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ORGANIC LIFE IN THE OCEAN .- Until recent years it was generally believed, as regards the Atlantic Ocean, that below a certain very moderate depth organic life entirely ceased, and all was death and durkness. Recent expeditions have been gradually dispelling this belief; and one of the most original and striking results of the Challenger Expedition is the final establishment of the fact that the distribution of living beings has no depth-limit, but that animals of all the marine invertebrate classes, and possibly fishes also, exist over the whole of the floor of the ocean.

OAK TIMBER .- Much of the oldest oak timber in this country is not of the same kind as that now in use. What we call oak timber now is the wood of the Quercus pedunculata this has its truit stalked and its leaves sessile. The other oak, the Quercus sessiliflora has its fruit sessile and its leaves stalked. This latter is the oak which furnished timber of some of our oldest buildings—to St. Alban's Abbey' and to Westminister Hall. The old wood is so unlike our modern oak timber, in the absence or indistinctivenesss of the silver grain, that it was long considered to be chestaut.

THE BEINDERR .- To the Laplanders the reindeer is everything; in fact, without it they would couse to exist. The flesh affords them food. The milk is not only drunk, but serves to make chorse, &c.,; it is also distilled into a kind of spirit. The rein-deer skin, which is soft and pliant, warm and strong, serves as clothing, for blankets, and, in fact, for almost every purpose to which we apply the various forms of cloth. The tendens are used for every purpose to which we apply cord, rop-, and

G. PARKS, string, whilst reindeer tongues form one of the most dainty dishes that can be placed upon the table, as well as, it is believed, a considerable article of ex-

Forestal Destruction .- All the countries in which trees have been remorselesly felled have invariably suffered, owing to the meteorological changes which ensued. About the year 1490, the Guadalquiver Valley supported about seven millions of robu-t men; but, after the disappearance of the live oak and chestnut groves from the height above the population dwindled to one million and a quarter of cadaverous people, forced to toil upon saudy and barren land. The effect of forestal destruction may be witnessed also on most of the Continental rivers, for during the last fifty years the Elbe and the Oder have fallen seventeen inches, the Bhine twenty-four; the Vistula twenty-sir, and the Danube at Orsova fifty five inches; all this accompanied by a corresponding diminution of the discharges from springs.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF OZDE - Ozone, of which there is a deficiency in the atmosphere of large towns, is a great purifying agent, and prevents the spread of fevers and other zymotic diseases. It has been proved that all odoriferous plants-the mints, for example, mignonette, wall-flowers, and all other old English flowers and herbs-have a remarkable power of developing ozone, and, therefore, in the destruction of miasmatic poisons. It is well to bear this fact in mind, and, in laying out grounds, to make the decoration of them subservient to purposes of health; and, whilst gratifying the eye with beds of flowers of bright colours, to sow liberally such sweet-scented flowering plants as are conductive to the purification of the atmosphere by the oxidation of the organic poisons that are constantly floating in it. Fevers may in this way be prevented, probably as effectually as by the use of the ordinary chemical disinfectants; whilst flowering plants have this advantage, that, during the time they are in leaf and bloom their influence on the atmosphere is constant, whilst chemical agents exert only a transitory effect

THE RUSSIAN SANCE .- The most fashionable and costly of all furs is the Russian sable, the ekin of the mustela zibelina, which is about three or four times as large as the common weasel, to which family it belongs. A choice skin of the sea otter or the black for may command a higher price than one of the Russian sable, but the cost of the latter will be relatively greater, on account of its smaller size. The Russian sable is brown in summer, with some gray spots on the head, and may be distinguished from other furs from the hair turning and lying equally well in any direction. In winter, when the animal is usually taken, the colour of the fur is a beautiful black. The darkest skins are the most valuable. In its natural condition the fut has a bloomy appearance; but dyed sables generally lose their gloss, and the hairs become twisted or crisped. Sometimes the skins are blackened by being smoked, but the deception is exposed by the smell and the crisped bairs. A dyed or smoked skin may be detected by rubbing it with a moist linen cloth, which will then become blackened. The best tkins are obtained in Yakutsk, Kamtschatka, and Russian Lapland. Unly about twentyfive thousand are annually taken, but these command extraordinary prices, the average price of a raw skin being about five pounds, while a choice "crown" Russian sable will sell for forty pounds. But few of these furs reach the English or American market. The chief demand is in Russia, where the use of the sable is monopolised by the Imperial family and the nobility, by whom it is chiefly used for lining for civic robes, coats, &c., and for ladies

