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JAS. C. HASSON, Editor and Proprietor.

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NUMBER 10.

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DRUMS, FIFES, lolos and Band Supplies. 10HN F. STRATTON, 11,813,815,817 E. 9th St., N.Y. a land that lies under cloudless skies-here the san shines all the day: That gathers from far and near,

And the road is brown and sere,

For my old friend is not here.

He has wandered far away

nd his form is lost in the hurrying throng ad I miss the grace of his kindly face-For my old friend is not here. But I caught a glimpse of that unknown

MY OLD FRIEND IS NOT HERE.

drag my feet through the dust and heat Of the broad highroad of life;

With a backward glance and a wave of the

back to the barsh discordant notes

Of chamorous toil and strife

As my old friend hurried through he outer gate , where the dear ones walt For the pilgrim who is due: and I know that the sun shines all the day. That the flow'rs bloom all the year—

shall miss his smile through the after-For my old friend is not here. S. Q. Lapins, in Ohio Farmer.

HIS MIRACLE.

BY CARL SMITH.

The section foreman's boy, red of bair and freekled of face, offered to show him the way to the church, but he declined the proffered courtesy, preferring to walk up the ratiroad track when he would stop at a cattle grand and rest, and then return in time for linner. Church going had been an imknown quantity with him in the city. where there were great cathedrals in half a dozen different parts of the own, and he hardly saw the occasion for departing from custom simply hecause his exile in the little country own was so uninterestingly eventless le started with a swinging, athletic dub stride up the line of gravel, thereore, and the section foreman's boy salpably starchy and awkward in his sanday clothes, went hurrying down he street from the station, his red hair crimsonly signating his approach to he little frame church while he was yet great distance away,

Kennedy was the new telegraph op rator. He was an aspiring fellow and in intelligent one, and some day he loped to be a trick dispatcher, and posibly, after reasonable lapse of time, the sperintendent of telegraph. He spen he long and lonesome nights in reang on social economies, and he kney more about the history of strange and ceuliar things associated with govern ent than almost anybody whose name or farge is now suggested to mind. He was the chief telegrapher of his di ision of the telegraphers' labor union which met in the city 30 miles away, ante was the man who made the best peeches on Tuesday nights, when dge proceedings had got as far along s the "good of the order." The other of the division thought highly of him. and usually they sent him as their odge delegate to the sessions of the nternational convention. He coniregue splendidly and he said he was a

As he walked up the track this Sun lay morning the Sabbath feeling seemed to rise up as though to offen against his reasoning and reasonable ignosticism. Across the fields came the mellowness of a church bell, and seeming far, far, far away, its sound was the sweeter for the distance. Over to the right a former's wagon was creeping along the section line road as the sleek brown horses dragged the family toward the place of worship is the town. Around the curve ahead of looking to see what unexpected train was bearing down upon him, he regived the hail of Michael Doolan, fore man of Section 43, several miles up the corallel line of rails, who, with his men and their women and children vas whirring along in the direction of the little parish church toward which the redhended boy had sped several minutes before. The men were on : hand car, to which a little flat had been ttached, and this flat accommodated

he women and children. "I suppose it's all right for them." Kennedy normured, as the twin cars lisappeared around the other hend of the curve, "but that isn't for me. Reigion is a good enough thing an inlispensable thing, indeed, but it hasn't or around to me yet, and it never will. It's a good, handy thing to have for the ourpose of swearing people in courts and impressing ignorant persons whose characters require some sort of ballast of mysticism, not only for their own comfort, but for the safety of the public. Such people, without a weight r anchorage of some kind, would rattle around annoyingly and even harmfully to others. I wish I could believe is they do. Doubtless it is a comforting hing to be as they are, but-"

And he closed his statement of opin in by picking up a stone and throwng it at a rabbit.

