

soap and water. In some cases they can be un-haired without this drying process, and cleansed before drying. After the cleansing process they pass to the picker, who dries the fur by stove heat, the pelt being kept moist. When the fur is dry he places the skin on a beam, and while it is warm he removes the main coat of hair with a dull shoeknife, grasping the hair with his thumb and knife, the thumb being protected by a rubber cob. The hair must be pulled out, not broken. After a portion is removed the skin must be again warmed at the stove, the pelt being kept moist. When the outer hairs have been mostly removed, he uses a beaming knife to work-out the finer hairs (which are shorter), and the remaining coarser hairs. It will be seen that great care must be used, as

quired when finished, any defective spots or holes must now be mended, the skin smoothed and pasted with paper on the pelt side, or two pasted together to protect the pelt in dyeing. The usual process in the United States is to leave the pelt sufficiently thick to protect them without pasting.

In dyeing, the liquid dye is put on with a brush, carefully covering the points of the standing furs. After lying folding, with the points touching each other, for some little time, they are hung up and dried. The dry dye is then removed, another coat applied, dried and removed, and so on until the required shade is obtained. One or two of these coats of dye are put on much heavier and pressed down to the roots of the fur, making what is called the ground. From eight to twelve

AN ISLAND COVERED WITH PENGUINS.—The Penguin is found in great numbers on the islands in the southern part of the Pacific ocean and in Patagonia. On one island Mr. Bennet, a naturalist, saw as many as forty thousand. They were quite tame, and not at all afraid of the presence of man. The feathers of the bird are black, white and yellow. Its legs are placed so far back on its body, that when upon the land it seems to stand almost erect. It swims and darts about in the water with remarkable swiftness. It has also wonderful powers of diving as well as of swimming, else it could not catch the fish upon which it feeds.



AN ISLAND COVERED WITH PENGUINS.

the skin is in that soft state that too much pressure of the knife would take the fur also; indeed, bare spots are made; carelessly-cured skins are sometimes worthless on this account. The skins are next dried, afterward dampened on the pelt side, and shaved to a fine, even surface. They are then stretched, worked and dried; afterward softened in a fulling mill, or by treading them with the bare feet in a hog-head, one head being removed and the cask placed nearly upright, into which the workman gets with a few skins and some fine, hardwood sawdust to absorb the grease while he dances upon them to break them into leather. If the skins have been shaved thin, as re-

coats are required to produce a good color. The skins are then washed clean, the fur dried, the pelt moist. They are shaved down to the required thickness, dried, working them some while drying, then softened in a hog-head, and sometimes run in a revolving cylinder with fine sawdust to clean them. The English process does not have the washing after dyeing.

I should perhaps say that, with all the care used, many skins are greatly injured in the working. Quite a quantity of English dyed seal were sold last season for \$17.00, damaged in the dye.

The above is a general process, but we are obliged to vary for different skins

The State Line Herald, and *Junction City Republican*, are two good-looking weekly papers just born in the Oregon newspaper world. The former is published at Lakeview, Lake county, by Watson Brothers; and the latter at Junction City, Lane county, by O. T. Porter. We hope to see them both succeed.

Euphemia Fiddlesticks suggests that many a young poet might be able to collect his scattered thoughts if he would only look into an editor's waste basket early in the morning.