

MONSTERS OF THE DEEP.

Probably never since Last Island, in the Gulf of Mexico, was swept away, forty-five years ago, by such a hurricane as destroyed Galveston, and for many months afterward the fishermen of Barataria and Atchafalaya dared not go to fish because their nets caught dead bodies everywhere, has a fishery been laid prostrate so strangely as have the fisheries of the north French coast in the past three years.

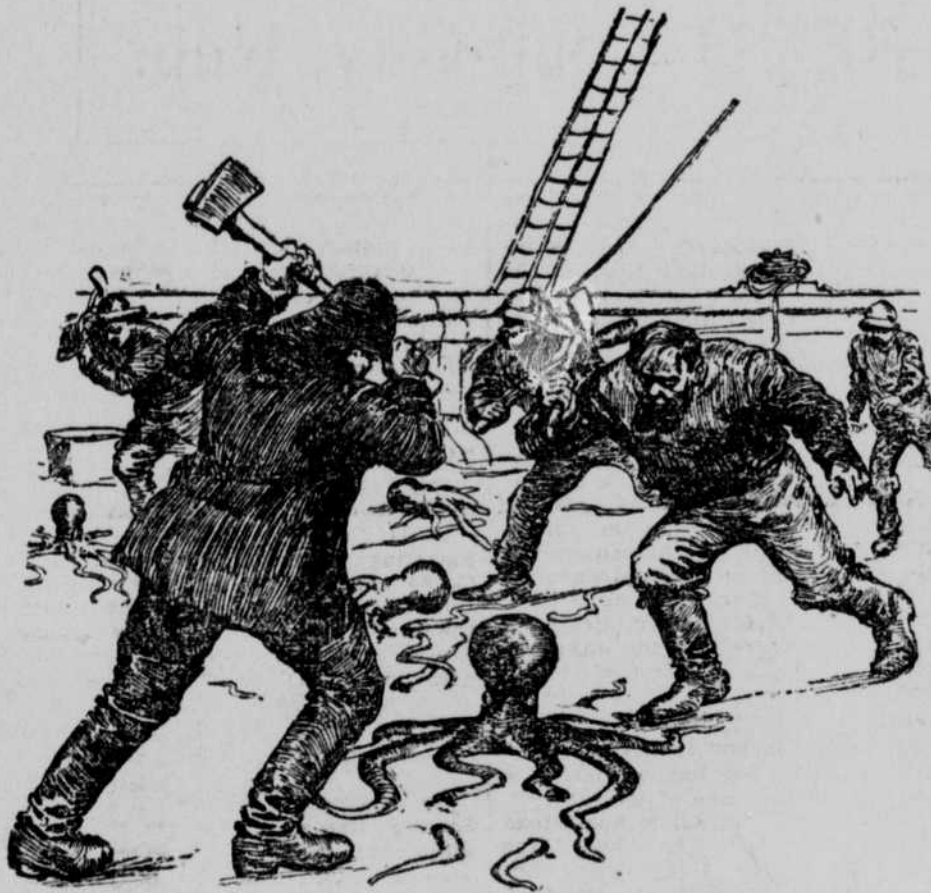
But the French fishermen are not catching corpses in their nets. What they haul up out of gray, cold seas of the English channel are living things—perhaps the ugliest living things that have their being on the globe.

They are octopi. They fasten to the hand lines and rob them of the hooked fish. They crawl into lobster and crab traps and fill them with the slime of their bodies and the ink that they squirt as soon as they find themselves captured. They weigh down the deep seines and cling to boats and oars and the fishermen themselves.

they were attacked. But they have rendered man helpless and almost ruined the one mode of livelihood left to him in those waters.

Many Factions in Cuba.

An American officer who has just returned from Cuba says that the political parties of that island "have the propensities of all Latin races. That is, they cannot have a two-sided fight, but instead divide up into three or four factions. Thus in Havana there are four parties, each with a different shade of principles and a different leader. Among Latin races, as I have studied them in South America, it appears to be a question of leaders more than of principles. A new man comes to the front, with an engaging personality, proclaims himself a leader and a man of destiny, and the crowd falls in behind him. The idea of a battle of principles or of issues as brought to them from the United States is new to the Cubans, and I believe it will



KILLING THE OCTOPI.

