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EXPLANATIONS OF ANCIENT CUSTOMS

PURPOSE WHICH THEY SERVED ORIGINALLY.

Hundred Years of Punishment Imposed Upon the 12th Lancers by the Duke of Wellington.

Many old customs have become so entirely a matter of habit that we seldom pause to consider why they were instituted, or what purpose they served originally.

In a vague sort of way we realize that there must have been a reason of some sort for their inception, but time has so obscured or erased it that it has become one of the things we simply and unquestionably take for granted.

Many of these curious survivals are connected with the Services, and are interesting records of earlier habits which are now almost entirely traditional. One is the custom mentioned by Colonel Younghusband in his "Memories of a Soldier."

"In some regiments," he writes, "a Loving Cup goes round to celebrate certain occasions, and whilst each officer is drinking, his next-door neighbor steps out and stands back to back with him, so that he shall not be stabbed in the back while his head is buried in the Loving Cup."

The Inner Meaning.

In the good old times there seems to have been a regrettable uncertainty as to what was going on behind your back, and the chivalrous custom of "ladies first" probably arose in knightly days from the fact that the women were in a safe position when followed and defended by their knights—though it has been suggested that there were better reasons, and that married men courteously encouraged their wives to take precedence because the family foe was apt to lurk in dark cofters in front, and not in the rear!

However, the knights may have the benefit of the doubt, and certainly the origin of the offering of the left arm to a lady was to leave the right free for the skilful use of the sword or dagger in her defence.

When a soldier presents arms at a general salute, he raises his rifle by the right hand to the height of the mouth, and there meets it smartly with the left the fingers being spread out and turned downwards.

This was originally a precautionary measure to prevent any hankey-pankey being played with the trigger whilst the officer stood invitingly in front, and though the reason has long since disappeared, the position of the fingers remains the same!

When an officer presents arms the hilt of the sword is carried to the level of the lips, the reason for this being

that, at one time, the hilt of the sword was made in the form of a cross, which he kissed at the salute.

The reason why all naval men salute the quarter-deck of every vessel they board is because a figure of the Virgin used always to be placed upon the poop as a protection against danger.

In the Services.

In old days officers drew their swords whilst the Creed was being repeated in church, to show that they were willing to defend their faith with their lives, but this is one of the picturesque customs which have fallen into disuse. In India the Mutiny broke out in Merut during the hours of Divine service, whilst the men were unarmed and at a disadvantage, and since then all regiments have worn side-arms in church.

The body of men called Marines, "soldiers and sailors too," were originally enlisted for service on board ship to defend naval officers from the blue-jackets, who in those early days were generally men of the lowest class and worst character, who were seized by the press-gang and bound unwillingly to the ships for a term of years.

The expression "Tell it to the marines," is applied sarcastically to the teller of a more than usually unlikely story, but this arose merely from the fact that all sailors thought themselves more shrewd and less easily imposed upon than land-lubbers, and the marine was conveniently handy on board ship.

In 1912 the 12th Lancers, then stationed in South Africa, completed a hundred years of punishment inflicted upon them during the Spanish war, for having broken into a monastery and committed sacrilege. On hearing of it the Duke of Wellington was exceedingly angry. He paraded the regiment at the first opportunity, and sentenced it to a hundred years penalty.

This penalty took the form of hymn playing. Every night at ten o'clock, for a hundred years, so ran the Duke's order, the band must parade and play five hymns. These hymns are the Spanish National Anthem, the Russian National Anthem, the Vesper Hymn, the Prince of Wales' Hymn, and the British National Anthem. Formerly each man in the regiment was required to stand beside his bed when the penal hymns began, but this was stopped later.

GUARD BABY'S HEALTH IN THE SUMMER

The summer months are the most dangerous to children. The complaints of that season, which are cholera infantum, colic, diarrhoea and dysentery, come on so quickly that often a little one is beyond aid before the mother realizes he is ill. The mother must be on her guard to prevent these troubles, or if they do come on suddenly to banish them. No other medicine is of such aid to mothers during hot weather as is Baby's Own Tablets. They regulate the stomach and bowels and are absolutely safe. Sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Islands Like Moving!

The appearance recently of the Scrobby Sands, off Yarmouth, England, is one instance of the peculiar ways in which islands come into being.

In this case it was due to drought, but there are many other causes. New islands are born generally as a result of volcanic action or the work of coral insects. But the whole crust of the earth is more or less elastic and subject to changes of level.

The growth of coral islands in the Pacific is very rapid. In some places they are estimated to have risen almost eight inches a year, but this is exceptional.

At one time Great Britain and Ireland, as well as the Orkney and Shetland Islands, were all part of the Continent of Europe. A rise of six hundred feet would produce this condition again.

On the island of Crete vast changes have taken place. Its western extremity has been raised twenty-five feet, while the eastern end has sunk considerably. The result is that ancient ports are now high and dry, and the ruins of old-time towns may be seen under the water.

In regions where volcanic action is more powerful, islands appear and disappear most unexpectedly. Not long ago one came to light off the Arakan coast of Burma. It was inspected by the British Marine Survey, but by the time the report had been prepared the island had disappeared again.

