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SOME CURIOUS TABLE MANNERS.

The Good Old Days When Knives and Forks Were Scarce—The Saltcellar.

It was late in the Fourteenth century when the first evidences of art in the shape of silver cups were noticeable on the buffet. The dishes were made of pewter or wood and spoons of bone, wood or silver. Knives were rare, and on that account guests invited to feasts carried their own knives. Forks came in general use still later, and for long years after their introduction they were considered ridiculous affectation and foppery, and not nearly so convenient as one's own fingers. The lord and his lady dipped their fingers into the same plate and sipped their wine from the same cup. Even the queenly Elizabeth, with all her elaborate ideas of etiquette, was content to carry her food to her mouth with her fingers, and at first despised the newly invented forks as unseemly and awkward.

Very gradually the dining hall grew in comfort and splendor. Dishes of gold and silver were made, and so eager were the nobles for them that they would sacrifice anything to possess them. The saltcellar was for a long time the article of highest importance on the board. It was a great affair, and it stood directly in the center of the table; it was the dividing line; the nobles were seated above the salt, the commoners below; hence grew the proverb, "Below the salt." The passing of salt was a ceremonious custom, the guest throwing a pinch over his left shoulder and murmuring a blessing.

The saltcellars were of the most curious device. Sometimes they represented huge animals, sometimes a great, full blown flower, or a long, slender stem, and again they were in shape of a chariot, mounted on four wheels, on which they were easily run down the table.

The first glass cups came from Venice during the Sixteenth century, and from that time on society began to lose many of its primitive ways, and became, in a sense, more refined.

Henry VIII was born with luxurious tastes. He had his banquet chairs supplied with velvet cushions, and about this time the parlor or "talking room," as it was called, was introduced, and here it was that the dames took refuge when the dinner had advanced beyond prudent limits, as it invariably did before the finish.

The cook that presided over the kitchen in those days was not the counterpart of our Nineteenth century Bridget, but he was an artist, and generally a man of quality. The ladies of the household, even those of noble birth, attended to many domestic duties, making the bread, preserving [illegible] understood

[illegible] during the late war, etc.—Tillie May Forney in Woman.

The Fat Man Trick.

Stage tricks and illusions have an undying charm even when the veil of mystery is raised. It was the celebrated family of Ravels that invented the fat man trick, and now we have an exposition of the manner in which that seeming marvel was accomplished. One of the actors in the pantomime sits at a table and ravenously eats dish after dish of food that a servant brings on to him. Presently the man, who like most ravenous eaters was rather thin and scrawny, begins to grow plump. His clothes fit him snugly. His waistcoat steadily swells out under the very eyes of the audience.

All the while he is eating like a sausage machine. In a few minutes he has grown to be a giant eight or nine feet tall, and with the proportions of an inflated balloon. The food eaten is all "property food," made of tissue paper, that the actor chews up into little balls and takes out of his mouth when occasion offers. His clothes are all of rubber and made to fit air tight around the wrists and neck. In sitting down he puts the heel of one foot over a little trap in the stage. An assistant below immediately couples a tube running from a bellows to a hole in the boot heel. Then he blows him up. By the time that the suit has grown so big that the inhabitant has to have a lantern to move around in it, the wind supply is cut off and the boot heel is plugged up. Then, by an ingenious arrangement of springs under the actor's feet the height is acquired.—Detroit Free Press.

T[illegible]on's Iron Discipline.

Many d[illegible]ns continue to take place from the French army in Tonkin. All the deserters who are recaptured are shot without compunction. Lately eighteen soldiers of the Foreign legion ran away from Southay with a lot of arms and accouterments. They were caught in the mountain defiles after a chase which lasted a considerable time, and the eighteen were condemned to be shot at once. It is said that when the men were drawn up in single file in front of their graves the adjutant who was in charge of the firing party cried out with an oath, on seeing some of the doomed men fall slightly out of their alignment, "Can't you fellows keep your dressing better than that? Eyes right! Dress!" No sooner was the command given than the prisoners with parade like punctuality straightened themselves up and obeyed as if they were on the drill ground or at a review. Then the fatal command was given, and the eighteen men went down before the terrible volley. The adjutant's words—if they were ever uttered, and it is probable that they were—show that an iron discipline still prevails in the French Foreign legion.—London Telegraph.

Watering the Bivalves.

"Always have your oysters opened while you wait," said a Brooklyn dealer. "Why? Because, although you pay five cents a quart more for them, you will save money. It is the custom of oyster dealers who open oysters the night before they are sold to throw them into water. An oyster will absorb about one-third its weight in water, and so the purchaser pays one-third of his money for water, which he can add to the oysters himself if he wants his bivalves watered."—New York Evening Sun.

