PROGRESS, SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 1892.

FISHER FOLK OF ITALY. hair and beard are seldom cut or trimmed. It often has the wave of a sculptured god's

WOMEN WHO CAN TAKE A HAND ON SHIPBOARD WITH THE MEN.

The Life and Habits of a Picturesque People -How They Differ from Those Inland-The Men Have Great Appetites, and Can Sleep All Day Long.

The vast difference between acquired and natural knowledge, between cultivated and natural comprehension, between passion and emotion, between impulse and teeling, is never more apparent than when one turns from the contemplation of inland Italian peasant character to that of the Italian fishermen.

The first has nature in his labor on the hillside with his flocks, in the vineyard where he carries his hamper of ripe grapes from the vines to the presses, or driving his herbage or flower-laden donkeys through the sweet and sunny vales; but it is nature loving and protecting; nature without menace or danger; and nature which gives the sense of peace that dulls appre-hension and clothes responsibility with delight. This man is a creature of childish joys and childish passions; of quick, hot temper and easily dried tears; of ardent and fleeting loves; of varied and variegated tastes; and of ambitions ending in gorgeous attire on festa days. In short he is a very harlequin of wish, thought and feeling. You love him but you fear him and never trust him, only through your knowledge of the logical sequences of his character.

But down from the sunny hillsides and away from the tender vales, over the saltmarshes and gray sands to the sea, you can in a few hours teel the change of natural environment which has been for centuries crystalizing the Italian fisherman into a creature of almost another race. The sky is as bright above him. but his hut is on the shifting sands. 'The sea is blue and tender beneath him, but anon it crushes what it cherishes. His joys mask eternal menace and his outlook is toward the infinite.

The type of Italian fishermen common to poetry, painting and song has all the beribboned, earringed, and half brigandish look of the inland peasant; and the type exists, in port, convenient to pose for travelling dilettanti. But this sort of an Italian fisherman is a creature who has had his origin in discontent with inland environment or in the scourging of poverty in overcrowded towns. The real Italian fisherman is a creature of the shore and the sea with a centuries-inherited and deathless love for the wilderness, the danger, the loneliness and the very meagerness of his calling. He illustrates the influence of all that is character and physiognomy. The naturally large eyes of the Italian race are in him robbed of their metalic and cunning sparkle and given depth, softness and a deliberate melancholy of regard. They slowly turn upon you as it reluctant to leave the objects of their endless contemplation. Their walk is measured and unconsciously dignified, and their very smile and speech are grave and melancholy. Their home loves are deep, expressionless but deathless. Their grief under the everrecurring tragedies of the sea is resigned and almost expectant. And their hearts are ever unswervingly devout and fervent, as if they came closer through their heritage of danger to the very personality of all that which they deify. Every fisherman and every fisherman's male offspring are forever consigned by themselves, each other and all that love them to the protection of the "Mother of God." Prayer, invocation and supplication are ceaselessly on the lips of every soul that bides besides these Italian shores to get a living and their death by the sea. The Italian fisherman has in his lite none of the trivial concerns that occupy the hearts of the inland peasant. His hut, usually one room, with smoke-darkened ceiling and rough, shell plastered walls and floor. is as austere in its appointments as a monk's cell. No ornament or decoration more gaudy than a crucifix or tiny shrine or cheap engraving of the thorncrowned head of Christ or the Mater Dolorosa adorns its walls. There are rude goat-skin covered couches of dried seaweed: the heavy benches along the wall, behind the heavier table with its sunken places in which to set the bowls and mugs for food; and stout chestnut pegs set in the mortar walls for nets and clothing. There are three-legged wooden stools at either side of the fireplace. This is simply in open space left in the inside wall crossed by a stout iron rod, from which are suspended a half dozen pots by hooks, the fire of seaweed and driftwood being only lighted when required for cooking. There are often one or two windows which have no glass, but are covered with a bit of goat-skin or sail-cloth in inclement weather. The floor is covered with a generous layer of sand which is ceaselessly being renewed for cleanliness. The fisherman himself does no work ashore beyond the mere care of his boat, if he is so fortunate as to own one. The moment his boat is sighted by the women folk, they all run pellmell to the water's edge to take the sails and gear with the nets and fish and the wet clothing, dragging them with all speed to the hut where the fish are cleaned and salted and packed in layers with seaweed, for market or home consumption. Their food consists of this fish, usually cut in small pieces and boiled in a sort of thick soup with such simple condiments as their slender means can procure, black bread and cheap sour wine. On rare holiday occasions they may have onions roasted in the ashes, macaroni dressed with olive oil or tiny dough cakes fried in oil something like a doughnut. If

and as he rarely wears any head covering, save perhaps a cotton kerchief bound around his head with the ends floating in his hair, which is sometimes as blonde as a Scandinavian's, his whole aspect irresist-

ibly suggests a primitive Greek on the classic loneliness of his own loved shores. The women are finer, freer, simpler. They know nothing of bending over sunbaked fields to till the ground with the rude implements of a thousand years ago.

