

**A CUP OF COFFEE;  
CUP THAT CHEERS  
SERIES, NO. I**

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A cup of coffee; Cup that cheers series, No. I by Various

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**VARIOUS**

**A CUP OF COFFEE;  
CUP THAT CHEERS  
SERIES, NO. I**





"At 12 the *Men monie* is assembled at various coffee or chocolate houses."—Page 49.

CUP THAT CHEERS SERIES, No. 1.

# A CUP OF COFFEE.

Coffee! oh, Coffee! Faith, it is surprising,  
'Mid all the poets, good and bad and worse,  
Who've scribbled (Hock and Chian eulogising)  
Post and papyrus with 'immortal verse,'—  
Melodiously similitudinising  
In Sapphics languid, or Alcaics terse,—  
No one, my little brown Arabian berry,  
Hath sung *thy* praises,—'tis surprising, very!"

London :

T. FISHER UNWIN, 17, HOLBORN VIADUCT.  
1883.

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## CONTENTS.

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	PAGE
THE SILKEN THREAD OF MODERATION ... ..	7
THE DISCOVERY OF THE BEVERAGE... ..	15
THE COFFEE-CUP IN PARIS ... ..	23
THE COFFEE-CUP IN LONDON ... ..	39
METHODS OF MAKING COFFEE... ..	55



1870  
1871  
1872  
1873  
1874  
1875  
1876  
1877  
1878  
1879  
1880  
1881  
1882  
1883  
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### THE SILKEN THREAD OF MODERATION.



**O**F the many excellent pieces of humour to be found in the story of that valiant knight Don Quixote, one of the most humorous is where trusty Sancho, being elevated to the Governorship of Barataria, sets about satisfying the cravings of his stomach. He is conducted from the court of justice (where he had been invested with the seals

of office) to a sumptuous palace, and in a great banqueting hall he finds a splendid entertainment prepared. A personage who, as it afterwards appears, is a physician, takes his stand at one side of the Governor's chair, with a whalebone rod in his hand. The cloth being removed, a splendid variety of fruit and other eatables is seen.

The sewer sets a plate of fruit before the hungry Sancho; but he had scarce tasted it, when, on being touched by the wand-bearer, it is snatched away, and another containing meat instantly takes its place. Yet before Sancho can make a beginning it vanishes, like the former, on a signal of the wand.

The Governor was surprised at this proceeding, and, naturally, asked if he was being trifled with.

"My lord," said the wand-bearer, "your lordship's food and drink must be watched with some care. I am a doctor of physic, sir, and my duty, for which I receive a salary, is to watch over the Governor's health, whereof I am more solicitous than my own. I pay especial regard to his meals, at which I constantly preside, to see that he eats and drinks only what is good and salutary, and to

prevent his touching whatever I imagine may be prejudicial to his health or offensive to his stomach."

"Well, then," quoth Sancho, "give me of that plate of roasted partridges, which seem to me to be appetising and not likely to do harm."

"Hold!" said the doctor; "my Lord Governor shall not eat of them while I live to prevent it."

"Pray why not?" quoth Sancho.

"Because," answered the doctor, "our great master Hippocrates, the North-star and luminary of medicine, says, in one of his aphorisms, '*Omnis saturatio mala, perdricis autem pessima*;' which means, 'All repletion is bad, but that from partridges is the worst.'"

"If that be so," quoth Sancho, "pray cast your eye, signor doctor, over all these dishes here on the table, and see which will do me the most good or the least harm, without whisking it away with your conjuring stick."

"I would at present advise my Lord Governor to eat," said the physician, after some further parley, "in order to corroborate and preserve his health, about a hundred small rolled-up wafers, with some thin slices of marmalade, that will sit well upon his