Durability of Timber.

I have just been overhauling the stakes in my vineyard, and replacing those decayed, and those too small and too short. ... [illegible] ... are all gone, while the Osage remains sound. ... [illegible] ... Although small buff sap-wood ... [illegible] ... it is probable that larch timber grown in Wisconsin will be more durable than that grown in Missouri, while the catalpa and Osage will do better in Texas than in Central Illinois. In Tennessee the small red-cedars appear to have very little sap-wood, but here the case is quite different. It is possible that, as the trees get older, the proportion of sap-wood will be less. This matter of durability of timber should not be overlooked by the farmer, as he needs vineyard stakes, fence-posts and poles for sheds, corn-cribs, and other uses. Now that larch plants may be had for $5 per 1,000, and Osage for $2, and even less, no farmer should let the time pass without putting in a four-rod belt of 48 or 64 rods. Sixteen young trees will plant a square rod, and the 64 rods in length will require less than 2,000 plants, and a couple of days in preparing the land and the setting.—*Chicago Tribune.*

Lake Tahoe.

Lake Tahoe lies on the parallel 120 deg. 100 west, and 39 deg. latitude north about, forming ... [illegible] ... State of California, forming the eastern and southern boundary of Placer county, and the eastern and southern of El Dorado county, and ... [illegible] ... one-fourth lying within the limits of the State of Nevada. It is in the heart of the Sierra Nevada. By the Central Pacific railroad it is about twelve hours' distant from San Francisco to Truckee, thence southeast by stage ... [illegible] ...

The altitude of the lake is ... [illegible] ... feet above the sea level. Its depth ... [illegible] ... Its form is ... [illegible] ... in length it is about twenty-two miles, in breadth from eight to twelve miles, and with its various large coves an area of about three hundred square miles. It is the largest and deepest known lake at so great an altitude, and is fed by the winters' snows and springs, and streams from the adjacent mountains which surround it, rising in many parts two thousand feet and upward above the lake. Some of the streams ... [illegible] ... pouring into the lake a constant volume of bright, pure and sparkling water, so nearly equivalent to the absorption, drainage and evaporation that as nearly as I can estimate it, the extreme rise and fall of the lake does not exceed from three to four feet.

It nearly maintains its equilibrium, never freezing except in some sheltered and shallow spots, and is always cold enough, at a depth of two feet for palatable and healthy drinking at any time of day in summer, while the numerous streams which empty into it have an almost icy coldness in the warmest weather.

There are no swamps or marshes in the region of the lake. It is one of hills and mountains, pine and fir timber, rocks, gravel, and occasional spots of very productive soil, yielding in root crops and cereals abundant returns, and natural meadows furnish nutritious grasses for horses and cattle.

The water is pure and clear.

The air is generally bland, always pure, salubrious, elastic, light, and owing to the great extent of water surface, of qualified and proper humidity. During the summer there is a regular trade wind from the southwest (a sea breeze) springing up from about 10 o'clock A. M. and blowing more or less fresh until nearly sunset, and occasionally later. At night the land trade wind from the northward prevails. After sunrise, the mornings are usually warm until the sea breeze commences. Very few calm days occur during summer. Nights are always cool, refreshing and invigorating, with rare exceptions; and in the winter frequently clear and bright when the day is otherwise. It is always warm and pleasant in the sunshine during any part of the winter.

The Vibratory Note.

In order that processions may safely cross large suspension bridges, it is necessary that they should break step in order to insure safety; and it is told, in illustration that when the first suspension bridge was building in England, a fiddler offered to demolish it with his fiddle. Striking one note after the other, he eventually hit the vibrating note or fundamental tone, and threw the structure into extraordinary vibrations. Only recently a bridge went down in France under the tread of a regiment of infantry who neglected to break step on entering it. Three hundred persons were drowned. The experiment of breaking a tumbler or other glass vessel by frequent repetitions of some particular note of the human voice belongs to the same class of phenomena.