Their labor, though incessant-for when not caring for the harvest of the sea, they are mending nets, gathering and drying seaweed, or coaxing some meager vegetation from tiny rock-bound garden patches -is in the salt spray and never-stilled breezes of the sea.

Both women and men are often seen in the streets of the larger villages on market days; but always huddled in groups by themselves, viewing askancs the treasures of shop and stall and taking no part in the gay and busy life about them. One would as soon expect to see a marble Aphrodite step from her pedestal and join in a festal dance or procession as one of these shy, far-coast fisherwomen.

The chief teature of the dress of the women of the Italian coast fishers is a double skirt, the lower portion of which hangs rather scantily about their ankles. The upper skirt is often hooked up at the front and sides forming a sort of bag. In this they carry seaweed, fuel, fish or shell-fish from the sands; and when not in such use it is drawn up over the shoulder and back of the head as a sort of wrap. Mothers also wrap the skirt about their babes when needing to carry them for any distance. The material is usually the coarsest white cotton, but if the women can possess any sort of holiday attire, the upper skirt may be of scarlet, yellow or green, looped most gracefully above the lower skirt and surmounted by a black cloth, or in rare instances a coarse velvet. bodice. They rarely wear any foot covering and only such head covering as is supplied by the folds of the upper skirt.

The women do not shrink from even the roughest labor on the sea; and it is no uncommon sight to see wife and daughter handling ropes, nets and sails, cleaning or in any necessary labor of the boat. Indeed so far as my observation goes these indomitable force of their lives and livelibeside or in advance of their husbands, count ten, and that number of raps imgrand and solitary in nature upon human they lay hold of their toil with a vigor and mediately followed. "Tell us the age of and force. Their reach of arm and stride ot leg are remarkable, and the muscles of dinary development. Studying them as I have often done when they were unconscious of observation, their strange, gruff voices, their brawny frames, their immense brute strength, and above all, their savage energy of action, has prompted the thought that it any future Masaniello were to leap from among the fished tolk with the dread shout of "Morte al mal governo !" the resistless liberator would prove an Italian ing on their mother. fisher woman rather than an Italian fisher-

THE FAMOUS FOX SISTERS.

They Cracked Their Toejoints and Fooled the People.

Though the Fox sisters, Margaretta and Catherine, through whom the first revelations of supposed spirit power were made, have recently denounced themselves as charlatans who have been willfully perpetrating a gross and premeditated fraud for many years, and though they have stated that the so-called "spirit rappings," which created such an immense sensation fortytwo years ago, were produced by a voluntary cracking of their toe joints, the faith of believers in spiritualism is in no wise shaken.

The latter say that though the Fox sisters may be imposters, as they have declared themselves. yet the great truths and principles of modern spiritualism stand as firmly and shine as brightly as ever. They say that these date back far beyond the time of the Fox girls. Even in that low, rambling two-story house in Hydesville, N. Y., in which these mendacious young women first cracked their toe joints it is claimed that genuine spiritual phenomena were observed before the Fox girls ever inhabited it. In 1847 the house was occupied by one Michael Weekman and his family, a poor, ignorant laborer, with no thought beyond his daily toil for his daily bread. He and his family were soon troubled by mysterious raps heard in all. parts of their dwelling, especially at night, an annoyance that increased to such an extent that sleep became impossible. During all this time the Fox sisters, then mere children, aged 11 and 9 years, lived with their parents several miles away, so that they could not possibly have had a handor a toe joint-in the mysterious rappings at Mr. Weekman's house. It was this constantly increasing annoyance of loud raps which, though diligently investigated, could not be traced to any human agency and soon caused Mr. Weekman to abandon his residence.

Then it was on March 1, 1848, Mr. John D. Fox and his family became its occupants. The mysterious raps still continued. The neighbors were called in on several occasions and every possible effort made to trace their origin, but in vain.

