

THE SPICE OF LIFE.

The late Governor Johnson of Minnesota was a witty as well as a wise man," said a resident of Minneapolis. Once, at a dinner, a New York millionaire said about his taxes: "I've got a little piece of property that brings me in a fair rental, and the tax gatherers haven't spotted it yet. I don't know whether I ought to tell them or not. What would you do, Governor Johnson?" The Governor's eyes twinkled. "It's the duty of every man," he said, "to live unspotted. Still, if I were you, I'd pay up."

When Senator Vance was running for Congress, he called on an old negro, who in early life served the Vance family. After his health, the negro replied, "I'm mighty po'ly in this worl', but it's all over yander." "Do you believe in the doctrine of election?" asked Vance, with a great solemnity. "It's the doctrine of the Bible," answered the old man. "Uncle Ephraim, do you think I've been elected?" asked Vance again. "Massa Zeb, I'd a leetle ruther you didn't draw that question. I'm too old for the grave to tell a lie, but do fac' I never yet knowed nor hear tell of no man bein' elected what wan't a candi-

Dennis O'Flaharty was roadmaster of a division of a Western railroad which included several tunnels. Dennis was out one morning on a tour of inspection, in company with his friend, Pat Donough, who had just arrived from the Emerald. Nearing one of the tunnels, they heard the shrill whistle of the limited and stepped aside till it should pass. Pat stood in open-mouthed wonder, as the fast train neared, passed, and entered the tunnel at the rate of fifty miles an hour.

"Mon, Pat," said Dennis, as the last disappeared, "ain't it foine? Talk about the wundhers of nachur—where'll ye see anything purtier thin thot?" Pat stood in awe for a moment, then, turning to Dennis, said slowly, "Yis, anis, 'tis foine; but I was jist thinkin' that a turrible thing 'twould be if it could miss the hole."

For a long time his wife had been in need of a new muff, and after hinting to her lord that her happiness would never be complete till she owned a new muff, he at last decided to gratify her desire. He went to the shop and picked out a couple, one of which was cheap, and the other very expensive. Upon these he changed the price-tickets, putting the cheap price-mark on the expensive muff, and then took them home.

For a long time the good wife pondered, and at last said: "Now, dear, the expensive muff is a beauty, and it is really very good of you to allow me my choice. Some women could take it without a word, but really I don't think we can afford the expensive one; and, besides, I think the cheap one is more stylish, too. Why, dear, what's the matter? Are you ill?" But "dear" had fled into the night, here, alone and unseen, he could kick himself.

Some years ago, an expedition from the University of Pennsylvania was sent to one of our Southern States for the purpose of observing a solar eclipse. The day before the event one of the professors said to an old colored man belonging to the household wherein the scientist was quartered:

"Tom, if you will watch your chickens to-morrow morning you'll find that they'll all go to roost at eleven o'clock." Tom was, of course, skeptical; but at the appointed hour the heavens were darkened, and the chickens retired to roost. At this, the man's amazement showed no bounds, and he sought out the scientist. "Perfessor," said he, "how long ago did you say them chickens would go to roost?" "About a year ago," said the Professor, smiling. "Well, you don't beat all!" was the man's comment. "Perfessor, a year ago dem chickens didn't even hatch."

