food come to us rather as a surp:is: in our age of daintiness and retine ment, yet they have their raison d'etrenotwithstanding. "Meat is much, man ners are more;" "Cease your chatter and mind your platter;" "The ass that brays most eats least;" "The wing with the liver to him who's the giver:" "II" can give little to his servant who lick-

his own trencher." Apropos of this remark, it is amus ing to note that "manners" was the name given to the remnants of a ment. These came to the servants as official perquisites; hence our well worn ex pression before emptying a dish. "Leave the last slice for whatever it may be) for manners," though if votes were collected on this point it is hardly likely that any of us would have taken it as it stands in the original.

Carthage's Great Snake. The ancients firmly believed in monster serpents of all kinds and of both the land and marine species. During the wars with Carthage a great snake is said to have kept the Roman army from crossing the Bagrados river for several days. The monster swallowed up no less than seventy Roman soldiers during this combat and was not conquered until a hundred stones from as many different catapults were fired upon it all at one time. The monster skull and skin were preserved and afterward exhibited in one of the Itaman temples. The dried skin of the creature was 120 feet in length, according to Pliny.

Throat Trouble. "You look bad, old man. What's the

matter?" "Throat trouble." "I didn't know you were subject to

"Yes, I am. This throat belongs to the newcomer in the next house, who practices singing at all hours of the

Past Is Past.

Finish every day and be done with it. You have done what you could. Some blunders and absurdities, no doubt, crept in. Forget them as soon as you can .- Emerson.

The Drawback. "Can't you live just as cheap in the suburbs as in town?" "Yes. but everybody knows it out

Distance is a great promoter of admiration.-Diderot.

It Represents the Whole Man, Ten Fin-

gers and Ten Toes. Twenty is called a score because it represents the whole man, ten fingers and ten toes. Etymologically it means a cut or mark. In very early times. when men could not count beyond twenty, or "one man." it was usual to cut a notch in a stick and begin again, and so it went on, one man, two men, and so on. This is why sheep are still counted by the score. Now, a tally (French taille, cut or nicked) means an account kept by means of a notched stick, and until the end of the eighteenth century such sticks were given as exchequer receipts, accompanied by a written document. This was also the usual way of keeping accounts in the inns of the middle ages. The number of drinks or meals a customer had were scored against him on what was called a tally stick, and when it reached twenty, or a "whole man," he was expected to pay, in some English country inns scores are still kept on a state, four chalk marks and one across-five-and four of these make twenty, or a score.- Westminster

The Pearl Hunters' Superstition. The pearl hunters of Borneo and the adjacent islands have a peculiar superstition. When they open shells in search of pearls they take every ninth find, whether it be large or small, and put it into a bottle, which is kept corked with a dead man's tinger. The pearls in the vial are known as "seed pearls" or "breeding pearls," and the native Borneose firmly believes that they will reproduce their kind. For pearl put into the viai two grains of rice are thrown in for the pearls to "feed upon." Some whites in Borneo believe as firmly in the superstition as the natives do, and almost every hut along the coast has its "dead finger" bottle, with from nine to fifty seed pearls and twice that number of rice grains carefully and evenly stowed away among them. That no results follow does not dim the superstition.

The Wonderful Toad Bone. All early writers attribute wonderful qualities to toads and frogs and the

various parts of their bodies. Pliny believed, for instance, that if a toad was brought into the midst of a mob or other large and unruly concourse of people "silence would instantly prevail." A small bone found in the right side of toads "of the proper age" was also believed to have powers over the various elements. "By throwing this bone into a vessel of boiling water," says Pliny. "it will immediately cool it, the water refusing to boil again until the bone has been removed. To find this bone, expose the dead toad on an ant hill. When the ants have eaten her all away except the bones, take each bone separately and drop it into boiling water. Thus may the wondrous toad bone be discovered."

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