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stances suitable for the treatment of diseases requiring the use of expectorants.

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NATURALISTS' PORTFOLIO.

THE CUTTLE-FI-H AS FOOD .- The flesh of the cuttlefish, especially that of the arms, is considered highly nutritious. It was greatly prized by the ancients, and, though not used in this country, is still much sought for in other parts of the world, and regularly exposed for sale in the markets of Smyrna and Naples, and the bassars of India. In Spain it is a George Bury, common article of food.

SWAN-STEALING.—The stealing of a marked swan is met at the present day by a heavy punishment, but in the past times the punishment was still more severe. One way of inflicting a fine for marked swan stealing was unique. The stolen swan, or another in its place, was hung up by the beak in the thief's house until the owner or his man had filled the ways full of what from the men had filled the room full of wheat from the thiel's fields until the bill of the swan was hidden. It would seem from this punishment that farmers had a partiality for cygnets.

INFLUENCE OF ORGANISMS ON EGGS .- M M. Bechamp and Eustache have determined that eggs may remain for long periods in a medium filled with infusoria, without the latter traversing the shell and penetrating the interior. The shell, however, allows the passage of microscopic musedian, which make their way through the lining membrane and develop very abundantly on its internal face. The membrane surrounding the yolk presents, however, an insurmountable barrier to their further progress, but, should their entrance into the yolk be effected, an alteration takes place which is a true fermentation, and distinct from putrefaction.

THE COQUITO PALM.—In Chili a sweet syrup, called miel de palm, or palm honey, is prepared by holling the sap of the jubwa spectabilis to the consistence of treacle, and it forms a considerable article of trade, being much esteemed for domestic use as sugar. The sap is obtained by the very wasteful method of felling the trees, and cutting off the crown of leaves, when it immediately begins to flow, and continues to do so for several months, until the tree is exhausted, providing a thin slice is shaved off the top every morning, each tree yielding about 90 gallons. The small nuts, which resemble miniature cocoanuts, are used by the Chilian confectioners in the preparation of sweetmeats, and by ti e bi ya as marbles. Î

OYSTERS GROWING ON THESS.—The Mangrove tree phizophora mangle, is an evergreen frequently of im posing stature, attaining an altitude of from thirty to fifty feet or more, and oscupying marshy situation in the vicinity of the sea, such as Antigus, and near the mouth of the river which empties itself into the harbour at Cape Henri, Hayti. Its roots rise in the form of arches above the muddy soil in which it grows, and afford attachment to myriads of small but delicious oysters, which are left bare during the efflux of the tide, giving rise to the popular fable of oysters growing on trees, which, with the excep-tion of their not being fed by, but merely adhering to, the tree is literally true. These oysters make a most incomparable soup, which is much relished by epicures.

brought forward, at a recent meeting of the National Academy of Science, a variety of evidence, tending to indicate some envelope, like an atmosphere, for the moon. The evidence was principally drawn from observations during eclipses. The explana-tions usually offered for the bright band seen around the moon at such times were fully considered, and shown to be inadequate, though good as far as they would apply. The ruddy band of light is much too broad to be the sun's chromopshere. Various experiments prove that it was not consequence of contrast alone. It was most apparent in those instances where the moon was nearest the earth. It could be best accounted for by supposing an atmosphere to the moon-a thin remnant of ancient nebulosity, comparable to that which accompanies the earth, and is supposed to give rise to the appearance of the aurora borealis.

THE LAMPREYS. - Amongst the queerest of queer fishes are the lampreys. They are of worm-like form, with soit bones, and mouths more vertical than horizontal, which can be expanded like sucking disks. The sea lamprey is often found tightly adhering by its sucker mouth to a ship, and it has been supposed by some that it mistakes the sides of the vessel for something good to eat; while others think that it has a high opinion of the virtues of tar, and adheres to the ship for sake of that substance. This fish is described as dining off its fellow-creatures after a fashion more skilful than kind. The whole of the interior arch of the mouth is studded with regular rows of teeth, each one of which, on a broad base, furnished with one or two apparently reversed points; and the teeth which are the most distant and concealed are larger than the others, and more effectually crowded with these points. For simply biting, as in other fishes, these teeth are useless; but when the breadth of the open mouth is brought in contact with the surface of a fish on which the lamprey has laid hold, by producing a vacuum, these roughly pointed teeth are brought forward in a manner to be able to act on the victim by a circular motion, and a limited space on the skin of the captive prey is thus rasped into a pulp and swallowed, so that a hole is made, which often penetrates to the hone. The victims of this singular "diner out" camot succeed in throwing off their tormentor; but they seem to get well of their wounds, and are ready, like the Abyssinian cows, when one slice has been taken away, for their

devourers to come again. PITCHER PLANTS .- It would be a difficult matter to find in the whole vegetable world a more interesting study than that of the pitcher plants. The curious appendages to the leaves, which present a more or less perfect resemblance to the form of a pitcher, with its lid, have given rise to strange traditions among the natives of the countries where these plants grow wild, and among the civilised and educated people who have seen them under cultivation, they have been the subject of stories which contain scarcely more of truth than those wild Malayan traditions. If is a generally received idea among us that in the pitcher-plant nature has provided a supply of water by means of which the the traveller in the desert may slake his thirst. The lids open, they say, at night, in order to catch the dew, and close again during the day, to prevent evaporation. Nothing could be much wider from the truth than these statements. In the first place, the plants will only grow where there is a plentiful supply of water, and where the atmosphere is more than usally moist; and in the second place, the lid never closes again, either by night or day, after it has once opened. And again, the water, which has once opened. And again, the water, which usally half fills the pitcher, is not rain or dew which has been collected, but is secreted by the plant itself from the inner glandular surface of the pitcher. It is said to be nearly one hundred years since the firs species, Nepenthes distillatoria, was introduced from the southern part of China. It was followed by one or two other nearly allied kinds; but, some time ago, F. Hook-eriama, and the still more remarkable N. Rafflesiana, with its large pitchers mottled with brown, were introduced. Then came another Indian species, having a white rim to its pitchers, which was consequently called N. albo-marginata, and this is still a somewhat rare form. Within the last twenty years or more, have been imported several fine and

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It has been the aim of the Commercial Review, in the exhibits we have made of the various brancher of industry with which our city abounds, to mention only those establishment that can be fairly called representatives of their trade. And while as a general rule we have taken only those which do 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 assert 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 clothing n every 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 customer who could not be suited in his department. The measuring and cuiting 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 cloth. ing for excellence of quality and first class workmanship 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 .- Adot.

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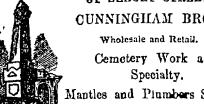
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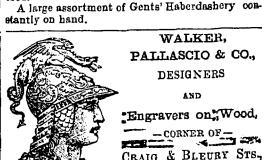
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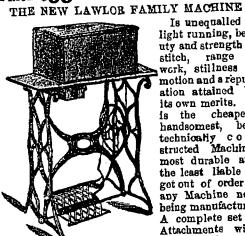
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