JOB PRINTING He waiked to the cattleguard, and, vastly miscalculated distance and time, and that it was still very early in the day. He looked about and saw the handear on a siding, and it suggested something to him. Kennedy prided himself on being a liberal sort of person, and he thought came to him that it would be a fair and reasonable thing for him o drop into the little church, just to how that he had really no feeling grainst religion. He found the whiteainted structure with the cross over its queer little enpola, and, entering, Sok the rearmost seat. The services vere nearly closing. He looked forward, over the heads of half a hundred deout worshipers, at the priest in vestnents, which although Kennedy did not know it-he had brought at great abor from the city, for the parish was too poor to support a resident pastor. He noted that the worshipers seemed to onsider every movement of the berowned man as to some especial import

priest's teachings as were these.

and genuflected and crossed themselves | because the hart was more than human nd murmured unintelligible utter- fortitude could endure, and thus it has onces, which he took for prayers. It lengthened life. The fiftieth anniverwas very interesting, and in his heart | sary of the first public demonstration he wished that reason might show him | of surgical anaesthesia was recently how to be as happily satisfied with the | eelebrated in Boston. Physicians and "If a miracle could be enacted in as became the representatives of a hu those old days, why should not one be | mane and beneficent profession. To erformed pow?" he inquired inwardly. | have been permitted to give this boom "Ob. no. It is all opposed to sense and I to the world is sufficient to immortalize

know that the priest had discoursed on faith—"yes, by a miracle I could have

faith, but-His self-communion was interrupted by the sound of a silvery voice coming from the gallery above his head.

But I eatch not the sound of a well-known "O salutarist" the hail rose pure and weet-such a voice as the agnostic had never before heard. "O salutaris!" and the church was filled with the wonder of a music which caused him to think that an angel sung, quite ignoring the fact that according to his philosophy no such thing as an angel could exist He listened as one entranced, and he left the church with his very soul brimming with the joy of that heavenly so-

The next Sunday be walked up the track again, but only a little way. The ection foreman's boy had invited him s before to accompany him, but Kenpedy hesitated, and, hesitating, was not lost, Now, however, as he again looked up at the cheery buil of the happy passen gers of the handcar, he besitated again, and this hesitation sent him eburchward, He took his former seat in the year, under the odd little choir loft, and to-day a new priest talked, and, strangely enough, of the "Miraele of Faith." As though answering a question of Kenpedy's the elergyman said; "Who are the believers? The greatest of all the great in learning, statecraft and material advancement. Presidents, prime ministers, men of mighty mind accept until he should get tired of the jaunt. | the divinity of Christ-and if these men, wise enough to be great, and great nough to be honest, accept by faith why should you or I ery out for a miraele to be enacted for our special behoof. There are many millions of scople in the world-"

> "-and what right has one man to isk God to miraculously perform for tim so that he might be badgered and oreed reluctantly into accepting what vorthier, more learned men and men of infinitely greater responsibility and easter temptation gladly and gratefully ake as a boon?"

Kennedy could have told him how

"This," thought Kennedy, "sounds easonable, but I cannot blindly accept heir belief on unsupported, nawiassed sentiment." And as he thought pon it the voice of the soprano rose in glorification. It was what he had vaited for. It filled him with great happiness. The undeserved miracle was beginning of performs Every Sunday after this he came in

fter the others and took his back sent. Her voice had super him almost into the coeptance toward which the reasoning He seemed to partake of the feeling of the singer. He exulted with her in the Latin praise of the Redeemer. He carned the words, and they resentmost o his lips as she sung. What a woman a well up in such witness of the might of Christian love and Christian morey! He had never seen her, for he was an grostic, and he could not yield the tubborness of his unbelief to ask about catch her. He came into church late and he left early. He was an agnostic will albo-

Put was he? One day after the services were conluded he advanced past the half-hubred humble worshipers, and greeting the priest, said: "Father, I want to ome into the church." His heart aped with that acknowledgment, and the little edifice seemed filled with the slory of the Shepherd of the lost sheep Suddenly, from the organ loft, which ow for the first time was visible to is eyes, came the swelling sound of him there rose a quiet rumbling, and, that heavenly voice in some song of

> He looked for the singer. It was the ection foreman's boy. And this was his miracle. Chicago