It was on the night of March 31, of sorting fish on deck or vigorously engaged | that same year of 1848, that the mysterious raps first gave evidence of being directed by some controlling intelligence. The fishermen's wives are the propelling, active, family retired during a brief lull in the mysterious rapping when suddenly it began hood. Their movements are vigorous and again, occurring this time near the bed even virile, while the men are phlegmatic occupied by the two little daughters, Marand slow. At the tiller, in unfurling or reef- garetta and Catherine. The latter began ing the sails, paying out or hauling in the to snap her fingers in imitation of the nets, stowing away the fish, transferring sounds, which immediately responded them from their craft to the market bragoz- "Now do as I do," she cried ; "Count 1, za, in hauling the boats upon the beach, in 2, 3, 4, 5, 6," at the same time striking spreading and driving the nets, in fact, in her hands together. Mrs. Fox, the girl's every possible manner in which they labor mother, then desired the unseen agency to

ROYALTY AT HOME. Something About the Kings and Queens of Europe.

The royal household of Greece is one of the most united households in existence. After twenty-five years of married life the king and queen still live for each other as during the first days after their marriage, and they dread everything that might interfere with their homely happiness. Nevertheless, they are interested in every movement of the time. Allied to all the ruling families, their court has become a European centre.

The Queen of Greece, although she has brought up a family of seven children, has preserved all the grace of early youth. Her charming smile softens her Slavonic beauty, which she inherits from her father, the Grand Duke Constantine, who was one of the handsomest men at the Russian court. Nothing could surpass the charm of her manners. Queen Olga has French sympathies, and, while the Duke of Sparta and her four younger sons were educated by a German preceptor, the queen had her two daughters, Princesses Alexandra and Marie, brought up by a French governess. The youngest son of the king and queen of Greece is only three years old.

King George I. of Greece, son of the King of Demark, is an accomplished gentleman. Much of his time has been taken up with the education of his sons, an education which was serious almost to austerity, for the King wished to prepare his sons for the great duty of ruling a nation.

The Queen of Italy is described as tall, fair-haired, rather inclined to be stout, and still a very pretty woman. On the day of her marriage, when receiving the toreign ambassadors, she talked to each of them in his own language. She is highly educated and has a special taste for literature. In public she always shows perfect tact and taste, and she is very popular and respected by all his subjects.

The most interesting part of a recent sketch of the Portuguese Royalties is that in which the domestic life of the Queen. the former princess Amelie of Orleans, is described. Her tastes are altogether domestic, and the noble Portuguese look with indignation upon her, for she makes her own hats and bonnets, and looks after her children as any good middle-class mother might do.

King Nicholas of Montenegro is alluded to as a middle-aged paladin, and a true king of the Black Mountain. He is brave to heroism, and his people adore him as a hero. He worships the Tzar, and would gladly give his blood and his life for him. He looks superb in his national costume. His people love and admire him. Round him a charming family circle has grown up. His daughters' foreheads are fit for the most beautiful crowns, and his sons take after their father.

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man I have often seen a single fisherman thus eat at one sitting more than a quart of stuta or hodgepodge stew of shredded fish and vegetables, a pound of bread, and that dearest of all delicacies to an Italian fisherman, a polenta, or chestnut flour pudding bigger than his shaggy head with a goat's milk cheese as large as his fist.

This done he flings himself on his belly upon the floor of his hut or beside his habitation in the warm sand of the shoreside street, and instantly becomes oblivious to all worldly concerns in sleep; and he will sleep from twelve to twenty hours without changing his position. Often have I come into these little fishing villages and, while all was bustle and activity among the women, found a score of men thus disposed in doorways or half burrowed in the sand, until it seemed as though these searoving sluggards were all lying in a helpless drunken stupor, or were merely the bodies of dead fishermen cast up from the EDGAR L. WAKEMAN. deep.

Emergency Notes.

If choked, get upon all fours and cough. For apoplexy raise the head and body for fainting lay the person flat.

If an artery is cut, compress above the wound; if a vein is cut compress below.

For slight burns dip the part in cold water; if the skin is destroyed cover with varnish.

water; never put a hard instruments into the ear.

In case of poisoning excite vomiting by tickling the throat or by warm water and mustard.

For dust in the eyes, avoid rubbing; dash water in them; remove cinders, etc., with the round point of a lead pencil.

to a hot coal or end of a cigar.

