

FOOD ADULTERATION.

SOME OF THE DANGEROUS WORK DAME NATURE DOES.

Death Looking in Raw Pork-Colled Worms in Herring-Tape Worms in Rare Beef—An Inquisitive Doctor's Suspensions Confirmed.

It must be borne in mind, first of all, that nature herself punishes seriously whoever she gives us, and much of this adulteration is far more dangerous to human life than that which is artificially added by man. It is but a few years since the presence of trichinae in pork was discovered, and to its ravages traced the dreadful agonies and death following the eating of raw slices of ham. This creature is so thoroughly understood, and its presence so thoroughly understood, that persons can now be found who would, under any influence, eat a mouthful of raw pork. The discovery of trichinae most opened a new phase of the curious and complicated relationship of the animal and plant worlds. Of course, this was not the first kind of the creatures for worms upon other animals, but the first development, nor of the transitional periods, when such parasites are dependent on the harboring of vegetables, but it became necessary to trace out the development of these creatures, and it was found that uncommon care must be taken in eating lettuce and succulent low growing vegetables, lest the eggs of dangerous parasites be taken into the body.

Closely following came the discovery of the dependence of the most prevalent and dangerous fevers on vegetable bacteria. It became clear that he that would live safe from the attacks of both animal and vegetable life of the inferior types must be eternally on his guard. Hardly an article of food now visits our table which is not known, under favorable circumstances, to harbor forces that will disseminate, if they do not destroy us. Absolute cleanliness seems to be the first law of health. The Mosaic code was mainly the work of a wise legislator endeavoring to establish sanitary conditions among his people. The second law of health is enforced with equal emphasis by discoveries made taken of without thorough cooking. Indeed, it seems wonderful that the races of savages can survive at all in the abominations of vile habits and a raw diet.

No one in this country has shown a keener interest in hunting out what may be called nature's food adulterations than Dr. Joseph Leidy, of Philadelphia. Among other notes from his work I take the following: He liked herring, but never ate one without carefully removing certain coiled worms that may be seen coiled on the surface of the roe. From a piece of black bass or shad he would extract, before eating, a thread like worm that so closely resembles a nerve that few would distinguish the difference. He was careful in eating clams to look for and remove a minute parasitic leech. Tap worms he carefully studied, and declared that in all cases could be traced to raw beef. The common opinion is that pigs have more to do with them; but Professor Leidy examined over 100, and in all cases proved them to have been received in the egg form from beef insufficiently cooked.

An entertainment in Charleston was served with slices of the drumfish. His host desired that he should specially note how much more delicious were certain relations portions. Carefully cutting open his fish the doctor discovered a soft mass, which to him seemed suspicious. The following day he procured a drumfish and dissected it. The result was that he found in the flesh of the tail several egg shaped masses, three inches long, which proved to be a large coiled worm. This was the delicate and dainty morsel of the previous day's feast. Eating terrapin at a Philadelphia feast, our professor received a peculiar impression from a piece in his mouth that seemed to be an egg. Removing it from his mouth to his handkerchief, he reserved it for examination. It turned out to be a membranous sac, containing thirty yellowish maggots, the larvae of some sort of fly, and resembling those of the botfly in form.

With such examples before us we may wisely be suspicious in every direction. With both animal and vegetable parasites lurking to destroy, both infesting our food, while the minute bacteria assail us through our lungs, we can neither eat nor breathe, much less drink, in safety. An age of science brings mind and a general alarm, and, while illustrating the glory of the power of the brain, shows also what a warfare man must carry on to secure victory. Our line of defense is, however, not so astrate. It is well known that these minute foes may be everywhere, and yet wait forever for conditions appropriate for their development. But granted, for a moment, conditions, and the development promptly occurs. The one requisite is to avoid such conditions as are supposed. With food it is known to be death to the germs and eggs of the tape worm and other parasites to heat to a degree not less than 180 degrees. Yet one person in five in the southwestern section of our country is afflicted, at some time, with a tape worm, and the trouble is largely on the increase in the eastern states, owing to the large amount of western beef that is shipped to the eastern market.

The remedy is so simple that it seems not a difficult affair to quickly end the spread of the pest. Yet it is nearly impossible to reach, by any published statistics, one-tenth of the people. The reading of the masses is not as ready as to very local journals, if, indeed, they read at all. In this cosmopolitan age, when all things circulate with such rapidity, information should keep pace with all material affairs. At present this is not so. A piece of meat never loses, to an ordinary eye, more innocent than when it contains in its muscular cysts of our parasites. My advice is, put no morsel into the appearance of raw meat, but invariably cook it thoroughly. —M. Maurice, M. D., in Globe-Democrat.

AN EX-CIRCUS RINGMASTER

Tells of Some Wonderful Riders Who Performed Twenty Years Ago.

