Danger attends it and hardship is much spaces the flisherman most be affect eight mouths of the year. results-The battles of spongers with theires - How sprogers con to market.

the Mediterraneau, or from the Removes the cause of shoumation.fisheries of the Babama Island, southeast of Florids. It is possible that a Toulon fisherman may have taken [t no usatter what its origin, its experi- quality are cometimes obtained in the case has been of marked interest, yellow water, off the Niceraguan face, until it appears, light and being so shallow. estive, in the store from which its Pole fishing has its dangere. In final purchaser secured it,

ways on the bed of the occan, if it is a prize, has theen seized as he bung what is known as a sait-water sponge, over the side of the boat and torn it is a merine enimal, endowed with away-by the monster of the deep. so much life that it requires three The use of the spongeglass is absoludays of exposure to the open air to satisguish it. What the sponge user sees to merely the frame work of the animal. Floridabas a monopoly of the they cling to the bottom, for his eye aponge fisheries of the United States, and both the keys of the East and West coasts are resorts of the sponge hunters. A chain of keys. or Islands, starts from the mainland at about Miami, on the east coast, and extends, in the shape of a horn, far into the Gulf of Mexico, the Dry Tortages being the western most The spronges are then transferred to point of the horn. In the waters surrounding most of the keys, and also position of the sponges is upright, between the keys and the mainland and that is the fashion in which they as far as Cape Sable, sponges are arranged to dry. All the slime found. This is called the key grounds and here, in 1853, was the beginning of the eponge fisheries of the United States which is valued at more than half a million dollars, for the appual catch, the taking of which employee valued at a quarter of a million dol-

The bay grounds, which yield the most sponges, are on the West coast, from Bt. John's Pass, a few miles morth of the enterance to Tampa Bay. to St. Mark's lighthouse, a distance of two hundred miles. Sponges taken on both grounds are classified as sheepswool, yellow grass, velvet or boat, glove, wire and hardhead. They differ in quality in the order given, the sheepswool being the very fine anonges that command highest price

Our fishermen go after the sponge in wessels of a shooner or sloop rig. most of them of about eleven tone if they operate on the bay grounds, or if on the key grounds, five-ton sloops are usually used. The largest vessels carry from five to thirteen men, and the smaller three to five. Key West and Torpon Springs are the ports of sale for the apongers, the sales being anotions, and buyers from New York, leiphia, and St. Louis are always in attendance

Sponge fishers make four trips year, each of about two months duration. While all are more or less fraught with danger, the fourth, or hurricane trip, taken from the middle of August to about October 15th, in the chief time of peril, Sponge fishing is prosecuted all the way from five to twenty miles off the. Florida cost, where during the hurrisame seeson, the wind attains a terzific velocity. While the barometer gives some indications of the coming of a hurrican, the advent of one is so andden that it is frequently impossible for the fishers working in their dingys - small broad rowboats - to make the vessel, which finds it equally the fishers are usually blown to sea, and only a few are ever heard from again. Half of the fishermen are megroes, and all are either from the rollers, or wheels, affixed to front Begroes, and all are either from the mainland or some of the larger keys.
the width of the keel. The perils the Gloncester fisherman faces have been told many times, but somehow or other the dangers the sponge fishermen are constantly called upon to brave are forgotten, dangers just as great as those which from gers just as great as those which from sud into this the sponge is thrown time to time overwhelm the men of by manipulating the scoop, being

hat is the Florida fishermen. The dingy is just about large enough to time, with his hand helf in what looks like a water pall, partially sub- of anyspong or. merged. This is a sponge-glass, the to the depth of the water in which the flishermen are working.

If you watch closely, you presently see the fisherman drop the glass, also tied to the boat seize his pole and make a jab at it. He rarely miseas and that is why, after a moment, he pulls up his pole, the book being attached to a black and stimy object that looks not at all like the apouge of commerce as most of us know it. The sponge, full of his now, is sropped in the bottom of the dingy and the debermen tries for spother

Aching Joints an ever-present feature-To gain that acid condition of the blood which

affects the muscles also. Sufferers dread to move, espe The unexpected hurricane and its after sitting or lying long, and then results. The battles of anonyers

If the big bath sponge nonid tell the story of its experience, of its cap-ture, and subsequent, is would hold the story of its experience, of its cap-ture, and subsequent, is would hold the story of its experience, of its cap-ture, and subsequent, is would hold the story of the attention, Perhaps it has come from Hood's Sarsaparilla

No fishing to speak of is done in to France, and that it came into the muddy water, because the fisherman United with a French consignment, canithen only feel, Sponges of poor from the time that it was dregged coast, but at such times the fisherfrom its home under the cocan's our. man wades after his catch, the waters

the Florida areas the shark is not When the eponge is attached to altogether unknown, and more then nome rock of similar substance, al- one unfortunate, intent on booking learns them so well that he never confuses them, where the amateaur could see nothing at all. Sometimes be uses a pole 45 feet long, and handles it with case.

