

THE FOUNTAINS AT ARANJUEZ.

About thirty miles to the south of Madrid, the capital of Spain, lies a princely domain surrounding a magnificent country mansion. This is Aranjuez, the summer residence of the King. It was designed and constructed under the directions of Philip the Second, and is reached by a well constructed road connecting it with the capital, as well as by the Madrid and Alicante railway. The palace of Aranjuez contains many noble works of art; but the chief attraction to natives as well as visitors is the park, with its ornamental gardens and fountains. Our engraving represents the Triton fountain, which stands in a shady and secluded spot. The arrangement of the water jets and of the bronze and marble sculpture is exceedingly artistic and effective. Broad double avenues of elms traverse the park, leading to the center; and the walks are lined with box and laurel hedges. The purple buds of the cactus and aloce stand out against the green of the rare shrubs; and the air is filled with the fragrance of the orange blossom.

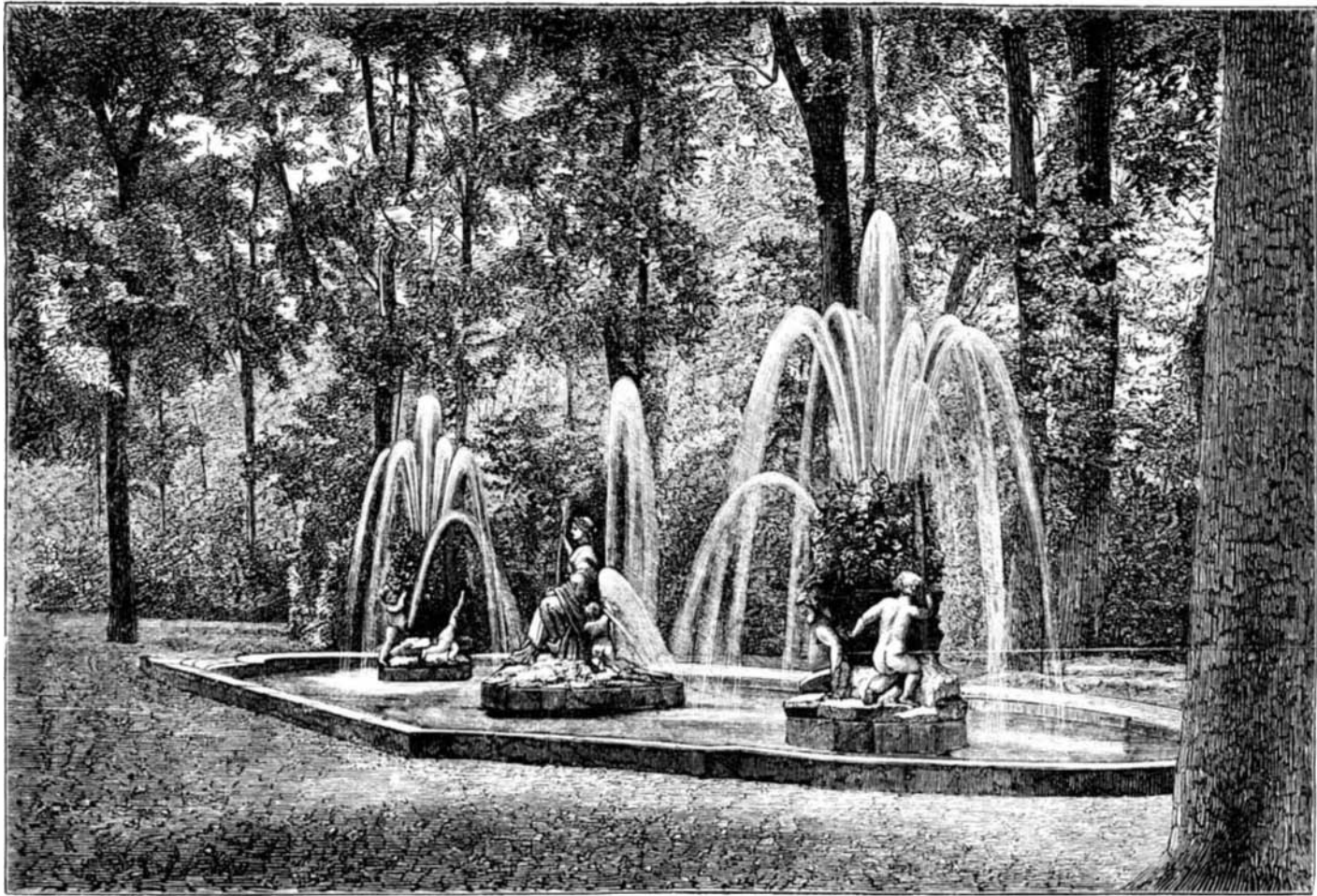
CALIFORNIAN SEA LIONS.