Among a group of men assembled at an uptown hotel was a stout, elderly man with iron gray hair and well waxed mustache. His eye fell on a circus poster, and he exclaimed: "Why, is Charles W. Fish riding yet? He was the best laraback rider in the world twenty years ago. I never saw a man in his business wear so well as he has done. The first time I saw him was at Hengler's circus, in England, twenty years ago. I had been ringmaster in a traveling circus, and went there every night to get some points, as I was going to start a traveling circus of my own. Fish was the champion rider then, and that was twenty years ago, and he's champion yet. But things are changed since then, and a circus now is utterly unlike what a circus was then. The old gentleman began to grow reminiscent and said: "No one, to look to me now, would think that I could at one time have done a feat on horseback that you'll seldom see done now." "What is that?" asked a reporter.

"Oh," said the ex-rider, "excuse me, I mean jumping clear on a horse's back when he is going at full gallop, without touching it with the hands, and alighting astride on him. It's a beautiful feat, and I know only about three or four men in the world who could do it properly. "The man that did it the bestest of any I ever knew was known as 'Horse' Hengler in Hengler's circus, when it was in London twenty years ago. I never could learn his name. He was a perfect Apollo, but had a cast in one of his eyes, and no one would think he was looking at his horse when he was making the spring, which made the feat still more absurd. He made very little ado about it, but sprang so lightly that he seemed to fly through the air, giving himself a kind of graceful turn or twist and alighting easily on the horse, which was going at its hardest. "At that time the circus had not the opposition from other shows that they have now, and did not depend on menageries. There were better circus and cheaper prices, but not the same kind of feats. The whole thing is running to feats of strength and rope dancing, and things of that kind now. Then it was riding feats. "For myself, I was a school teacher, then a clown, then a ring master, afterward a circus proprietor, and finally came over to this country and bought a farm in Minnesota, and a farmer I'll probably remain.—New York Telegram.

MAIDENS OF YUCATAN.

FAMOUS FOR THEIR BEAUTY OF FORM AND FEATURES.

Their Lot is Seldom a Happy One—Making Cigarettes—Visit to the Lace Makers—A Tale of Woo—Refinement and Amiability.

The metiza women of that most interesting country are famed for their beauty of form and features, abundant silky black tresses, large dark eyes and easy, graceful manners. Generally they are as good as they are pretty; but their lot is seldom a happy one; perhaps they are too numerous to be justly appreciated. About one in eight enters the state of matrimony, and these appear to be the least happy. Owing to a great excess of female population—the consequence of many revolutions and war with hostile Indians—a large number of women depend entirely on their own exertions, and their field of labor is limited. They are not employed in stores, such places being monopolized by white handed youths who think coarser toil beneath them. Those individuals of the sterner sex expect the gentler, under all circumstances, to remain at home, no matter how painful their position. Orphans must eat the bread of dependence in the house of relations or friends, and on no account shock public opinion by trying to earn a living away from their place of abode, nor may they venture to dwell apart from elders who shall control their every movement. They may suffer everything except actual starvation, but must submit if they would be respected.

A few are wonderfully clever at making some beautiful fruits and flowers of sugar, but cannot earn a living by it, the time and care needed in the manufacture entailing so much expense that only the wealthiest give an order on very special occasions. Nothing truer to nature than these vegetables, fruits and flowers of sugar can be imagined. A pineapple, an ear of corn, a golden cashew, with its odd shaped appendage, a spray of snow white tuberoses—all equally perfect in form and color; while large, full blown crimson, purple, and yellow, appear as if the fruit were really full grown as the stem if brought upon. Only the taste convinces us that they are not what they seem; and the flavors given to them by their skillful producers are as delicious as the work is admirable.

MAKING CIGARETTES.
The making of cigarettes affords employment to hundreds of girls, because men, women and children there indulge in the use of tobacco. In city, town and village pretty señoritas sit behind the prilla like window gratings deftly wrapping up tobacco in small pieces of the finest paper, which, when rolled, impart a delightful flavor to the cigarette. Twenty cents a day is the most that one pair of hands can earn. Dressmakers are numerous. Others anxiously solicit orders to embroider in silk, thread or worsted. Pillow lace is formerly manufactured in Merida, but being expensive, the demand for it has largely ceased. A man's holiday dress is complete without ample flourishes of it; this converts their simple white linen garments into expensive attire. Cheap lace is imported, but all who can afford to buy it, make it in the country. Being handsome as well as more durable. This is not sold in the stores but in the public market, place where it is carried by servants; for, strange as it may appear, the most poverty stricken have maids, who, besides receiving no wages, frequently help to support their mistresses. Generally they have been given to the family, when children, by their parents—too poor to provide for them. They work hard for little food and scanty clothing, are very faithful, and will bear hardship and ill treatment rather than leave those to whom they have become attached.

