

KITCHENS IN OLDEN TIMES

Size of Culinary Department Was More Important Than Its Furnishings Long Ago.

In olden days the size of the kitchen seems to have been of more importance than its fittings in detail. At Harstoncous, for instance, there was a kitchen 28 feet high, with three huge fireplaces, and a bakehouse with an oven 14 feet in diameter; then there is an old Welsh kitchen at Fearlyn Old Hall, near Llandudno, dating from the Fifteenth Century, which has many primitive culinary contrivances, now obsolete or superseded by more modern devices; a meatjack with a flywheel, a steel roasting stand, and a fan bellows. A wonderful old kitchen is at Battle Abbey, and that at St. Mary's Hall, Coventry, is remarkable for the famous "knave's post," to which possibly recalcitrant scullions were temporarily attached. There is a medieval kitchen in Westminster Abbey, although nowadays little remains whereby to identify it save the rubble flooring, the buttery hatch and an adjoining cellar—now or lately the dining-room of the resident canon. Hampton Court Palace, too, has its "great kitchen," with a vast vaulted roof and sets of arches on the walls.

Our ancestors fully recognized the advantages of having a large kitchen. An order, dated April 19, 1306, commands Hugh de Nevill to have the king's kitchen at Clarendon roofed with shingles, and to cause two new kitchens to be erected, one at Marlborough and the other at Ludgershall, to dress the royal dinners in; and it is particularly directed that each kitchen shall be provided with a furnace sufficiently large to roast two or three oxen.

ENGLAND GETS BEST COFFEE

All the First Grade From Java Goes There—America Uses Much Formosa Tea.

"America does not get the highest grade of coffee produced in Java, nor the best grade of tea from Formosa," said Horace T. Tompkins, an American exporter from the island of Formosa.

"It is somewhat strange that it is almost impossible to get good coffee in Asia, as it would seem that Java could supply that part of the world, but it is a fact that good coffee is unknown in the Orient. One can get first class coffee in Belgium, in France or in England, and good coffee in the United States, but here we get only the second grade of the coffee bean. In fact there is not a great quantity of first class coffee produced, and it all goes to England, where the demand for the finest grades of everything to eat is limited. Formosa sends to the United States every year about 18,000,000 pounds of tea. It is of good quality, but not the highest grade. In the whole island no more than 1,000 pounds of the very best tea is grown, and this is shipped to various countries. But a small quantity of it goes to New York.

"Formosa has a population of 3,500,000, most of whom are Chinese. There are about 35,000 Japanese. The Viceroy of Formosa, Satsuma, is a man of great ability, and is friendly to the United States and Americans. Dantol, the principal city of Formosa, has a population of 135,000."

The Young French Girl.

A young French girl enters the theatre with her father. She takes her seat directly in front of the privileged American girls "finishing" their education abroad. Her untouched flower-like face is alight with anticipated pleasure, with a soft vivacious intelligence that could never be cursed with the word "brassy." Her hair is bound with a little old-fashioned snood and tiny buckles, a strangely simple evening dress covers the exquisite ardor of her slender body.

Quickly four faces, the faces of the overindulged, the overprecocious, the overathletic and the overdressed, turn to study her. There is something to learn in this little French maid, whose eyes never meet a man's, who is never allowed to walk alone on the street, whose unconscious grace envelops her like a veil, who is sheltered like a delicate bird yet trained to the utmost energy, reserve, accomplishment and usefulness.—The Atlantic.

Low Stage of the Mississippi.

As showing the low stage of the Mississippi river an eastern Missouri paper prints this: "A load of steers was driven from Town Island to Tibbits Island on dry land in the middle of the Mississippi river at Clarksville Sunday. It was a spectacle that never had been witnessed in the memory of Clarksville residents. A sandbar extends from one island to the other, due to the low stage of the river, and the cattle, owned by Mayor Buchanan, followed this route.

"Persons from Illinois drive half way across on dry sand and are met by the Clarksville ferry, which transports them to the Missouri shore, while north of town there is one place that can be waded from shore to shore."—Kansas City Star.

What Did Mamma Do?