As soon as the dingy is loaded i is rowed to the vessel, or else the vessel is signaled, and sails down. vessel is loaded it sails for the kraal or sponge storehouse.

A kraal is a pen ten feet square, placed in shallow water, usually in fifteen hundred mon, and vessels the shelter of some key. After being there a week, the sponges are beaten out with a short heavy stick, which cases. Any adhering dirt is serap ed in the Gulf of Mexico, and extend are equeezed thoroughly with the hande, and strung on pieces of twine about six feet in length. In this form they are taken to the auction sales.

Many and desperate have been the battles of spongers with theives who have sought to rob the kraals, Every vessel employes a wathchman to stand gaurd while the fishermer are away, but the thieves are sufficiently strong in numbers to overome the watchman if they get near enough. The sponges are to a great extent a law to themselves. If a thief of party of thieves is encountred, the spongers make it a point to kill every heif they can. This has reduced robberies to a minimum and it is a bold man who tries to rob a krasi under present conditions, for a sharp watch is kept night and day. Somelocated is inhabited, and in that case esidents to keep watch and ward.

Unfortunatly, the choicest sponger o not come from the United States but from the Mediterranean, where the oidest sponge fisheries are los cated, Greek and Turkish fishermen having followed the calling for centuries. The Greeks, in the early seventies, invented a diving appara tus that, while it was less dangerous to the fishermen than plain diving, in some ways, bae often proved fatal to sponge growth and an injury to the bealth of men who utilized it any len cently been invented in France which the Toulon fishermen who go to the Mediterranean after sponges have magazi the vesses, which made it equally milesed. There are heavy glass windows in the bow or front, and through these the fishermen watch thebottom as their craft rolls along on beavy

A scoop attached to a long handle is operated from within the boat, and this tears the sponge from its fasten: ings. A sort of shaft extends out from the boat, directly over the ecoop Sponge fishermen usually work in tion whether the spage beds will automatically secured, It is a quesnot suffer from the ention of the boat for this. If you happened to watch wheels. The boat itself is illuminated them as work, you would see one by electricty, and a searchlight conman banging over the side from time at antily playe on the bottom of the

Syria farnishes a fine quality of bottom being of plain window glass, sponges, and frequent chipments are Beside the fisherman, fastned to the made to New York from Trieste and boat by a line or rope, is a long pole, Latekia. Sponge bods in Cypros with a curious contrivance on the waters are worked with varying end-a three-toothed, carved hook | encouse. Fgypt sends some sponges The pole varies in length, according and so does Barbary, as well as Crete.

> tated. The reason is plainit's the best. Insist upon having Scott's-it's the world's standard flesh and etrongth builder. ALL BRUGGISTS

be produce of these island flat, ciof the Pirasun and London .

The season in the foreign sposhories opens in March, The Purks are expert divers, and comotime go down with no apparatus save a ine attached to a block of marble atened by another line to the boat. The marble sids them in descending, ad if they wish to be pulled up, they pull the line thatis featened to the boa see they go as deep as a 140 et, and come to the surface loaded wn with enormous sponges, or else antie the line from their bodies, faston sponges thereto, and rise to the surface a little later. They can re-

main under water some moments. The divers are exposed to great from simple accident. They dive so deep that they cannot be seen from the boat, and their rice to the surface is so rapid that should they come up

of these islands a native girl is not mitted to marry notil she has enched a given number of sponges Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont. om the ocean's bed at a depth sufficient to prove her skill. On other islands the marriageable danghters are ually bestowed by the fathers up- from Key West in time to be on In this way the fathers believe they plenty for the daughters,

ed. Most sponges are loaded-that is, cept at meal time, for he couldd't they have been soaked in a solution, stand the odor of the dead sponges either of glucose or mollasses, sand if it weren't for his tobacco. The and rock-sault. This is done to give grass sponge is three times as valuthem greater weight, for weight is able as the yellow, for England has

sponges,, but it makes them much abundant, but it does not count for lable, particularly the yellow The spongers themselves bleach a few, by hanging them on poles ashore, or upon the masts of cleanees them fairly well in most the vessels. Before they are hung up they are washed in sopy water, and the action of the soapsude, dew and sunlight bleaches them white or golden within a fortnight. It is a slow process, and considered unprofi-

In 1853 or 1854, when sponges were first discovered in the waters about Key West, nearly all the nges used in the United States were imported. Now our markets, with their big demand, are almost whooly supplied from our own waters, and there is a large expornto England every year. It is only in the Fiorida waters that the grass onges are found, and nearly alogether on the west coast of the eninsula. The water is too deep and oo cold on the Atlantic side, and the pricanes too destructive to sea life The big sponge fialds in the Gulf of Mexico having been widely worked times the key where the kraal is during the last few years, St. Mark's is the northermost tip of the fields, about Key West stretching out fifsen or tweaty miles from shore al the way. But just as the land of a rmer differs in fertility, so do these The grounds that give the richest yield lie between St. Marks and

Applote Keys. When an owner fits up a vessel be gages a crew for a trip of eight more, unless the hurrican hold the men out. The owner lays in sup- better, until after three weeks, the cording to the number in the crew, in horse wounds. oes to the owner, the balance shared equally among the men. In good seasons good money is madeav \$100 a man which is indeed elient. The average trip bringe ob one from \$54 to \$57.

