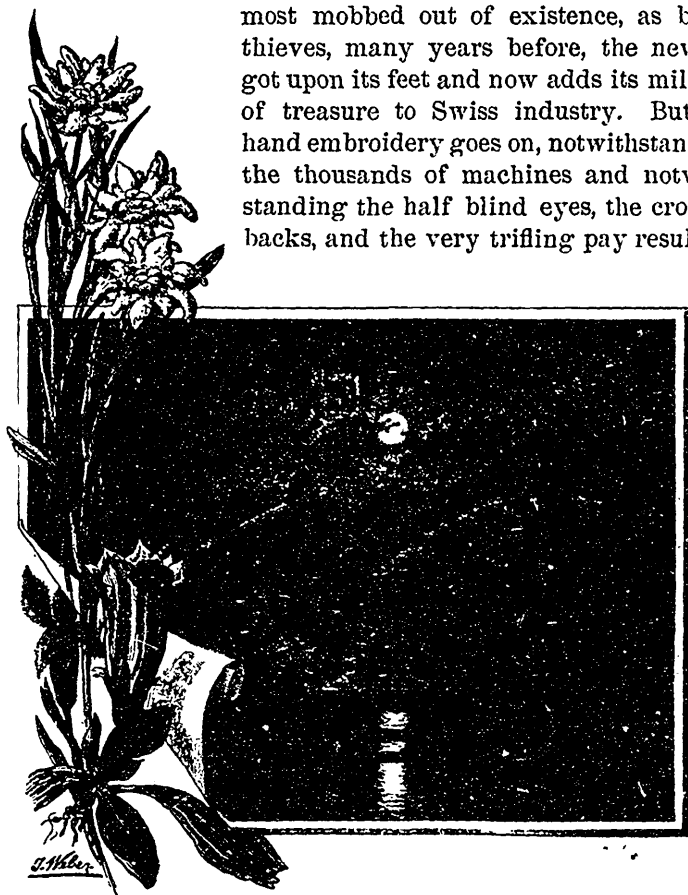


St. Gall are long famous for the beautiful embroideries that supply so many markets of the world on both sides of the sea. There are now thirty or forty thousand peasant women in this district engaged in hand embroidery, to supply a market as wide as the world. Some forty years ago, the art of making embroidery by machinery was introduced successfully, and, although similar

machines had been cried down and almost mobbed out of existence, as bread thieves, many years before, the new art got upon its feet and now adds its millions of treasure to Swiss industry. But the hand embroidery goes on, notwithstanding the thousands of machines and notwithstanding the half blind eyes, the crooked backs, and the very trifling pay resulting



MUTTENSEE.—MOUNTAIN-LAKE.

from the work. There are peasants too poor to buy machines or to manage the business on anything like an extended scale, and there are plenty of patterns of embroidery that are more exquisitely made by hand than by any mere machine, however ingenious, and however cheaply done. The long days and the longer evenings through, the peasant girl and woman bow with weary eyes over their work. Sometimes under the shady trees,