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Notice to Creditors

AN INSECT MENU.

Every Item Thereon Long Known and Esteemed by Epicures.

Here is a typical insect menu of which no one need be afraid to partake, since every item has been known and esteemed by insect eaters for generations past.

It was served not long ago, according to Pearson's Weekly, at the table of a rich London epicure, who is also an enthusiastic advocate of an insectarian dietary:

Green Caterpillar Soup. Fried Locust with Wood Louse Sauce. Curried Cockchafers.

Wasp Grubs Baked in the Comb. Star Beetle Larvae on Toast. Moths Baked in Butter.

Devilled Wireworms. Grasshoppers au Gratin.

The green caterpillars that compose the soup feed entirely upon vegetables, and mostly upon particular vegetables most relished by man, such as cabbage and lettuce.

In appearance the soup itself is not unlike clear turtle, while its flavor is delicious.

The locusts, which constitute the second course, have, as every one is aware, been esteemed by gourmands the world over and from the remotest antiquity.

"Eat ye the locust after his kind" is the Biblical injunction, and we know that John the Baptist is recorded as having lived for some considerable time upon "locusts and wild honey."

There are of course many ways of preparing them. They can be fried after their legs and wings have been plucked off, which was, as a matter of fact, the process adopted in this particular instance, or they may be powdered and baked into cakes or curried or boiled, turning red, like lobsters, in the process.

The wood louse sauce if properly made with fresh butter, flour, milk, pepper and salt will be found fully equal to shrimp, which it much resembles in taste. Indeed the wood louse, although he lives on land, is said to be as much relished crustacean.

Cockchafers, curried or otherwise, are delicious if selected of a serviceable size and plump. So, too, are their grubs when full grown. They should then be at least two inches in length and fat in proportion and may be eaten uncooked, like oysters, or stewed in milk.

Perhaps, however, the most toothsome of all insect delicacies is that which comes forth on our "menu of the day," "wasp grubs baked in the comb. These grubs have been fed by their parents on a saccharine fluid composed of fruit and vegetable juices and are simply tiny balls of sugary fat possessing a flavor as exquisite as that of a nut.

The stag beetle larva is of course identical with the cossus, which the old Roman epicures used to fatten for their table upon flour and wine. The sixth course should be served steaming hot, since there is no more appetizing odor than that emanating from a plump baked moth.

Devilled wireworms are eaten in the form of a paste, spread upon sippets of toast, and taste not unlike anchovies when treated in similar fashion.

Soldier's Sense of Humor.

A high naval official, now dead, officiated as an example of ghastly humor an incident that befell a young woman during the civil war.

"She was good and kind," he would say, "and during the war she visited the hospital daily, distributing fruits and flowers and tracts."

"One morning on her rounds a young soldier, immediately after she had passed him, set up a loud laugh."

"She turned and looked at him in surprise. His seemed a pitiful case. Nothing of him but his face was visible on the little white bed, and this young face was sadly thin and pale. Nevertheless he laughed like one possessed. His mirth resounded through the gawsome room."

"The visitor returned to him."

"Will you tell me what amuses you?" she said.

"Why, ma'am," said he, "here you have given me a tract on the sin of dancing when I've got both legs shot off."

Careful of Her Hoss.

Many interesting stories of courtiers and favorites at the old French court are found in the memoirs of the Marquis de Crequi. She says that on certain solemn occasions kings of France wore ermine linings to their robes, but ermine became scarce, and she writes:

"The anointing of Louis XV. was retarded some years for want of this fur for the court mantles, and at the coronation of Louis XIV. they actually used catskin." Superbly elegant was the Duchesse de la Ferté, who generally was carried around under a canopy. The marquis goes into estimates concerning this particular duchesse, whose eyes "had the most disdainful expression I ever saw, though they had a slight cast in them." But her supreme elegance can be appreciated when it is known "she never blew her nose for fear of spilling her Greek contour, but dabbed it at intervals with a small square of cambric."

Benjamin Franklin's Wife.

A very unflattering description of Benjamin Franklin's wife is taken from the diary of Daniel Fisher, who was Franklin's secretary for a short time.

"She sat on the floor at a neighbor's. She assumed the airs of extraordinary freedom and great humblity, lamented heavily the misfortunes of those who are unhappily infected with a too tender or benevolent disposition, said she believed all the world claimed the privilege of troubling her pappy—so she usually calls Mr. Franklin—with their calamities and distress, giving us a general history of many such wretches and their impertinent applications."

He mentions "the turbulence and jealousy and pride of her disposition" and the violence of her invectives. Pointing to Franklin's son one day, she exclaimed, "There goes the greatest villain upon earth!"

Books in Series.