Dominie—What a lot of peanies you have in your little bank! Were they given you for candy?  
Freddie—No, sir. Those are the ones ma gave me to put in the collection basket.—Judge.

BIG DEMAND ON EDUCATION

Modern Life Requires That It Shall Furnish Opportunities for the Fullest Individualism.

Opportunities for the fullest individualism is the demand which modern life makes upon education. The school should be an experiment station replete with alluring incentives to intellectual growth. Here, aided by the helpful sympathy of teachers who have discovered the difference between schooling and education, children could try their powers, and moments of enthusiasm be utilized for mental growth in various lines. Mental tendencies, like animal instincts, must be coaxed out by stimulating situations, and the present school environment is too barren to offer the needed excitement. Boys are continually trying to understand themselves, to find the occupation that their nature vaguely craves, but the pedagogical rope always pulls them back to the curriculum. Then their enthusiasm cools, while the teachers go on trying to strike an intellectual spark with the mental temperature at zero. This is not only an extravagant waste of educational forces, but, what is far more serious, it awakens hatred of study in those whose mental organization does not suit the school plan. The restraint of a system suited to the average child inhibits the powers of unusual children and awakens resentment. Uniformity in treatment and instruction suppresses the tendency to vary and creates dullards.—Edgar James Swift, in Harper's Magazine.

THOUGHT IT SACRED RITES

Morning Gymnastics of a Traveler Caused Kurds in Armenia to Leave the General Room.

Everything is liable to be misunderstood, even gymnastic exercises. This truth was brought home to George H. Hepworth, and he tells his experience in "Through Armenia on Horsesback." The author was stopping in a Kurdish village, and the inn possessed but one general living room.

In the morning I began my regular gymnastics, stopping until my fingers touched the floor, throwing my arms about like the spokes of a wheel, striking out from the shoulder, and going through all the exercises, none of which I ever omitted. I would gladly have taken a sponge bath, but it would have been impossible to get enough water; a pint is enough to suffice a Turk.

Well, I got under way with my exercises, when I saw that my audience was excited; conversation dropped in to a whisper, then ceased; word passed from one to another, and one by one the occupants of the room quietly left. I feared that they were offended, and wanted to call them back and apologize. Just then my dragoman entered, laughing.  
"What has happened?" I asked.  
He laughed the harder as he replied:  
"The Kurds think you are practicing devotional religious exercises, and they retired under the impression that you would regard their presence as an intrusion."—Youth's Companion.

A Scolding Dress.

"Before I take off this dress," said the woman to the home dressmaker, who was fitting a party gown. "I want to go into the kitchen and read the riot act to Maria."

"Oh, not with this dress on," the dressmaker protested. "She is cooking and the grease might pop."

"Can't help it," the woman interrupted. "Maria needs a lecture. She has been needing it for some time, but I didn't dare deliver it because I hadn't good enough clothes to make it effective. Maria is black and lately by the clothes they wear. If I had scolded in shirt waist and skirt or even in my old blue afternoon dress Maria would have scorned me, but with all this finery on I can speak my piece and Maria will be properly impressed and maybe she will reform."

The Moon on Fish.

A recent report of the Scotch fishery board mentioned a curious habit which, according to fishermen, is associated with fish; the phases of the moon. It was asserted, have a very direct connection with the willingness of fish to be netted.

To test this theory statistics were obtained of the catch of herrings from 1860 to 1900, with the result that the biggest catches were found to have coincided with the new moon and the smallest with full moon. The report suggested that a full moon enabled the nets to be seen much more easily than at times of new moon or the crescent phase or that the tides, which vary with the lunar phases, were possible factors in the matter.—Westminster Gazette.

Fastidious Tastes of the Porker.

An apology is due to the farm yard pig who has been grossly maligned in regard to his food. Instead of being ready to eat anything, he has just proved himself the most fastidious of animals. Experiments recently carried on in France and Sweden show this to be the case. In Sweden the record tells that out of 575 plants the goat eats 449 and refuses 126; the sheep, out of 494 plants, eats 287 and refuses 141; out of 528 plants the cow eats 276 and refuses 218; out of 474 plants the horse eats 362 and refuses 212, and the pig, out of 243 plants, eats only 73 and refuses the other 171.