A Strange Power. It is a envious thing, the power which one human beings have over animals here is in Lowell a boy, differing in ne espect from his companions, who has is power in a marked degree. Every ray dog or eat in the neighborhood nows him and loves to be in his comany. A vicious horse which the sta emen can with difficulty handle wal tand like a lumb while he harnesses im. The doves fly around him, and in he woods the wild hirds apparently reand hih as a friend and ally. The most emarkable exhibition of his power, which has long been known and comneuted on by his friends, was given the ther day. A large and victors rat was aptured in the stable in one of those raps which permit of easy ingress and no egress. The men who were looking the arimal were afraid to go near the rap, the animal showed such terror out the boy, when he beheld the inprisoned creature, fearlessly put out is finger and stroked its head, the rat anifesting as much pleasure as would eat or a dog. Several days have parsed ince then, and the stablemen are still afraid of their capture, but he has resting, returned, and found be had i grown so tame and familiar with the boy as to allow him to take him out and out him back in the trap, will come at is whistle, and manifests every appearance of joy at his presence. There eems to be no question that the boy ould train that rai to perform almost tay feat within the power of such an

mimal. Lowell (Mass.) Star. Painless Surgery.

The greatest boon ever given to hu manity through human agency is surgical anaesthesia. There is not a min ute, day or night, in the year when i is not saving some human creatur from torture. There is not a minute when it is not giving mental comfort o thousands who know that they must undergo operations, but that this be nign gift will make the ordeal pain ess. Anaesthesia has banished paly from surgery, and has taken away the dread of pain, that was almost as hard to bear as the pain itself. It has made asy operations that could not be don surgeons made much of the occasion science. Faith?" for he had arrived the name of the giver, Dr. William in time to hear enough of the sermon to Thomas Green Morton.

INDIANS HATE ENGLISH. EPISODE OF OLD TEXAS.

They Refuse to Speak It After Leaving School.

The Rigid Rules Against the Use of Their Own Tongue Cause Them to Despise the White Man's Language. For years government instructors

among the Indians have been troubled by the fact that the red men, after learn ing English at the schools as children, invariably return to their own tongues and seem positively to hate the white man's language. The superintendent of Indian schools

W. N. Hailman, in a report just made to the commissioner of Indian affairs, says that the Indians were actually taught to hate the English tongue, because of the rigid rules against the use of any Indian conversation by pupils. Until lately the great majority of Indian teachers have labored under the delusion that they can hasten the acquisition of the English language on the part of the pupils by compulsory measures, visiting more or less severe penalties upon the unfortunate children who were aught in the use of the Indian speech The unreasonableness of such pro-

ceedings, which are always punished with more or less serious failure, appears when it is considered that as idiom that is forced upon a child by means of penalties and other appeals to fear is necessarily hateful to him. Then, in his own heart, he turns away from it and uses it only under more or less pronounced protests. This becomes quite manifest as soon as the children are removed from the restrains of the school, when, for instance, they return to their parents for a visit or more or less permanently after graduation, and when, on meeting their former teachers, they will either refuse to speak English altogether or answer with shame-faced reluctance.

Prof. Hailman says: "There is no doubt in my mind that the unreasonableness of the offensive warfare made in the Indian schools against Indian vernaeular is largely to blame for the pparent stubbornness with which older Indians refuse to learn English or to use the little knowledge thereof which they may possess. If it is argued that with liberty to use the Indian vercular the Indian children will engag in conversation, possibly improper which the teacher can neither under stand nor control, the fault lies not with the child's knowledge and use of his own idiom, but with the teacher's ignorance of the same, and the remedy will be found not in the repressive measures, which must, because of their unrensonableness, fail of their purpose but in the determined effort on the teachers' part to acquire a knowledge of the child's idiom.

"Probably the traditional hostile attitude of certain schools to the Indian vernacular is responsible for the fact that in a number of instances teacher and other school employes continue at the same school, working with the same tribe of Indians, without acquiring any approciable knowledge of the language spoken at the homes of their children This ignorance frequently extends to the customs, habits of life, and the his torical development of the tribe is question. They seem to treat the Inbians as outeasts, and the cute me of their work corresponds with this attitude,"-Chicago Tribune.

POPULAR SCIENCE.

The blood flows almost as freely arough the bones as through the flesif very young chlidren, but as age come on, the blood vessels in the homes are lmost filled by the disposition of mat-

Mr. W. H. Dall, returning from his Namination of the coal fields of Alaska. as brought back with him to Washing on pieces of fat of a mammoth preerved in ice, this being the first dis covery of a mammoth in the flesh on he American continent.