A vast catastrophe, of which the details never will be known by man, has happened in the secret deep abyss of the outer Atlantic Ocean, and has driven these creatures of night and ooze to seek the shallower waters. It is a happening most monstrous, most unnatural. It is as if the graves had opened and were parading their sacred mysteries. For nature, having made the octopus, at once as if she had become horrified at her own handiwork, banished the creature to the graves of the ocean—to those deep, dark, cold chasms where only the explorer's dredge penetrates and gropes awfully blindly, bringing up fragmentary captures that hint frightfully at frightful things that dwell there in everlasting night and in terrible companionship.

Even the deep sea dredges, feeling around at the ends of their thousand fathom long wire arms, that recently have brought up so many forms wonderful, fantastic, chimerical, incredibly horrible, never brought up a creature more fantastic, more chimerical, more horrible than the octopus. And now these beasts of sepulchre have swum

take them many years to accustom themselves to it."

United States Postal Rates.

Before 1845 the rates of letter postage in the United States varied with the distance. Half an ounce was the standard. In that year the rates were fixed at 5 cents for distances not exceeding 300 miles, and 10 cents for greater distances. In 1846 the rates were fixed at 3 and 10 cents, respectively. Then, in 1851 the maximum distance for the smaller rate was raised to 3,000 miles; and in 1863 a uniform rate of postage for the entire country of 3 cents was fixed. This lasted for twenty years—until October 1, 1883—when the rate was put at 2 cents a half ounce. On March 3, 1885, the standard of weight for 2 cents was increased to one ounce, making postage cheaper here than elsewhere in the world. Canada and Mexico also receive the benefit of this low rate.

Elm-Leaved Goldenrod.

It is well known that when a plant grows in shady places it is likely to



INVADE THE BATHING BEACH.

in and have exposed themselves to the light of day, not in battalions or in hundreds, but in thousands and tens of thousands.

From Cape la Hague to the Channel Islands no net can be cast now without the sea nightmares crawling into it at once to strip it of fish. The visitation has extended even to the bathing resorts along that coast, and every tide brings contorted forms with arms writhing as if in deadly agony. In pools along the coast they lie, some dying, other full of life and whipping their sucker-lined, snaky tentacles at all who approach them.

The creatures are the most plentiful in that part of the English channel from the well-named Casket Islands, that have proved caskets indeed to ships innumerable, along the curve that marks the 120-foot depth to the Channel Islands. Among those Channel Islands is Sark—the land of Victor Hugo's devilfish, described by him in "The Toilers of the Sea." Sark's marine caves, in one of which he laid his scene of the famous fight between the octopus and his hero, now contain, not one, but herds of the gray things, "brooding in the abyss."

They are not such monsters as he described. Few of them are larger in the body than a man's hand, and their tentacles rarely are more than ten feet long. Their average weight is from ten to twenty pounds. But they are there in herds. They have not attacked man, except to fight back as

have a greater leaf area than when it grows in the open sunshine. It must have a larger surface to collect the light when the latter is comparatively dim. Now, most of the goldenrods live in woods and copses, where the shadows are thick and direct sunshine is a fleeting thing. And so we find that this species has the broad, thin leaves of a shade plant, leaves with well-developed stems, but otherwise so similar to those of the elm tree as to give this goldenrod its distinctive name. But it gives a touch of color to the somber shades of the woods that we would not willingly do without.—Woman's Home Companion.

Afraid of Their Tin.

According to Edward de Neveu, formerly of Fond du Lac, Wis., who is now living in Paris, the notorious timidity which characterizes French capitalists, conjointly with their dislike to enter new fields, is responsible for the total neglect of what may prove the richest deposits of tin ore discovered in many years.

These deposits lie about thirty miles inland from the French coast in the department of Morbihan. It is believed that these deposits are a continuation of the famous Cornwall mines lying almost opposite on the English coast.

Neveu is attempting to form a company to exploit a concession. He has already secured limited French sup-

port, and now proposes to appeal for further financial aid to New York and Chicago.—Chicago Journal.

MOTHS AS FOOD.

Philippine Islanders Consider Them a Rare Delicacy Says a Correspondent.

