HONRED TOADS.

We give on this page an engraving of a native Californian, who can be met with in the middle and southern part of the State. We have at our office several living specimens, which appear to be thriving well.

In the volume on zoology in Lieut. Wheeler's "Surveys West of the 100th Meridian," it is stated that they found the *Phrynosoma*, or "horned toad," very numerous. There are 11 distinct species of this interesting little reptile, according to Prof. Cope. The one shown in the engraving is the form found in California and Arizona—*Phrynosoma cornuta*.

In its general aspect it somewhat resembles a frog, and is called a horned toad, though really a nearer kindred to the lizard tribe. In fact, it is a true lizard, and is in no respect a batrachian. The genus, which is North American, is characterized by a more or less oval body, flattened and covered with tuberculated scales, the head having sharp spines or knobs.

In confinement the reptile is sluggish, but it is said to be active in pursuit of insect prey in a wild state. It passes the winter in a state of lethargy in holes dug by gophers and other rodents, coming out in April generally. Those specimens which we have burrow under the soft earth in their box, covering themselves entirely up. They are very abundant on the Fresno plains. Those interested in the natural history of the reptile can find detailed descriptions in Stanbury's "Expedition to Great Salt Lake," and Vol. II. of the "Mexican Boundary Survey." —*Scientific Press.*

OMLETTE SOUFFLE.

1. From five eggs reserve the whites of three. Beat the remaining whites and yolks together, and mix with them a gill of cream. Into a frying pan put a piece of butter the size of a walnut. When it is brown pour in the beaten eggs and let them cook as fast as they can without burning. When nearly done spread the reserved whites beaten to a stiff froth over, and put the frying pan into a hot oven for a moment until the whites are just stiffened. Pour upon a platter and serve.

2. Beat the yolks of three eggs with three tablespoonfuls of pulverized sugar; add a little lemon or vanilla; then beat the whites of six eggs to a stiff froth. Put the yolks in a deep bowl, turn the whites on them, and with a spoon, giving it a rotary motion, cut the two, mixing them carefully together. Turn this on a tin or earthen baking dish with sides two or three inches high and slightly buttered. Smooth over the top, sprinkle over sugar, and put into a moderate oven. If it must be turned or moved in the oven, do it as gently as possible. When risen well and of a fine yellow color it is done. Serve immediately or it will fall.

3. Beat the whites of three eggs, add a tablespoonful of marmalade cut fine, or little pieces of fresh peaches; mix with powdered sugar. Bake on a buttered dish in a quick oven.

To Restore Black Merino.—Soak the goods in strong soft-soap suds two hours, then, having dissolved one ounce of extract logwood (which is the amount required for one dress) in a bowl of warm water, add sufficient warm—not hot—water to cover the goods, which are to be taken from the suds without wringing. Allow the goods to stand in the logwood water over night; in the morning rinse in several waters without wringing; in the last water add one pint of sweet milk, which stiffens the goods a little; iron while quite damp. It will not crock, and looks like new.

Tomato Soup.—Put two-thirds of a two-pound can of tomatoes on the stove and let it boil. Put one tea-spoonful soda into the tomatoes; after it is done foaming put the tomatoes into two quarts of boiling milk, season with salt, pepper and a liberal lump of good butter.

THE ORGAN OF VOICE.

The larynx is the organ of voice, and is placed at the upper part of the air passage. It is situated between the trachea below and the base of the tongue above, and forms that visible projection in the middle part of the neck known as *Adam's-apple*. Its form is that of a triangular box—narrow below and broad above. It is composed of nine different cartilages, bound together by ligaments and moved by numerous muscles. Below the larynx stretches the windpipe, passing down into the lungs and subdividing like the branches of a tree into the right and left bronchi.

