

Seasonable Entertainments and Suggestions for Social Functions

By EDITH A. BROWN
Society Editor of the Chicago Record-Herald.

Birthdays of Bayard Taylor and Edgar Allan Poe come in January—Directions for a "Bayard Taylor Luncheon of the Nations."

January brings two American poets' birthdays for the club luncheon series—that of Bayard Taylor, who was born at Kennett Square, Pa., January 11, 1825, and of Edgar Allan Poe, whose birthday anniversary comes later in the month.

Bayard Taylor's reputation as "the great American traveler" makes a change possible in the arrangement of the programme and detail for this one poet luncheon, at least. From his first great journey to Europe, made in the middle forties, to his death in Berlin in 1878, Bayard Taylor gave to the world a series of travel volumes and stories which are fascinating in style and so varied in scope and experiences that the sophisticated and untraveled have been wont to dub him an American Minchausen. Taking the truth and the untruth of the volumes, however, they form a series so interesting that his ability as a poet and novelist is overshadowed by his fame as a traveler. For this luncheon nothing could be more appropriate than a "Bayard Taylor Luncheon of the Nations."

Representative of his book on "A Journey to Central Africa, the Lands of the Saracens," have an African table. His "Visit to India, China and Japan" makes an oriental table very appropriate and his "Summer Pictures of Sweden, Denmark and Lapland" will make a pretty Scandinavian table. An American table should be added and possibly a European table, if an extra one is needed, but the countries chosen will give an oddity of entertainment which the English, French and Italian tables have lost through much use.

For the toast choose from each table a speaker to give a bit of experience of travel—personal, if possible—from the country the table represents. Or a descriptive sketch from the works of Taylor, which have been mentioned may be made interesting. At the close of the service or between courses a short programme of vocal or instrumental music representative of the various countries should be given.

Every course should, in its turn, be representative of the countries, likewise. For instance, the famous Indian soup—Mullagatawny—may open the luncheon, or, to be more strictly proper in the choice of the opening course for a luncheon, there is Scotch broth. The fish course may be heralded from America and New England, at that, as the first of the American strongholds. This course may be codfish steak in New England style, served with well-buttered Johnny cake.

Africa should be represented in the meat course, and any one favored with an old black manny some place along the family line may have a number of good old dishes to draw upon. Belgian hare or rabbit may be served to look like possum, although the rabbit itself with the good luck its left hind foot is supposed to carry for the African native, is an appropriate and appetizing dish. With this, of course, must be served sweet potatoes. For the salad serve Brussels sprouts or Jerusalem artichokes with East Indian pickles. The dessert may hail from the frozen north, and nothing will better carry out the general idea of the ice and the snow than the dessert which the youngsters of Norway are wont to call "pif-paf." This is served much like charlotte russe—in bowls or cups and eaten with a spoon—from which its name is derived. It is made of quantities of whipped cream, slices of cake and rich, red raspberry preserves. The whipped cream is dropped in the bottom of the bowl, the slices of cake are thrust into this and the preserves are dropped over this in little mounds. This is repeated—the cream, the cake, and the preserves—until the bowl is filled. With this may be served Russian tea, sweetened with preserves, if American stomachs can withstand this onslaught, or the sweetening, which is characteristic, may be omitted. The bon bons for this affair may be the Chinese sweets, or the sweets of every country may be chosen.

The decorations for the tables, of course, must represent the countries. For the American table, red, white and blue, with the menu cards bearing this quotation from the poet's "Incident of the Crimean War"—"Forgot was Britain's glory."

For the other tables the colors of the countries may be carried out or the representation may come through the flora of the country. For Africa go to Taylor's wonderful poem to "Kilimandjaro," the "monarch of African mountains"—these lines so wonderfully describing the country's variety of growth:

"Zone above zone—
The climates of earth are displayed as an index,
Giving the scope of the Book of Creation.

From clouds and from cold into summer eternal.