Being directed to a family of girls who supported themselves, we made our way along a broken narrow sidewalk to house No. 4 in a row of dwellings, each consisting of three rooms, and an outhouse that served as kitchen. We wrapped with our knuckles, and a sweet voice bade us "come in." The designs, their own making, of native flowers, are traced on white paper that is tacked to the net. A frame is used only for very wide lace. After our order was given a tale of woe was poured forth, with an appeal for money in advance. A few days later a professor of lace, N. Y., and who, by the way, is said to have been one of the astronomical taste of her father, put the following original mathematical puzzle to him the other morning before she was out of bed: "Papa," said she, "can you write nineteen so as to make it 1888?" It was a poser for the professor, and he gave it up. "Well, here it is," said Anna, "18-8-8; don't you see?"—New York Tribune.

Under London Bridge.
Of course we went under the bridge. Dickens has been before us, as he has been at every most characteristic point, and his record runs thus: "There the steamboats lay alongside of each other; hard and fast for force to all appearance; but designing to get out somehow and quite content of doing it, and in that faith, the steamers, with heaps of luggage were proceeding hurriedly on board. Little steamboats dashed up and down the stream incessantly. Tiers upon tiers of vessels, scores of masts, labyrinth of tackle, idle sails, splashing oils, gliding rowboats, lumbering barges, sunken pilars, with ugly lodgings for the water rat within their mud disclosed nooks; church steeples, warehouses, house roofs, arches, bridges, men and women, children, casks, crates, boxes, horses, coaches, idlers and hard laborers—there they all jumbled up together."—London Letter.

This Little World.
This world is very small, and this was never better illustrated than in a little story a sea captain told me recently. "I got a letter from a friend of mine the other day," he said, "who has charge of an English ship. The letter is written from Departure Bay, B. C. While on shore one day he became acquainted with several gentlemen from all parts of the world. During the course of conversation he asked if any one present knew Capt. Masson, from New York. One man sprang forward and grasped him by the hand. 'I ought to,' said he. 'I married his daughter.'—New York Letter.

A Lesson in Fractions.
Anna C. Brooks, the 9-year-old daughter of Professor Brooks, of the Red House observatory at Phelps, N. Y., and who, by the way, is said to have been one of the astronomical taste of her father, put the following original mathematical puzzle to him the other morning before she was out of bed: "Papa," said she, "can you write nineteen so as to make it 1888?" It was a poser for the professor, and he gave it up. "Well, here it is," said Anna, "18-8-8; don't you see?"—New York Tribune.

Farthing Dinners in England.
The experiment of giving half penny dinners at the Birmingham schools has been so successful that farthing dinners have been tried, and nearly succeeded. Two hundred and twelve thousand farthing dinners were given last year at a cost of less than 50-100 of a penny. The attendance at the schools has been greatly increased, and the good effect upon the temper of the children has been astonishing.—Chicago Times.

An Important Reform.
A most important and commendable instruction for railroad employes has just been issued by the Prussian government. It is to the effect that the officials who are held responsible for the security of the traffic shall not be treated for longer than eight hours a day. Locomotive engineers and conductors will be as far as possible included under that head.—Chicago News.

Cardinal Manning is a frequent guest at luxurious banquets, but in the midst of such feasts generally makes his dinner of a loaf of potato, a piece of loaf and a glass of water.
Philadelphia has a sudden death club. Any one may join it who has something the matter with him which is likely to take him off swiftly and unexpectedly.

TAKE YOUR CHANCE

And History, Seldomerring, Will Record You Sage or Savage.

On the one side you have the old schools of medicine, born in obscurity and reared in ignorance, with whom mediocrity ranks as genius and fossilized conservatism is the acme of wisdom. They are the product of a parched imagination and a stunted intellect. They are the result of the dark ages and the thinness of myth and mystery, of astrology and alchemy. Their great boast is antiquity—but the title is disputed by Halaam's ass.

On the other side stands the Histo-genetic system of medicine. It is the offspring of modern thought, of modern investigation, of modern experience. It is the result of research, the triumph of reason. Like Mirra, it springs from the brain of modern Jupiter; its passport is truth. Which side will win?

SEATTLE, Wash., June 9, 1901.
Our baby was very sick, and we tried several physicians in turn. None of them seemed to know what the matter was, she couldn't stand; couldn't play; it was difficult for her to get her breath, she had choking spells from the time she was 4 months old. I would choke every five minutes during the night, and was subject to convulsions and muscular contraction. We had about given up hope of getting her well, when we took her to Dr. Jordan, and in very short time she commenced to improve, until all these symptoms have disappeared entirely, and she has not had a sign of them for some time.

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Perhaps it is because history repeats itself that some of it gets so very dry.

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What Indians Have Done.
Indians in the United States last year cultivated 227,565 acres of land, and raised 724,958 bushels of wheat, 804,972 bushels of corn, 512,137 bushels of oats and barley, 234,010 bushels of vegetables and 101,825 tons of hay. They also owned 308,334 horses and mules, 111,467 head of cattle, 40,471 swine and 1,117,373 sheep.—Chicago Herald.

Manufacture of Aluminum.
A London company is reported to have secured patents for the chemical production of aluminum in the form of soda and potassium, and to be able to manufacture aluminum at considerably less than one shilling per pound.—Arkansas Traveler.

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