Remedies for Writer's Cramp.

Change all the conditions frequently, the height of the chair or of the table, the kind of paper, using sometimes the smoother, sometimes the rougher sort. Have every description of pen and penholder at hand, and change them frequently. Don't try to write a handsome hand, for that is something that a person who has writer's cramp in perfection cannot do. Be satisfied with legibility, and this there need be no difficulty about. The trouble seems to be a nervous one, and very little things will affect it. The change from paper that is ruled to paper that is not, and vice versa, will often give relief, and even a change from black ink to blue has been known to be beneficial. Of course you must have quill pens in your assortment, but their exclusive use will not help you. A friend who does a great deal of writing has turned to the typewriter for relief, but that is all that it affords. The fingers have got into the cramp habit, and in time the use of the typewriter wearies and stiffens them. Nothing but an infinite variety of appliances, constantly changed, will afford the desired relief.—"Causerie" in Boston Herald.

Dyeing with the Henna Plant.

The lady who is about to undergo the dyeing process is stretched out at full length on her back, and is not allowed to stir. The paste is put on the soles of the feet, the toes included, about an inch thick; the upper part of the feet is never dyed. Soft leaves are then applied, as a covering, and the whole is tightly wrapped in linen.

The same process is gone through with the palm of the hand and the fingers. To keep the application in place, the lady must lie perfectly still all night, for no other parts of the body must receive the dye, and a spot on the back of the hand or the finger joints would be a great disfigurement.

At this time she is dreadfully teased by swarms of musquitoes and flies, but she dare not move to drive them away. In the upper classes slaves watch all night to keep away these pests with fans.

The same process must be repeated for three nights to obtain the desired red tint; but, once finished, it remains for a month, and cannot be washed out.—"An Arabian Princess."

Grizzly and Buffalo.

When there were buffalo on the plains the Manitoba grizzlies were great hunters of them. When a grizzly and a buffalo met there was always sure to be a contest, but it seldom lasted long, and the buffalo was usually the victim. The buffalo would charge upon the bear, which awaited the onset of his foe erect on his haunches. As the buffalo came upon him the bear threw himself aside, and with a blow as quick as lightning with one of his fore paws seldom failed to break his antagonist's neck. A grizzly bear has been known to engage in quick succession four and even five big buffalo bulls, and to kill every one of them. It frequently happened however, that some younger and more active bull than his companions succeeded in evading the fatal blow of the grizzly's terrible fore paw long enough to give in turn a fatal thrust with his horn in the bear's side, puncturing the vitals, and making of the contest a mutual slaughter.—New York Sun.

Educating Arabian Girls.

"Educate a girl!" exclaimed a Mohammedan to Dr. Jessup, a missionary among the Arabs, who was urging him to place one of his daughters in a girls' school in Tripoli. "Educate a girl! You might as well try to educate a cat!" Several aristocratic Mohammedan gentlemen of Beirut were induced a few years ago to place their daughters in one of the Protestant schools there, and one of them remarked: "Would you believe it? I heard one of the girls read the other day, and she actually asked a question about the construction of a noun preceded by a preposition! I never heard the like of it! The things do distinguish and understand what they read after all!" The other replied: "Mashallah! Mashallah! The will of God be done!"—St. Louis Republican.

The Coolies of Trinidad.

The coolies work excellently. They are picturesque additions to the landscape, as they keep to the bright colors and graceful drapery of India. The grave dignity of their faces contrasts remarkably with the broad, good humored, but common features of the African. The black women look with envy at the straight hair of Asia, and twist their unhappy wool into knots and ropes in vain hope of being mistaken for the purer race; but this is all. The African and the Asiatic will not mix, and the African being the stronger, will and must prevail in Trinidad, as elsewhere in the West Indies. Out of a total population of 170,000 there are 25,000 whites and mulattoes, 10,000 coolies, the rest negroes. The English part of the Europeans shows no tendency to increase.—J. A. Froude.

Belief in the Moon's Influence.

Men are not superstitious nowadays. Oh, no! but some of them kill their hogs only in the light of the moon, and plant their potatoes when it is full. One of our citizens relates a remarkable instance in proof of Luna's effects upon mundane affairs. He says that in Pennsylvania, before he left that state, two men put new roofs upon their houses. One house was roofed while the moon was new, and the other while it was either dark or full. Before he came away the roof of the former house had drawn up till a full story had to be put underneath, while the roof of the latter had pressed the building down till the lower story was under ground!—American Magazine.

Mistake of a Poet.

Sir Robert Ball, the Irish astronomer royal, has made scientific calculations, showing to his own satisfaction, at least, that the moon was far below the horizon on the night that Sir John Moore was buried and, therefore, Wolfe's famous poem is wrong in the stanza that has moonbeams in it.—Chicago Herald.

