

SELLING MEAT

A little old woman forced her way through a crowd of waiting customers in a Fulton street meat market yesterday afternoon and quietly called for a pound of lamb chops. The proprietor himself waited on her, and while he was cutting the meat the old lady asked him: "Is that meat tainted?"

"Tainted, madam?" he interrogated angrily. "What do you mean?" "Never you mind," persisted the old lady. "Is it tainted?" "Madam," said the butcher, laying down his knife and blushing clean back to his shoulder blades, "perhaps you don't want any meat?"

"Be careful now," said the woman, encouraged by the amused and interested looks of the customers. "I know what I am talking about. Do you know what the new code is?" "I think I do," stammered the proprietor, as he mopped his forehead with his apron. "What of it?"

"Do you know that it makes the selling of diseased or tainted meat a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine or imprisonment, of both on top of each other? Oh, I know, for my son is going to be a lawyer."

"Well—" "Don't interrupt me. Now, how many people of you have had bad meat?" The served customers all shyly smelled of their package, but no one spoke. "Don't be afraid," cried the old lady encouragingly, "I'll see you out. If there's any unlawful meat sold here, I'd like to know it."

"I'll have you arrested," said theasperated butcher. "I don't sell any tainted meat."

FRUITS AS FOOD AND MEDICINE.

Of all the fruits with which we are blessed, the peach is the most delicious and digestible. There is nothing more palatable, who'some and medicinal than good, ripe peaches. They should be ripe, but not over-ripe and half rotten; and of this kind they may make a part of either meal, or be eaten between meals; but it is better to make them part of the regular meals. It is a mistaken idea that no fruit should be eaten at breakfast. It would be far better if our people would eat less bacon and grease at breakfast and more fruit. In the morning there is an acid state of the secretions, and nothing is so well calculated to correct this as cooling subacid fruits, such as peaches, apples, etc.

Still most of us have been taught that eating fruit before breakfast is highly dangerous. How the idea originated I do not know, but it is certainly a great error, contrary to both reason and facts. The apple is one of the best of fruits. Baked or stewed apples will generally agree with the medicine in many cases of sickness. Green, or half-ripe apples stewed and sweetened are pleasant to the taste, nourishing, cooling and laxative, far superior, in many cases, to the abominable doses of salts and oil usually given in fever and other diseases. Raw apple and dried apples stewed, are far better for constipation than most liver pills.

Oranges are very acceptable to most stomachs, having all the advantage of the acid allowed to; but the juice alone should be taken, rejecting the pulp. The same may be said of lemons, pomegranates, and all that class. Lemonade is the best drink in fevers, and when thickened with sugar, is better than syrup of squills and other nauseous drugs in many cases of cough.

Tomatoes act on the liver and bowels, and are much more pleasant and safe than blue mass and "liver regulators." The juice should be used alone, rejecting the skins. The small seeded fruits, such as blackberries, figs, raspberries, and strawberries, may be classed among the best foods and medicines. The sugar in them is nutritious, the acid is cooling and purifying, and the seeds are laxative. We would be much the gainers if we would look more to our gardens and orchards for our medicines, and less to our drug stores. To cure fever or act on the kidneys, no febrifuge or diuretic is superior to watermelons, which may, with very few exceptions, be taken in sickness and in health, in almost unlimited quantities, not only without injury, but with positive benefit. But in using them, the water, or juice should be taken, excluding the pulp; and the melon should be fresh and ripe, but not over-ripe and stale.—J. S. Wilson, M. D. in Southern World.

NEW FEATURES IN WEDDINGS.

There are fashions in weddings as in dress. Some years ago what was supposed to be the English style was introduced. The peculiarity of this style lies in the absence of brides maids, the presence of a best man, and the substitution of ushers for groomsmen. The best man follows the groom from the vestry and holds the groom's hat during the ceremony. But after all this does not seem to be the genuine English style. It is rather a sort of compromise, for mild Anglo-maniacs, between the British and the American method. The true, through-and-through English style requires, besides a best man and ushers, that the bride shall walk up the aisle unglorified, holding a family prayer-book. As the Anglo-maniac is an imitation, an imitation prayer-book will probably do for ladies whose families don't use a prayer-book.

