SPONGING IN BAHAMA.

THE METHOD OF GATHERING AND PREPARING FOR MARKET.

The Profits of the Work—The Laborers Are Chiefly Blacks and Most of Them Take Pretty Small Pay—The Sponges Sold at a Good Price Wholesale.

Consul Thomas J. McLain of the United States consulate at Nassau, in the Bahama Islands, in response to the direction of the state department, has furnished an interesting paper on the sponge trade of the Bahamas, in which the value of the industry and the methods of catching the sponges are given.

The vessels employed in the trade are small, varying from five to twenty-five tons, manned by colored men, and are built in the local shipyards. The construction and repair of these vessels constitutes an important industry in Hall's Town have small cabins for sleeping purposes. The cooking is done on deck. About half of these vessels are engaged in gathering sponges.

The number of persons gathering sponges in the Bahamas, handling them and preparing them in various ways for market, is from 3,000 to 4,000, all of whom, except the shipowners, brokers and shippers, are black people. Hands employed in clipping, washing, packing and preparing finally for shipment should get from fifty to seventy-five cents per day of ten hours. The amount earned by the men who go fishing depends entirely on the number of sponges obtained.

The owner of the vessel fits her out at his own expense, and the profits of the voyage are divided up in shares among the owner, the master and the men. They are never hired by the month, nor do they ever get specified wages. You need think you can be sold in this way make a tolerable living, and the sponge fisherman who earns over $200 a year is the exception.

Sponge grounds are scattered throughout the Bahamas, but the method of gathering sponges is by means of iron hooks attached to long poles. By using a waterglass the fishermen can readily discover the sponges at the bottom, and then by the pole and hook can bring up from ten to twenty-five at a time, according to their size, leaving the smaller ones undisturbed. Some sponges adhere firmly to the bed of the sea, while others are not attached at all, these latter being known as "rolling."

About ten years ago an attempt was made to introduce dredges, but it was found that their use was likely to ruin the beds, because in passing over the bottom they dislodged and brought up not only the good sponges, but the young and unsellable ones as well, killing the spawn and working great mischief. Such an outcry was raised against dredging that an act was passed forbidding its use.

When brought to the vessel the sponges are at once spread upon the deck and left exposed to the sun for several days, during which time the animal matter that covers the sponge gradually dies. This is a black, gelatinous substance of a very low order of marine life, which, during the process of drying, emits a most objectionable odor.

The vessel then which is called the scout goes a week to land the load from the deck. The kraal is an inclosed pen, formed by stakes of wood so as to allow a free circulation of water through it, usually built in a shallower and more low bay or cove, on one of the cays near by.

THE CURE OF THE SPONGE.

The sponges are placed in the kraal and left to be stocked and washed by the action of the water from four to six days, when they are taken out and beaten with sticks until the decayed covering is entirely removed. Having been subjected to this process, and after clipping, beating and washing, the sponges are quite clean and are taken on board the vessel, packed in the hold, conveyed to Nassau, and in this condition are sold in the local market.

Of the larger sponges a catch of 2,000 or of the smaller ones 7,000, would be considered a fair lot. Occasionally a crop of from 12,000 to 15,000 large sponges has been brought in, but this success is exceptional.

The principal varieties gathered in the Bahamas are as follows: Boat, grass, grass, sheepwool, reef (white and dark), velvet (black and red), sheep wool, and yellow, of which the most valuable is sheep wool. The total export in 1890 reached over 800,000 pounds, valued at $900,000. The crop of that year was above the average, being really the most valuable one in the past years.

Of that crop there were shipped to the United States 708,000, valued at $600,000. Bahama sponges are not considered very good, but a ready market is found for all that can be obtained, and at constantly improving prices. There are no indications of any failure of the supply.—Philadelphia Ledger.

An Adorable Kitten.

A pet kitten follows its mistress all over the house when she is at work. Recently she was in an attic chamber, the head of the window being sheet but unbolted. The playful kitten ran across the room and leaped out the window, think upward, and the kitten disappeared, but some crawling back, having found in the air and caught the edge of the gutter with its forepaws. It was a feat of remarkable quickness and presence of mind, as the little animal had a very short time to recover from its surprise at being bounced suddenly into space.—Portland (Me.) Transcript.

Very True.

There is much in knowing how to use sticks. The discreet and skillful person, when confronted with a variety of situations, will carefully select those that are best suited to the task, and then will devote means to use them with the least wear and tear. But there are unstable people who set out to see everything, throw themselves out, so only half of anything, and are dissatisfied in the end.—Detroit Free Press.

About Leap Year.

