

RAW FISH AND WASABI.

An Appetizing Dish That is a Favorite in Japan.

Not so well known among the occidentals as soy sauce, but of equal merit as an appetizer, is wasabi.

My own introduction to wasabi was unique. I count among my most pleasing experiences in this surprise land my meeting with Tumbo Yano, novelist and diplomat.

I confessed that I was willing to be a stick in the mud or any other variety of sibilant rather than take place with the international elect by eating such a dish.

Now, I did not have even a vague notion of what this might be, but with that rasy proposition before me it was comforting to know that at least it was to be diluted with something.

I conjured up an experience in taking castor oil ambushed under sherry and sarsaparilla, which, while not a beverage one would grow to crave, might have been worse.

After Eugene Field's return from his first trip to Europe, where he "spent his patrimony like a prince," and before he went to Denver, he had a little close personal experience with hard times.

A writer on flamingoes, which he has studied in their haunts in the Bahamas, says of them: "They are probably as near to the geese as to any other order of birds, having a similar structure of bill and feet and somewhat similar feather character."

Sad Looking Man—I see you have a sign out. "Maker of Women's Habits." Do you mean it? Ladies' Tailor—Certainly I do.

Practical Financiering. Raynor—There's a dangerous new counterfeit five dollar bill announced. Better look through your roll and see if you have one of 'em.

It is human nature to hate those whom we have injured.—Tacitus.

A BRAUNY EVANGELIST.

He First Whipped a Bully and Then Brought Him to Church.

A Methodist minister tells the following story about the late Sam Rozel, the great Virginia evangelist, who in his day was one of the best known pulpits orators in the south.

"Sam Rozel was a very big man and had a wide reputation for physical strength. In his college days he came off the field of combat, usually a circus-ambler and secluded area of the campus, wearing the laurel of victory on many occasions, and after he became a preacher stories of his physical prowess were spread far and near.

"One day he went to a village to hold a protracted meeting. The village blacksmith, who was a very big man, and who was recognized, especially among the tavern habitués, as a pugilistic wonder, heard about the coming of Rozel, and the villagers did not fail to tell him all they had heard about the size of the parson's arm and the length of his legs, and of the convincing way he had of closing an argument with his fists.

"All this nettled the smith considerably, so when Rozel reached the town he sought him out and asked him to fight.

"Rozel, of course, said he did not want to fight, but the smith kept on insisting, and finally Rozel became angry and agreed to gratify the fellow.

"They fought, Rozel literally wiped up the ground with the big man. When he had pounded him until the poor, vanquished bully was gasping hard, Rozel picked him up and threw him over a fence.

"The blacksmith had not said a word since the affray began up to this point. As he rolled over on the other side of the fence, however, he called out: "Say, parson, kindly throw my horse over too. I'm going away."

"But Rozel followed the man to his home, and had him sitting on a front bench at the meeting that same night singing louder than any one else."

Dramatic Climax in the Convention Which Nominated Grant.

In May, 1868, the Republican national convention came along. Nast went to Chicago to be present.

It was settled beforehand that General Grant was to be the Republican presidential candidate. The great soldier had maintained a calm and noble dignity through all the trying days of conflict between congress and Andrew Johnson and was now honored almost as much for his diplomacy as for his success at arms.

A Valuable Scrapbook. To devote a scrapbook to one subject makes it much more interesting and valuable, and when you begin to gather material on any one theme you will be surprised at the amount which will come to hand.

Artemus Ward's Protector. While in the show business in Pennsylvania Artemus Ward was put to sleep in an attic where the sash had been taken out for ventilation.

Children soon learn that it is father who has the money and mother who has the generous disposition.—Aitchison Globe.

FORCE OF LIGHTNING

SOME OF THE FEATS PERFORMED BY THE MYSTIC FLUID.

The Way Great Masts of Ships Have Been Shattered—When a Bolt Strikes a Tree It Generates Steam From the Sap and Explodes the Bark.

The explosive force of lightning acting on dead wood is not, as a rule, so great as when living trees are struck, though Sir William Harris shows that "the masts of ships of the line, three feet in diameter and 110 feet long, bound with hoops of iron half an inch thick and five inches wide, the whole weighing about eighteen tons, have been in many instances torn asunder and the hoops of iron scattered about the decks."

But there must probably be some unknown reason not only for the frequency with which trees are struck, but for the recurrence of such shocks in the case of particular trees or trees in the same locality.

There must be something in the form or situation or earth below the trees which endangers it. An instance is quoted in Mr. Anderson's descriptive book of the Church of St. Mary in Genoa, which was frequently struck by lightning, sometimes as often as twice a year.

If the ground below the tree or building is hard and dry, the contact with the earth, in which the lightning expands its force and disperses, is difficult, and the destruction of the object struck is likely to result.

In a park in one of the eastern counties of England there is a large lake. The park contains more trees struck by lightning than the whole of the rest of the estate.

The occurrence was so unexpected that the throng was silent for a moment, taking it in; then, realizing that it was a spectacular climax, the pictorial expression of a universal sentiment, the assembled multitude gave vent to an enthusiasm that turned the great hall into a pandemonium of exultation.—Albert Bigelow Paine in Pearson's.

As Sir Hiram Maxim pointed out after the great explosion of Mont Pelée, a very similar method is now used by the American manufacturers of wood pulp.

As a topic of conversation the weather is branded with infamy in Egypt. It is never mentioned—except by a fool. I am not saying this maliciously, for I was that fool often enough.

Reversed. "Mrs. Closely, do you still maintain your rules as to when the servants must be in at night?" "Certainly. The only difference is that the cook now makes the rules."

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