There in the wondering airs of the Tropics
Shivers the aspen, still dreaming of cold;

And the pine tree looks down on his rival, the palm."
The decoration this suggests may be in contrast—garlands of pine with potted palms.

verse for the Scandinavian country, with its mythical gods and its ice and snow:
"Seats of the gods in the limitless ether,
Looming sublimely, aloft and afar
Above them, like folds of imperial ermine,
Sparkle the snow fields—
Desolate realms, inaccessible, silent,
Chasms and caverns where Day is a stranger,
Garners where storth his treasures the Thunder,
The Lightning his falcon, his arrows the Hall."
To the student of mythology and the Wagerian "Ring" series, this verse—or these lines—will appeal particularly.

The oriental table, of course, may be the proverbial "bower of beauty," with chrysanthemums and cherry blossoms and the other splendid flowers to draw upon. This part-line from "The Phantom" may be used in description:
"—the shade and the sunshine chase each other—at my feet."
(Copyright, by Joseph B. Bowles.)

GREAT GAME OF ROUNDBALL

There Were Three Catchers and Some Scientific Batting Was Done.

Until about 1850 the ball game played in Massachusetts was called "Massachusetts roundball." No game called "town ball" was known in Massachusetts.

We did not know that in England a game called rounders was played. We believed that roundball was distinctively an American game. Four old cut and three old cut were regarded as derivatives of roundball. They were the resource when there were not enough players on the field for roundball.

In a match game of roundball there were 14 players on a side. The game was quite as active as baseball is, and exciting. Bases were called goals. There were four goals set in a square, not in a diamond. At each goal a stout stake four feet high and about two inches in diameter was driven into the ground. The runner going all full speed would saute this stake, frequently swinging around it two or three times before he could stop himself. There was no running beyond first on a hit. Unless some part of the runner's body touched the goal he could be put out by being hit by a thrown ball. "Pitched out," we called it.

The batter stood in a circle four feet in diameter, midway between first goal and home. The thrower stood in the center of the square made by the goals, 20 feet from the batter. Many teams had what was called a "dip-thrower," that is, one who could throw a swift ball, starting low and shooting up. There were no fouls; everything went. Backhanded batting was common. The batter swinging round with the ball as it came to him, would drive it sideways or backward for a long hit. A few were skillful at what was called side batting. Grasping the bat near the middle with the thumb and fingers of one hand, and being careful that the finger ends were below the surface, they held it horizontally, the end pointed toward the thrower. In this position the batter would catch the ball on the top of the bat and, in a fraction of a second, as it slid along the surface and by a quick deflection of the bat, shoot the ball backward to the right or to the left.

Hundreds of men now living in central Massachusetts have seen it done. There were three catchers in line behind the batter. The first catcher played close. He usually crouched and took only the low throws. The second and third catchers stood erect, alert for the high and wild throws. There were two back fielders, one at the right and one at the left of the third catcher. They were there for the backhand and side hits. There was a player at each goal, a player between second goal and home and two outfielders. The ball was made of woolen yarn, firmly wound, with a few shot in the center. It was covered with leather and was somewhat smaller than the regulation baseball. It was not mussy. A tick and a catch was out. One out the side was out. To avoid being put out by a ball thrown at him, and properly coached, a runner would jump in the air, now fall flat on the ground, and up and away again in a twinkling. Runs were called tallies. The big matches were generally decided by the priority in getting 100 tallies. Each team chose its own "referee," and the two "referees" chose a "Judge," who was a solemn and important person, silent except when the referees could not agree. His decision was final.

Whose Witness?
When Rufus Choate was United States district attorney in Boston three sailors were before his court for the robbery from their ship of a bag of specie, and one of them turned state's evidence. Upon the stand this witness, to a final question by Mr. Choate as to what inducement the others held out to him to join them, with shamefast hesitancy made substantially the following reply: "Well, sir, arter feelin' round a bit, they ses to me, ses they: 'Come on, Jack, an' jine us. It's dead easy, an' it'll make us all rich; so as if we do git ketcht we can hire Choate, an' he'll clear us if they find the money in our boots.'" One could never forget the serio-comic expression on that naturally grave face, as Mr. Choate, amid suppressed laughter, in which both court and jury had to join, busied himself with the papers upon his table, and turning to the defending counsel, with as much dignity as the situation permitted, said: "He's your witness."