The bouny system which exists song the spongers is one of the oret darwbacks to their prosperity. Take one boat a large one, eay, which arries its full orew of thirteen men. nerally, all are out of money when anuary comes-then they live or seir credit for a month or more. It late in February before the boat irte, for the water is generally too auddy for sponging before March, The owner of the boat hunts up the son he wants before the last of anuary. Some are old men with m, some are new. He speaks to he first one,

Going to ship with me, Pedro? Pedro's answer is, very likely,

How much bounty ?' The owners reply another ques What do you owe?'

Pedro county on his flogers -- I es \$30, perhaps. The boatowner is sected to stand for the debte first nd then comes to the bounty, which is always a ogeh edvance,

Thirty dollars on your adro-only \$10 bounty, Perhaps Pedro taken it, perhap fuses it, and goes to another master Most likely, however, he will protect Twenty dollars, Senor, and Pil

go with you. Of course debts and bounty be squared to the owner out of what the sponger shares when the catch of the trip is sold. There is not much left when this is done.

DIARRHŒA

and VOMITING

If you are suddenly taken with Diar in the Stomach, Cholera Morbus, Summer Complaint, or any Looseness of the Bowels, do not waste any time, but Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry, and it will cure you in no time. Mrs. H. L. Steadman, Pleasant River, N.S., writes: angers, not only from sharks but "A year ago this fall, my little boy was suddenly taken ill with diarrhosa and vomiting, and as our doctor is ten miles distant, it seemed as if I could not get neath the boat, a fracture of the help soon enough, but on going to the ountry store I purchased a bottle of Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry. In the Bahama Islands, diving for and after the first dose could notice as ponges forms the principal occupa- improvement, and the next day the child won or many of the natives, and they was better and regained health. Since make comfortable incomes. In one that time I always keep it on hand," Insist on being given "Dr. Fowler's" when you ask for it. Price 35 cents, Manufactured only by The T. Milburn

on the best divers among their suitors. the grounds with the first fine weather. There are fifty boats together, are securing future happiness and with fifty more coming scattering later on, and another fifty from other Sponges come to the markets in ports. The boats are of various les, each variety by itself. In bal- builds, and range from a thirty foot them, compresses, much like to a seventy foot keel. A sponger e used to bale cotton, are untilized is never seen without his pipe exbeen sending over here steadily, her In bleaching sponges, lime and acid demand increasing from year to are used. The process injures the year. The yellow one is very much in a year when the men are collecting good wool specimens. Sometimes just one or two fine selves, and bring \$4 or \$5.

> Drinking is very unusual, no matter how dull, for the men have so taste for quarrelling among themselves, and so they leave the smuggled rum-the aguardiente-

There is plenty of room for quarrelling without touching the fiary aguardiente - and the captain i often put to it to preserve the peace. The captain is hooker, too, or sculler or even cook. The unmated man is always the cook, as well as housekeeper, and has charge of the boat all day while the dingys are out. He has to be a pretty fair sailor, for when the dingys start out in the morning they may keep bunched and trail off together a great dietance. Generally the cook is exwake, so as to be on hand to pick up the men when meal time co their cargoes get heavy. So the cook is really the most important

### Wire Wounds.

My mare, a very valuable one, was badly bruised and cut by being caught in a wire fence. Some of the wounds would not heal, although I tried many different medicines. Dr. Bell advised me to use MINARD'S weeks. No less, even if they catch, LINIMENT, diluted at first, then stronger as the sores began to look ies for the eight weeks, and at the sores have healed, and best of all, the d of the trip, when the catch is bair is growing well, and is NOT sold, one half or one third the each, WHITE as is most always the case Weymouth.

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Honesty is the best policy. Not on your life, blurted out the surance agent.

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p.m y	. 100	n-m p
8 80 9 20 P M	Lv Emerald June Ar Cape Traverse	Ar 7 40 Lv 6 50 A.M
A.M P.M 6 45 3 20 8 15 4 30 9 20 5 17 10 50 6 20 A.M P.M	Ly Charlottetown Mt. Stewart St. Peters Ar Souris	A.M P.M Ar 8 15 5 20 7 15 3 45 6 29 2 32 5 30 1 10 A.M P.M
P.M A.M 420 815 519 925 540 954 615 1035	Lv Mount Stewart Oardigan Montagne Ar Georgetown	A, M P.M Ar 7 05 3 35 6 16 2 28 5 54 2 00 Lev 5 20 1 15
Dly Sat ex only Sun and Sat P.M P.M 3 10 3 10 4 57 4 25 7 00 5 55	Lv Charlottetown Vernon River Ar Murray Harbor	Sat Dly only ex Sun and Sat  A.M.A.M. Ar 9 25 9 35 8 11 7 56 Lv 6 40 6 00

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