

I've seen belles charming for vict'ry arming
 With beauty conquer, with wit compel,
 And read the story, in legends hoary,
 How friends fled shrieking from the passing bell;
 But the bell that's staying and keeps on swaying
 Is but delaying
 The time we'll greet,
 When saint and beauty
 Shall unite, in duty
 To drive the devil out of Locust Street.

Two years after fracturing his skull, Dr. Wister, the guest of his friend Mr. H. C. Lea on board of the yacht, *Vega*, visited the West Indies, and some months after returning home, published in *Lippincott's Magazine* for 1853;—"A Cruise among the Windward Islands—The Log of the *Vega*." The article is a fair sample of his literary ability. A few extracts from it are presented to show his style and the character of his humor in prose.

The *Vega* arrived at Barbadoes on the first day of the week. In this connection it is recorded in the Log that,

"Sunday was a day always sanctified to us by the absence of cards and the presence of plum-duff, a day devoted to in—and intro—spec-tion—inspection of habiliments often ending in looking up the diddy-bag, while introspection gradually slid into sleep."

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"The mango is a very favorite fruit, about the size and color of a fine yellow plum. The pulp is very light yellow and tastes like a mild turpentine stupe. The skin is leather and its contents are fibres and bristles. There is no amount of personal intimacy that would warrant any two persons of either sex in sitting down together to eat mangoes, for the rending of the fibres, the dripping of juice, and the drawing out of bristles, unite to produce so unseemly and unclean an exhibition that this fruit should be indulged in only in the privacy of one's own bath room and in a sitz bath to the chin."

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"With Antigua to windward we passed Redonda, a peak of rock rising sheer six hundred feet out of the water; one side of it is perfectly smooth and straight, and seems made for American embellishments, such as 'Use Purifying Pills,' or 'Two thousand miles to Wana-maker's.'"