First Japanese Ape.
The first Japanese ape ever born in the London zoo is the great attraction there at present. But he can be seen only in fine weather, when his proud parents bring him out for a sun bath and to enjoy the admiration he excites among the visitors.

Feeds Him.
"That big dog you gave us actually does police duty at our house."
"So?"
"Yes. He spends most of his time in the kitchen with the cook."—Detroit Free Press.

STRANGE MONSTER SCARES CITIZENS.

WEIRD BABOON-LIKE CREATURE SEEN NEAR DARBY, PA.

MAY BE PRACTICAL JOKE

Belated Wayfarer of Delaware County Frightened by Mysterious Thing and Many Residents Are Arming Themselves.

Darby, Pa.—All Delaware county is stirred up over the supposed antics of an alleged wild animal which is asserted to look like a gorilla and to have frightened belated wayfarers almost out of their wits in various parts of the county. While it is believed by most persons that the whole thing is a practical joke on the part of some one who is literally making a monkey out of himself, still many of the more timid class are thoroughly alarmed and fully believe all the tales that are told about the mysterious creature.

Those professing to have seen the wonderful animal, assert that it sometimes goes upright like a man and then dashes along on all fours with marvelous speed, maintaining a queer galloping gait. They furthermore feel certain that it has a coat of dark hair, but that is not considered remarkable, as the weather is cool. Their stories of how they almost encountered the strange beast have been so thrilling that many of the negroes in the county cannot be induced to pass the spots where it is said to have been seen. Others have purchased pistols and go about armed, fully resolved to sell their lives dearly should they encounter the mythical monster in any of its hypothetical haunts.

Others take the thing seriously without being unduly alarmed and they try to explain the matter. That it is an ape escaped from some zoological collection is the most commonly accepted theory. This was strengthened by a rumor that the authorities of the Zoological Gardens of Philadelphia were out looking for a lost Simian in Delaware county. But a telephone message to the zoo exploded the story. All the Philadelphia monkeys are safe.

in their cages. Their keeper respectfully suggested that the animal down by Darby is probably a monkey of native Delaware county stock. Nevertheless, several persons in Springfield township are so convinced that there is a strange animal prowling about that they have set traps for it. Frank Carr is one of them, and he set a number of traps in an enclosure in the rear of his house near some woods where the reputed creature



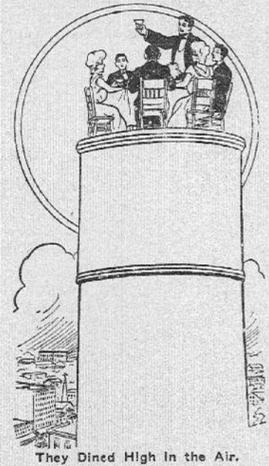
From the Trees He Terrifies Passers by.

ture was reported to have been seen. It is now stated that the traps were found broken, the bait devoured and all evidences on hand of a struggle made by some animal.

The practical joker who is working the scare, if such is the case, has succeeded to an extent which may work his own harm. For there are a number of Delaware county citizens who, while not getting in hysterics about the matter, have quietly placed big guns in their hip pockets and are waiting for a chance to pot anything that looks like a baboon.

GIRL SERVES DINNER ON LOFTY SMOKESTACK.

Bloomington, Ill.—On the dizzy top of the 200-foot concrete smokestack



They Dined High in the Air.

just completed by the Illinois traction system at Danville, eight persons sat down to an elaborate eight-course banquet served by Miss Marguerite Richey.

The entire affair came about as a sort of a prank, the first of which was a dare to Miss Richey, made more in fun than in earnest, to climb the dizzy stack and serve a banquet to the party. She surprised Mr. Gursuch, the contractor, by accepting, and throughout the ordeal she did not waver. The ascent of the stack was made on the interior, a frail ladder nine inches wide being the means of attaining the top.

Mr. Gursuch ascended first with a rope tied about his waist, the other end of which encircled the slender girth of the young woman. Four times during the ascent Miss Richey was obliged to stop for breath and to recover from dizziness, but she clung firmly each time to the ladder until the attack had passed, and then bravely resumed the climb until the top was gained.

It is said that Lake Erie produces more fish to the square mile than any other body of water in the world.