HE TOOK MEAN ADVANTAGE

Broker Banked "Friend's" Check After the Borrower Thought He Had Protected His Money.

"See that heavily built guy who just came in!" said the broker to his friend in the cafe. "You may have noticed that he caught my eye, but passed on without a sign of recognition. Well, he's a promoter. He and I used to be great friends—ostensibly. He rushed into my office one afternoon in a state of great excitement, saying that a little deal he was putting through made \$50 necessary at once, and would I save him a little trouble by cashing a check for the sum. He always seemed to have plenty of money, so I gave him the cash and took his check. I did not see him again soon, and on my depositing the check it came back marked 'No funds.' I looked up his bank, and found he did have a deposit there at one time. I deposited the check again and again it was returned. A week later I tried again, with the same result. More for amusement than anything else, I sent the check to the bank for the fourth time, and this time it went through!"

"Soon after that our friend called me up on the telephone, and in the most outraged tone of voice asks what I mean by taking advantage of him that way. He could not have been more indignant had I double-crossed him in a straight deal. And that explains why he no longer speaks to me."

CAUSE OF NERVOUS HEADACHE

Overwork, Worry, Eye-Strain and Other Things That Bring on This Very Distressing Ailment.

Nervous headaches occur in hysterical or neurasthenic individuals and those suffering from overwork or worry. In this class might also be mentioned headaches due to eye strain. The error of vision may be so slight that the patient is not conscious of any impairment of her sight, but the constant effort to counteract it is sapping her nervous energy. When frequent headaches occur it is important to have the vision carefully tested by a competent eye specialist. No further search for a cause may be necessary.

Disease of the ear, a deviated septum in the nose, adenoids, enlarged tonsils or other abnormalities of the nose and throat are often responsible for persistent headaches that resist treatment. In all cases these possible conditions must be considered and one by one eliminated. Persistent headaches require careful study by a careful, competent physician and painstaking observance of the advice and directions he gives.—Woman's Home Companion.

Bible Reading.

In an optimistic sermon of a week ago Sunday it was stated that along with the dread of diphtheria and the bubonic plague and having your children sold into slavery there had disappeared out of the world the fear of being caught reading the Bible. I was especially struck by that statement, because the time lies within my own memory when the fear of being caught reading the Bible had not disappeared out of the world. Perhaps it lies within the memory of any man or boy who has had the fortune of a pious rearing. I should speak with hesitation for the girls, but I saw with confidence that it is habitual for healthy boys of a certain age to be ashamed of being good. And much as I enjoy rising to an optimistic sermon, I cannot help doubting whether the fear of being caught reading the Bible has actually disappeared out of the world.—Disparated out of the world.—The Atlantic.

Love Badly Handicapped.

Maudie—George, I don't think I ought to marry you, for I don't believe you love me one bit.

George (ardently)—Why, my darling, I am passionately, desperately, madly in love with you. I worship the very—

Maudie—You talk well enough, George, but those letters you wrote to me when you were away were so cold and distant they froze my heart. One would think you were writing to your washerwoman about her bill.

George (slowly)—Maudie, I was engaged to a girl—once—before, and when she sued me for breach of promise all my letters to her were read—in—open—court.—New York Weekly.

Bird That Is Bee's Enemy.

Bees have enemies of various kinds like the rest of creation. Every one knows that many birds are insectivorous, but all insects do not form the food of any one species. The bird which has formed a taste for bees is the blue tit, and if a pair of these discover a suitable nesting place in the neighborhood of an apiary it is surprising how many bees will be carried off to satisfy them and their young. Generally their work is mostly felt where queen raising is extensively indulged in, for queens and drones, being largest and sweetest on the wing, form a desirable and an easy prey.—Agricultural Economist.

Unappreciated.

"No latest trouble," said Pleading Pete, "arose from mistaken kindness." "You didn't give me none of the money you got for your hard-luck menologue last week," protested Meandering Mike.  
"No. But I saw a lonely pollopman at three o'clock in the morning and tried to cheer him up by singin' 'He's a Jolly Good Fellow.'"