Fear is the most skillful general in the mediums soon sprang up all over the counworld, because he has the most exhaustive try and were soon multiplied by hundreds and even by thousands. No better evi-dence of the power of the new faith over the minds of men and of its perpetuity could possibly be desired than the fact that even its denouncement as the shallowest, flimsiest humburggery by those who founded unusually well-to-do, a goat or two will be knowledge of human nature. He seldom among the family possessions, and then the attacks any two men from the same side, little ones will have their mug of milk and and seldom makes a mistake as to the vul-GIMNASIUM INFIRMARY. the older ones their balls of rich cheese for | nerable place in a man's armor. A certain STAFF: well known Indian fighter, who has more the holiday feat, or for offerings to the WRITING, DRAWING AND BOOK-KEEPING : HEAD MASTER : than once with a handful of men held a REV. ARNOLDUS MILLER, M. A.,-Classics and Science. Toronto and Victoria Universities, Ont. much profit can be made in a year from a flock of fowis where it is used." Is not that good evidence? village padre. flimsiest humbuggery by those who founded MR. S. G. SNELL. In costume the Italian fisherman has no whole horde of savages at bay and finally it, and their statement that it as out and DRILL AND GYMNASTIC INSTRUCTOR: Then force your hens to laying now, or later you resemblance to his inland brother. He routed them, always dreaded to go into his RESIDENT ASSISTANT MASTER : out fraud, originated by two little girls MR. JAMES C. SIMPSON, -- Mathematics, German. Provincial Certificate, Province of Ont. Late of the Engineering Staff, Canadian Pacific R. R. SERGT. A. CUNNINGHAM,-Late Instructor in will reflect. wears a sort of a Greek-like tunic, sleeve- own dark cellar alone for any bribe that solely in a spirit of mischief, have been "How wise we are when the chance is gone, Military Gymnasium, Halifax. less and reaching barely to the knees. This could be offered. Another man, whose And a glance we backward cast! We know just the thing we should have done, powerless to overthrow or even shake it .--TEACHERS IN PIANO AND VIOLIN MUSIC: RESIDENT ASSISTANT MASTER: MR. ROBERT SIMPSON,-English and Classics. is brought closely to his body with a broad | name is synonymous with courage and au-MISS GOURLAY. Detroit Free Press. PROF. W. H. WATTS. When the time for doing it's past." leather belt, in the inside of which he car- dacity in business and upright life, often MISS KING. For 50 cents I. S. Johnson & Co., Boston, Mass., University of Toronto. ries his rosary, his scapular or perhaps declares gravely that he would be one of some holy relic for protection at sea. Rude the wildest, fastest men in town if he only For 50 cents 1. 5. Johnson & C., Dette, J. 100; will send two 25 cent packs; five packs for \$1.00; or for \$1.20, one large 24 pound can of Sheridan's Powder postpaid; six cans for \$5.00, express pre-paid. The best poultry paper—Farm-Poultry one year, and a can of Powder for \$1.50. Sample copy of paper 5 cents. FRENCH : Not Broken Hearted Over It. VIOLIN :- J. W. S. BOULT, Esq. CHARLES G. ABBOTT, Esq., B.A., Kings College. **TRINITY TERM COMMENCES APRIL 6.** sandals of tough fish or goat skin are dared, and then do you remember how "Sweet, I must go; 'tis late," said he; bound to his feet with thongs that are deadly afraid Napoleon was of a cat. She did not moan or shiver, But, looking at him smilingly, AT CIRCULARS giving full information, will be sent on application to THE HEAD MASTER. of paper 5 cents. Said : "Better late than never."

muscular vim exhibiting tremendous energy | Cathy"-the younger daughter-"by rapping once for each year." said the mother, and ten distiuct raps were heard. Startled their shoulders and breasts show extraor- by these manifestations, Mrs. Fox asked if was a human being who was rapping. but no answering sound was heard. "It you are a spirit make two distinct sounds," she said, and two loud raps responded.

> Kate Fox, in her exposure of spiritualism, has declared that she and her sister were producing these mysterious raps while lying in bed and almost choking with laughter at the clever imposition they were practic- Calling to her sister Elizabeth, who was

The power of cracking their toe joints, by which they produced their "spirit rap-pings," they had accidentally discovered and had practiced until they had acquired great proficiency. Be that as it may, these supposed manifestations of spirit power created an intense excitement. The family rose from their beds and searched every portion of the house without result. The neighbors were called in and numerous questions asked, to which answers were received from the mysterious raps. By sunrise the whole village was on the spot and the little house was crowded in every part. Finally the spirit was asked to spell out his or her name by rapping at the cor. rect letters as the alphabet was repeated. As a result the name of Charles B. Rosma was obtained, and the spirit said he was a peddler who had been murdered in that house a few years before.