Another class of insects which form a staple article of food in some of the islands are the moths found in great abundance in the mountainous regions of Panay, writes an American correspondent from Manila. These moths are small insects which hover around the rocks and live in the crevices in immense numbers. They resemble the bats somewhat in their method of hanging in groups from the rocks. It is an easy matter for the natives to capture them by the hundreds and thousands, and regular moth hunters go to the mountains at certain seasons of the year. The moths rarely fly when disturbed, but drop down into nets or bags spread to catch them when loosened from their hold. When captured they are subjected to sufficient heat to cause the soft, glossy tissues of the head and wings to shrivel up and drop off. These parts of the moth are considered unsuited to the cultivated Filipino palate, and they are always removed before sold in the market. The intense heat which burns off the wings and heads also kills the insects, and dries up a good deal of the natural juices in them. When taken from the heated oven the moths are sifted, and the dried bodies are separated from the broken pieces of heads and wings. The dried moths are used much like the grasshoppers. They enter into the composition of a great variety of native dishes. They are rarely eaten alone, as are grasshoppers, but are mixed with other foods. A confection is made of them, and some natives simply dip them in melted sugar and when dried eat them as tid-bits.

OUR SUPREMACY.

We Can Produce Goods for Less Money Than Any Other Nation.

The statistics of manufactured products show that the United States is easily in the supremacy relative to any country in the world. The commercial statistics are equally satisfactory, for now at the head of the world's great exporting nations there stands the United States. For the calendar year 1900 our exports of domestic products were greater than those of any other country, their total value for that year being \$1,453,013,659. This means that we can produce goods and lay them down in other countries cheaper than they can be produced in the countries to which they go. Great Britain ranks next, with \$1,418,348,000, and Germany next, with \$1,050,611,000. Thus the United States has reached the commercial supremacy of the great exporting nations of the world. Twenty-five years ago this country stood fourth in rank, the United Kingdom being first, Germany second and France third. The United States has increased her exports during the last 25 years 192 per cent, Germany 73 per cent, the United Kingdom 34 per cent and France 5 per cent.

The supremacy of the United States is due very largely to the enormous expansion of manufacturing industry during the last decade. Our manufactured products now constitute about 30 per cent of the total exports. In 1860 they were but 12.76 per cent. Through our agricultural products we have been feeding many countries. We are now supplying them with both food and fuel.

Dead Sea Fruit.

"Dead sea fruit" actually exists, and not in metaphor only. A recent traveler in the Sahara took a photograph in the desert within a few miles of the oasis of Biskra, and his picture shows a group of "dead sea fruit" or "apples of Sodom," as they are sometimes called. The fruit grows upon the ground on a straggling stalk and is about the size of an orange, golden colored, with bright green stripes, the skin being smooth like that of a melon. It is a strange irony of nature that the fruit which is so beautiful to look at, should be a deadly poison. It is interesting to note that the camels which graze upon the aromatic shrubs discriminate between them and this fruit of most tempting appearance.—Detroit Free Press.

New Public Service.

Springfield, Mass., has been trying in one district the experiment of a weekly house-to-house delivery of books from the public library, with good results. Over one-half of the 150 persons now receiving books in this way did not formerly make use of the city library. There is a charge for the delivery of books. One may get six weeks' service for fifty cents, twelve weeks for \$1, or thirty-eight weeks for \$3. This pays the book-user, since the street car fare to and from the library once a week amounts to more. A dozen persons at the same address can get books at the expense of one delivery.

Sewer Gas Kills Trees.

Experts have come to the conclusion that what kills so many trees in London is not soot flakes or the want of air or the drought, but the sewer gas, which attacks the roots, so that the tree soon withers and dies.

Women dislike a womanly man as much as men hate a manly woman.

MAP of THE HEAVENS

for September.

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Looking Northward.