February, 1892, will have twenty-nine days, in other words, 1892 will be a leap year. The rule is that all years whose figures, or date numbers, are divisible without remainder by four are leap years, since dating the century years, which are leap years only when they are divisible without remainder by 400. For instance, 1600 was a leap year, and 1900 will not be, but 2000 will be.—New York Sun.

JOHN CHAPMAN, OF ROSAPO.

Resolved to Fill a Long Felt Want Which the Fat Man Defined in Sympathy.

It was a late hour coming the Fire ferry, and there were only three or four passengers in the ladies' cabin. One of them was a thin man with a long Roman nose and a tall white hat. Although there were many vacant seats, this pale stranger, after a deliberate inspection of the interior, went to the far corner of the cabin and sat down in a seat next to a fat man with a big value.

"John Chapman, of Rosapo!" exclaimed the spare man. "How are you Rosapo?" The fat man stared a moment at the speaker and then said:

"I am not John Chapman, of Rosapo, but I am quite well thought."

"You John Chapman, of Rosapo!" said the thin man, apparently with surprise. "Why, how you come?"

"Well, I suppose I ought to know who I am!" exclaimed the fat man.

"Certainly, sir, certainly; to be sure!" replied the thin man. "But, mercy! you could be no much mistaken! Why, I know you very well indeed! I talk to you many times with Mr. Mallory! Don't you remember? I was so sorry you had toothache!"

"No John Chapman, of Rosapo!" said the thin man, apparently with surprise.

"Matching the fine hook frequently hoping." said the fat man.

"Yes, I know," said the thin man. "It is not the attitude I. Repose so sweet. The length of the mortification I would have suffered if I had gone on and done what I had on my mind, and then found that you were not John Chapman, of Rosapo, just as how shall my mortification would have been, Mercy! It would be impossible to think of it!"

The fat man seemed to be with a smile, that there would have been no mortification whatever for mortification on that score.

"Doubtful comfort" exclaimed the thin man. "You are very kind. But I don't know as I ought to accept it even until tomorrow. If just were only John Chapman, of Rosapo, now! You can be sure, only take him in hand and measure! The fat man bounced, but the smile was missing. The boat was now nearing the ship.

"If, as you say, my forward being made called beyond intention if I had gone to you as John Chapman, of Rosapo, are grounds," said the thin man broadly, "I will put the thought aside and accept the honor—not only till tomorrow! Only till tomorrow!"

The fat man grabbed his valise and hurried on deck, leaving back cases to twice to see if the thin man was in pursuit. He wasn't. He sat still and watched the fat man as he disappeared across the gangplank. Then he arose and cooped his fastened with a red bandanna.

"It's slender, nowadays, how turns the money market is," said he.—New York Sun.

Mr. Pierce Appears on Her Gravestone.

Mrs. Ralph Sheffer died last spring. She had been married but a short time, and was one of the city belles. Mr. Sheffer erected a fine monument to the memory of his dead wife, who was interred in her mother's family plot. The young woman's mother disliked Sheffer exceedingly, and refused to allow him to have his wife's name engraved on the stone. Not wishing to have trouble with her, Sheffer has not insisted upon doing so.

Recently a distinct shadow of the late Mrs. Sheffer appeared on the tombstone. It grew until the shadow became human. The mother was seen, and during the movement workers rub the stone down with pumice, but they could not efface the shadow. At first sight the shape has no much resemblance to a man's form as a woman's, but by a two-thousand years are women to see a woman's sunbonnet, with bonnet and with the hair done up at the back of the head. The neck and chin show plainly, as also the shoulders, and there is a puff about the back. The features are distinct, and bear a remarkable resemblance to the dead wife. The shadow is right behind wife and features turned back and is in the middle of the stone.—Minneapolis City Chronicle.

Chicago Tribune.

Coming Twice.

I was called upon to perform my first private baptism under circumstances which, if not so embarrassing to myself as so amusing to the spectators, were not without a certain humor as bearing a remarkable but by no means rare ignorance of the simplest Scripture knowledge. I was sent for by the mother of twin boys, and soon arrived upon a scene of the utmost squalor, dirt and destitution. A three legged table, a rickety chair and a bed on the floor comprised all the furniture. Dirt reigned supreme, and the odors from the filthy place rushed full in your face the door. The woman, with matted hair and a squint which gave her an evil expression, feared her babies would die, and had at least seven lives lodge of Christianity as to allow their baptism to be delayed.

When asked to name them she said that as they were twins she would give them called Cain and Abel, which she supposed were the twin brothers of Cain and Abel. I pointed out her mistake, and remonstrated, moreover, upon the name of Cain as such and of evil omen. She knew absolutely nothing of the Scriptures. A girl of ten in the room, upon her refusal of Cain, exclaimed "Have it Bob, mother!" I chose, however, the name of David and put an end to the discussion.—Cor. London Tit-Bits.