Soon afterward the Fox family moved to Rochester, N. Y., and the same spiritual manifestations continued in their new 'Waverly'" for his discrimination. There home, but only when Catherine or Margaretta were present. By using the letters of the alphabet in the manner already indicated, the Fox sisters said that they found a great number of departed spirits who desired to converse with them, and to use them as a medium of communication with their departed friends.

At length the alleged spirits communicated to the Fox girls their desire that there should be held a public meeting, at by the audience, should determine whether Remove matter from the ear with topid they were genuine spirits and produce their so-called manifestations without human aid. Such a meeting was accordingly held at Corinthian hall. Rochester, in November. 1849. The Fox sisters appeared on the stage and the spiritual phenomena, being treely manifested, were investigated by a committee of prominent gentlemen, who, after continuing their researches for several days, reported their inHow "Auld Robin Gray" Was Written.

Lady Anne Lindsay spent much of her in her little room in the time high, winding staircase "which commanded the sea, the lake, the rock, the birds, the beach," pouring over old volumes, or scribbling verse or prose on the "envelopes of old letters." One day a fancy took her to write new words to a Scottish air which Sophy Johnstone (the "child of nature") used to sing, the old ones being unsuited to its plaintive beauty, and in the course of her attempt she came to a standstill, says a writer in Temple Bar. at play hard by, she said : "I have been writing a ballad, my dear. I am oppressing my heroine with many misfortunes. I have sent her Jamie to sea, and broken her father's arm, and made her mother fall sick, and given her Auld Robin Gray for a lover ; but I wish to load her with a fifth sorrow in the four lines, poor thing ! Help me to one, I pray." or to Steal the cow, sister Anne," said little Elizabeth. The cow was lifted and the ballad completed. But although willing to sing it whenever asked-and when once sung it passed electrically from heart to heart and lip to lip, till soon there was scarcely a fireside in Grest Britain where it had not been heard-Lady Anne never admitted its authorship except to her it in vain, till, seeing it attributed to her-self in the *Pirate*, she wrote to Sir Walter Scott, asking him to thank the "author of

was a second part (written in response to the countess's "Annie, I wish you would tell me how that unlucky business of Jeanie and Jamie ended"), but, like most sequels, it was sadly interior to the original song.

The Thumb an Index of Character.

There is as much character in the thumbs of people as in their faces. A long first oint of the thumb indicates will power; a long second joint indicates strong logical which a committee of investigation, chosen or reasoning power; a wide, thick thumb indicates strong individuality, while a broad knob at the end of the thumb is a sure indication of obstinacy. The thumb is the characteristic feature of the human hand, a characteristic in which it differs from the hand of the monkey, and of all parts of the hand no one is so strongly individual or telltale as the thumb.— Globe-Democrat.

Will Wonders Ever Cease?

It has oeen discovered that by means of the circulating blood any organ of an animal can be para-lized or stimulat d into renewed activity if the p oper material is administered. Cocaine, which has revolutionized delicate surgical operations, is ability to trace them to any human Suck poisoned wounds, unless your S mouth is sore; enlarge the wound or, betagency. The fame of the Fox sister, cut out the part without delay; hold ters was now national. and when they aphas revolutionized deficate surgical operations, is only one of the results of this discovery. The use of Atropine by occulists is a rema kable example: For it matters not how administered, [even if injected into the big toe] the first effect seen is the enlarging of the pupil of the eye. Another application of this discovery, as practical as any, was the idea that the grant loss and include the pupil of the set of the wounded part as long as can be borne peared in New York in the following May, announcing themselves as "Spiritual Mediums," a phrase which originated with them, Smother fire with carpets, etc.; water will often spread burning oil and increase | they created an intense furore. These two discovery, as practical as any, was the idea that the great loss suffered by poultry raisers, owing to the fact that hens stop laying during cold weather, when eggs are worth fifty cents per dozen, could be over-come, if the overies of the hen could be reached and stimulated to egg-producing activity. The experi-ment was crowned with success, and the chemical compounds deficient in the overies of the hens at this season are now very important components of ECT. voung girls had thus founded a new faith, danger. Before passing through smoke to which they gave the name of spiritualtake a full breath and then stoop low, but if carbonic acid gas is suspected walk erect. ism. Humble as was its origin, and insig-Wind nificant as was the character of its first manifestations, it soon found a multitude About Fear. this season are now very important components of Sherdian's Conditions Powder to make hens lay. And with its aid some of our most successful egg. of believers in both hemispheres. Spiritual

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