While it is certainly a pretty sight to see a long row of books in a neat and uniform binding, like soldiers on parade, there is a distinct loss of individuality. As you glance over your books upon their shelves it is pleasant to recognize them from their outward dress. They keep themselves better in mind if each one is not exactly like its neighbors. You are even likely to forget what you have if you cannot know them from across the room.

We often go to the bookstore looking simply for "something to read," and then it is an advantage to know each book at the first glance. Of course this does not apply so strongly to the works of a single author. These belong in a uniform, and you know what is among them.

Fighting in Japan.

A Japanese woman flirts—as far as she knows the meaning of the word—with her sleeves and fan and not with her eyes and smiles. By the different movements of the ends of her kimono sleeves she manages to convey to her admirers all sorts of unspoken messages, and by the opening and shutting of her fan to the right or to the left, she can reject or accept the most weighty offers. Her code signalling with her sleeves and fan is quite an item of her social education.

French Soldiers' Handkerchiefs.

The cotton handkerchiefs provided for French soldiers have printed upon them a number of sanitary precepts to be observed on the march and during a campaign and are further decorated with medallions containing pictures of officers of all grades, the different uniforms being so distinctly portrayed that a French private can tell at a glance to what grade any officer he may see belongs.

Well She Might.

An old German historian of Tübingen describes an attack by the French in 1674 during which eighteen persons were killed by the exploding of a mine. A soldier's wife was thrown the distance of an acre. She was not hurt, the chronicler adds quaintly, "but she scolded terribly and was in a very bad humor."

After the Quarrel.

She—There is just one little bit of millinery that I desire more. He (crossly)—You needn't say any more. I won't buy it for you. She—Don't be afraid. You'll never get the bill for it. It's a widow's bonnet.

A Sure Way.

Mabel—I wish I knew some way to make George forget me, for I can never marry him. Henry—Have you tried lending him money?

Easy to Be an Expert Pistol Show.

"Any man with ordinary nerve can become a fair shot with a revolver from the saddle with a few weeks practice. I believe in a short time a man can become sufficiently expert to make 95 out of 100 shots," said a regular army officer.

"You see, it is all in learning when to shoot. The aiming is a small part of pistol and revolver shooting. The aiming is just like pointing your finger. A man can naturally point his finger at an object accurately. If he can do that he can aim a gun by simply throwing it out in the same way. The reason an unpracticed marksman is no marksman at all is that he stops to aim and gets off the mark or becomes unsteady in pulling the trigger. He must learn his gun, so he will know just the exact instant when it goes off, just how much and how long a pull he must make to snap the trigger. When he learns so that it is second nature to shoot just as he points the gun, he will hit any ordinary mark within reasonable range."—Des Moines Register and Leader.

"Poor Pay, Good Tenant."

"It isn't always the tenant who pays his rent on the first of the month who is most desirable," said a household-er the other day. "Your prompt tenant is likely to hold you his debtor for that virtue and feel perfectly free to ask for numerous improvements. My best paying property is leased to a man who is, always two or three months behind in his rent. Of course I lose the interest on my money for that time, but that is all. In the three years in which he has rented of me he has not had the nerve to ask me even to paper a room for him. I haven't done it either. In one instance he had some plumbing done at his own expense when he should have charged it to me. I am constantly afraid that he will get prosperous some day and want to pay me on time. Just as sure as he does I will have to spend several hundred dollars on the house."

Artificial Eyes.

The trade in artificial eyes is extensive not only from the number of people who need them, but also from the fact that they only last for about a year in consequence of the action of the secretions of the eyes upon the enamel.

The process of manufacture involves eight distinct operations, which call into play considerable artistic ability and patient skill, and for this female workers seem specially adapted.

The enamel has first to be fused, then the globe is blown and colored, after which the shaping, tempering and polishing have to be attended to. The minutest details, even to the coral veins on the sclerotic coat and the broken colored iris, are so faithfully reproduced that the imitation can rarely be detected save in times of great emotion.—London Standard.

A Titled Dandy.

At the court of St. James in 1773 Lord Villiers appeared, according to a writer of that day, in a coat of "pale purple velvet, turned up with lemon color" and "embroidered all over with S's of pearl as big as peas, and in all the spaces little medallions in beaten gold—real solid—in various figures of Cupids and the like." In that day the dandies roged and powdered and carried nosebags as big as cabbages. Walpole records an occasion in the house of commons when, to hasten the adjournment, some of the exquisites voted against their own opinions, "because the house was very hot and the young members thought it would melt their rouge and wither their nosebags."

Origin of Some Names.

Many religious sects are now known by what were originally nicknames. These epithets, coined in derision, have "appreciated" and grown into honorable epithets. "Methodism" was a nickname originally, an undergraduate nickname, applied to Wesley and his friends because they lived by rule and method. Every one knows what it is now. So people use the word "Quaker" without any contemptuous connotation, and even a word like "ranter" was on the way toward respectability when ranting seemed to fall out of fashion.