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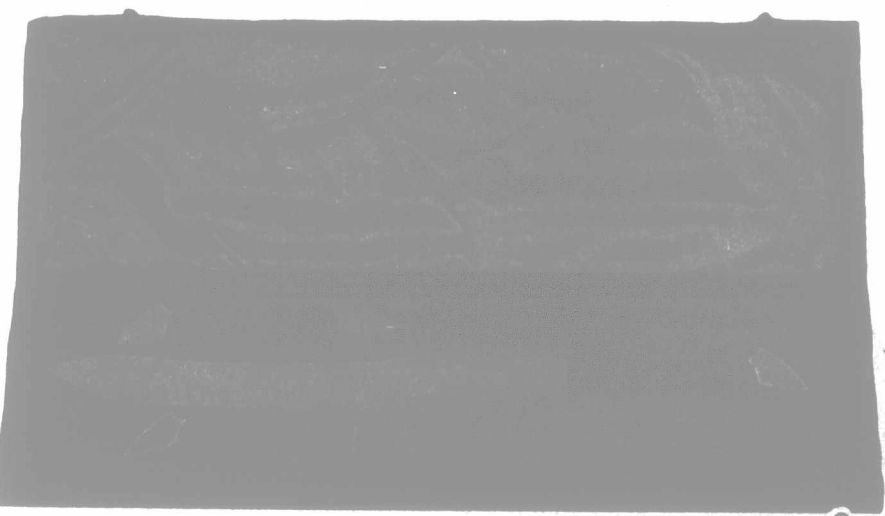
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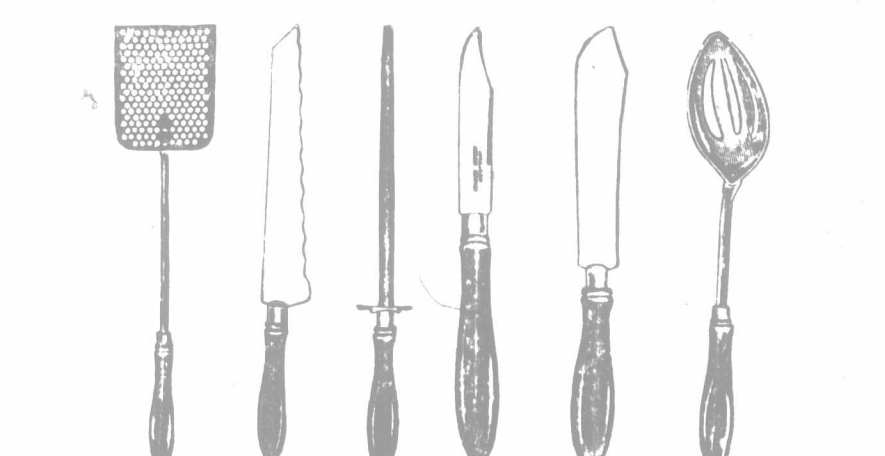
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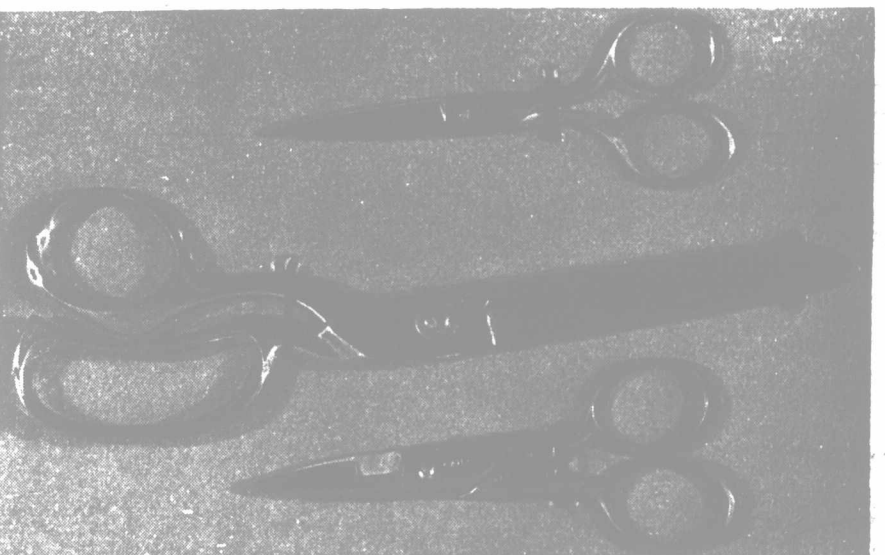
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