Of the family of *phocidae* or seals, the *otaria*, comprising the so-called sea lions and sea bears, are especially interesting. Like most members of the seal family, they are easily tamed, and are affectionate and docile; they can be taught to sit

up, to bow, to kiss the hand, and to perform many tricks. Many of our readers have probably seen the southern sea lions (*otaria jubata*) in the Zoological Gardens in London, and also the northern or California sea lions (*otaria Stelleri*) in the Thiergarten at Hamburg, Germany. The sea lions in Central Park, and at the Aquarium in this city, are of the latter species; and the intelligence and affec-

and their eyes are large, full, and expressive. The jaws display, when open, formidable teeth. Their snouts are furnished with long drooping, silver-white bristles. They are found along the coasts on the Northern Pacific Ocean, from Behring's Straits to California and to Japan, and are hunted for their fur, as well as for their flesh, which is a favorite article of diet in the Aleutian Islands. Our

readers will at once notice the comparative smallness of the heads and length of the necks, the latter being elongated at will. The prominence of the shoulder blades gives them a hump-backed appearance. They are much more agile than would be supposed from their size and weight, and they move lightly and gracefully through the water. Their bodies are very flexible, and they can scratch their heads, as dogs do, with their hind paws. Their bellowing can be heard at a great distance, and the males are fond of exhibiting their vocal powers; the sound is disagreeable, resembling the cry of a child

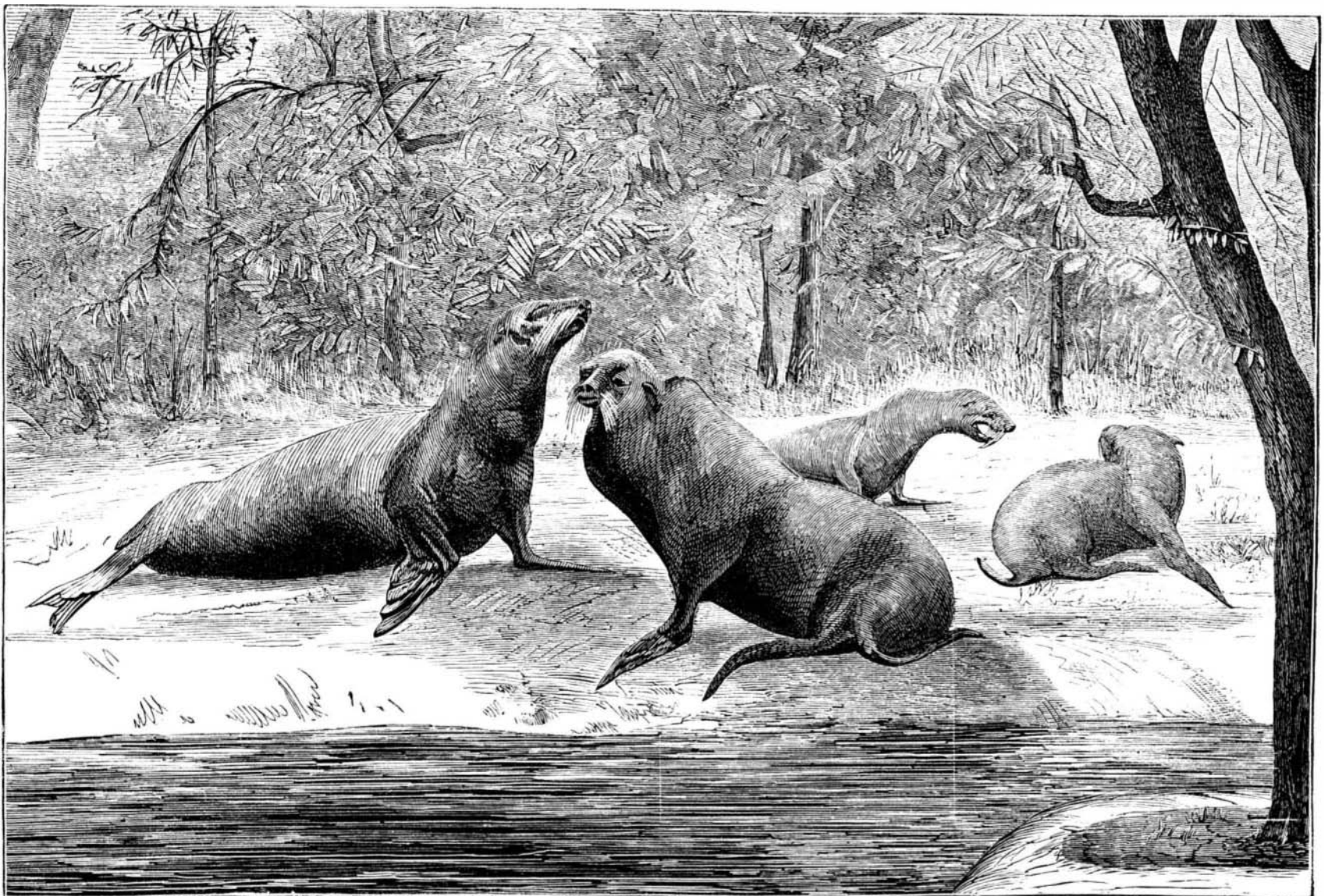


THE TRITON FOUNTAIN IN THE PARK AT ARANJUEZ.

tion for their keepers which they manifest, and their efforts to raise themselves out of the tanks of water in which they are kept, in order to reach their master, are very amusing. Our illustration shows the specimens in the Hamburg collection above mentioned, the animals being quite young. The males of this genus are about 5 feet long when fully grown, and the females about 4 feet. They yield fur of a golden brown color. Their ears are small, pointed, and pendent,

in distress, although, of course, it is much louder.

In a recent lecture on heat, delivered at the Royal Institution, Professor Tyndall described an invention of Mr. Siemens to detect the oxidation of telegraph cables. It indicates the heat that the oxidation occasions, and thus shows to what extent the rust is forming. It is chiefly of service with cables coiled in tanks.



CALIFORNIA SEA LIONS IN THE HAMBURGH ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.