

Old Saws and Sayings. A few old sayings on the subject of food come to us rather as a surprise in our age of daintiness and refinement yet they have their raison d'etre notwithstanding. "Meat is much, manners

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;" "He

can give little to his servant who licks to note that "manners" was the name , their wild delirium they fell to it given to the remnants of a meal. These ground in sheer exhaustion Pantin came to the servants as official per- and foaming at the mouth, they work quisites; hence our well worn expres? sion before emptying a dish, "Leave the last slice (or whatever it may be)

The "dancing mania" of the midd ages came on the heels of the greplague known as the "black death It was some sort of nervous diseas

and is now supposed to have bee what is known as "St. Vitus" dance It began in the year 1374 at Aix-Chapelle and spread all over tie many, the Netherlands and Italy. Th dancers formed circles hand in han continued dancing, regardless of the Apropos of this remark it is amusing | bystanders, for hours together until suddenly spring up and begin : dance again, to be again exhauste and so on until they died. The man

involved millions of people

flowers at night and retreated far un simple, a large piece of cloth wrapped der water to emerge again at sunrise. round the body and bound with ropes This was Pliny's view, and it was not of straw. If the dead Brahman leaves impeached until the English botanist a will his face is not covered; other-John Ray in 1688 first doubted its ve | wise the shroud is brought up over the racity. The great lily of Zanzibar, one head. of the grandest of the lily family, opens The burning ground, or ghat, is usuits flowers, ten inches wide, between ally near a river that those who have 11 in the morning and 5 in the after | taken part in the ceremonies may purinoon. They are of the richest royal fy themselves as quickly and as easily blue, with from 150 to 200 golden stal as possible. Before erecting the fumens in the center, and they remain neral pyre a shallow pit is dug and open four or five days. It is not gener | partially filled with dry wood; the body ally known that there are lilies that is covered with splinters of dry wood have nocturnal habits-night bloomers and sprinkled with panchagaria, an inas well as day bloomers. They are very flammable liquid, and placed on the punctual timekeepers, too, opening and pyre and covered with branches and closing with commendable regularity. | roots, like a hut.



His Majesty King George

Recently visited the Soldier's in the Front Line Trenches.

WHISTLER'S BREAKFASTS.

They Were Famous Functions When

the Artist Was In Funds. An invitation to one of Mr. Whistler's "breakfasts" was prized by many persons almost as much as a royal command, more by some. Mr. Whistler brought together about his dainty, long, narrow breakfast table in its long, narrow room with pale yellow washed walls a symposium of those persons in London most noted for wit or endowed with rare original talent of some kind. Sprinkled here and there for the sake, ne doubt, of half tones were others whose chief qualification was the power of chastened and judicious apprecia-

These symposiums were held by Whistler in his splendid studio, 33 Tite street, at present the studio of Sargent. Whistler did not steadily occupy that place, which a depleted treasury sometimes caused him to forsake temporarily. According to the widely known story, when the bailiffs came in to dispossess him for debt he pressed them into service as extra men to help serve one of his famous breakfasts, after which he would retire to a low, rambling workshop up an alleyway off the Fulham road. There in solitary quiet he would bring forth another masterpiece to startle the world and furnish him with the means of re-entering beautiful Tite street and taking up the thread of his more princely existence. -Princess Lazarovich-Hrebelianovich (Eleanor Calhoun) in Century Maga-

CREMATION IN INDIA.

The Brahman's Funeral Pyre and the Ceremony of Burning.

After the body of a Brahman ha been anointed with sesamum oil the big toes are bound together and the two thumbs. It is then lashed to a litter made of two long parallel poles, to posed that water lilies closed their pieces of wood. The shroud is very

The nearest relative or heir then takes a lighted taper and sets fire to

purification. The carriers, being of the

lowest caste, remain until the body is

A Paradoxical River.

entirely consumed.

On the African shore, near the gul of Aden and connecting the lake of Assal with the main ocean, may be found one of the most wonderful rivers in the world. This curiosity does not flow to but from the ocean toward inland. The surface of Lake Assal itself is nearly 700 feet below the mean tide, and it is fed by this paradoxical river, which is about twentytwo miles in length. It is highly probable that the whole basin which the lagoon partly fills was once an arm of the sea, which became separated therefrom by the duning of loose sand. The inflowing river has a limited vol ume, being fullest, of course, at high tide, and has filled the basin to suc an extent that evaporation and supply exactly balance each other.