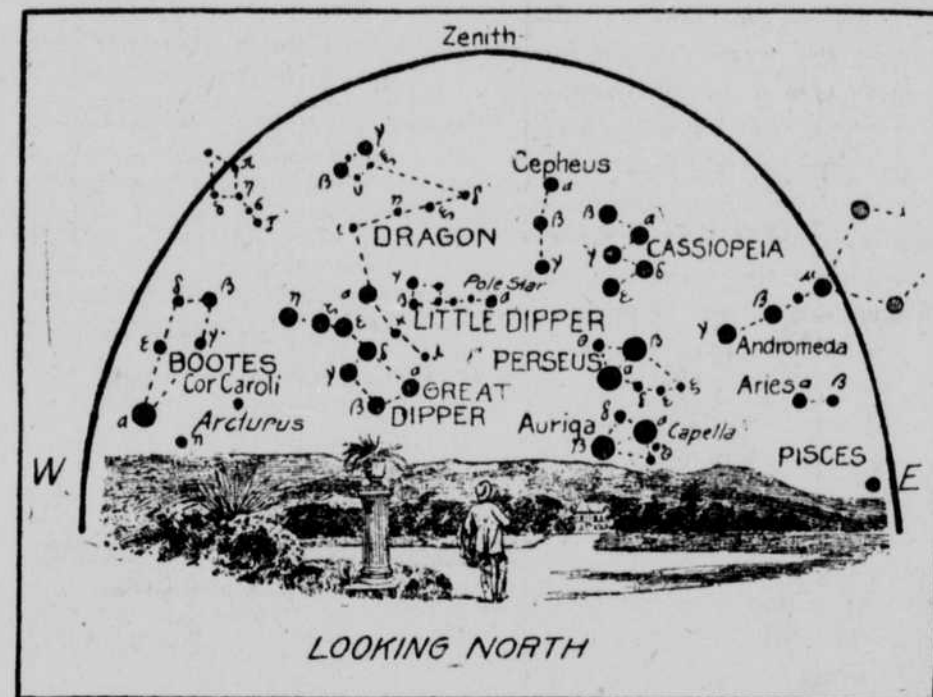
We have become quite familiar with the Constellations that grace our Northern firmament; we have reviewed them all, in the various positions where they are to be found located, month after month, the movement of the Earth around the Sun explaining the diversity of these aspects. Tonight our zenith is bare of any special attraction, until we reach to the west, Alwaid and Etanin of "Draco" (The Dragon), the many folds of which are seen to good advantage. Close to the western limit a few of the minor stars of "Hercules" (the Kneeler) announce that we shall see the rest of the constellation in our southern aspect. Underneath, the kite-shaped "Bootes" (the Herdsman), star "d" and Nekkar (first magnitude star) at the point; this star is considered very similar in composition to our own Sun. To its right, Cor Caroli (the Heart of Charles) of "Canes Venatici" (the Hunting Dogs), a constellation of lit-

will continue invisible. The lovely "Venus" will shed its pure light during the morning hours. "Mars" ruddy light will shine during the latter part of the night. "Jupiter" will come out, early in the evening, in the constellation "Scorpio." During the same hours the leaden-hued light of "Saturn" will shine in "Sagittarius."

And now, so as to supply you with the astrological readings of the complete cycle of the twelve signs of the Zodiac, I will introduce herein the traditional meanings of "Libra" (the Balance) and "Scorpio" (the Scorpion).

Libra (the Balance).

This constellation—also frequently called "The Scales"—presides over the seventh sign of the Zodiac, and exerts its influence from September 23 to October 21. Those born during this period are afflicted with an almost unconquerable timidity and diffidence that will interfere most seriously with their success in life, especially in those days when daring is such an essential element of recognition. On that account, the subjects of Libra will have



LOOKING NORTH

tle importance. Returning to the Dragon, we have no trouble in locating its second magnitude star Thuban (the former North or Pole Star), between Kochab of the "Little Dipper" and Alloth of the "Great Dipper;" the other stars of the latter Constellation, by order of size, being called Dubhe, Merak, Phecda, Nizar, Alkaid, Talitha. The "Little Dipper" is stretched horizontally, with the Pole Star at its eastern end. Above, ranged vertically, the three first luminaries of "Cepheus;" to its right, the five stars of "Cassiopeia" (the Seated Lady), also vertically grouped three and two. Further to the right, close to the eastern limit, four stars of "Andromeda" (the Chained Lady), the others shining in the Southern aspect. Underneath, Hamal and Sheratan of the constellation "Aries" (the Ram), and below, close to the horizon, "Pisces" (the Fishes), another Zodiacal asterism divided into two separate groups, the Southern and Northern Fish, connected by a line of stars called the Ribbon; none of its luminaries is above the third magnitude.