Thrilling Account of a Courageous Act.

Billy B. is a jolly, whole-souled fellow, who is very fond of a joke, and no one has a keener sense of the ridiculous than he. Not long since he was indulging in some of his marvelous escapes made during the war, in the presence of the gallant Col. B. and the courteous Major B., when he related the following, which is too good to be buried in forgetfulness:

"I was engaged," said he, "in a skirmish, advanced too far, was separated from my friends, and saw three Yankees in pursuit of me. The horror of being killed outside of the lines where my body would probably be food for the buzzards, took possession of my mind."

"Ah!" said the Major, "terrible, terrible!"

"I considered a moment what was to be done. Run or lose life."

"Yes," said the Colonel, "battle or death so."

"I was always swift of foot, and in this case added to my speed. After looking back—for the country was an open one—I perceived that one of my enemies had outrun the others, and the well known saying of 'divide the company' occurring to me, I slacked pace and allowed him to come up; we engaged with mutual fury, and in a few moments he lay a corpse at my feet."

"Ah! terrible! terrible!" said the Major.

"Just so," said the Colonel.

"In this short space of time," continued Billy, "the two other Yankees advanced upon me, as I took to my heels, not from cowardice, but with the hope of reaching a neighboring wood, where I knew I would be in close proximity to our picket lines. This hope I was forced to banish, for on looking back I saw one of my pursuers far in advance of the other."

"Ah! terrible! terrible!" said the Major.

"Just so," said the Colonel.

"I waited for him, renewing my almost exhausted breath, and soon this Yankee shared the fate of the first."

"Ah! terrible! terrible!" said the Major, while the Colonel ejaculated "Just so!"

"I had now only one enemy to contend with, but I felt fatigued, and, being near the wood, I was more desirous to save my own life than to destroy another of my fellow creatures. I plainly perceived smoke curling above the trees. I redoubled my speed. I prayed mentally, and felt assured that my prayer would be granted. But at this moment the yell of the Yankee sounded on my ears. I even thought I felt his warm breath. There was no choice. I turned around—"

"Ah! terrible! terrible!" interrupted the Major, while the Colonel grew impatient, past endurance and said: "And you killed him too?"

"No sir," replied Billy, "by golley, he killed me!"

An Unlucky Maiden.

The *Alta Californian* gives the following account of a singular ridiculous courtship in that State. It says: "Some three months since an item appeared in several of the daily papers in reference to the accidental shooting of a young lady at her home on Folsom street, near Second. The fortunate, that a gentleman calling on the young lady, whose name is Bertie Holmes, and some about to depart, one of them attempted to draw ... [illegible] ... in the pocket of the overcoat ... [illegible] ... and while attempting to cock it, the hammer slipped and the weapon was exploded. The ball entered the arm of Miss Holmes just above the elbow. She fainted, and the noise of the explosion brought the whole family into the parlor. At first it was thought she was killed, but a physician was called in, and under his care she soon recovered. The ball was subsequently extracted, and the young lady was soon after able to move around as lively as ever. The young man whose carelessness caused the accident called frequently at the house to see how she was getting along, and in time he cut his friend out, as the saying is, and he became engaged to be married to her. The wedding was to have taken place in August, but the chances are that it will be postponed. On Friday evening last, the young man took Miss Holmes out riding. They started down the San Bruno road, but while making one of the numerous turns the buggy was capsized and the occupants thrown out. Miss Holmes fell upon the side of the bank, and rolled down so close to the water's edge that her clothes were saturated. Her escort, who was not injured badly, succeeded in carrying her up the bank, and afterwards to a house about half a mile distant. Here it was ascertained that her left leg was broken and that she had received other serious injuries. One of the men in the neighborhood hitched up his horse and rode into the Mission where the services of the physician were procured, and word sent to the young lady's home. Yesterday she was brought into town, and it is probable that she will be confined to her room for several months. The horse attached to the buggy ran away at the time of the accident, but was captured two miles down the road. For several reasons the name of the young man has been omitted, but certainly he ought not to have a wife if he cannot take better care of her than he has of his fiancee.