If by any means a bird attained the ightness of a balloon it could not fly balloon drifts with every gust; steerng is impossible, the wind chooses it ourse. The bird balloon, as light as he wind and as strong as iron, is a fig nent of the imagination.

Among the recent discoveries made by means of the Roentgen rays reported rom Berlin are several relating to disase of the heart. It has also been ob erved in cases of asthma that the right half of the diaphragm stops work durng the attack, and the left half is comselled to bear all the exertion.

A gigantic cuttlefish, new to science was taken by the prince of Monaco near he Azores, from the stomach of a spern whale. Two specimens were found sele about two meters in length. The tomach of the whale also contained another cuttle, the skin of which in closed the photographic or luminous bodies. Mingled with the partly-digested cuttles were teeth and pens of other individuals.

A Legend of Lombardy.

An old Lombard legend tells the story of a chieftain who asked the hand of a neighbor's daughter. Upon its being refused him he declared war, killed the chief who had declined the honor of being his father-in-law, and married the girl after all. Not satisfied with this much, he had the skull of his wife's father mounted in gold as a drinking cup. and one day, while under the influence of wine, ordered his spouse to appear before the assembled guests at his house and drink to his health out of the harrible bowl. She did so, but ever after was her husband's secret but most deadly enemy. She joined in a conspiracy which eventually resulted in the king her husband's assassination.

Glad They Weren't Clerical A well-known Worcester clergyman tells a story at his own expense. In young days he was tramping through the White mountains with a companion, who was also a elergyman. One day they mounted the driver's seat of a stage coach. The driver was an interesting character, loaded with good stories. The three speedily became friendly, and it was with reluctance that they parted at the end of the journey. "I'm glad ter hev met yer, fellers," said the driver, in farewell. "Yer see, I heven't seen a man this summer, exceptin' ministers."

The Government Set Up by Count St. Denis in 1714.

A Romantic Fragment of Southwestern History-The Count's Meeting with the Man He Thought He Had Slain.

There is much well-authenticated material for the historian in the minds of the old veterans of the border that wil oon pass beyond the reach of all writers. Few people know anything of the very first settlements in Texas, and doubtless, many will be astonished to earn that the business of creating republics in that country commenced nearly 200 years ago. There were fili busters who dreamed of carving out for themselves an empire in the great south west long before even Aaron Barr was born. Others in the ranks of the most careful readers of history will possibly be surprised to learn that the old Sar Antonio road, which is one of the best known landmarks in the southwest, was laid off and earefully mapped jus-182 years ago. It was at one time re garded as the longest highway in the world. It was longer than any of the old Roman roads-longer than the great military road that led from the gates of the Eternal City to Constantinople and the Asiatic provinces. The San Antonio road proper ran from San Augustine to San Antonio, and the long road extending south of the Alamo mis sion across the Rio Grande to the City of Mexico, a distance of more than 1,000 miles, was also called the San Antonic road. It was originally laid off 100 feet wide. It is a road yet. This great road, over which Spanish vicerovs and righly laden carayans traveled over which countless thousands crowded their way to battle fields for more than 100 years, was laid off by men who were talking of republican institutions be fore the idea of Jefferson or the tri omphs of Washington had ever entered the minds of the wildest dream-

Spain and France both claimed the

country. France based her claims on the discoveries of La Salle. This great xplorer, in searching for the mouth of the Mississippi, sailed too far west, and inally landed on the shores of Matagorda bay. Here he built a fort, and alled it Fort St. Louis, in honor of Louis XIV, of France. Realizing that be had made a mistake, La Saile ac companied by his followers, attempted o march across the country, hoping to reach a French fort on the Arkansas river, where he had instructed De Tont to keep a small body of soldiers. He lost his life through the treachery of als own comrades, and it is supposed that his bones repose somewhere on the shores of the Neches river. Exag gerated reports concerning the riel country west of the Mississippi river which bordered on the Gulf of Mexico reached France. The soil was said to be the richest in the world, the climatwas salubrious, like that of southers spain, the mountains were full of gold and silver, and the rivers ran over gold en sand. Among the hundreds of adenturous and warlike spirits that sur rounded the throne of Louis XIV, none istened to these stories with more earerpess than Count St. Denis. He was brave, energetic, and handsome youth. who had inherited a great name and many heavily mortgaged estates. The opportunity which he eagerly sought, to draw his sword and make an effort to fill his purse on the plains of the Rio Grande, soon presented itself. The bare cold facts of the story of

