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The Foodies' Guide to Vegetarian Cookery in 19th Century America

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The Vegetarian Magazine May 1905

The Vegetarian Magazine

W. E. Elfrink

Jessie S. Pettit-Flint

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Lost!

Nine-tenths of the impressions the senses receive and transmit to the brain are lost. This is not because the memory is defective, but because it does not receive sufficient training.

The mind is an unlimited storehouse which, while its owner is receiving an education and accumulating experience, is being filled with matter that makes the individuality

of its possessor. Therefore, if a man would be distinguished above his fellows, excel in his line of work, and rise to heights reached by but few, he must have full control of this greatest of all faculties, thus having every particle of his knowledge available. He should cultivate his memory.

The ability to retain in the mind all the perceptions and experiences that are met with in the conduct of business and intercourse with our fellowmen, and to profit by them, is the real secret of success! Ninety-nine out of every hundred men fail in business because of inability to memorize the various details of their occupations. The great men of the past, the successful men of to-day, owe their success to ability to "carry things in their heads."



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D. O'HARE,

Washington, D. C. Quartermaster's Dep't.

A "Phenomenon" After Few Hours' Study.

Prof. A. S. Boyd performed some feats of memory that caused those who looked on and instened to marvel greatly. A young man wrote on the blackboard more than 100 sets of numbers, running from one figure to 6; these he read to the Professor, who stood with his back to the board, and the Professor repeated them without a single mistake. A little 10-year old boy, who had received a few hours' instruction; give just as remarkable an exhibition with common nouns —N. Y. Herald.

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Boyd's Memory Culture, 614 Ellsworth Bldg., Chicago

The Vegetarian Magazine

nth Year . .

Chicago, Ill.

May, 1905

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What is Food?

Dr. W. E. Elfrink.

"Man does not live by bread alone," is an old saying with a good deal of truth hidden away in it. But people have continued to read over the surface and failed to see that we are being told that nourishment is not altogether a matter of solid materials.

Scientists have estimated with elaborate care that a man requires certain quantities of various elements in order to keep his body nourished. Oxygen, hydrogen, nitrogen, phosphorus, sulphur and carbon, together with some eight or ten mineral elements, are mentioned as necessary in order to keep the body well nourished. They tell us that if we get these elements in the right quantities and proportions the body will maintain itself.

It is found, however, that when we try to take these substances from the mineral world they do not nourish us. Carbon, for example, is a very important food substance, but the body has no use for charcoal. Phosphorus in its crude state is a violent poison. Sulphur is insoluble in any of the body juices and no insoluble substance can be used by the body. None of these various so-called "proximate principles" are food so long as they are in the mineral world. It is only when they enter the complex vegetable molecule that they become food.

Why is it that we find such a difference? Is not carbon always carbon, nitrogen always nitrogen and hydrogen always hydrogen? Yes, but the question is what

happens to matter in the passage from the mineral to the vegetable world. If matter, of itself, were food then we could take it from any source and be nourished by it, but since we have to get it in certain forms, we are driven to ask whether or not there may not be another something added to matter in the process of growth which is the real food. We can not say that these elements are food for a man would starve to death on a diet composed of them. We are, then, compelled to conclude that matter of itself is not food and to surmise that it may be a conveyor of food.

Chemists can take apart a kernel of wheat and tell us what it is composed of, but they can not put it together again. If the analysis were complete they should be able to build again what they have torn down. Something has escaped them and only the natural process of growth can supply it.

Test tubes and reagents may tell part of the truth, but not all of the truth. Chemistry is death. When a chemist analyzes anything the life of the substance leaves it. If it is a vegetable substance he lowers it to the mineral world. He can not analyze the life principle because it won't stay in the tube. Even our bodily death is largely a chemical process, but the change eludes the methods of the laboratory.

