

appetite ; how many dozen oysters they eat is not known. After the matutinal meal, they return to the sea for fishing and oystering.

These Islanders have no fixed time for meals. The women are famous housewives, and every cottage has a stove and the meals are always kept warm ; as the men are not epicures, there are no family jars on account of " cold vittals."

The gathering place for the patriarchs of the Island is the village store and as there is nothing stronger than Northampton cider to be had, the proceedings are not hilarious. The state of the weather is the main subject of discussion, and after exhausting that topic, they wend their way homeward and retire between eight o'clock and nine o'clock and sleep the sleep of the just.

The young people enjoy themselves in a quiet way ; there are several good fiddlers on the place, and they get up what they call " Swamp Angel " parties, and they will " trip the light fantastic toe " until 10 P. M.

" Let not ambition mock their useful toil,
Nor homely joys, and destiny obscure,
Nor grandeur hear with a disdainful smile
The short and simple annals of the poor."