this young man's adventures read so much like the dreams of a remance that they would be rejected by all his torians if they were not supported by indubitable records. Count St. Denis and a young Frenchman of equal rank of the name of Belisle were both violently in love with the same young ady. Their rivalry ended in a quarrel which led to a duel. The antagonist met and fought a terrible battle with swords, which terminated, as St. Denis upposed, in the death of his rival. He at once fled from France, and after a eries of narrow escapes from arres and death he finally landed in America and joined the great Louisiana com pany. His countrymen received him with open arms, and immediately offered him employment. All Spanish territory at that time north of the Rio Grande was ruled by a governor apnointed by the viceroy of Mexico. The Louisiana company was anxious to posess the country, and the authorities ent Count St. Denis at the head of a ittle army of less than 100 men to plant the flag of France upon the domes of the Spanish forts and missions. He marched through a region of country that literally swarmed with hostile say ages and established himself in northern Texas without ever firing a shot. He must have been an extraordinary young man, possessing many of the traits of a leader, not the least among which were his masterly accomplishnents as a diplomat, for he not only made an alliance offensive and defeneive with the nowerful warlike Natchez but he soon won the friendship of the Spanish settlers who lived in the terri ory. Intoxicated with his success, he boldly cut loose from the Louisiana company and set up a government of his own. This was in the year 1714, and it was the very first attempt to establish an independent government ever made on the North American continent. It was a curious kind of a govern ment. St. Denis was at the head of it

under the modest title of governor, and by the provisions of the constitution, which he drafted himself, he possessed in his limited realm just about as much power as the autocrat of all the Russias. Leaving a trusted subaltern in command, St. Denis set out for the City of Mexico on a mission that has never been thoroughly understood. He either hoped through his shrewd powers of liplomacy to get the Spanish vicercy o recognize his government, or, failing n this, he expected to turn everything over to Spain and get himself appointed governor of the territory. When he arrived at the Presido San Juan, near the Rio Grande, the governor received and entertained him in a most hospitable manner. The polished address and courtly military bearing of the bold young adventurer almost instantly won the head of the old governor, and at the same time the heart of his beautiful daughter. It was a case of mutual love | 50,000 Americans a year.

at first sight. St. Denis almost forget the empire that he had been dreaming of, while enjoying the hospitality of Senor Villeseens and basking in the smiles of Donna Maria.

There was another suitor for the hand of this young lady, and this was no less personage than Gov. Anaya, of Coa-Luila. This official no sooner heard of St. Denis and his attentions to Donna Maria than he ordered his arrest. St. Penis was loaded with chains and thrown into the fortress of Monoclava. Donna Maria continued to assure the young man of her devotion and of the friendship of her father, After St. Denis had been confined a month or more his powerful rival appeared one fine day at the door of his cell, followed by a file of his guards, and told St. Denis that if he would instantly surren der all claims to the hand of Donna Maria that he would release him and give him letters that would assist him n the prosecution of his plans in the City of Mexico, St. Denis, with flashing eyes, seorned the offer, and his reply was worthy of one of the old knights of chivalry.

"Tyrant, you may load me with chains but so long as Donna Maria honors me with her love and confidence, so long shall that love and confidence be guarded as my most sacred treasures. You may take from me my life, senor, but you cannot take from me my honor."