Minard's Liniment Lumberman's Friend

Pills imported into India are colored, to show their use; those tinted red contain poison.

Hot weather will frequently cause clock and watches long out of use to start working. The heat melts the old oil which has hardened and clogged the bearings.

PAINFUL NEURALGIA TORTURING SCIATICA

Both Come From the Same Cause—Thin, Watery Blood.

Most people think of neuralgia as a pain in the head or face, but neuralgia may affect any nerve in the body. Different names are given to it when it affects certain nerves. Thus neuralgia of the sciatic nerve is called sciatica, but the character of the pain and the nature of the disease are the same. The pain in neuralgia is caused by starved nerves. The blood which carries nourishment to the nerves has become thin and impure and no longer does so, and the pain you feel is the cry of the nerves for their natural food. You may ease the pains of neuralgia with hot applications, but real relief from the trouble comes by enriching and purifying the blood. For this purpose Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are strongly recommended. These pills make new, rich blood and thus act as a most effective nerve tonic. If you are suffering from this most dreaded of troubles, or any form of nerve trouble, give these pills a fair trial, and note the ease and comfort that follows their use.

You can get Dr. Williams' Pink Pills from any medicine dealer or by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Ocean Travel To-day.

We recently had occasion to go over to the "Old Land." Having had the pleasure of crossing in many of the famous ships of different lines, we, this time, selected the Olympic, of the White Star Line. We certainly made no mistake; indeed, we were so pleased with the accommodation provided that we planned our trip to return by the same ship, in the same cabin.

The Olympic, undoubtedly, represents not only the last word, but the very last syllable in ocean travel. She burns oil, and consequently the black smoke and tons of cinders, that usually render the promenade decks of the crack liners almost unusable, are conspicuously absent. She times her departure from the other side and the arrival on this side, always at the same hour, so that the traveller may absolutely rely upon keeping his dates almost to the minute—wind and weather making no difference whatever, as she has ample power and speed always in reserve, rendering her as dependable as the first-class express trains on land.

The Olympic, as everyone knows, did such wonderful service in the World War, in the transport of troops, carrying over 200,000 without the loss of a single life, or the slightest delay through derangement of machinery—a record of which Commander Sir Bertram F. Hayes, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., R.D., R.N.R., and Chief Engineer A. Ferguson, O.B.E., have every reason to be proud. Previous to her being taken over by the Admiralty in April, 1917, she had carried many thousands of passengers safely through the submarine infested waters, and performed some gallant feats of rescue work, notably that of the entire crew of H.M.S. "Audacious," and the attempted salvage of the ship herself off the coast of Ireland.

It was hardly possible to imagine you were at sea, when seated in that great dining saloon, capable of accommodating 500 persons, and dining as luxuriously as it is only possible to do in the very finest and most famous restaurants in London, Paris or New York. The cheerful, willing service leaves positively nothing to be desired by the most exacting travellers.

The White Star Line, evidently intends to keep ahead too, for not only is the Olympic, of 46,439 tons, the largest steamship afloat in the world, but they are now building an even larger vessel, the "Majestic," of 56,000 tons, which will shortly take her place on the ocean ferry.—Toronto Truth.

MONEY ORDERS.

The safe way to send money by mail is by Dominion Express Money Order.

Stick.

You're "sick of the game!" Well, now that's a shame.

You're young and you're brave and you're bright.

You've "had a raw deal!" I know, but don't squeal!

Buck up, do your darndest, and fight. It's plugging away that will win you the day.

So don't be a piker, old pard! Just draw on your grit: it's so easy to quit.

It's the keeping your chin up that's hard.

Serious Matter.

"Father," said the young man, "I am thinking seriously of matrimony."

"Well, that's better than regarding it as a joke," replied the old man.

Keep Minard's Liniment in the house.



Very Good Reason.

"This isn't a very good picture of your little baby brother, is it?" said the visitor.

"No, ma'am," replied little five-year-old Alice. "But, then, he ain't a very good baby."

It Was Both.

"What do you think of Uncle Peter leaving all his money for a grand mausoleum over his remains?" said one needy relative.

"Awful," said the other; "it's just a willful waste."

"Huh! I call it a wasteful will."

Entertaining the Callers.

There were some visitors at the door, and as mother was not ready to make her appearance, Johnny was told to let them in and show them into the living-room.

While they waited for mother's appearance, the small boy sat very still and embarrassed.

Presently, seeing the visitors taking stealthy glances round the cosy little room, he remarked politely: "Well, what do you think of our furniture?"

Higher Mathematics.

The teacher had been explaining fractions to her class. When she had discussed the subject at length, wishing to see how much light had been shed, she inquired:

"Now, Bobby, which would you rather have, one apple or two halves?"

The little chap promptly replied: "Two halves."

"Oh, Bobby," exclaimed the young woman, a little disappointed, "why would you prefer two halves?"

"Because then I could see if it was bad inside."

Thought It Was a Cupboard.

Passenger (after first night on board ship)—"I say, where have all my clothes vanished to?"