Improving Wheat Seed.

A writer says: It has been my practice for the last sixteen or eighteen years to run my wheat for seed over a very coarse seed screen, so as to sow none but the very largest kernels. By so doing I have improved my wheat so that I have sold nearly all my wheat at home for seed. But in 1872 I hit upon a new plan. I had a piece of Tredwell wheat that was injured by insects in the previous fall killed by freezing in the winter, so that there were spots not worth cutting. After harvest I observed a new scattering of heads of unusual size. It occurred to me that there was wheat that had withstood the ravages of the insects and the rigor of the winter. I gathered enough to sow one rod square, from which I realized twenty pounds of wheat, of unusually large, even berry, which was at the ratio of over fifty bushels per acre; last harvest had twenty bushels which weighed sixty-six pounds per bushel. It is my opinion that we realize the best crops from the best and most perfect seed in the vegetable as well as in the animal kingdom.

A family of Iowa frogs has been found one hundred and eighty feet under ground, and it is supposed that they have been nest-hiding there for at least a century.

Healthfulness of Cider.

There is no doubt, under proper conditions, a residence in the city is more healthy and more conducive to longevity than a residence in the country. ... [illegible] ... London, the largest city in the world, in the healthfulness ... [illegible] ... of the other great cities of Europe or of the United States.

Dr. Bowditch, in behalf of the Massachusetts Board of Health, reports that in certain rural districts both inland and on the seashore, in certain towns and in certain localities, there is always to be found a tendency to ... [illegible] ... disease. The fact has been established ... [illegible] ... Common observation shows that valleys ... [illegible] ... in the upper part of the mountains where there is sunlight throughout the day, and from the bad drainage, damp atmosphere, malarial exhalations of all the thinly populated localities are injurious in their effects upon life. There are tracts of lands in all parts of the country where severe agues are common, showing their influence in a general impairment of health and in a diminished longevity of the people.—*Independent.*

Chirography.

From the time that Belshazzar was startled from his propriety by the weird handwriting on the wall the world has had a curious interest in that language which translates itself ... [illegible] ... and one of the varied phases of this interest is that which attaches to the theory of an existing connection between a man's signature and his mind. Some autographs, like some intellects, are a jumble and convey no adequate indication of anything in particular, but there are others, as that of bold John Hancock, that like a telegraphic ray or a photographic sign tells a volume in the compass of a second.

The signature of Willard Glazier, the youthful and yet famous author, is one of these suggestive signs manual, and if there is any truth in the assumed relationship which it is alleged exists between the character of a man's autograph and the character of his mind, this writer must be at once clear and bold, original and direct of purpose. The fact is this, the young author's autograph is the most singular we have examined, and of course it is altogether indistinguishable by means of mere type. It shows a firm, decided hand, a clear and perfectly accurate eye, a quiet and curious fertility of imagination, a constant and critical theory of habit, a dash and freedom of touch that must exist in complete harmony in the nature of its soldier author.—*Exchange.*

Hindoo Worship of Tools.

At the festival of Ganesh, wife of Siva, and of the three principal Hindoo deities, which is celebrated for several days in September, and is one of the most solemn of the Hindoo festivals, every artisan, every laborer and laudler ... [illegible] ... offer sacrifices and supplications to the tools and implements which they use in the exercise of their various professions. The laborer brings his plough, hoe and other instruments, piles them together, and offers to them a sacrifice, consisting of incense, flowers, fruits, rice and other similar articles, after which he prostrates himself before them at full length. The mason offers the same worship and sacrifice to his trowel, his rule and other instruments. The carpenter is no less pious in regard to his hatchet, his saw, his adze, and his plane, before which he is offering a sacrifice of rice and flowers, previous to prostrating himself before them. The barber, too, collects his razors in a heap, and adores them with similar rites. And the shop-keepers are in the habit of personifying the stool on which they sit. "O, great stool, send me to-day many customers, with full purses and heads." Every person, in short, in this solemnity adores the instrument or tool he principally uses in gaining his livelyhood. The tools are thus considered as deities, to whom they present their supplications, that they will continue favorable, and furnish them with the means of living; and to such a depth does this base idolatry descend, that the farmers in certain districts offer a sacrifice to the dunghill which is afterward to enrich their ground.