An innovation in weddings which has, however, nothing special to do with the English or American style, is to strew the middle aisle of the church with autumn-leaves. This picturesque feature was introduced at a recent wedding in New Jersey, the rustling leaves accompanying the soft wedding music as the bridal party approached the altar.

and rushed up into the drawing-room, which was found as before, deserted and silent. With a good deal of entreaty, the caretaker was induced by her niece to remain in the kitchen. They again sat down at the fire, and left the passage-door open. A short time only elapsed when the bell in the passage again rang, and this time more continuously than before.

The terror of the old woman now became extreme; but the younger crept cautiously round the half-open door, and there she saw the ringer of the bell—a half-starved rat. Impelled by hunger in the empty house, he had made his way into the channel along which all the bell-wires had been laid from the several rooms into a common opening to the passage. There he was discussing in his own thoughts the feasibility of jumping down from a height of five or six feet to the level of the kitchen floor, to seek for a supper.

He was so hungry, that the presence of the girl did not frighten him away, and he remained with his forepaws in a state of unstable equilibrium, shaking the wire, while his glistening eyes shone out like two diamonds reflecting the light of the solitary kitchen candle. Had the stout-hearted girl not detected the presence of the hungry visitor, the belief would have been firm, in the view of many, that some supernatural agency had rung the bell, and the legend of a haunted house would have hung round my little villa.

JACK AND THE THIEF.

A writer in the New York Ledger tells a good story of how Jack Tar once played the part of a detective with such success as to secure the arrest of a "sneak-thief." The story is as follows: Once upon a time, when the old City Tavern was standing in Boston, and a Mr. Doolittle kept it, Jack Tar, who had just been paid off from an Indian of Billy Grey's, took up his quarters there. On the very first occasion of his sitting at dinner, Jack saw something that surprised him.

He had taken particular notice of an exquisitely dressed gentleman, who sat very nearly opposite to him at the table; and he thought he would watch this gentleman, to copy his manners, as he wished to be polite and proper. Well, he had watched the exquisite narrowly, and presently he saw a silver spoon slip into the gentleman's pocket; and directly afterwards, a larger spoon—of sterling silver—from one of the dishes near him.

Pretty soon Jack made up his mind as to the meaning of what he had seen. It had puzzled him at first. And he resolved to expose the rascal. To that end he very quietly took a dessert-spoon; wiped it on his napkin, and then stuck it into two of the button-holes on the lapel of his blue jacket. Then he took a larger spoon from a berry-dish, and fixed that, in like manner, upon the opposite lapel. And in this manner, with those flaunting silver bouquets exposed on his breast, he arose to leave the table. Doolittle himself, who had been serving at the carving-table, chanced to see him.

"Hello! Jack! what in the world does that mean?" pointing to the spoons. "Well, I'll tell you: You see that gentleman there—just goin' out? Well, I discovered him a 'histin' two of 'em into his pockets, and I thought it might be the fashion. So I just put mine there!" Doolittle nodded, and ran after the gentleman just going out. He recovered the two spoons, and shortly thereafter the exquisitely dressed guest was marching away in company with Constable Clapp.

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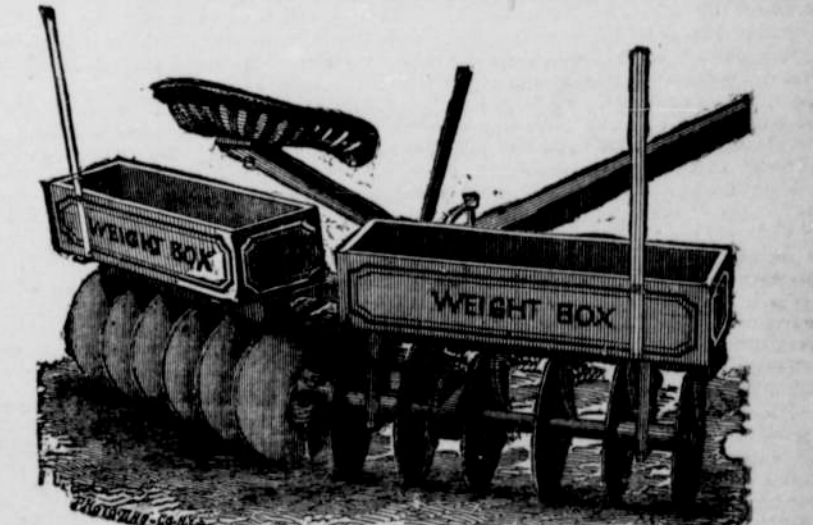
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