Three True Steels. Iron and carbon steel, vanadium steel and tungsten steel are pointed out by Professor J. O. Arnold, British metallurgist, as the three true steels. The second kind is iron and carbon steel with 5 per cent of vanadium, the iron carbide having ceased to exist, and vanadium carbide being present, and the third kind is iron and carbon steel having 11.5 per cent of tungsten, the iron carbide having been expelled by the tungsten. Iron and carbon steel hardens at 730 degrees C., vanadium steel just below 1,450 de-

San Francisco Chronicle.

grees, its melting point, and tungsten

steel at 850 degrees to 1,200 degrees .-

Weather Effects. The weather affects man in more Two thousand years ago it was sup which are fastened seven transverse ways, it appears, than many suspect. For example, it is believed that pressure variation due to fluctuating winds have peculiar pathological effects, that certain electrical conditions of the air induced by low atmospheric pressure have a pathological effect on nervous subjects and that solar radiation has peculiar effects which vary according

SQUINTING AT THE STARS.

It Helps the Astronomer In Calculating Their Distances.

While lecturing recently to an audi ence of children at the Royal institution, London, Professor H. H. Turner explained how astronomers measure the

distances of the sun, moon and stars. The importance of a squint was explained with the aid of a match and a cigar. Putting the cigar in his mouth and lighting the match, he told them it was by squinting that he judged the distance at which to hold it.

Then, taking another cigar, which was about twelve inches in length, he explained how in that case it was not necessary to squint so much, as the point of distance to be measured by the eyes was further away.

This was done to illustrate the fact that, just as the brain calculates the distances of things seen by means of the angle of the squint, so astronomers tell the distance of the stars by reckoning the amount of "squint" involved when looking at them.

Two telescopes are placed apart at an exactly measured distance. The astronomer then looks through the two telescopes at the same time and, having got them to the angle at which he can see the particular star, just reckons up the amount of "squint" and reels it off in millions of miles.

Not What They Seemed. A marquise who was, in residence for a few days at a Parisian hotel discovered that her pearl necklace, worth \$15,000, had disappeared from her room. Suspicion fell on a messenger boy, who admitted his guilt, but declared that the necklace had been taken from him by his mother. The mother corroborated her son's statement, expressing astonishment that so much trouble should be made about "a trashy little trinket," which, she explained, looked so cheap and tawdry that she had given it to her daughterin-law. This young woman, in her teens, displayed an equal contempt for the "bits of things." She told the police that she had given the necklace to her little girl to wear, but she had removed about half the beads. All the missing pearls were found in a box among buttons and hooks and eyes,

POSTAGE STAMPS.

All Europe Laughed When Their Use Was First Suggested.

LOOKED UPON AS A HUGE JOKE

Rowland Hill Was Ridiculed For His Wild Postal Reform Idea, but He Persisted and Finally Won the Day For the Little Friend of Humanity.

Not since the days of the discovery of printing had there come to human beings such a boon as was launched in England on May 6, 1840, when the first postage stamps, the little friends of humanity, were used. That date in history marked the beginning of popular communication, placing within the reach of the poorest peasant the means of writing to relatives and friends. It put the people of the world into closer touch, it encouraged the art of writing as no other agency had done. But, greatest of all, it spread civilization.

Millions of people who today open their mail scarcely glance at the little stamp that adorns the wrapper. It but represents to them the cost of transporting and handling by the govern-

Few indeed realize that the postage stamp is a modern contrivance, and that its great aid to modern life has played a remarkable part in the world's development during the past three quarters of a century.

It was in 1840 that Rowland Hill, an English schoolmaster, stirred all Europe to laughter by declaring that at once to perform the ceremony of vised a system whereby a two sheet letter could be sent from London to Edinburgh for two cents and yet leave the government a fair profit on the transaction. At that time the fee was 54 cents for that distance for a two sheet letter.

> Such a radical idea as Hill's seemed ridiculous to the public, which had looked upon the sending of communications as an expensive luxury. And so owned by the Royal Mail Steam Pacthe joke went around, and the poor laughed with the others at the idea of any means that would place them on a par with the aristocracy. Hill persisted despite the ridicule. He

worked diligently on his schedule, and when the time was ripe he flashed the system on parliament and the public. Hill offered proof that was incontrovertible that the actual cost of the government for carrying each letter averaged only a small fraction of a cent. He proved that the expense of hiring

men to figure out postal rates on the system then existing, based on distance and the number of sheets, was greater than the profit gained, and he urged the adoption of a flat rate for all letters under a certain weight, no matter how short or long a journey they were to make.

He originated the idea of pasting a label on every letter, to show that the cost had been prepaid to the government, and pointed out that this would save the expense and time of collecting at point of delivery, which custom was then in general use.

The idea sprung by Hill and his friend, James Chalmers, gained friends after the first roars of laughter had died away. The government was pressed by not a few thinkers of the time to adopt the system. And so on May 6, 1840, postage stamps, or "stamped labels," as they were called at the first command. time, were inaugurated. On the first stamp was a profile picture of the young Queen Victoria. The effect on the postoffice was instantaneous. Within two years-and they were panic years at that-the business of the postoffice nearly trebled.