The laryngoscope enables us to look down into the larynx and watch its many movements. The image we see in the mirror differs materially from anything else we meet with in our anatomical studies. The epiglottis occupies the highest part of the laryngeal image. Its free border may be watched, alternately rising and falling during the examination. It presents a scroll-like form, and in the middle we see the under surface turned up like a lip. The vocal cords are the next most prominent objects in the image. They stretch from the front to the back of the larynx and are to be seen as two smooth, white bands, standing out in remarkable contrast to the surrounding red structures, alternately approaching and receding from each other as the patient breathes. These two moving bands once seen will never be forgotten. Right here permit the remark that Laryngology has done many wonderful things in detecting and remedying the defects and diseases of the human voice. Light has been thrown into dark places; slight changes have been readily diagnosed; tumors, ulcerations and abrasions are seen at a glance, and thus every appliance of science is brought to the aid of the most beautiful and fascinating specialty in the whole domain of medicine and surgery. As the statue of Memnon is said to have grown vocal when touched by the first beams of the morning sun, even so has the voice of the dumb broken forth into songs of thanksgiving when set free by the skillful hand of our God-given art!

As the skin covers the body on the outside, so the mucous membrane lines it in the inside, and under certain circumstances they become readily transformed into each other. "This is only a single instance of the marvelous handiwork of Nature, and one may well stand in awe and in wonder when he contemplates the Divine wisdom which has fashioned such an exquisitely fitting garment, woven without seam, adapted by a hundred variations to every office it has to fulfill, covering the body outside and lining it inside, winding at every turn through the intricate labyrinth and inclosing within its folds the strange machinery of life." We not only trace the finger of God upon the stone tables of the earth, the letters and the law of its everlasting form, but we see it in every line and movement of this wonderful human frame of ours!—*Sanitary News.*

It is funny, but a soft-palmed woman can pass a hot plate to her neighbor at the table with a smile as sweet as distilled honey, while a man, with a hand as horny as a crocodile's back, will drop it to the floor and howl around like a Sioux Indian at a scalp dance.

EUCALYPTUS AND THE ATMOSPHERE.

H. N. Draper writes for *Chambers' Journal* an article concerning the eucalyptus in the Roman Campagna. We take therefrom two paragraphs which will interest growers of the tree everywhere, both in showing how rapidly the trees exhaust moisture from the soil, and the influence of the leaf-exhalations upon the atmosphere:

The question of how and why the eucalyptus exercise sanitary changes so important as those which have been effected at this little oasis in the Campagna, may be best answered when two remarkable properties which characterize many of the species have been shortly considered. The first of these is the enormous quantity of water which the plant can absorb from the soil. It has been demonstrated that a square meter—which may roughly be taken as equal to a square yard—of the *Eucalyptus globulus* will exhale into the atmosphere, during 12 hours, four pints of water. Now as this square meter of leaves—of course the calculation includes both surfaces—weighs two and three-quarter pounds, it will be easily seen that any given weight of eucalyptus leaves can transfer from the soil to the atmosphere nearly twice that weight of water. M. Vallee does not hesitate to say that under the full breeze and sunshine—which could necessarily form no factor in such accurate experiments as those conducted by him—the evaporation of water would be equal to four or five times the weight of the leaves. One ceases to wonder at these figures, on learning that it has been found possible to count, on a square millimeter of the under surface of a single leaf of *Eucalyptus globulus*, no less than 350 *stomata*, or breathing-pores. And it now begins to be intelligible that, if such an enormous quantity of water can be transferred from earth to air, it may be possible that an atmosphere, which without such aid would be laden with malarious exhalations, may be rendered pure by this process of leaf distillation; the putrescible constituents of the stagnant water are aborbed by the roots, and become part of the vegetable tissue of the tree.

But this is not all. Like those of pine, the leaves of all species of eucalyptus secrete large quantities of an aromatic essential oil. It has recently been shown—and the statement has been impressively put by Mr. Kingzett—that under the combined action of air and moisture, oils of the turpentine class are rapidly oxidized, and that, as a result of this oxidation, large quantities of peroxide of hydrogen are produced. Now, peroxide of hydrogen is—being itself one of the most potent oxidizers known—a very active disinfectant; and as the leaves of some species of eucalyptus contain in each 100 lbs. from three to six lbs. of essential oil, we can hardly avoid the conclusion that the oxygen-carrying property of the oil is an important element in malaria-destroying power of the genus. Moreover, the oxidation of the oil is attended by the formation of large quantities of substances analogous in their properties to camphor, and the reputation of camphor as an hygienic agent seems sufficiently well founded to allow us to admit at least the possibility of these bodies playing some part in so beneficent a scheme.

THE CALIFORNIA HORNED TOAD.