

The Better Half.—It being agreed, at a party of twelve, that a disputed question should be settled by the opinion of the majority; the six ladies expressed themselves opposed to the six gentlemen, and claimed the victory. A gentleman objected to this, as the number of votes was equal, saying, "they were half and half." "True," replied a witty fair one, "but we are the better halves."

The Miller and the Fool.—A miller, who attempted to be witty at the expense of a youth of weak intellect, accosted him with "John, people say that you are a fool." On this John replied, "I don't know that I am, sir; I know some things, sir, and some things I don't know, sir." "Well John, what do you know?" "I know that millers always have fat hogs, sir," "And what don't you know?" "I don't know whose corn they eat, sir."

Tight Lacing.—"I think this practice is a great public benefit," said a gentleman.

"A great public benefit," exclaimed a friend, "why how can that be; do you not see that a great many of our young ladies are ruining their health, and losing their lives by it?"

"Yes, yes," returned the other, "but my dear fellow, do you not see that it kills off only the fools, and we shall have all wise ones by and by!"

Plain Fare.—A countryman on a trial respecting the right of a fishery, at the last Lancaster assizes, was cross-examined by Mr. Sergeant Cockel, who among many other questions, asked the witness—"Does thou love fish?" "Yes," said the poor fellow with a look of native simplicity, "but I donna like *Cockle-sauce* with it."

African Sympathy.—A poor negro walking towards Deptford, saw by the road side an old sailor of a different complexion, with but one arm and two wooden legs. The worthy African immediately took three half-pence and a farthing, his little all, from the side pocket of his tattered trowsers, and forced them into the sailor's hand, while he wiped the tears from his eyes with the corner of his blue patched jacket, and then walked away, quite happy in doing good.

Mustard.—Mustard quickens the appetite, warms the stomach, assists in digesting hard meats, and dries up superfluous moisture—but seldom agrees with weak stomachs.

How to pay a doctor.—In days of yore, a South Carolina planter, in reply to a letter from his physician, containing the items, '*to visits and mixtures*,' replied, 'that he should return his visits; and if the physician would honor him with his company at dinner, the next day, that he would give him more palatable mixtures than those which he received.'

Family Expenses.—Archdeacon Paley, in a familiar table discourse touching upon the expenses brought by original sin upon husbands and fathers in the way of cambric and satins, says—"I never let my women, (be it understood he spoke of Mrs. Archdeacon Paley, and the Misses Paley,) I never let my women, when they shop, take credit; I always make them pay ready money. 'Sir, ready money is such a check upon the imagination!'"

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