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HOSPITALITY AMONG WOODSMEN.

Where the Stranger Is Taken in and Made to Feel at Home.

Among the genuine woodsmen in eastern America great hospitality to strangers is the most distinguishing trait. By woodsmen is meant those who make their living by chopping and hauling logs, and who live all winter in log camps, half buried up in the snows of a vigorous northern climate, far away from the outer world. Among these people there is no law against tramps. The solitary hunter or the lonely traveler whom night has overtaken in his journey always receives a cordial welcome, not from one, but from all of the crew.

As soon as the stranger's head is inside of the low door by which the hut is entered, the cook calls out to him to walk in, for it is this functionary who does the honors of the camp. He is then invited to take a place on the "deacon seat," that he may be better able to warm his feet before the fire. The question is then put, "Have you had your supper?" and the wanderer is asked to step up and have a bite; even if he has already supped he will be almost forced to take a piece of sweet cake and to drink a cup of tea.

The teakettle always sits beside the fire, and on the stranger's arrival the cook gives this "a good boil," for woodsmen want their tea boiled. Some fat pork is cut and put into the pan and is soon simmering over a cheery fire. While the stranger is taking off his moccasins and putting on a dry pair of socks, with which the cook is always ready to furnish him, the cook is plying him with questions as to what is going on out in the settlement.

So soon as the "boss" or owner of the camp and crew come in at night, their day's work over, the stranger is cordially greeted by all; in fact he becomes one of themselves and is expected to walk up to the bean pot or the frying pan and to help himself to anything that suits his palate without asking anybody. He not only becomes as one of the crew, but the best place in the berth is reserved for him, some one turning out of it and sleeping on the deacon seat (the hewn plank on which the crew sit when eating their meals). Sometimes the deacon seat is preferable to the berth.

Many years since, late one stormy winter night, I arrived at Mr. W. Richard's logging camp at the "Otter Slide," on the Nashwaik river, New Brunswick. The crew had retired. When I entered the camp Mr. R. raised his head from the fir boughs on which he was lying and said to me, "Come, take this place." I caught at the moment a glimpse of a bed of snow beneath the green boughs. "No, thank you, I prefer the deacon seat." On this I gladly stretched my weary limbs with my boots for a pillow and coat thrown over my shoulders for covering; and yet, after all, my sleep was sounder and more refreshing than that of one amid all the luxuries of the town.—Forest and Stream.

A Substitute for Canal Locks.

H. G. Ketchum, engineer of the Chignecto ship railway, is credited as the author of a scheme by which vessels drawing upward of twenty feet of water can be pushed through the present St. Lawrence canals from Port Arthur to Quebec, and through the Soo canal now being excavated, without deepening the canals or enlarging the locks, thus obviating the expenditure of millions of dollars upon canal deepening.

Mr. Ketchum proposes that large vessels be placed upon steel rafts or pontoons, and thus floated through the canals and over river shallows, the vessels to be placed upon the pontoons by means of hydraulic lifts established at the entrance of each canal. He says $300,000 would provide pontoons and lifts for all the existing canals; but these lifts could be used as graving docks; but little time would be lost in placing the vessels upon the floats, and the plan has been successful elsewhere.—New York Telegram.

The Doctor's Retort.

One of the brightest physicians of Portland and one of the ablest theologians of Bath were in the physiological room at Bowdoin Medical school not long ago examining, in company with others, microscopic slides, showing certain peculiar glands of the intestines. The physician at once launched out into a brilliant discussion of the glands and their relation to various diseases.

The theologian grew tired after a time, and finally said: "You doctors know so much about the uncertainties of this world that I should think you would not want to live." "You theologians," came the quick reply, "tell us so much about the certainties of the next that we don't want to die."—Lewiston Journal.

Sharing His Bed.

A Grub street friend of Johnson's was Derrick, of whom he wrote, "I honor Derrick for his strength of mind." One night when Floyd, another poor author, was wandering about the streets he found Derrick asleep upon a bulk. Upon being suddenly awakened Derrick started up. "My dear Floyd," said he, "I am sorry to see you in this destitute state. Will you go home with me to my lodgings?" And they turned in on the bulk together like the good fellows they were.—Collector.

The Modern Cows.

One good effect of short skirts, if ever generally adopted, will be to let the men learn how to walk well. At present they shuffle, mince, turn in one foot, do everything but walk. Nothing commends more respect than dignity of carriage, always excepting elegance and dignity of speech, and when my sex discovers that feet have a higher mission than to be crowded into boots and show too small for them, and that corns are an offense against nature, the reign of noble bearing may set in.