Steward—"Where did you put them before you got into bed last night?"

Passenger—"I folded them up carefully and put them in that cupboard over there."

Steward—"I see no cupboard, sir."

Passenger—"Are you blind, man? I mean that one with the round glass door in it."

Steward—"Bless me, sir, that ain't no cupboard, that's the porthole!"

For years I have never considered my stock of household remedies complete unless a bottle of Minard's Liniment was included. For burns, bruises, sprains, frostbites or chilblains it excels, and I know of no better remedy for a severe cold in the head, or that will give more immediate relief than to inhale through the nasal organ.

And as to my supply of veterinary remedies it is essential, as it has in very many instances proven its value. A recent experience in reclaiming what was supposed to be a lost section of a valuable cow's udder has again demonstrated its great worth, and prompts me to recommend it in the highest terms to all who have a herd of cows, large or small. I think I am safe in saying among all the patent medicines there is none that covers as large a field of usefulness as does Minard's Liniment. A real trileism: good for man or beast.

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ASPIRIN
"Bayer" is only Genuine

Warning! Unless you see the name "Bayer" on package or on tablets you are not getting genuine Aspirin at all. In every Bayer package are directions for Colds, Headache, Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Earache, Toothache, Lumbago and for Pain. Handy tin boxes of twelve tablets cost few cents. Druggists also sell larger packages. Made in Canada. Aspirin is the trade mark (registered in Canada), of Bayer Manufacture of Monoaceticacidester of Salicylicacid.

DAVIS COMES OUT WITH THE FACTS

OFTEN FORCED TO LAY OFF FROM WORK.

Ontario Man Tells How Tanlac Restored Health—Feels Fine All the Time.

"This Tanlac is doing me so much good that I've come for another bottle and I should like to tell everybody about the wonderful way it has helped me," said Charles H. Davis, popular machinist, 12 Crosthwaite Ave., Hamilton, Ont.

"About a year ago my kidneys started to give me so much trouble that I often had to lay off from work for two or three days at a time. I had severe, nagging pains across the small of my back and frequent spells of weakness, when I hardly knew how to keep on the job.

"I lost all desire for food, frequently going a whole day without anything to eat, because my digestion was so upset that after a meal I would have severe pains in the pit of my stomach. I just felt tired all the time and was getting weaker every day.

"When I heard so many people talking about Tanlac I decided to try it, too. It gave me a fine appetite, and yet, after a hearty meal, I had no trouble with indigestion—and have been getting stronger every day. I'm right on the job every day now and feel good all the time. I am glad of the chance to recommend such a splendid medicine."

Tanlac is sold by leading druggists everywhere. Adv.

A Smart Boy.

An old gentleman saw a little news-boy carrying a big bundle of papers under his arm. The old gentleman felt sorry for the boy and said: "Don't all them papers make you tired, my boy?"

"No," replied the lad, "I don't read them."

FACE WAS FULL OF PIMPLES
For Three Years. Hard and Awfully Sore. Disfigured. Cuticura Heals.

"I had been suffering with a pimply face for three years. My face was full of pimples and they were hard and awfully sore. They festered and dried up, and were scaly, and disfigured my face. They caused me to lose a lot of sleep, and were awfully itchy, making me scratch and irritate my face.

"I started to use Cuticura Soap and Ointment and I used two cakes of Cuticura Soap and two boxes of Cuticura Ointment when I was healed." (Signed) Clifford Yeomans, East Chezzelcook, N. S.

Use Cuticura for every-day toilet purposes. Bath with Soap, soothe with Ointment, dust with Talcum.

Soap 25c. Ointment 25 and 50c. Sold throughout the Dominion, Canadian Dept: LYMAN, Limited, St. Paul St., Montreal. Cuticura Soap shaves without mug.

WOMEN OF MIDDLE AGE

May Pass the Critical Period Safely and Comfortably by Taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Regina, Sask.—"I was going through Change of Life and suffered for two years with headache, nervousness, sleepless nights and general weakness. Some days I felt tired and unfit to do my work. I gave Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound a trial and found good results, and I also find it a very helpful Spring tonic and useful for constipation from which I suffer much. I have recommended Vegetable Compound to several friends, and am willing you should publish this."—Mrs. MARTHA W. LINDSAY, 810 Robinson St., Regina, Sask.

If you have warning symptoms such as a sense of suffocation, hot flashes, headaches, backache, dread of impending evil, timidity, sounds in the ears, palpitation of the heart, sparks before the eyes, irregularities, constipation, variable appetite, weakness, inquietude, and dizziness, get a bottle of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and begin taking the medicine at once. We know it will help you as it did Mrs. Lindsay.

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SAMPLES FREE.
See our free mail samples and learn the full facts before buying roofing for any purpose. We are offering equally sensational values in Wall Board, Asphalt Shingles and winter-weight Sheathing Felt. Our samples and "Risk Free" offer will convince you.

On top of our sensational low prices we give the "Cap Sheet" of Free Delivery in most districts in Canada. This is an extra saving over and above our low prices.

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- Sheathing Felt
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