Living Man Food For Rats.
New York.—Carl Hammond, 60 years old, who has had no home for a third of a century, was rescued from a living death which he had endured for seven days by some children and Police Constable of the Glendale police station, Long Island City. He went to sleep in an ice house on a picnic ground a week ago. When he awoke the following day he found himself locked in. It was impossible for him to break out or to make himself heard. Hunger and thirst and cold nearly drove him mad. Then rats began to feed on him. They practically ate the flesh from his fingers and his neck and would have eaten his whole body had it not been for his clothes. When discovered he had about given up the unequal struggle and was mumbling to himself: "Let 'em eat me; eat poor old Hammond, the old worthless tramp." The officer took the starving man out and gave him water and food. He may recover.

Emperor's Linguistic Abilities.
King Edward can speak German and French as fluently as English, and has a fair knowledge of one or two other languages, but as linguist he is eclipsed by the emperor of Austria. It is told of him that at one of the great military reviews he addressed five different regiments—German, Hungarian, Bohemian and Wallachian—each in its own tongue, and Hungarians will never forget how, 57 years ago, the youthful Archduke Francis Joseph when installing a certain governor electrified his audience by addressing it in pure Magyar, a tongue no other archduke had ever taken the trouble to learn. They sprang from their seats, waved their swords in a frenzy of enthusiasm and almost lifted the roof with thunderous shouts.

Prince Fushimi of Japan will soon visit England to return the visit of Prince Albert of Connaught last February, on which occasion he invested the emperor with the Order of the Garter on behalf of King Edward. Fushimi was in the United States two years ago.

TO GET THE BEST EFFECTS.

Things Worth Remembering When Having Room Papered.

When about to have a room papered take into consideration the size of the room, the height of the ceiling and the number and arrangement of the windows, as well as the use to which the room is put and the probable number and kinds of pictures you intend to hang upon the walls.

Small patterns add to the apparent size and are good in a small room. Striped effects give height and should be employed where the ceilings are unduly low. Plain papers are also suitable in small rooms and are best calculated to show off engravings to good advantage.

Where the ceiling is unusually high and a plain paper has been used a dado of a contrasting or harmonizing color, run about the top, just under the ceiling molding, improves matters. Yellow paper lights up a dark room or one with a northern exposure beautifully. Red paper is charming in a library where the woodwork is dark and too sharp a contrast to the dingy covering of many beloved books must be avoided, but it has a tendency toward darkening the room if the windows are not very advantageously arranged.

Green paper combined with white paint is delightful in a sunny room of southern exposure, but green paper is usually a fortunate choice, for it can almost always be made to harmonize with the other furnishings. Paper carried over the ceiling gives a better effect than if the ceiling is calcimined and adds to the apparent loftiness of the apartment.

SIGNS OF AGE IN POULTRY.

Certain Marks Reveal Everything to Experienced Housewife.

In choosing poultry the age of the bird is the most important point for consideration. When selecting a turkey remember that a young bird has smooth, shiny black legs, whereas those of an old one are rough and reddish. If the bird is freshly killed the eyes are full and bright and the feet moist.

The combs and legs of chickens are smooth in the young fowl, but tough in an old one. When choosing geese see that the bills and feet are yellow and have few hairs on them. Old birds have a decided red tinge on both. The feet should be pliable when freshly killed, but become dry and stiff if they have been killed some time. Geese are called green until they are two or three months old.

Ducks are chosen by their feet, which should be supple. Wild ducks have reddish feet, while those of the tame duck are yellow. A fresh duck should have a plump hard breast.

Tame pigeons are larger than the wild pigeons and the feet, like those of poultry, show the age of the bird. When the ear supple the bird is young; when stiff it is old. Pigeons should always be eaten while they are fresh; when they look flabby, and discolored about the under part they have been kept too long.

Packing String Beans to Keep.
The New England way of packing string beans for winter's use is as follows: As fast as beans are ready to pick, string and cut in pieces as if for immediate use. Into an earthen jar or crock place a layer of these beans and sprinkle with salt, a half cupful for each layer. As soon as the jar is filled, with salt for the top layer, close air-tight. When ready to use in the winter take as many from the jar as are needed, soak in cold water over night to freshen, then cook like fresh beans. Those who have eaten beans put up in this way say they taste almost as good as those freshly gathered.