A DIPLOMAT'S DINNER.

A Plain and Cheap Banquet Where Everybody Was Extremely Well Pleased.

Some years ago an accomplished diplomate at Washington, the representative of a power not of the first importance, expressed his regret to a friend that he could not give dinners, "because," he said, "my government is poor, and I cannot afford it." The conversation occurred at the profuse and splendid table of a rich and courteous host, whose feasts were of great fame, and whose invitations were credentials of admission to the best society. A young diplomatic comrade who sat by heard the remark, and smiled as he said: "My government is poorer than yours, and I am but lately arrived. But what is diplomacy without dinners? and I am going to give one. It will not be like this, but the splendor is not an essential part of the feast. I shall give a plain and cheap dinner, to which I invite you both."

His manner was gay, and his invitation was gayly and gladly accepted because he was one of the delightful men in Washington. His colleague, however, who had spoken first, shrugged his shoulders, and said that, for his part, he couldn't do it; he couldn't ask people to come to his house and eat a poor dinner. "Not so fast," replied his friend; "I didn't say a poor dinner, but a plain and cheap dinner. I hope it will be good, nevertheless, although there may be no baked carp or stewed nightingales' tongues. But come and see."

The young minister of the small and poor kingdom was one of the most accomplished men in Washington. He was known to have corrected a justice of the supreme court in regard to a decision of a United States court in a western state, and to have made the correction in English, which was a foreign tongue to him, but in English so exquisitely chosen and urbanely expressed that the justice was probably unconscious of the mortification of the correction. The young minister had no foolish, fond reserves. "My government is poor, I am poor, we are all poor in my country," he said, "and I and my secretary work like day laborers here in Washington to acquire and to report necessary information to my government." But nobody was more sought; there was nobody whose coming more surely brought pleasure to any circle than that of the young minister.

The day of the dinner came, and a plainer and pleasanter dinner was never known in Washington. Every guest, from the secretary of state and the English envoy to all their neighbors at table, gave every week, indeed, repasts much more magnificent. But the simple dinner, admirably cooked and served, without display of table service, without the "carp and nightingales' tongues," but with the enlivening and inspiring charm of the host and the welcome variety of plainness, after the luxurious extravagance and ostentation of the usual dinner, was so fresh and delightful that the satisfaction and pleasure were universal, and the skeptical colleague who had thought great cost essential to a successful dinner owned himself converted, and the next month ventured upon a similar feast, and with the same success.—George William Curtis in Harper's Magazine.

Lifting a Thousand Pounds.

To lift 1,000 pounds on the health lift is no very remarkable feat for a person of average strength, giving sufficient time daily for a few months to practice. Mr. Blaikie learned in this way, at the age of 17, to lift 1,000 pounds after only six months' practice. Those who prefer to lift an actually measured weight will find it necessary to adopt some such plan as was employed by Topham, preparing a framework to bear the weight and standing in its midst, so as to lift the weight by means of symmetrically attached straps. For the body cannot, when at all salant, bear such a weight as 1,000 pounds.

Whether such exercise is good for the body as a whole depends a good deal on the opportunities which a man has for correcting an abnormal development of the lifting muscles by means of other exercises, increasing the development of other muscles and giving activity as well as strength to the frame.—Richard A. Proctor.

Georgian and Circassian.

The Georgian has a beauty quite different from that of the Circassian. The Circassian is dazzling, queen like and stately. She has a fair skin. She is elegant in form. She is kindly and gentle in voice, but lazy in movement and without spirit. One of her own sex has said: "There is no soul in a Circassian beauty; and as she pillows her pure, pale cheek upon her small dimpled hand, you feel no inclination to arouse her into exertion; you are contented to look upon her and to contemplate her loveliness." The Georgian is a creature with eyes like meteors and teeth almost as dazzling as her eyes. Her mouth does not wear the sweet and unceasing smile of her less vivacious rival. But the proud expression that sits upon finely arched lips accords so well with her stately form and lofty brow that you do not seek to change its character.—Home Journal.

Origin of Color Blindness.

That the origin of color blindness lies in the brain, and not in the eye, has been suggested by Professor Ramsay. While engaged in teaching in Brooklyn some years ago, the principal of a school insisted in treating every case of the sort as dependent on the will of the pupil. His remedy was the rod. This certainly seemed a tyrannical and unwarranted treatment, but the result was favorable to his theory. Is it possible that a thorough examination will ultimately demonstrate that the fault lies very largely in the shiftless methods of observation which have grown up under the old classical system of education, and which have to a large extent become hereditary?—Science.

Strictly Anti-Sedentary.

Friend (to congressman's wife)—Is your husband a man of sedentary habits?

