Mosquitoes in Arctic Regions.

One bitter drop in our cup of joy was the monstrous but inseparable curse of Arctic summer life—the mosquito. He abounded, flourished, luxuriated, surpassed himself, out-mosquitoed himself on the Kuioi River. We were at his mercy; our veils, gauntlets, handkerchiefs, flapper, all were a vanity and a vexation. To kill was wanton, for to destroy sufficient was impossible. We had foreseen all this, and even thought of taking, among other things, a woodpecker from home with us to protect our pecker from home with us to protect our faces while we slept; but one woodpecker would have been a solemn mockery; we should have wanted a fresh woodpecker every five minutes.

I suppose these were the historical flies sent to punish the disobedient, obstinate Egyptians; they came forth in order, and after three previous plagues—the corruption of the waters, the multitude of frogs and swarms of lice
—had entirely failed. We are becoming connoisseurs in mosquitoes; we watch them traverse our veils like figures on slides in a magic lantern. There on sides in a magic lantern. There is a yellow striped vampire mosquito, with a triple fang to his proboscis; there is the brown, hump-backed or camel mosquito, with legs of gossamer, who appears to our vindictive eyes to be from two to three inches in length; finally there is the scerpion mosquito, very searching and business-like. We dislike him for he wastes no time. We know now that leather is a hollow deluyation and now that leather is a hollow delusion and armor-plated gauntlets alone are of avail. Sometimes a mosquito comes and kills himself by squeezing between our finger and thumb, sometimes by flying against my flapper.

There are moments, but so rare and delicious that I almost tremble to de-scribe them, when we find a mosquito who has anchored himself by the probocis in our gloves-and we watch the ex pression of Baffled hatred in his countenance with which he watches the approach of the avenging finger. Oh, the peaceful, blissful en-joyment of that moment! Sometimes we watch him in his anxious, hurried efforts to pierce the glove—he knows that time is all he needs—standing upon his fore-legs, with his hind legs flourishing in the air, while he bores away diligently through the thick leather in his wicked thirst for blood. Sometimes in our frenzy we ensuare a mosquito, and get a trample on his head. We ask ourselves, in hours past endurance, why the law of nature should be reversed, and man, the lord of creation, become the prey of savage creatures. We have formed a grave, if impious resolution; we will take a mosquito by stratagem, pinion him, and with the help of a burning glass offer him in sacrifice to the midnight sun.—[Land of the North

## Alexandr a Bombarded.

"I hear dey's bombardin' Alexandria," said old Cinderella, the ashesgatherer, excitedly, to a Critic scribe this morning.
"Yes, the fun's begun," replied the

'It tain't no fun, sah! I feel rale 'dignant ober it. I used ter lib in dat town and I has a great deal ob feelin' for it, and furder dan dat, sah, if my mem'ry sarves me right, I'se got a family ob Tations residin' dar now. What bizness has dem Inglish boats got to cum up de Putomack ribber and sling her bumb

shells into dat town, anyhow?"
"You, are slightly mixed, Uncle
Isaacs," rejoined the reporter, "they are
bombarding Alexandria, Egypt, not Vir-

"Nebber mind 'bout tackin' on dem Greek words. De Critic sez day is bumbin' Alexandria, and I feel highly demoralized ober it. I tell you, dem Inglish is too fresh, an' I'm one ob de boys dat's a-goin' down on de ferryboat to de bumbin' grounds to help salt 'em away. Now you hear me a talking," This gallery le coast, having be and he waddled off shaking his head and a larger corp muttering innuendoes against "Aem fresh Inglish, dat dars to cum up de Putomack and fling der bumbs inter de of Alexandria."-[Washington Critia.

A NANTUCKET CURIOSITY. -One of the curiosities of Nantucket is a clock made by Walter Folger, who died in 1849, at the age of eighty-four. This ingenious piece of mechanism was constructed before Mr. Folger was tweny-four years old, and combines a representation of old, and combines a representation of the motions of the sun and moon with the ordinary timekeeper. It shows also the time of full tide at Nantucket, and the chief phenomena dependent upon the obliquity of the moon's path, as also the times of the hunter's and harvest moons. The wheel which indicates the year is so constructed that its revolution is not completed until it has seen its 100th

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