The English sparrow becomes more and more a pest throughout the country. Flocks of these birds have seriously interfered with the profits of grain fields in some cases. The Illinois sparrow law, which fines a bounty of two cents a head on all these birds killed in December, January and February, is commended to the attention of legislators generally.

The various big stallions that are travelling their rounds and nearly all the Columbian fair will also remain the power to win the sweepstakes of the exposition. Then they will at the same time be serving the country and showing themselves off.

MR. MALLORY'S WONDERFUL WELL.

The Fresh Water Started Itself When it Had the Engineers in Big Fears.

Mr. Justice Mallory is a farmer living in the northern portion of this county. Some time since he decided to have a well dug on his premises. The services of a water witch were called into requisition, and the men of the infallible stick then setback focused a spot where water would be struck.

The well diggers set to work, but had not gone more than six feet when they encountered a stratum of rock. They went down into the solid rock ten, twenty, thirty, forty feet, and yet no indication that the rock was giving out. Mr. Mallory increased his men to blast away, as he was hard on finding water if he had to blast into the Cumberland region. They followed his instructions and went ten feet further down, with no new developments.

They were sure to be rewarded, however. All the experienced men in nearby heavy blast had been made, and the fuse was touched off, and the men withdrew to a safe retreat. After the smoke of the explosion had cleared out they looked down and found that they had struck a cave. Eagle eyes followed to be sure there was no danger, and then in four scattered. Some spectators agreed to investigate the discovery. They were lowered with ropes through the opening down into a cavern where daylight never had penetrated with the light of day, and whose infinite silence took up the sound of their voices and echoed and re-echoed it until it died away in some lucky recess.

Their surprise as they descended into the darkness was intense, and their fears increased the deeper the cavern. Stalactites and stalagmites provided a lofty dome. The floor of the cavern was covered with pocket stones, consisting of varying minerals, that flashed one light in orange and beautiful effects. At some points the stalagmites and stalactites formed a kind of pillars and arches. At other places in the roof were spaces, regularly shaped arches that gave an impression as if they had been built by human hands. Still other portions of the roof were smooth and resembled with a beautiful formation, whose outlines were distinctly and for surprising, it bring the star circular in the Mammoth cave.

Wandering about the explorers came upon a small river of crystal clear water, in which were strange looking fish, partial fossilized, and where many eyes you had formulated means for entrance with no other assistance than an eternal night. A pool of water was also found which, so far as they could sound, was unfathomable. On the banks of the stream were found the wreckers of what had once undoubtedly been an Indian canoe, rudely hewn out of a log from some other water source, and preserved so long by the pure atmosphere of the cave. The adventurers explored the cave for a considerable distance in each direction, but found no issue or entrance to it.—Louisville (Ky.) Cor. Louisville Courier-Journal.

Not Proof of Having "Inspired Men."

It seems odd that so many mothers see the faces of broadcloth and lawn and bonting tops, yet do not take a finger to remedy this defect. Their own sons "Ma," they exclaim, "look like Sunday." Over your children. If their sons ears are put on "thin," may grumble if those of their offspring are not straight? A woman may lose her sun-may break the long strands of her golden hair down from her temples and over the top of their useful organs, not so a man. His barber does so him will be lead to him, and each block of vanity, or whatever it should be may possess, should fatally betray him to the phrenologists who run our rock and his ears stand sentinel in one side, betraying fallness at each side of his shaded counters.

Now I know Sunday, a man's ears are simply this fashion. Let him each night be sent, close his lips about his head and sleep in this. It is difficult to keep it in place for this cause throw the sandbags in a sleeping, pinning the cap and bandage tight on in the morning with small safety pins. Continued use of the bandage will show good effects in a comparatively early date, and the deformity will gradually disappear.—Detroit Free Press.

The Relief Girls' Handkerchiefs.

The most valuable of all the handkerchiefs is certainly the relief girls' sponge. Were some all the dancers of the continent, and from thence they are shipped off all over the world. The relief is considered to be in the Sandwich, but that is a great mistake. There have never been so many dancers in there as Peter has 3,000 addresses on his list. The agency is an odd sight when the engagements are being made.

The rooms therefore are on the ground floor, there was chairs into which scarcely a score of people could be reasonably but the emergard is large, and into that there could some dozen or more hundred girls, fifty, seventy-five, fifty (fifty and upward), leaning are happy men who may fall into their selections chosen. They bible time, they pull be but over his eyes and generally dance his time. Sometimes he no one can resolved the turbulent maid for Peter himself, who, with an Olympian frown and a stern and resonant cry of "relief!" restores immediately to being the lady who has taken his place.—Paris Cor. Philadelphia Telegraph.