"It's the corset that's to blame in this world to find a foot which straight lace can go on," say chiropodists. "Tiny lips and over lap, and bunions are decided under. As for bunions, well, they are the rule. No woman with a disordered foot can walk naturally, and it stands to reason that such torturing of the extremities must conduce to physical illness of several kinds. So turn in which way we will, tight boots are an abomination. Let the apostle of the shoeless gown but introduce a fetching covering for the foot and prove herself mistress of the art of walking, and she will go a long way toward breaking down those most formidable of barriers—tradition and prejudice.—Kate Field's Washington.

Women Should Eat Often.

More women sin through undereating than through overeating, and all women sin in not distributing rightly the amount of food taken through the twenty-four hours. An empty stomach is as bad as an empty head. Digestion is the proper function of the stomach, and it can be made more easily continuous than people think. The common practices of putting the stomach three times in twenty-four hours just as much food as it can hold, and then of giving it nothing whatever for twenty hours more, is about as illogical and as engaging as anybody ever devised. To the credit of the human race be it said that this is a habit that is not new and venal.

The French eat four times a day, the English four and sometimes five, the Germans four also. A woman who breakfasts at 8 should eat again between 11 and 12. Luncheon at 1 again and tea and a bite at 5, when dinner is at 6:30 or 7. Before going to bed at 11 she should eat a little more—a biscuit again and something hot. This will insure good and restful sleep, because it takes the blood from the brain, where it doesn't belong, down to the stomach, where it does belong.—Omaha World Herald.

An Apparent Injustice.

There is a question which it is strange thoughtful women do not ask. Why should the schoolboy, if he have any pluck at all to his name, be called mamma's darling, and the adult man, married or single, Mr., while the schoolgirl and the mature woman are alike styled Miss, unless married, in which case the more dignified title of Mrs. is bestowed? A woman never knows whether the man to whom she is introduced is married or single, but a woman is labeled, the man marry something, he mother, which, so it have the semblance of a man, before she is permitted by society to assume the title of dignity and maturity.

The woman who carries about with her, as a kind of appendage, some useless creature called her husband, she deserves only to number her and drag her down, is counted by society more worthy to wear the title of mature womanhood than the woman who values herself as truly, who holds herself and her destiny as sacred, whose ideals of life and love are so high that she cannot marry her inferior, who is denied any title more dignified than is bestowed upon the schoolgirl of fourteen.—Blanche Feering in Chicago Women's News.

The "Second Summer" Fallacy.

If children are artificially fed, the greater prevalence of bowel troubles in hot weather is very remarkable. This and the benefits accruing from proper preparation of food (sterilization, etc.) leave little doubt that much indeed most, of the "teething diarrhea" is due to improper food. The exaggerated terror of the "second summer" and the evil repute of the "stomach teeth" cloves contrary arise from the same cause. We have heard one mother congratulate another, "You'll have no trouble with that baby; his second summer will come in winter," meaning that the eruption of the first molars, and especially of the canines, would occur in cold weather.

Now if the teeth were responsible for the disturbances of the digestion, season would be of little consequence. The troubles attending the eruption of the canines are due to the fact that the child is already weaned, and among the poor is given or helps itself to adult food, among the comfortable classes is fed as heretofore, or at best is made the subject of all sorts of random experiments in feeding.—Dr. Henry D. Chapin in Babyhood.

The Wedding Finger.

There are facts connected with the ring finger which make it in a peculiar manner an appropriate emblem of matrimonial union. It is the only finger where two nerves belong to two distinct trunks; the thumb is supplied with its principal nerves from the radial nerve, as are also the forefinger, the middle finger and the thumb side of the ring finger, while the ulnar nerve furnishes the little finger and the other side of the ring finger, at the point of extremity of which a real union takes place. It seems as if it were intended by nature to be the matrimonial finger.

That the side of the ring finger next the little finger is supplied by the ulnar nerve is frequently proved by common sensations—that of striking the ulnar against the edge of a chair, a door, or any narrow, hard substance. The ulnar nerve is then frequently struck, and a thrilling sensation is felt in the little finger and on the same side of the ring finger, but not on the other side of it.—New York Ledger.

The largest German sailing vessel is a four masted bark, built at Oostermonde. She measures 2,700 tons net and has a carrying capacity of 4,400 tons.

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