BLACKMAIL IN RESTAURANTS.

Is the System of Tipping Has Degenerated to Many Paltry Bonus.

Complaints of the tipping system, or rather want of system, are growing more and more common. It is the system of those who are in the habit of getting their meals here and there and patronizing the cafes about town that tardiness among waiters has chiefly increased. Everybody who knows anything about New York knows what that means—an exceedingly disagreeable state of affairs.

"The evil is worse in proportion to the respectability of the place," says a man about town. "In cafes where the more expensive the meal the more liberal the tip, and the more lingering the waiter if it does not come, the only idea of what the amount of the tip should be."

I have been making some personal investigations in this line myself and unfortunately believe the above opinion. I have found that in every instance the waiter expected a tip whether he had served well or not, and that this expectation is made so fully apparent that the assertion of everybody in the vicinity is called to the fact in best unwilling witness as to the amount of your liberality. Also that too small a tip will subject you to more permanent insult than none at all, for any effort to correct abuse of this character by reporting the servant is more likely to multiply your bad treatment than to reduce it.

If the executive chief or proprietor does not recognize in you a valuable customer of the place, the chances are two to one you will be received with more contempt than you got at the hands of the waiter. No one has to tell cases of limited new customers—he simply doesn't go back. Most of us men and women are not easily offended by waiters. Familiar with the ways of the waiter, they either put up or ignore the intended offense. It is the sensitive man who is the more easily Macawaited, or who, resenting the levy, feels most keenly the limitations of the social.

In my experiments, conducted at six different respectable restaurants, I found that the poorest waiters, the most who gave the poorest service, were the most offensive. At one place where, at the suggestion of a friend interested in this class of human nature, we went back to the same waiter on the next day, there was such a visible reluctance to serve us that we were compelled to call the head waiter before we could get anything to eat. As my rule is to reward a servant proportionately for extra service and attention, and as some of those men rendered this service and got nothing, I cherish no hard feelings against them for the lack of cold disappointment with which they greeted our departure. Indiscriminate tipping for table tipping reduces practically, so far as good service is concerned. It has become merely an insult to blackmail, and the poorest service demands and receives the same reward earned by and deservedly paid the best. Men are awful cowards and would rather be robbed outright than thought mean, even by a waiter.—New York Herald.

It must not be forgotten that one of the rapidly growing cities of this country is Boston. Its population is now half a million, but fortunately or unfortunately the old town quite upholds all the features of "Culture." The persons who make it grow are of European and Canadian descent.

Everybody is glad the World's fair is putting out of debt.

The Role of For Lynch-law.

Lynch law is the natural outgrowth of a weak judiciary, a creature of the law's delays, and a child of the bond-questioning idiots who deem a feigned repentance sufficient ground for leniency or pardon. The abuse of capital punishment must not be blamed for such exhibitions of popular wrath, for statistics show the contrary. It is the mawkish sentiment that proceeds from the inability of some people to realize the depths of wickedness of which a few hours are capable, and the incontrollable upon which most peaceful men can be constructed by a skilful lawyer before a corrupt or gullible court.

The remedy lies in a reformation which shall make the action of the law immediate to capital cases, and, perhaps, extending the list of capital crimes to cover certain other crimes that are really worse than murder. Until this condition is attained, lynch law will prevail in a greater or less extent, depending upon how much the people distrust the swift and sure retribution of regular legal processes. This thing of substituting an apology for a hanging—of pampering convicted, fiend-murderers, felons, of casting sympathy to red-handed murderers, and other feeling them or prolonging their worthless lives at the constant cost to of the state, must cease. Sickening shudderingly and misplaced sympathy is not to be used with judicial inefficiency and corruption to perpetuate the reign of that most un-American anachronism—Judge Lynch.—*Time and Grey Jot Exercises.*

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