The tyrant ordered St. Denis to be treated as a common criminal, but when months had passed and the brave young Frenchman showed no signs of yielding, the wretch sent a courier bearing this cruel message to Donna Maria: "Marry me, and St. Denis shall be released; refuse, and your lover shall surely die. The fearless young girl declined the tyrant's offer in emphatic terms, and at once applied to the viceroy in the City of Mexico, telling him the story of their love. The viceroy was moved by the piteous a, peals of the beautiful girl, and ne released St. Denis. As soon as St. Denis was bberated he married Donna Maria and resumed his journey to the City of Mexico. Here his pleasing address won all hearts. The viceroy offered him a position under the Spanish government and gave him full authority o punish his enemy. St. Denis showed that magnanimity was numbered with his many other fine traits of character. for be refused to make any trouble for the man who had so cruelly wronged It is not known as to what kind of authority was granted to him by the Span-

sh officials in Mexico. He built a fort

at Nacogdoches and laid off a city. He

ordered the lands surveyed, and granted

titles to the settlers. He established

trading posts at various points in the

nterior and rapidly accumulated a

large fortune. He possessed the happy faculty of making a friend of every man who came in contact with him He was called the "just chief by the Indians, and his fame for fair dealing was well established with all the tribes within reach of his capital. While in the height of his power two Indians one day came to his house and told nim that they had seen a white man with a tribe of coast Indians who held him as: prisoner. St. Denis at once offered them a large sum of money if they would go and rescue the white man and bring him to Nacogdoches. The Indians went away, and in a few weeks they reappeared at St. Denis' house with a aked, half-starved human being who was besmeared with dirt and painted like an Indian. St. Denis ordered a bath for the poor shivering creature and sent a suit of his own clothes to the athroom. When the man had been washed and clothed he appeared before his benefactor. St. Denis no sooner looked at him than he was struck dumb with amazement. The man was Belisle, whom St. Denis thought he killed with his sword in Paris. Belisle was equally as much astonished. They were Frenchmen, and they instantly embraced each other and buried all past differences. Belisle's story was a short one, but full of sufferings. He had recovered from the wounds inflicted by the sword of St. Denis, and not long afterward he joined a colony of adventurers who sailed to join the Louisiana company at the mouth of the Mississippi. Like La Salle, they lost their way, and sailed too far west. Be isle, with two comrades, went ashore on the coast of Texas to enjoy a hunt. They got lost, and the ship sailed away and left them. After wandering through the forests for many days Beisle's two comrades perished from hunger. Belisle fell in with some coast. Indians, who treated him very cruelly They striped him of his clothing, and would have tortured him to death with fire had not an old squaw interfered in his favor. He had been a prisoner with the Indians for a long time. St Denis gave Belisle an office in his gov ernment, and put him in the way of making money. St. Denis was slain in a battle with

the Indians on the frontier of his country, and after his death the affairs of the colony fell into disorder. At the time of St. Denis' death there were about 300 white people who claimed he protection of his government, and they were nearly all in prosperous cir cumstances. Many of them had acumulated fortunes trading with the Indians, and St. Denis himself was said to have had in his possession more than \$100,000 in gold. Had he lived a few years longer he would have anticipated the work of Austin and Houston, and firmly established a government in Texas that Mexico could not have overthrown 100 years before the battle of San Jacinto was fought.-Globe-Dem-

Creamed Oysters.

For one quart of oysters use one pint of cream. Put the cream over the fire in a double boiler, stirring in a tablespoonful of flour while boiling; season with salt, cayenne and black pepper with a tablespoonful of onion or celery uice and a lump of butter. Let the oysters come to a boil in their own quor; drain and turn into the cream. Have slices of hot-buttered toast ready and pour the oysters on them.-N. Y.

Americans Should Visit It. It is said that of the 3,000 visitors to the Yellowstone National park during the last three years not more than 100 were Americans. If the park was in Europe it would probably be visited by

consideration of two tisers whose fineerted at the blowing low rates:
I inch, 3 months
I inch, 6 months
I inch, 1 wear 2 inches, 6 months
2 inches, 1 year
3 inches, 6 months
3 inches, 1 year
4 column, 6 months
4 column, 6 months
5 column, 6 months column, 6 months 20.00

column, 1 year 38.00

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SPONGE CULTURE.

A Proposal to Carry It On by Artificial Means.

Reckless Fishing Threatening to Exterminate the Natural Supply of the Great Producing Centers.