Vinegar Drinking.

A heart-broken father sends the following from Reading, Pa.: "My daughter, at the age of nineteen, last December, weighed one hundred and sixty pounds. Since then I have noticed a gradual falling off; she has become thin, pale and comparatively emaciated; her customary healthy appearance had disappeared, and, astonishing to relate, she now only weighs one hundred and fifteen pounds, having lost forty-five pounds in the short space of six months, and during the entire time my wife or myself, have not known our daughter to be ill a single day. We were at a loss to account for this most singular change, and after fully discussing the matter we determined to solve the mystery. Our daughter at first evaded a direct answer, but she finally divulged her secret. She says that on the first of January she determined if possible to reduce her weight.

"She was told by a fortune teller to drink strong vinegar in limited doses before her meals three times a day. This she foolishly did, and continued on for months. Now she is completely broken down in health, dyspeptic, nervous, lethargic and generally despondent. Her color is gone, her eyes dull, and all ambition seems to have departed. She says there are other girls of her acquaintance that are practicing the same thing, but with what ruinous results I have not as yet been able to learn.

"I enclose you the names of several young ladies and two married women who, I am told, can be placed in the same category as my daughter."

A London newsboy having strayed into Surry, was brought before a justice of the peace on a petty charge.

"Where do you live?" asked the justice.

"With mother," said the boy.

"Where does she live?"

"With father."

"Where does he live?"

"At home."

"Where is their home?" roared the justice.

"That's where I'm from, old man," replied the boy, winking at the magistrate.

The young rascal was told to "go back there," and he went.

The value of the manufactured products of New Hampshire ten years ago was $27,000,000. Now it is $71,000,000.

Rain.

Rain is a necessity, and is obtained from the main fleet (Manihot utilissima), a pretty little plant inhabiting the higher mountain ranges of Chota Nagpur and Sirguja. ... [illegible] ... The roots ... [illegible] ... reaches our markets. Rain, when moderately dry, ... [illegible] ... a powerful odor of a warm, aromatic character and most wonderful persistency. ... [illegible] ... and yet gives them great permanency. In point of general usefulness in the perfumer, it is probably unequaled by any other substance, for, although coarse and intolerable in a pure state, the most popular compounds are those in which it is an ingredient.

Lake-side Ants.

Common small ants, it is said, have the most cunning ... [illegible] ... upon long Island as though all uses "the powder" scattered in dry weather among their paths seems to drive every ant which touches it away. The bees ... [illegible] ... and fiercely attack its fellows. The great mass retreating at the first, and the fighting members of the community, large fellows some three quarters of an inch in length, come to their assistance with a determined air, as if the obstacle would be speedily overcome by their efforts. As soon, however, as as they touched the pillulmate, says the narrator in the *Naturalist* in *Numerpia*, all the stomachs leave them; they pick about their legs seized hold of by some of the smaller ants already affected by the poison, and they themselves begin to bite and in a short time become the centers of balls of rabid ants. As these ants are one of the scourges of tropical America, destroying vegetation whenever practicable, it is possible that this extraordinary remedy may be of considerable service to agriculturists.

Camp Meeting Inconveniences.