Wife—Of course not. He hasn't touched a drop in fifteen years.

Paine's Celery Compound

CURES Nervous Prostration, Nervous Headache, Neuralgia, Nervous Weakness, Stomach and Liver Diseases, Rheumatism, Dyspepsia, and all affections of the Kidneys.

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PAINE'S CELERY COMPOUND strengthens the stomach, and quiets the nerves of the digestive organs. This is why it cures even the worst cases of Dyspepsia.

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PAINE'S CELERY COMPOUND is not a cathartic. It is a laxative, giving easy and natural action to the bowels. Regularity surely follows its use.

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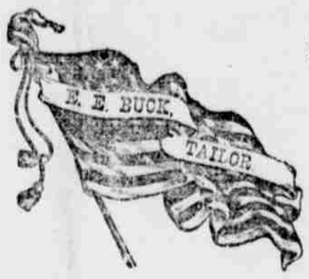

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Nov. 1tf. E. F. BUCK

NOTICE TO HEIRS.

In the matter of the Estate of Henry Kratzer, late of Centre township, Snyder county, Pa., dec'd.

To Amanda Kratzer intermarried with Peter Thomas, dec'd., of Adams township, Snyder county, Pa., Wm. Kratzer of Reedsville, Mifflin county, Pa., George Kratzer, of Paxtonville, Snyder county, Pa., Lizzie, intermarried with Samuel Gross of Shrader's Mills, Mifflin county, Pa., Simon Kratzer, Alice, intermarried with Hopula Mitchell, Alvesta intermarried with Nathan Backenberg, all of Paxtonville, Snyder county, Pa., John Kratzer, a minor who has for his Guardian A. A. Romig, of McClure, Pa., Catherine, new dec'd. leaves to survive her a husband, Joseph Musser, of Shrader's Mills Mifflin county, Pa., and the following children viz: John, Jennie, minors, who have for their guardian A. A. Romig, of McClure, Snyder county, Pa., Sarah, now dec'd., who leaves to survive her husband, Andrew Wagner, and the following children, viz: Charles, Kate, George, Alice and Ellen, all of whom are minors and have for their guardian A. A. Romig, of McClure, Snyder county, Pa.

You are hereby cited to be and appear before the Judges of our Court of Common Pleas, to be held at Middleburgh on the 4th Monday (being the 23d day) of May, 1888, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to accept or refuse to take the real estate of HENRY KRATZER, dec'd., at the appraised valuation put upon it by an inquest duly awarded by the said Court, and returned by the Sheriff of said county, or show cause why the same should not be sold, and hereof fail not.

Witness the Hon. Joseph C. Bucher, President of our said Court at Middleburgh, this 5th day of March A. D. 1888.

W. W. WITTENMYER, Proth'y.

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Trial List May T. '88.

Anis Gross et al use vs Elizabeth Greenhoe
The Commissioners of Union Co vs Richard Budd
A W Potter vs Abel Herrold et al
Jeremiah Meyer adm'r vs John Hahne
Ann Mary Pile vs Ner Middleswarth et al
Kennedy & Shires vs H W Hummel
N P Hare vs Franklin township
D H Strawser et al adm'r &c vs J O Nipple
The Dalmatia Nail & Iron Co vs Dr Geo B Weiser
The Dalmatia Nail & Iron Co vs J S Kline
The Dalmatia Nail & Iron Co vs J M Rine
Emma R Schwenk vs John O Wagner
The Lykens Valley Mut Fire Ins Co vs Daniel S Boyer et al
Daniel Kern vs John S Woods et al

W W WITTENMYER
May 3, '88. Proth'y.

Court Proclamation

WHEREAS the Hon. Joseph C Bucher President Judge of the Judicial District composed of the counties of Snyder Union and Mifflin and Samuel A. Wetzel and Jacob A. Smith, Esqs. Associate Judges in and for Snyder county have issued their precept bearing date the 14th day of Dec. A. D. 1887, to me directed for the holding of an Orphans court, a court of Common Pleas, court of Oyer and Terminer and General court of Quarter Sessions of the peace at Middleburgh for the county of Snyder; on the 4th Monday (being the 23d day of May 1888,) and continue one week.

Notice is therefore hereby given to the Coroner, Justices of the Peace and Constables in and for the county of Snyder, to appear in their proper persons with their rolls records, inquisitions, examinations and other remembrances to those things to their offices and in their behalf pertain to be done and witnesses and persons prosecuting in behalf of the Commonwealth against any persons are required to be then and there attending and not departing without leave at their peril. Justices are requested to be punctual in their attendance a the appointed time agreeably to notice.

Given under my hand and sea at the Sheriff's office in Middleburg, the 30th day of April A. D., one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight.

REUBEN DEERSE, Sheriff.

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