To the left of these two Zodiacal constellations, behold the beauties of "Perseus" (the Champion), Miraf and Algol, and of "Auriga" (the Waggoner), Capella and Menkalinan. They are all clear and resplendent, although close to the horizon. Turning about face, we now begin

Looking Southward.

and our eyes meet, right above our heads, the cross of "Cygnus" (the Swan), as perfect as we may ever hope to see it; these five stars are simply glorious. I told you already that one of the minor stars of Cygnus is considered one of the nearest to us, being not more than 62,481,500,000 miles away. Vega of "Lyra" (The Lyre) is also shining its best almost at our Zenith; next to it, "Hercules" (the Kneeler), a large constellation, razes the Western limit. "Ophiuchus" (the Serpent-Bearer) and its inseparable "Serpens" (the Serpent), are somewhat mixed up in that region of the skies, the large square of the former headed by Ras Alhague and Cabral; finally, in the corner, close to the horizon, emerge three stars from "Scorpio" (the Scorpion), a Zodiacal asterism. To the left of it, find the three horizontal bars of "Sagittarius" (the Archer), also a member of the Zodiacal fraternity, only incompletely visible in the Northern hemisphere. Above, to the left, behold the irregular triangle of "Aquila" (the Eagle), the great Altair resplendent on its upper side. This constellation is combined with another, "Antinous," with "no stars above the third magnitude. Altair shows us the way to the fine square of "Pegasus" (the Winged or Flying Horse), one of the easiest constellations to discover almost at random when gazing at the skies. Below Algenib of the asterism just mentioned, shines the Zodiacal constellation "Aquarius" (the Water Bearer), Sadalmelik, Sadalsund and Skat, its most brilliant luminaries, all third magnitude stars. Finally the triangle of the Zodiacal constellation "Capricornus" (the Sea-Goat), with its two principal stars in an open angle at the right, closes our study of the heavens for September. Except, that I have to state

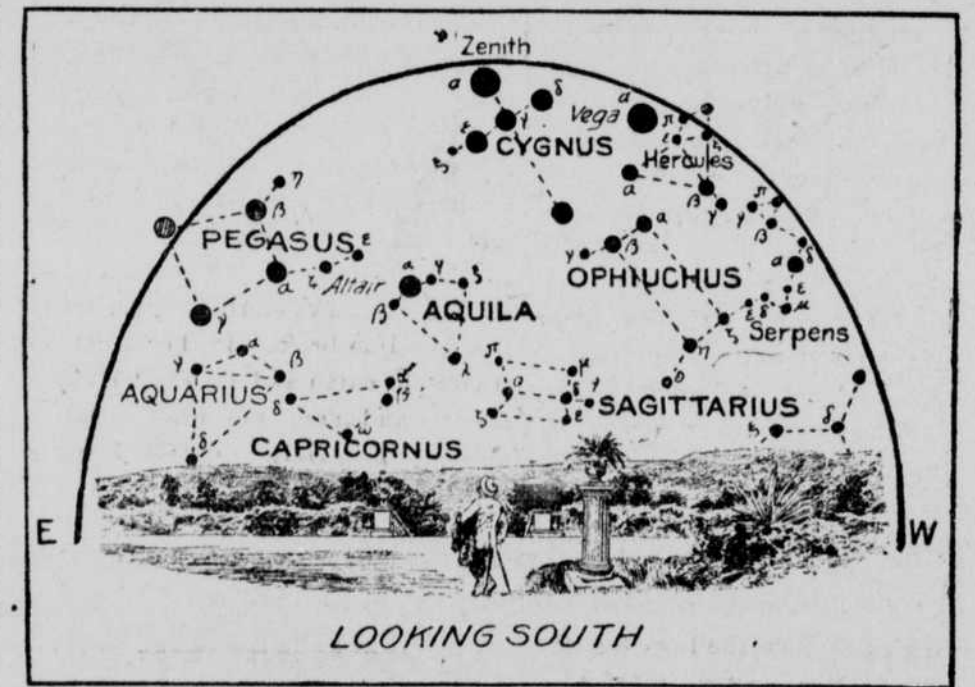
where and when the Planets Are to Be Found.

"Mercury," too close to the Sun,

reached their thirtieth year and met with grave reverses before they will be allowed to see daylight ahead and begin recuperating their losses.

In spite of their timidity they will be fond of society, of mixing with noisy crowds. They will be frequently the victims of thefts, mostly from people in their service, and will lose much of their money in speculation and gambling. Their whole life will be a succession of changes, in most cases gradually turning out favorable to their interests. No sign of the Zodiac promises to those born under it more disagreeable experiences in their married life; quarrels, separations, divorces, are among the painful probabilities that await them. The children of the subjects of Libra will inherit their restlessness; toward 21 years old, they will emigrate from the country of their birth.

The precious stone that will protect the subjects of Libra against the worst consequences of the troubles that



LOOKING SOUTH

threaten them is the diamond; the Malays (our dear Filipinos) say that the diamond ring on your finger will suddenly grow dim when you press a treacherous friend's hand.

