

The rhyme is perhaps not quite so good as Moore (Tom not Hannah) has it in the original, but the fish to my mind is much better than the—piper.

An occasional twinge from my familiar was unheeded, an unusual appetite, excited doubtlessly by the exhilarating sea air, utilated possibly by the curious ceremony through which I had passed before dinner, carried me pleasantly and successfully through the various courses—champagne *ad lib.* formed an agreeable accompaniment, and when we adjourned to the deck to taper off with cigars and cognac, none of the party were in better feather than your contributor, toasts and speeches, song and story followed in capital succession, and the hazy looking moon was high in the heavens, when we touched the pier at Green Port, where anxious wives and lovely daughters awaited our return, all doubtless wondering at the extraordinary exhilaration which had followed a day's inhalation of—sea breezes.

The long vacation had slipped away, and letters from home suggestive of duties neglected, induced us to bring our pleasant sojourn to a close. The guests of the Peconic House, from whom we parted with much regret, turned out *en masse* to see us off, and accompanied by their good wishes we commenced our journey homeward.

My particular demon had been completely routed, and the threatening knife of the surgeon was not longer dreaded by my wife. Our journey to Canada by rail and steamer was delightful, *lesbêtes noires* had all disappeared, and everything now looked *couleur de rose*.

At the annual meeting and feast of the Grand Lodge of England, Lord Tenderden, G. S. Warden, having been complimented by a toast, responded in the following really masonic style:

Our Most Worshipful Grand Master has just said, speaking of myself, that which is eminently true of himself, and eminently true of my Hon. friend, the Junior Grand Warden, this evening, that very few of us can enjoy those charms of leisure which we have just heard so sweetly sung. (Mendelssohn's glee, "O hills! O vales of pleasure!" had just been sung.) We have most of us duties to perform. I believe there is scarcely a Grand Officer who is coming up with me this evening, who is not a busy man one way or the other. We have many anxious duties but we think we have a paramount duty to our Craft. Why are we here, and why are you here, this evening, and why are we celebrating this great festival of our fraternity? It is not, I am sure, because we wish to enjoy together the passing pleasures of the banquet—to be knife and fork Masens—it is not merely for the sake of keeping up, however well they may be organized, certain excellent charities; it is because we feel—I feel, and I am sure all those around me feel—that Freemasonry is something more than a mere name; it is something more than being addressed by splendid titles, and being dressed in gorgeous uniform; it is what we, in these happy days, scarcely appreciate. We live, thank God! in a country which enjoys the greatest blessings of civil and religious liberty; but it was not always so. It is not so now, unhappily, throughout the whole world; and I say that it is something for our institution to be able to boast that in past centuries, and at this present time, it affords a neutral ground in which polemics and politics can be forgotten, in which the East and West can shake the hand of friendship.