Safe From Burglars.

"I'm so glad the boys of your company gave you that handsome revolver," said the militia captain's wife. "We need have no fear now of the burglars infesting this neighborhood."

"That's what!" replied the gallant captain. "I've got it locked up in the office safe where they can't get at it."

Three Famous Smokers.

Fabulous things have been said about Grant's smoking propensities. My word of honor that Grant's cigars, over which he meditated and about which so much has been senselessly published, were cast aside, but never would make the air blue like volcanoes.

Her Two Degrees.

"It was only two years ago that Mrs. Weddin took her B. A. at college, wasn't it?"

"Yes. Why?"

"She has just taken a higher degree—MA in the school of life."

Willing to Demonstrate.

"Do you really believe that the proof of the pudding is in the eating?"

"Sure! Give me the pudding and I'll prove it."

UNION OF THE EMPIRE.

Senior Wark suggests Imperial Parliament in Which All Portions of the Empire Would Be Represented.

Hon. David Wark, New Brunswick's veteran Senator, who on February 19 last entered his one hundredth year, has drafted a plan for the federation of the Empire, which is thus summed up:

"That all the provinces, owing allegiance to our sovereign, be gathered into his Empire, and have conferred on their inhabitants the same privileges of every kind enjoyed by their fellow subjects in the United Kingdom."

"That a new Imperial Parliament be formed in which all the provinces would be represented."

"That a new Imperial Government, when formed, might have members called to it from any part of the Empire, and that it should assume the debts of all provinces, and along with the sole right of raising a revenue to pay interest on the public debt, including that of the provinces, with the support of the navy, the regular army, militia, judiciary, civil service and all other charges at present borne by the Imperial Government."

"That the policy of free trade should be introduced throughout the whole Empire as far as it is consistent with the great republic south of us, every producer selling what he produces where he can get the best price, and every consumer supplying his wants where he can do it cheapest. That is a policy which adds to the wealth of both parties."

"Each province will have its own private Legislature to manage its own affairs. When it grows too large and requires to be divided, then the chief magistrate of the Old Province might be a Governor-General with some additional duties to perform in assisting His Majesty."

"There will probably be some complaints as to inconvenience in attending Parliament on account of the great distance. This will be overcome by fast railways and fast steamers. Let complainers look back to the Roman Empire and note the distance its extremities were from the seat of Government, and they can see in the account of Paul's journey from Judea to Rome the time that it must have taken to go from the extremity of that Empire to its centre. Yet there must have been much traffic for these were no less than 276 persons in the ship on which he was wrecked."

"I believe that God, in His good Providence, has placed within our reach one of the easiest, safest and surest means of settling this important question, and I would not have been surprised to see some of our provinces and large cities petitioning His Majesty to call the Commission, but perhaps it has been thought best to leave the matter in his hands, as the sooner its work is done the sooner it will be. If there are any parties opposed to the policy that may be recommended, they can be told they were fairly represented at the Commission, where the objections should have been stated, and they have the new Parliament to appeal to."

"If the Commission is called, I would ask Christians of all denominations, and especially Christian ministers, to aid it by their prayers and in every other way they can in coming to right decisions. God commended and carried out some great works through His Empire last century and I believe He has greater work to do in the present century, and all who assist are sure to prove successful, while if any try to obstruct they are sure to fail."

David Wark.

AMENITIES OF PUBLIC LIFE.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Mr. R. L. Borden, Masters in Deport Arts.

At a recent banquet Sir Wilfrid Laurier said: "We have, as the chairman has said, some guests whose presence adds to the interest of the occasion. We have Sir Howard Vickers (who is who comes from the heart of the Empire, who has given a great deal of thought to the relations which ought to exist between the Mother Country and the colonies, and whose views we shall listen to with the greatest possible interest. I do not know that we shall share all his views. Sir Howard Vickers has come from a free country and comes into a freer country still. We are accustomed here to liberty of speech, but whether we agree or disagree—and in a large measure we sure we shall agree—all will welcome his words. (Cheers.) We have also the Hon. Mr. McCarthy from Trinidad, who brings to us an expression of sympathy of the West Indies."

Speaking at Brampton recently Mr. R. L. Borden, the Conservative leader, said that he would rather see any young man ally himself with the Liberal party and do what he could to improve it than to sit silent, active, and take no share or interest in the public life of the country.

"The way to improve public affairs," he added, "is by associating at once with that political party which best commends itself to your judgment."

Both Plentiful.

"Did you ever have all you wanted of anything?" asked Meandering Mike. "Yes," answered Plodding Pete. "Two things—advice and water."—Washington Star.

A Very Wise Man.

Once said that when he began to feel too important he got a map of the universe and tried to find himself on it.

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