EXPERT COWBOYS OF SPAIN

Mounted Herdsmen of the Andalusian Plains are Fine Looking Fellows, and Skillful Horsemen.

The perfection of Spanish horsemanship is to be seen among the vaqueros, ganaderos or garrochistas, by which various names the mounted herdsmen of the Andalusian plains are known—in brief, what we should call a cowboy. Every farm seems to maintain a large number of these, for each herd, flock or drove has its own herdsman, goat-herd, or swineherd, as the case may be. The vaqueros are a fine-looking lot of men. Tall, thin, light and loosely made, they look ideal horsemen—as, in point of fact, they are, though their mounts are poor. The vaquero rides very high on a huge saddle, with a long stirrup and straight leg, using a single rein and a very heavy curb; but he has such beautiful hands that, although using this barbarous bit, he never cuts his horse's mouth about. It is different with the animal's sides, however, for he uses his spurs without mercy, and the white horses—of which there are a large number—all have ominous red stains behind the girths.

All the herdsmen who look after cattle carry a long lance, called a garrocha, of thick and heavy wood, which, except when standing still, they always carry "in rest" and not "at the carry," presumably on account of its great length and possibly its weight. With this weapon, in the use of which he acquires amazing dexterity, the garrochista is able to control the most unruly brutes in his herd, not excepting the savage fighting bull.—Wide World.

HINTS FOR HOUSECLEANING

Timely Instructions for Men Which Will Enable Them to Get the Task Done in Short Order.

Housecleaning time is dreaded justly by a great many people, but the thoughtful husband may get it through with in short order. Washing windows, for instance, is always gone about in such an awkward way, the windows being washed in statu quo, so to speak. A simpler way is to take the windows out and send them to the laundry.

Dusting the pictures is also usually attended with much hard work. A quick and simple plan is to take hold of the frame firmly and swing the picture back and forth, hitting it sharply against the wall each time. This dislodges the dust, which falls to the floor and may easily be swept up.

If you have no vacuum cleaner, you may improvise one with an old bicycle pump by attaching a funnel to the nozzle. Then work the pump backward, so that instead of forcing the air out it will be drawn in. The rugs may soon be cleaned in this way.

Washing the woodwork is another futile procedure. Simply get a few gallons of paint and paint over the grime on the woodwork.

To repolish the hardwood floors, take your wife's manicule buffer and sit down in a comfortable position and go to work. You will be surprised at what a pleasant way this will be to while away the evenings.—Judge.

Paying Taxes in Kind.

The natives of the Congo pay their taxes in kind, as might be expected in a territory just beginning to be civilized. The value of domestic animals in that country is such that one wishes it were nearer London, in view of the high price of meat here. A bullock is valued at about 19s 6d, a cow 22s, a horse 23 15s, a sheep 1s 3d. The camel commands the highest price, viz 24s.

The custom of payment in kind is not so remote as most persons would think. The Reverend the late Professor Flint of Edinburgh, we know, has stated that during the time he was professor of moral philosophy in St. Andrews he was accustomed to receive part of the emoluments of his chair in kind from the farms belonging to the university. This would be prior to 1876, in which year he was translated to Edinburgh.—London Globe.

Uncle Hiram to His Nephew.

"Stevy," said Uncle Hiram to his hopeful young nephew, "while I think of it let me tell you a little one, something that you can jot down in your memory."

"When you come to get grown up and in business for yourself, employ many people and hiring other people to look after them, bear this in mind when it comes to hiring bosses."

"Whatever his other merits may be never hire a man for a boss unless he has also good sound health. A healthy, hearty man who is feeling good and cheerful himself all the time can get out of men twice the work that can be got by a man in poor health and feeling all the time sour and grumpy."

Should Be Binding Oath.

For a devout and ironical oath, the following, administered to the officials of Slam, is not likely to be outdone: "May the blood flow from the veins, may crocodiles devour me, may I be condemned to carry water to the flames of hell in vessels without bottoms. After death may I enter into the body of a slave. May I suffer the harshest treatment during all times in years as numerous as the sands of the sea. May I be reborn deaf, dumb and blind and afflicted with dire maladies. May I also be thrown into Norak—the lower regions—and tortured by Pree Yam, if I break the oath."