In drying the beans they are allowed to ripen on the vines, then plucked and the vines pulled up and laid out somewhere to dry. When the pods are all dried and opened, shell and spread out again until perfectly dry.

To Renovate Black Silk.
One of the best ways to renovate black silk is to sponge it with alcohol, afterwards with a little potato water, and then wind the silk around a roller without ironing. To prepare the potato water pare and slice a good-sized potato, and pour on it about a pint of warm water. Let this stand in a warm place for half an hour, when it will be ready for use.

Any silk that has spots of mud on it can usually be cleaned by rubbing well with a piece of dry flannel. If the spots will not come out, try rubbing with a soft cloth wet with alcohol.

It is said that sponging with coffee will remove the greasy appearance that affects grosgrain silks.

Apple Pudding.
To one and a half cups of strained apples, grated rind and juice of half a lemon, three-fourths cupful of sugar, one-third cupful wine, one tablespoonful of brandy, add two tablespoonfuls gelatine soaked in one-third cupful cold water and dissolve in one-third cupful boiling water. Set in ice water and stir until it begins to thicken. Then add beaten whites of three eggs and stir until stiff enough to drop in mold. Serve with whipped cream.

Anchovy Toast.
Put two large tablespoonfuls anchovy butter in a bowl with the beaten yolks of two eggs and a half teaspoonful of the best curry. Set in the hot water pan and stir until well creamed, then spread on fingers of daintily browned toast sprinkled with Parmesan cheese.

Fugettes.
Melt together one square chocolate and two tablespoonfuls butter, measured level. Add two cups granulated sugar and one cup milk. Boil until it forms little balls when dropped in cold water, then stir until nearly hard. Turn on to buttered plates to cool, and when nearly cold mark in squares.

Tunnel Under Chinese Wall.
The Great Wall of China will soon be undermined in one place by a railway tunnel.

STATUE OF GEN. STEUBEN.

MEMORIAL TO BARON WILL BE ERECTED IN WASHINGTON.

German Nobleman Helped Train Revolutionary Troops in Fight for American Liberty—His Body Rests in New York.

Washington.—A statue of General Steuben—the Baron von Steuben who came to America from Prussia to aid the cause of the patriots in the revolutionary war—is to be erected in Lafayette Square, Washington. A model of the statue is on exhibition. It is the work of Albert Jaegers, of New York, a German-American sculptor to whom the award was given over a large number of competitors.

It was considered a graceful act to limit the competitors for the honor of doing the work to German Americans, because of the nationality of the revolutionary soldier whose fame was to be commemorated. Every design that was submitted, it is said, was of unusual excellence, and the task of deciding among them was difficult.

The statue of Lafayette, which stands at one corner of the square that bears his name, is not an equestrian statue, and for this reason no other of the memorials in the same park save one, will represent mounted men. The horse necessarily was eliminated because the second Frenchman to be honored with representation in Lafayette Square was a sailor.

At the fourth corner of the park a statue of Pulaski will be erected in a year or two, and this will complete the memorials which it is intended to put in place, for the park is a small one. An equestrian statue of General Jackson occupies the center of the pleasant ground.

General Friedrich Wilhelm Heinrich Ferdinand, Baron von Steuben, came to America to aid the cause of the revolutionists, and was of invaluable service in imparting knowledge of European tactics to the officers of the American forces. The discipline of the colonial army improved to such an extent under his instruction that the morale and the fighting effectiveness of the troops was increased many fold in a short time.

The services of the German soldier were not confined to the camp. He fought well on several fields, and it finally fell to his lot to check the advance of Benedict Arnold and to put an end to the reign of terror Arnold had created among non-combatants in the territory which he had invaded.

After the revolutionary war Steuben went to central New York and settled on a tract granted him by the government. The place of his settlement



Model of Statue to Baron von Steuben.

later was called Steuben. It is now a thriving town. In his will the general made the request that he be buried in the woods which he loved. The request was complied with and his body was laid in a beautiful piece of woodland not far from his residence.