Sea Water for Weak Eyes.

Weak eyes should be strengthened by bathing about twice a day for a few minutes in full bucket of sea water, which allows the tools to have the cleanse every the water willing are then gently without stock. No one has any idea of the pain to overcome, or the relief that can point this method. You might ask for a good many things I would sooner give you than the golden glass bottle of sea water brought with pales inland for sponging the eyes.—Sunny Data.

The Winter Apple Crop in Maine.

A large shortage in winter apples is predicted by the New England Homestead, on the basis of 1,000 special reports from the commercial orchard groups of the United States and Canada. A nearly crop of fall apples is admitted. Malos for an eye, pears crop does not hold, and while the production is one where New England, Middle and in New York is relatively above the superior dismal average of 1890, the average of the seven states is only 80 per cent, compared with thirty-nine last year, 100 representing a full crop.

CALIFORNIA CREAM OF PRUNES

A very pleasant Laxative, made from the juice of Fresh Prunes, combined with a fine aromatic vegetable laxative. If not as good as represented in every additional qualities, you can get them of

CREAM DROPS,

Making a very wonderful preparation AND AND CONDITIONS.

Accomplishing the highest Regulating the Stomach and Bowels.

IN CONSTIPATION, HEADACHES, DYSPEPSIA AND DIRT.

IT IS A WONDERFUL REMEDY

For Constipation, Sick Headache, Dyspepsia, Loss of Sleep, Nervousness, Bad Blood, Pimples, and Sallow Complexion.

PRICE 25 CENTS.

For Sale by All Druggists.

BRIGGS MEDICINE CO.,

San Francisco, California.

LEGAL NOTICE.

In the Probate Court, in and for Salt Lake County, Territory of Utah.

In the matter of the estate of James Sharp, deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the undersigned administrator of the estate of James Sharp, deceased, has filed his final account and report in said estate, and petition for distribution of said estate, and that the hearing thereof has been fixed by the Probate Court of said County of Salt Lake, Territory of Utah, for Monday, the 28th day of September, A. D. 1891, at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m. of said day, at the Court room of said Probate Court, in said County of Salt Lake, Territory of Utah, at which time and place any person interested may appear and show cause why said account and report should not be approved and said administrator made to receive his final discharge.

Dated September 9th, 1891.

E. A. ALLEN,
Clerk of the Probate Court.

By C. E. Hooper, Deputy.

ASSESSMENT NOTICE.

Lake Hill Mining Company. Location of principal place of business, Salt Lake City, Utah.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AT a meeting of the Board of Trustees held on the 8th day of August, 1891, an assessment of Twenty (20) cents per share was levied upon the capital stock of the corporation, payable to the undersigned, at the office of the Secretary, Room 15, Dooly Block, Salt Lake City, Utah, on and after the date hereof, and that any stock upon which this assessment shall remain unpaid on the 10th day of September, 1891, will be delinquent and advertised for sale at public auction, and unless payment is made before the time of sale, such sale will be made to pay the delinquent assessment, together with costs of advertising and expenses of sale.

Lake Hill Mining Company,
Location of principal place of business Salt Lake City, Utah.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

Estate of Jacob Rust, deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THOSE WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, that the undersigned, as administrator of the estate of Jacob Rust, deceased, late of Salt Lake County, Utah, has filed his final account and report in said estate, and petition for distribution of said estate, and that the hearing thereof has been fixed by the Probate Court of said County of Salt Lake, Territory of Utah, for Monday, the 28th day of September, A. D. 1891, at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m. of said day, at the Court room of said Probate Court, in said County of Salt Lake, Territory of Utah, at which time and place any person interested may appear and show cause why said account and report should not be approved and said administrator made to receive his final discharge.

Dated September 9th, 1891.

ELIZABETH A. RUST,
Administrator of the estate of Jacob Rust, deceased.

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER DEED OF TRUST.

WHEREAS GEORGE A. NOBLE AND ALICE E. NOBLE, his wife, on the 10th day of April, 1890, by their Deed of Trust of that date, duly recorded in the Recorder's office in and for Salt Lake County, Utah, in Book 20 of Deeds, page 420, conveyed to the undersigned, Trustee, the following described real estate, situated in Salt Lake County, Utah, to wit:

Lots 1 and 2 in Block 1 in Hyde's addition to the City of Salt Lake, according to the official plat and survey of said addition, made by Lewis Hyde, Jr., and Lot 1