SHORTEST ROUTE TO JAPAN

It is Along the Aleutian Islands, Which Stretch Out From Alaska Toward Asiatic Continent.

Few persons are aware that the shortest route from San Francisco to Japan is by way of Alaska. Nearly a thousand miles are saved by vessels trading with the Orient by coasting along the Aleutian Islands, rather than following the Hawaiian route.

The Aleutian Islands, which extend in a chain east and west for more than a thousand miles, are inhabited by the remnant of the Aleuts. Their war of the revolution closed just as the American Revolutionary war began. So patriotic were the Aleuts, so brave in their struggle for independence, that they succumbed to the Russians only after a conflict of nearly fifty years, and then simply because the race was almost exterminated in the struggle. While the Aleutian Islands must eventually form an important link in the commerce between the United States and the Orient, other islands link our country with the vast empire to the north. In the narrow Behring Straits lie two little islands, one occupied by Russia, the other by the United States, so that citizens of the two great nations live on respective islands within a few miles of each other.

CANNOT SHOW THEIR TEETH

Dentists at Disadvantage in the Matter of Advertising, Compared With Other Professions and Businesses.

"Men in every other profession and business have the advantage of dentists in the matter of advertising," said a man with forceps in his hand. "They can persuade good-looking young women to wear their goods for photographic purposes; the dentist cannot. The whitest, evenest set of false teeth ever made cannot tempt a woman to wear them and be photographed with her mouth wide open."

"Manufacturers of cosmetics and artificial hair are besieged by women who are willing to daub their faces with paint and powder and build their heads out with puffs and braids into any style of architecture desired for photographic advertisements. Neither do they balk at patent wearing apparel. The most absurd garment ever invented can find somebody to pose in it before the camera. But false teeth are universally blacklisted."

"Every woman who gets photographed with her mouth spread into a smile wants people to think that the teeth she shows are her own, and the dentist who would dare to label the picture 'These teeth made by Dr. Plank' would lay grounds for a libel suit."

His Book.

He was very old, and he scrambled into the "pay-as-you-enter" car with difficulty. Once safely inside he seated himself in the corner of the car and began to read.

The car bumped its way along Walnut street, past Broad, past Rittenhouse square. Not once did the old man look up. He was absolutely buried in his book, in which he gave the absorbed attention of a scholar.

At Fifty-fourth and Spruce streets the old man cast a startled glance out of the window, got up and hobbled to the front of the car. On the way he dropped his book and several passengers had a chance to see the title before it was picked up and given back to its owner.

The volume which had so absorbed the octogenarian was "Jack Spot, the Young Highway Robber; or, the Desperado of Devil's Gulch."—Philadelphia Times.

Pews at Cut Rates.

"A reduction of \$2 a year in pew rent will fetch the bargain hunter every time," said a sexton. "Only last week a young woman who expects to make her home in this city concluded that of all city churches of this denomination she liked ours best and would take a pew here, but when she found she could get a pew that suited her about as well in another church for \$2 a year less she let all other considerations go by the board and identified herself with that church."

"The cut rate pew hunter is a recognized feature of modern church life. Because a new member elects to join our congregation does not at all signify that he shares our religious convictions or likes the pastor and our service; it may mean that we charge less for the pew he likes than another church up the street."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Adjustable Picture Frames.

"Did you ever see," said a shopper, "among ornamental picture frames designed to stand on desk or table one oblong in shape that could be used either upright, as it would commonly be for a portrait, or lengthwise, as it would be for a landscape picture?"

"You know it isn't easy to find small frames designed for landscapes, frames that are longer than they are tall, but this frame can be used either way. The support on the back, the foot that you spread out to make the frame stand up, is mounted on a disk in the back of the frame, a disk that can be turned so that this frame can be as readily used one way as the other, either upright or with its greatest length horizontal."

His Creed.

Howell—Have you any creed?  
Powell—I make it a rule never to be struck by an automobile before breakfast.

