

us in the arts of eating soup and wearing clothes, and even deluged to set our minds at rest upon the much-vaunted question of asparagus. Of course, in these and similar matters there are mentors and mentees, just as there are etiquette and etiquette. The estimable Ruth Ashmore, in the columns of the Ladies' Home Journal, tells the innocent young typewriter why she should wear flowers in her hat and under what circumstances it is permitted to her to take lunch with her elderly and amiable employer, and some enterprising daily papers employ circular persons whose duty it is to let Misses know how many times they should call before she allows him to kiss her. As a manual of "Etiquette for Americans" (Stones), bound in cloth of a blinding shade of red, written by "A Woman of Fashion," and published in Chicago, necessarily aims at something higher than this. In an illuminative chapter on "Dinner" the author makes the point clear: "The comfortable, pleasant, 'come-early-and-stay-to-dinner' sort of society is not included in this manual, naturally. Certain communities—perhaps the happiest and most hearty—make their own dinner-table laws, and live up to them. They ladle out your brimstone soup or noodle soup at the profit of a minute, and begin by hacking off your plate, or reach over somebody's, shove things about, do anything you like at such boards, and are happy. But these need no rules. The newspaper answers to correspondents as to how to dispose of your plate for a second time, and all such as they require."

amusement and enable the young bachelor aspirant for social recognition to give his friend a maximum of satisfaction at a minimum of cost. An alert and careful young man might even successfully discharge his obligations to select parties of fashionable friends by giving them a substantial and elaborate dinner, explaining the beauties of the production of the Sunday Illustrated supplement, as seen through the plate-glass windows of Mr. Bennett's Temple of Truth.

Turning at last to the important question of asparagus, we find it stated on page 91 that, though corn may be gnawed from the cobs, it makes a mess, and formal dinners are better without it; but "asparagus is supposed to be eaten with the fingers, and that makes another untidy business." It might be worth while here to pause for a moment and consider the curious physiological process involved in the eating of anything with the fingers, but the subject is too serious for mere verbal quibbling, and demands a broader treatment. We have a distinct recollection of the fact that not long ago another social guide, known as "The Complete Bachelor," laid down the rule that asparagus, "except in the private of your own dining room, is to be eaten with a fork. This leaves the matter in a state of chaos. Surely a Woman of Fashion and a Complete Bachelor should be at one upon a point so vital. In the meantime, how shall a would-be woman of fashion or a bachelor who longs to be complete behave when the asparagus comes around? It is to be hoped, for the interests of the large number of estimable persons engaged in the raising and the distribution of an admirable product, that something may be done. Perhaps the Chicago publisher might arrange a meeting at which these authorities could lay their august heads together and definitely settle the matter in a final and authoritative manner. No photographer, professional or amateur, can fall to derive inspiration and encouragement from the beautifully printed and illustrated pages of Mr. W. L. Lincoln Adams' "In Nature's Image" (The Baker & Taylor Company, New York). This volume continues and in some regards supplements the theme of Mr. Adams' previous book, "Sunlight and Shadow," paying especially more attention to the aesthetics and technique of indoor photography.

General services at his late residence, 111 East 87th St., on Sunday, Nov. 6, at 2 P. M. PARSONS.—On Thursday, Nov. 5, Margaret R. widow of James H. Parsons, 457 West 12th St., at her late residence, 457 West 12th St., on Saturday, 11th inst., at 1:30 o'clock. Interment at Rye, N. Y., at the convenience of the family.

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