How She Looked. "I lost a dollar at the matinee this afternoon," remarked the fleshy wo- Reading shipped as a boy on a Scotman to her husband, "and I never was I tish vessel, the Blair Athol, trading

so angry in my life.' "How'd it happen?" asked the man. "I dropped it in the aisle," she answered shortly, "and I looked for it That's all I could do." "Did you look good?" persisted the

head of the house. "Did I look good!" shrilled the woman, really angry now. "I looked as good as a fat woman crawling around on all fours ever does."-Collier's Weekly.

Simply Fooled Him. "I understand he let you in on a get

rich quick scheme." "No. Do you suppose I would be angry at him for that?" "Then what was it?"

"He made me think it was a get rich quick scheme, but it wasn't."-Hous-

Are you one of the many who are suffering with eczema, obstinate sores, ulcers or any other skin trouble? If so, lose no time in trying Zam-Buk, and you will be

amazed at its curative powers. The healing power of any ointment is in proportion to its medicinal ingredients. Ordinary ointments being composed chiefly of animal fats, with only a small percentage of medicinal ingredients, have not sufficient healing power to overcome a bad case of skin trouble. Zam-Buk, on the contrary, is purely herbal, and is all medicine, which explains its superiority over other ointments, and its many marvellous cures.

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FAMOUS CABIN BOYS.

When the British Lord Chief Justice

Kept the Brass Clean. It may be truly said of Sir John Jellicoe, who has so effectively "bottled up" the German navy, that he smelt the salt of the sea from the day of his birth, for his father, Captain Jellicoe, who died recently at the ripe old age of ninety, was as fine a mariner as ever walked a deck. He began his seafaring life on one of the old sailing schooners, starting as a cabin boy. With rapidity, however, which stamped him as a born seaman, he rose through the various branches of the service, until he became skipper, and ultimately commodore of the splendid fleet of ships ket Co., of which he was subsequently a director.

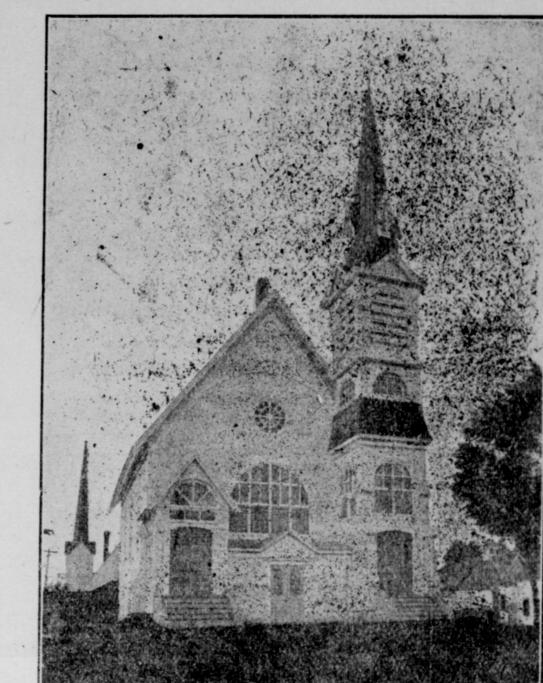
An equally distinguished cabin boy whose son has also attained eminence. is Sir Walter Runciman, head of the Moor Line of steamships and chairman of a number of great shipping organizations, whose son, the Rt. Hon. Walter Runciman, has been president of the Board of Agriculture since 1911. Sir Walter once told the writer that he could fairly say that his first success in life came when he ran away from home, at Cresswell, on the coast of Northumberland, at four o'clock one December morning, walked ten miles to the shipping centre at Warkworth, where he managed to get engaged as cabin boy by the captain of a sailing vessel. He was then twelve years of age, and his boyish act, undutiful though it may have seemed, was really in keeping with the traditions of the Runciman family; for his grandfathers were en-

medals being family heirlooms. Sir Walter remembers well those early days at sea, when more than once he tasted the rope's end, and on one particular occasion was kicked away from the helm by a brutal cap tain whose ire he had aroused. Sh Walter, indeed, in those early days, had more kicks than halfpence; but, in spite of that, he stuck to the sea, and was only just over twenty-one years of age when he took over his

gaged under Nelson's flag, their

Sir Walter Runciman's commencement in life reminds one of that of Lord Reading, better known, perhaps, as Sir Rufus Isaacs, the Lord Chief Justice, who, however, unlike Sir Walter, after a brief experience of seafaring life came to the conclusion London and Brussels, that Lord

He was caught, however, by one of the ship's officers, and as a punishment was compelled to assist in discharging the cargo of coal. When the vessel ultimately returned the future Lord Chief Justice came to the conclusion that he had had enough of seafaring life, and passed into a branch of his father's business at Magdeburg, Germany, where for two irksome years he superintended the shipments from Hamburg. Then he migrated to the Stock Exchange, and ultimately to the Bar, where he was



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