OTHER JOB IS JUST AS BAD

School Teacher and Housewife Find by Comparison That Neither One Should Envy the Other.

There had been a severe storm, lasting several days, and the little school teacher was getting very tired of it. She found it hard to go back and forth to her work, and when she reached her boarding place Friday night she was in a complaining mood. As she passed through the flat on her way to her room she said to the friend with whom she boarded, a young married woman: "You ought to be thankful you do not have to go out in these storms. It is horrible."

The other young woman looked up with a queer expression in her eyes. "I was just envying you," she said, "to think you were free to go. For three days I have been house-bound and I'm just ready to cry for a good walk in the open air. These two babies can't be taken out in such weather, and I have no one to leave them with, so that keeps me shut in. You ought to be glad you can go out."

"Queer, isn't it," mused the small pedagogue, "how the other fellow's work often looks the more desirable. Perhaps each one of us will feel more resigned now, when we realize that every position has its disadvantages and that, after all, nobody can fill an other's."

CAPTURED THE LADY'S WATCH

Auburn-Haired Young Man Didn't Mean to Do It, but It Caught on a Button.

He was such a straight, manly fellow—with a military bearing and a soldierly tread. He had Auburn hair, and he blushed easily, and, above all, he was keenly alive to the rights of his fellow-beings and anxious to do the right thing by them. But he and his friend were hurrying from the local to catch the subway express, and they would have caught it, but—  
"He's got my watch!" a woman screamed.

The manly fellow strode on, conscious of virtue.

"Hold on, hold on!" said the Auburn-haired man's friend, clutching his arm. "You're carrying off a lady's watch!" and he untwisted the watch and chain, which had wound itself around his coat button.

The woman was still angry when she overtook them, and scarcely convinced that the blushing man was not old at the game, but she got away in time to board the express.

The Auburn-haired man and his friend missed it.

The Short-Lived Pin.

By a series of experiments conducted on his estate a French investigator has discovered that pins go the way of all flesh and are resolved into dust. Hairpins, which the experimenter watched for 154 days, disappear at the end of that time, having been resolved into a ferrous oxide, a brownish rust, which was blown away by the wind. Bright pins took nearly 18 months to disappear; polished steel needles nearly two years and a half; brass pins had but little endurance; steel pins at the end of 15 months had nearly gone, while their wooden holders were still intact. Pencils, with which he also experimented, suffered little by exposure; the lead was unharmed, and the cedar almost as good as new.—Human Life.

War, Wives and Whales.

Workmen excavating for a cellar in Sag Harbor, L. I., have laid bare the foundations of the home of Capt. David Hand, a hero of the Revolutionary war. Many relics were found, 3-inch lock files and coins. The house of Captain Hand was the first house built in Sag Harbor. Besides being a famous soldier, Captain Hand, who was mentioned in several of J. Fenimore Cooper's books, was a well known master whaler. The old warrior lies buried in Oakland cemetery, Sag Harbor, besides the graves of his five wives. The epitaph on his tombstone reads as follows: "Behold, stranger, as you pass by, how thick the partners of one husband lie."

Swift's Face.

There is nothing new to learn, it seems, about Swift's relations with Stella and Vanessa. There is, however, it is pointed out, a hint in a hitherto unpublished letter of Chetwode to Swift written in October, 1714, which may be worth noting: "The ladies of your acquaintance are, I confess, a little hard upon you in regard to faces to tie you down to ugliness and age. But you know best if it be not just, since the world says you may command a very agreeable one and yet defer it." The last sentence is erased in the draft as if on second thoughts the writer feared to arouse Swift's indignation by alluding to so private a matter as Stella's regard for him.

Four Generations in Hunting Field.

It was interesting to see four generations of one family in the saddle at a meet of the York and Ainsty. Sir Edward Green, who is now in his eightieth year, was there wearing scarlet, finding just the same pleasure as he took in the sport 50 years ago. His sons, Lyeost Green (many years master of the pack) and Frank Green, were present, also the latter's son, Edward Green, and finally E. Green's son, Master Edward Green, who looks like being as keen on fox hunting as his forbears are.—Pall Mall Gazette.