About 30 years ago, because civilization had changed the face of the country, the body of the baron was removed by the state of New York to a grove in the township of Steuben, and the place has been made a state preserve. There was a great military demonstration at the time of the removal, and a handsome monument has been erected to mark the German soldier's resting place.

IS SUCCESSOR TO GARFIELD.

H. K. Smith to Take Charge of Bureau of Corporations.

Washington.—Herbert Knox Smith will succeed James R. Garfield as com-



HERBERT KNOX SMITH. (Successor to Garfield as Commissioner of Corporations.)

missioner of corporations of the department of commerce and labor. Mr. Smith is at present the deputy commissioner, and he had a principal part in the work of preparing indictments against the Standard Oil company for alleged illegal railway discrimination at Chicago, St. Louis, Jackson, Tenn., and Jamestown, N. Y.

After Edwin W. Sims of Chicago was appointed United States district attorney, Mr. Smith acted as solicitor of the bureau of corporations. He was a member of the government commission which investigated the disaster to the steamer General Slocum, and of the federal commission that looked into the wreck of the steamer Valencia on the North Pacific coast.

Mr. Smith was engaged for a long time in drafting new laws and regulations for the safeguarding of passengers on sea, lake and ocean-going craft. Under his direction the steamboat inspection service has been put upon a plane of thoroughness.

There is a strong personal friendship between President Roosevelt and Mr. Smith. Promotion came to the deputy commissioner of corporations, however, as the result of his work and because of the indorsement of his immediate superior officers, and not because of the president's personal liking.

Uncle Sambo's Argument.
The Illinois Central railroad runs through a large district of southern Illinois familiarly called "Egypt" out of deference to its largest town, Cairo. When the first tracks of the railroad were being laid through Egypt the division superintendent of construction went one day for a drink of water to a well beside the cabin of an old Kentucky dandy, who had found freedom and philosophy on the north side of the Ohio river. The old man was smoking his corncob pipe in the shade of his sycamore tree.

"Well, Uncle Sambo," said the railroad builder, as he hung up the gourd on the well sweep again, "don't you do any work at all?"

"Me? Yaas, sahr. I work six months every winter on a flatboat on dat river yonder."

"Well, I suppose when we get the railroad through you will want to come in with us, and get a job on a flatcar."

"What for?"

"To work, of course."

"No, sahr! Ain't nevah goin' to be 'nough work on your railroad to keep

Mr. Smith was born in Massachusetts, but went to Connecticut with his parents when he was a child. He was graduated from Yale in the class of 1891, and from the Yale law school four years later. Until he entered the government service he was a practicing lawyer at Hartford. He was a member for two years of the Hartford common council, served in the Connecticut legislature for two years and was active in local and state Republican politics.

Mr. Smith is a member of several clubs; he is a believer in outdoor sports, and he is a frequent opponent of President Roosevelt in games of tennis on the White House grounds.

A "FUGIO" DOLLAR OF 1776.

Kansas City.—A "Fugio" dollar is owned by Eugene A. Martin, of Pottsville, Mo. This dollar is made of tin. It was coined in 1776. Upon one side is:

"Continental Currency, 1776." A sun dial, the word "Fugio," and the



The "Fugio" Dollar.

words: "Mind Your Own Business." Upon the other side is the inscription: "American Congress. We Are One." This is surrounded by a chain of 13 links, each bearing the name of one of the 13 colonies.

no man busy six months in the year. Can't you see dat river yonder, flowin'?"

"Yes; what of it?"

"Well, sahr, de Lord He made dat river to float things down on, and der ain't no use buildin' a railroad to enter into competition with de Almighty."—Rehoboth Sunday Herald.

Science Always Ready.
Caller.—Doctor, Mr. Divine, the music reader, fell into a sort of trance a little while ago and we cannot arouse him. Is it catalepsy, or death?

Doctor (a great scientist)—Bring me his head and I'll soon tell you.—N. Y. Weekly.

Motors Used for Hauling Logs.
It is in the forests of Canada where the biggest motors in the world are seen. They have been specially designed for hauling logs over snow and rough roads. One of these machines is capable of dragging a train of 200 tons weight of logs at a speed of 12 miles an hour.