

---

“ The experiments here recorded have given rise to many sensational newspaper paragraphs, and I consider the matter of sufficient importance to record the actual facts, which are here given for the first time.

“ Like or dislike of many kinds of food are very much matters of individual taste, or national custom. Every nation has some special and favorite dish, which the people of other nations will scarcely touch, while the very animal that is highly esteemed in one part of a country is not unfrequently rejected as poisonous in another section. We use many things to-day that were considered worthless or even poisonous by our forefathers. Prejudice wields a most powerful influence in all our actions. It is said that the Irish, during the famine of 1857, would rather starve than eat our corn bread; and if what I have written shall in the future induce some of our western people to profit by the hint, and avoid suffering from hunger or actual starvation, I shall not have written in vain.”

Like the mysterious individual who first tasted oysters, and introduced them to the favourable consideration of the world, we certainly think that Prof. Riley deserves the thanks of the community for his courage in making the experiment of eating locusts, and the zeal with which he carried it out. No doubt our north-western friends, in the Province of Manitoba, especially those of French descent, who are usually more skilled in the arts of cookery than their Anglo-Saxon or Irish neighbours, will ere long look upon Prof. Riley as a public benefactor—one who has introduced a new and estimable addition to the luxuries of the table.

---