A correspondent of the Albany *Evening Times* humorously relates his experience at the great Sunday School Convention at Chautauqua Lake. He says: I found my way to the "department of entertainment," and made known my wants in a few words. One of the gentlemen accompanied me to a tent given in the upper story of a very narrow cottage. The whole of this room would have been very comforting, but the proprietor of the cottage had seen fit to economize, by hanging a bed quilt through the centre, which, by the way, was too "short at both ends." Beyond this partition a Sunday School teacher and his wife had taken up their abode. The latter remarked, "If that quilt should fall it would mix things rather promiscuously." I thought as much, but said nothing. The next day was moving day with me. I almost regretted the change, however, for I found myself the guest of one of the most inhospitable young men I ever met. He showed me into a room where the only article of furniture was a single board bedstead supporting a straw tick. Not a chair, mirror, washbowl or anything else was to be seen. I suggested to this young gentleman the propriety of having something to sit on, a table to write on, and a lamp to retire by; and he said I would have to go to the association for those things.

Pork Raising.

My own theory of pork raising, based upon experience, theory and probably a little philosophy, things, if written for the benefit of ... [illegible] ... would be about as follows: ... [illegible] ... keep hogs on green feed ... [illegible] ... other grass ... [illegible] ... feed them at regular intervals, once or twice per day, upon mashed feed, either shorts, chopped oats or rye, buckwheat, etc.; feed in troughs. When fed in this way, and at the same time allowed access to water and shade, hogs bear through the hot months a very good time, if not the best to take on flesh. This puts them in a good condition for corn feeding, which should commence about the first of September, when the new crop is still soft and tender. Treated in this way, hogs become profitable as porkers as any method could make them. Upon the whole, too, I believe in the cheapest and most economical.—*Germantown Telegraph.*

New Rhin.

A correspondent of the *Courier-Journal* says of the Kentucky women:

"There is nothing they don't know, and what they don't know they divine. A man cannot come in a little late at night without a disturbance and an explanation, which ... [illegible] ... their training. ... [illegible] ... is the scourge of ... [illegible] ... learned about the feeling of the last tricks. The sick-friend dodge, the all-night-at-the-... dodge, the meeting-of-council dodge, coming home-from-the-market-with-a-brace-of-chickens dodge, all the old stale and expedients have played out. The other night he slipped in about one o'clock, very softly, divested himself gently, and began rocking the cradle by the bedside, as if he had been awakened out of a sound sleep by infantile cries. He had rocked away for five minutes, when Mary Jane, who had silently observed the whole maneuver, says, 'Come to bed, you fool, you! the baby ain't there!'"

He Didn't Kiss Her at All.

A gentleman who has been amusingly traveling in the lower counties of Texas tells the following amusing story. He was stopping over night at a house where the partitions walls were particularly thin. The adjoining room was occupied by a mother and her daughter. After retiring the mother began to admonish the daughter for an alleged partiality to somebody named John, which with impetuousness the daughter denied vigorously.

"But," the mother, "I saw him kissing you at the ... yesterday morning, Amanda." "No, ma, he wasn't kissing me at all." "Why did you have your head so close up to his for? you deceitful, artless?" "Well you see, ma, I had been eating pickles (the fruit of a species of cactus), and you see, ma, I got some of the pickles in my lips—and—and—"

"And what, you wicked, wicked ... ?" "And I couldn't get them out myself, you know, and John pulled them out with his teeth—but he didn't kiss me nary a time."

C. & G. Holderbaum

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A Large and Complete Assortment of Goods for

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They have a complete assortment of

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MAIN CROSS STREET,

... Confectionaries, Notions, ...

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Please call, examine our goods of all kinds, and be satisfied from your own judgment.

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Of the best quality, and will be sold at the very lowest cash prices. Call and examine them.

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Leather and Shoe Findings.

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Boots and Shoes.

Of Eastern and home manufacture, a large and well selected stock of

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Of all kinds.

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Best Workmen

Will be employed. The public are respectfully invited to call and examine his stock.
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HEAVY PANT STUFFS,

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