Life is the essential thing in food. We may call it life, force, or sunshine, it matters not, so long as we recognize the principle.

third suggests eggs beaten in milk. So many kindly suggestions—let us see. Wine is simply a stimulant, does not tained in an onion or celery. Chop an build—put it aside. Milk stands equal with beef tea in growing the deadly germ. Potatoes are a carbonaceous food and we need a balanced dish for the invalid. Eggs, yes, in moderation. Oatmeal gruel cooked at least four hours, strained and thinned to bottle consistency, salted slightly, will take the place of beef tea or milk, and we will not be feeding the enemy. Not a big bowl full of gruel at a time, but a cup full nicely served and sipped slowly. And when it is desirable the gruel can be made a trifle heavier and two or three stewed prunes, or a stewed fig, or a few raisins beaten in, and eaten with a spoon. Figs and prunes are laxative. Or the mush can be of consistency to serve in a saucer with a very soft poached egg on top. And when one gets to this stage of eating the egg can be placed on soft boiled rice or flake hominy—remembering that the hominy is laxative, the rice opposite, for our invalid must get well on food, fresh-air and sunshine—not drugs.

And there are soups and stews innumerable, all appetizing, nourishing, healthful. Split pea, simple and plain, wash and soak in soft unsalted water, and boil in the water in which the peas were soaked. Use plenty of water and for the very weak invalid, serve the broth only, just salting to taste; but a portion of the peas passed through a seive will make the soup rich and fine. Split peas are rich in

ance to the deadly germ, use beef tea? nitrogen and care must be taken in serv-Do we wish to feed the enemy and prolong ing them. Lentils are also rich and give illness? But what can be used in place a decided change in taste. Lima beans of it? Port wine and milk, says one good can be used sparingly if they are freed caller. Potato soup, says another, and a from their skins, carefully cooked and as carefully served.

> We must not forget the nervine cononion fine and cook soft in plenty of water, slightly salted. When done pass through a seive, thicken with an egg, salt to taste and serve immediately. Celery can be blended with the onion or cooked alone. Asparagus or cauliflower water, thickened with an egg and salted to taste will be acceptable for a change. Asparagus or cauliflower on toast, dressed with a soft egg will also be appetizing and the vegetables can be made to cover the egg

> We must give as much change as possible, all the variety that the season and condition permits. A monotonous diet will soon tire even a well person, and this is certainly a thing to be avoided in the case of a convalescent. Good whole wheat, or brown bread, thoroughly baked, or zwieback, are always permissible when desired. Dairy butter, or salad oil, or perhaps a very little peanut butter-but peanut butter contains meat as well as butter value, and is generally too heavy a food for one who is convalescing. As for fruits, try baked apples and fresh pears if they can be procured. Remember that dates, figs, prunes, nectarines and pears are laxatives. Blackberries, dewberries and raspberries are sharply opposite—but the seeds should be removed. Peaches can also be classed with the berries, and a person who requires laxatives should never eat peaches in any way except fresh and ripe from the tree. The deadly germ

> > (Continued on next page.)

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Rena Michaels Atchison, Ph.D., Editor.

An Explanation.

In order to enable us to catch up with Father Time we have found it necessary to issue the May and June numbers of THE VEGETARIAN MAGAZINE in abbreviated form, and to issue both numbers in one month.

We ask the indulgence of our subscribers in the matter, assuring them that the July number will be gotten out in the regular form and size, and that hereafter the magazine will be printed in the usual form and size and issued more promptly. THE EDITOR.

Invalid Cookery.

(Continued from preceding page.) dies in a few hours when placed in fruit juice.

valid, fine, ripe fruit, judiciously selected. Severe acids are a poison to a weak stomach, and if their use is persisted in will ruin even a strong one. Let us put aside the acid fruits and select from the subacid and saccharine. Personal requirements, and the season, must be taken into consideration as we make our selection.

RICE GRUEL.

The thickened gruel, or rice water, poured off from boiled rice is excellent seasoned and served as a gruel where irritation of the bowels is present. It can just be salted to taste, or flavored with nutmeg or cinnamon and sweetened with a little strained honey if desired. Rice flour can not always be procured and this will take its place.