THE PANAMA HAT PLANTS .- The Bolivians gives this plant the name of Jipagapa, a town in the Republic of Ecuador, which is the principal seat of the hat manufacture—Panama, like Mocha in the case of coffee, and Brussels in that of carpets, being a misnomer. Before the leaf has begun to openwhen, in fact, it resembles a closed fan-it is cut off close to the petiole, the base of which forms the centre of the crown of the hat. It is then divided longitudinally into strips with the thumb nall—the thick part, forming the mid-ril, being rejected. The number of shreds into which it is divided, of course, depends on the fineness of the hat into which they are to be manufactured. This split leaf, which s of a greenish-white colour, is next dipped into boiling water, then into tepid water, acidulated with lemon-juice, and lastly it is allowed to soak in cold water for some time, and is afterwards dried in the sun. Each hat is, or ought to be, made of a single leaf. They vary in price, according to fineness, from thirteen pence to as many pounds. The damping and drying operations cause the shreds to assume a curled or cylindrical form, which much increase their strength, without injuring their pli-ancy. Before plaiting, the coarser qualities are damped with water, but the finer sorts are left out in the morning dew, and worked on before sunrise. A hat of the finest quality, made of a single leaf, will take several months to complete; and the plaiting will be so fine as hardly to be perceptible at a short distance. The plant is by no means difficult to cultivate, and is one of the most hardy species of the genus. It grows well in the damp best of an orchid-house, where the temperature does not fall below sixty degrees.

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It has been the aim of the Commercial Review, in

the exhibits we have made of the various branches of industry with which our city abounds, to mention only those establishment that can be fairly called tepresentatives of their trade. And while as a general rule we have taken only those which do a wholsale business, we have not overlooked those in the retail trade which, from the magnitude of their operations, deserve especial mention. Within the last few years a great change has taken place in the clothing trade. Ready-made goods are now produced in as fine fabrics and as good styles and make as are the most of custom-made suits. In fact there are many of our best citizens who buy ready-made clothing entirely, and none of their acquaintances are aware that their stylish suit do not come from a fashionable tailor. Especially has this feature of the trade been apparent during the hard times and when economy was a necessity. The most extensive retail clothing house in this city is that of Messrs. J. G. Kennedy & Co, No. 31 St. Lawrence st. We had the pleasure of visiting this establishment a few days since, and we can safely assort that a larger finer or more stylish stock of clothing would be hard to find. The building occupied by them is four stories in height and is filled to repletion with every class of goods in the clothing line, comprising men's boys', and youths' ready-made closhing nevery variety. Canadian and Scotch tweeds, cassimeres, doeskins, &c. On the first floor is the stock of over coats, suits, &c., in the latest styles and makes, and sold at prices to suit the most exacting. Indeed it would be difficult to find a coater who could not be suited in his depart. customer who could not be suited in his department The measuring and culting department is also on this floor. Here the finest custom-made clothing can be obtained at minimum prices. The 3rd and 4th floors are devoted to clothing of every description. They carry at all times a fine stock of tweeds, broadcloths, &c, &c, in bales. Their clothing for excellence of quality and first class work man-ship and finish cannot be surpassed. We commend any of our readers who really want superior, well fitting, stylish, and durable custom or ready-made garments at bottom prices to pay this house a visit they are sure to be suited by going to this fine establishment.—Advt.

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