

of the Iroquois Indians; and we have been able to make good use of their system. The people are grouped on the basis of blood relation and family connection into compounds of twenty or twenty-five families, each being a miniature walled city under the control of a headman. These compounds are brigaded under a chief, who thus stands at the head of a city, or of a portion of a city. A number of cities are under the rule of a king or sultan. Many of the cities contain two hundred and fifty or more compounds. No definite statement concerning population can be made in any case. Usually the formula is "So many compounds." It is neither a revelation of equality nor a reign of despotism. In some cases these various offices are hereditary, in others elective.

As one advances towards the interior he finds clothing in the inverse ratio to his distance from the sea. The tribes "up-country" wear little or no clothing; the adults ignore clothing completely until they are married, and then only the loin cloth is adopted. In fact, it is quite common to see an African belle decked out in all the glories of Na-

ture, the monotony being broken merely by a string of beads, a bracelet, or a piece of spiral brass wire round the ankle up to the knee; or by an anklet of five or six pounds of an elephant's tusk.

Men also are often seen with their legs chafed raw from wearing heavy ivory anklets. This is always the sign of a "big man," a term accepted in its metaphorical sense by most African tribes. The exact antonym is quite logical: "small boy" means "poor man," or one lacking influence.

In this connection I may relate an incident of the Ishan Expedition, which afforded some merriment to my brother officers. As we were marching in two columns, Major Heneker in charge of the first, and Major Edwards in charge of the second, the chiefs at every village would wish to hold a "palaver" with Major Heneker

and to "dash" (present) him with palm-wine and fruits. To rid himself of their oppressive attentions, the commanding officer and Mr. Fosbery told them that the "biggest" white man in Africa would be with them in an hour. The chiefs, natural-



JUNGLE SCENE—A NIGERIAN SPEARING MUDFISH IN A POOL