Several causes have recently comained to reduce the supply of sponges in the American market. The paralysis of all industry in Cuba in consequence of the civil war now prevailing there is one of them. The West Indies, Kahamas and Florida are the principal centers of production in this part of the world. Reckless fishing, which threatens to exterminate the sponges, much as similar proceedings do the seals off the coast of Alaska, is another factor in the situation. These facts lend peculiar interest to the proposition recently made to United States government, through its consular agent at Mitylene, by a Greek named Charalampos Chorphics, to establish the business of artificially cultivating sponges somewhere on the Florida coast, if he can get a coreession. A great deal has been done in the past, under the auspices of the national and state fishery commissions, toward restocking American lakes and rivers with trout, bass, shad and salmon, with small fry hatched and nurtured under human management. Artificial means, too, have much to do with the culture of the cyster and the maintenance of the supply of that bivalve. But the vasonableness of the project of Mr. brophios does not rest alone on these precedents. Itchyological experts in Washington are said to have snown confidence in its practicability. They say that by taking proper measures the Florida sponge fisheries could be brought to a higher state of productiveless in a few years. The men already engaged in the industry might not, lowever, relish this interference in behalf of the public. The tough, soft, elastic, fibrous moss

which is to be had at the druggist's, under the name of sponge, is really the skeleton which once supported a whole colony of jelly-like creatures which have built up that structure. These propagate, naturally, in two ways, by means of spores or eggs, and by the formation of buds which eventually split off from the mature polyp. The scientific sponge culturist proceeds on plan which utilizes both of those methods, but is like a common practice in horticulture. He simply cuts up the tenement house of a colony into a numher of pieces, employing a sharp snife or range for the purpose, and conducting the operation while the pulpy mass is still under water. He is also car, ful to leave a portion of the original outer surface on each fragment. Each bit may then be loaded with a small strese or other slaker to take it to the bottom again. A few of these sections fad to revive; but the great majority, after an interval of two or three months, begin to thrive and eventually grow to a considerable size.

There are hundreds of distinct species of sponges, but scarcely a dozen are suited to man's use. It is asserted that those which are obtained from Mediterranean waters are the finest in the world; yet the delicate "sheep's woo!" and "velvet" sponges of Florida are wenders of softness and beauty. And if a system of artificial culture should come into vogue these choice varietics could be produced almost as abundanty as the coarser grades are now -N. Tribune.

FRILLS OF FASHION. Mauve and brown are one of the pop-

dar contrasts in millinery. Torchon and valenciennes patterns combined are the new laces for trimning undergarments. Blouse waists of velvet or velveteen,

with a narrow metal belt, are the coreet bodice for skating costumes. Watches have gradually diminished in

size until now the very latest bit of namel, set round with diamonds, is no arger than a man's signet ring. One secret of success in dress is to and out the colors which are most be-

oming and never wander away from

hese, no matter what the fashion is. Mahogany-colored hair is the latest ad, and the transition period between dark brown and this coveted shade of red is very interesting to the keen ob-

Satin ribbon two inches wide, plaited on the inside of the skirt at the bottom, s the balayeuse which fashion favors just at present. It is more durable than he pinked silk ruffle.

Finebook muslin in all the pretty light tints is used for evening waists for the young girls, and it is made over cheap silk or satin, trimmed with lace and ribbons and worn with light-colored or black silk skirts.

Must chains of gold with diamonds et at intervals, so that they are open on both sides, are one of the novelties in ewelry. Rubies, sapphires, emeralds and amethysts are also distributed in the same manner.

CRUSOE'S ISLAND DISAPPEARS. Reported Sinking of Juan Fernander Land by Volcanic Action.

A few weeks ago a vessel putting in at Lisbon after a trip around Cape liorn, reported the destruction by volcanic action of the Juan Ferinandez island, famous as the scene of "Robinson Crusoe." The master claimed to have seen the catastrophe from the deck of his vessel. The report was not given credence at the time by scientific men, and many denials were printed in papers and magazines. But Capal'owells, of the British ship James Kerr, asserts that the story is generally believed by scafaring men all over the world. The James Kerr has recently arrived from Newcastle, N. S. W., where she was laid up four months on account of the coal mine strike. Capt. Powells met a very large number of master mariners there, and says that the destruction of the island was a matter of common gosisp among them. The captain himself has not passed within sight of the island since 1889, when he secured a photograph of it from the deck of his ship. He says that some of the captains who arrived in Newcastle while he was there verified the report, thta the island was missing.