Scorpio (the Scorpion).

This Constellation presides over the eighth sign of the Zodiac, and exerts its influence from October 23 to November 21. Those born during this period are endowed with indomitable pluck and an unceasingly aggressive disposition which will bring them many a time into dangerous straits. They are just as reckless in love matters; but age will gradually tone down their excitable temperament and their thirst for extravagant activity.

Their families will cause them no satisfaction, and their children will disappoint them greatly. Married life will bring with it great losses and continued anxieties, that will be due to the suddenness with which they will fall in love and marry before really knowing the true nature of their spouses.

Their brusqueness and their lack of tact will cause them to offend those they will be thrown in contact with; many enemies will arise from this most serious defect.

The Scorpio subjects will have many ups and downs in money matters; they will show themselves poor business men, their most momentous decisions not being thought out carefully enough. They will be in constant danger of personal assault on account of

their rude manners and their blunt frankness of speech.

The stone that will protect them in their worst predicaments is the "Sanguine" or Bloodstone, found in many of the old Babylonian and Egyptian engraved rings. It has the traditional reputation of stopping the flow of blood from wounds; when crushed fine and prepared in a certain way the old sorcerers called it "sympathy powder."

C. de SAINT-GERMAIN.

LIKE A BIG FAMILY.

Joining Company to Look After Its Workmen's Social State.

A sociological department is to be a feature of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company's large mining plant. The directors of the corporation believe that by providing better educational facilities and means of social diversion for the 1,500 men employed in its mines and mills, in which their wives and children will have a part, it will receive good returns by more efficient labor. This project means the expenditure of tens of thousands of dollars yearly.

"The company," says Dr. Richard W. Corwin, chief surgeon of the medical department and general superintendent of the sociological department, "is about to spend this money because high officials are convinced that it will mean not only increased happiness for the men, but also increased dividends for the company. We believe that by making the men's surroundings pleasanter and by increasing their opportunities for intellectual, moral and general social improvement our employees will be better able to co-operate with the company in the common mission of developing the great coal and iron resources of Colorado."

Kindergartens will be established, night schools will be opened and there will be instruction in domestic economy. Regular courses of lectures will be introduced, there will be libraries, reading rooms and art exhibits, clubs of all sorts will be formed and various entertainments will be given. In the matter of education it is the intention of the company to give its employees in isolated mining camps all the advantages so far as possible that they would have in the larger cities. Lecturers will be sent from camp to camp and use will be made of traveling libraries and art exhibits. Books and reproductions of works of art will be sold to employees at cost price.

The American Face.

A gentleman who has made a study of the subject has come to the conclusion that the American face is not distinctive in any sense of the word. Or if it has any distinctive feature it is in the fact that there is no strong characteristic that would differentiate it from other faces of superior races. There is nothing that will call it up in the mind from the world's group of Caucasian faces. Yet this is not true of other races. The English face, the Irish face, the Italian face, the Chinese face, the Japanese face, the French face, the Indian face and even the negro face, all these have something about them which will call up a definite picture in one's mind.

The American face is peculiar in its cosmopolitanism. It is a composite face. It is international, in one sense, for here and there one may find the traces which suggest a relation to this, that or the other race. It may be a line or a lineament bequeathed by an early English ancestry or something suggestive of Teutonic origin or a sharp suggestion of the Frenchman's face or the Irishman's, or the Italian's or the Scotchman's, or some slight hint which would lead one back through the ages of the forefathers who lived in foreign countries and died under different flags and in different climes long before the Mayflower brought her passengers to the new western world.—Chicago News.

Odd Pronunciation by English.

Some of the peculiarities of pronunciation of English names are here given, and are sanctioned by general usage: Abergavenny is pronounced "Abergeny"; Beauchamp, "Beecham"; Bollingbroke, "Ballingbrook"; Brougham, "Broom"; Bulwer, "Buller"; Cholmondeley, "Chumley"; Cirencester, "Sissister"; Cockburn, "Coburn"; Colquhoun, "Cohon"; Cowper, "Cooper"; Hawarden, "Harden"; Knollys, "Knowles"; Marjoribank, "Marchbank"; Marylebone, "Marrabun"; St. John, "Sinjun"; St. Leger, "Silliger"; Wemyss, "Weems"; Talliferro, "Tolliver"; Worcester, "Wooster."