TOAST WATER.

Put a piece of brown toast into a glass of boiling water. Cover for half an hour, strain and cool.

FROTHED EGGS.

Beat the white of an egg to a stiff froth and heap in a dainty bowl, or egg cup, making a little well in the center. Drop the yolk in the center and stand the whole in a sauce pan containing a little boiling water. Cover the pan and cook one minute. Serve in the bowl with a pinch of salt, and a very little butter, if desired or advisable.

PLUM PORRIDGE.

Twelve good sized raisins and two tablespoonfuls of sago, washed and put in a pint of cold water. Bring slowly to boiling point, boil till sago is clear, when take from the fire, salt to taste and serve. Strips, or little squares of toasted whole wheat bread are generally liked with this.

APPLE AND SAGO.

Sago should be washed and then soaked in four times its bulk of water, for three So do not fear to give fruit to our in- or four hours; then stand it over hot

a baking dish two-thirds full of apples, spending his vacation than by going away pared, cored and quartered. Sprinkle in off into the wilds and killing something. a handful of seeded raisins and pour over It undoes an immense amount of the work the sago. Cover the dish and bake in a moderate oven for at least three-quarters of an hour. Serve with a plain honey dressing, or some simple sweetened gravy.

INDIAN GRUEL.

Put two tablespoonfuls of yellow, granulated corn meal into a pint of cold water, stir it around for a moment, and then carefully drain away all the water. Add to the meal a pint of boiling water. Set in the double boiler and cook for four hours. When done, salt to taste and thin with hot water if desired. Some like a little butter and strained honey whipped in when it is served.

ARROWROOT GRUEL.

fuls of arrowroot and work to a smooth paste with a little water; then add one pint of boiling water and stir while boiling. Cook till quite clear. Sweeten with honey and flavor with nutmeg or lemon.

ARROWROOT WITH EGG.

Separate one egg. Beat the white and yolk until very light, then mix them carefully and add slowly one pint of hot plain arrowroot gruel. Serve with strips of toasted whole wheat bread.

Jessie S. Pettit-Flint.

Famous Actress Criticizes President's Killing.

"I think it a most regrettable circumstance," declared Mrs. Fiske in an interview with a Chicago American representative, "that a man of the prominence of ever be awarded to bear hunters. the President, whom millions of American boys look upon as an example of all that Ernest Thompson-Seton," continued Mrs. is admirable and worthy of emulation, Fiske, "who goes forth with a camera in-

water till it becomes transparent. Have can find no more elevating method of of those forces in our society that are always working for the repression of the natural brutal instincts of man. It can have no effect save a bad one. I see you do not agree with me," added Mrs. Fiske, seeing that I was not applauding and shouting "Hear, hear!"

> "In every particular," I declared. "But after having established a reputation as a strenuous citizen and one who can ride hard, shoot straight and strike from the shoulder, Mr. Roosevelt evidently thinks it incumbent upon him to live up to it."

"Oh, but there are so many strenuous and manly things one could do instead of hunting animals!" declared the actress Put a pinch of salt with two tablespoon- and then the cartoonist and I witnessed a little private exhibition of Mrs. Fiske's art. She grew enthusiastic and indignant by turns and her jeweled hands flashed rapidly as she talked.

> "Is it particularly brave," she demanded, "for a company of mounted men to turn loose a pack of forty or fifty dogs on a bear, run it down until it is exhausted and cornered by the dogs, and then shoot it as it stands at bay, fighting for its life?

> "Is that an ennobling spectacle to set before the youth of the country as the favorite diversion of its President? Where is the valor, where is the courage, displayed in this wanton shedding of the blood of a helpless dumb animal?"

> As she paused for a reply I was forced to murmur that no Carnegie medals would

> "How much better is the method of

stead of a rifle; who gains all the advantages of life in the open; who has the curious and interesting experiences of the hunter in studying the lives and habits of the animals and tracking them down, but who wants only a photograph instead of a skin to decorate his den!"

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