

SOME FAMOUS TREES.

A poplar tree in Waukesha, Wis., is attracting attention by its being completely covered with small insects resembling caterpillars. In some places they are two inches thick.

In the old Rogers burying ground near Chatham, N. C., an oak tree has grown on a grave in which a person was buried seventy-five years ago, and the tree is now five feet in diameter.

In Lewis County, Ky., a mammoth tree was recently cut that is believed to have been 300 years old. It was 16 feet in diameter, 190 feet high, and yield 33,452 feet of lumber and 25 cords of wood.

In the village of Noebditz, Saxony, is an oak whose aged and infirm branches are propped up all around by beams. Its trunk has been used many years as a burial vault. Its lower part, which measured 14 ells in circumference, is hollow, and the aperture to this great cave is closed by lattice work of iron bars. Through this sort of window the unsuspecting stranger who is first led to take a peep perceives with amazement the skeleton of a man seated in the middle of the hollow. It is the skeleton of the Lord of Wintersheim, who died about a century ago, and whose choice of this singular mode of sepulture is very minutely described by the inevitable guide who shows the place.

A correspondent of the San Francisco Examiner, in speaking of the big trees of Calaveras County, says:—"The stump of one of these trees a ball-room three feet across is built, and it requires a ladder eighteen steps to ascend to the top of the log, on which was built a ten-pin alley. It has been burned up, but the old, charred monarch of the forest still remains. Think of it—a hollow log, through which one can ride on horseback 100 feet and come out through a knot hole! There are some ninety of these big trees measuring from 50 to 100 feet in circumference, and reaching up the skies—from the rings that denote the annual growth of these trees, science has estimated some of them to be 4,000 years old, while they stand over the fallen bodies of much older growth, covered over with earth and large growing trees, as it is one of the peculiarities of this timber not to decay. It appears to be a species of red-wood.

Mississippi River Reservoirs.

The plan of providing reservoirs near the headwaters of the Mississippi river, as a source of supply in seasons when the river is at a low stage, has for a long time been in contemplation. It is now likely to be practically tested. Congress in 1880 made an appropriation of \$75,000 for a dam at Lake Winnepigoshish, and last spring made an additional appropriation of \$150,000 for the same purpose. The enterprise for some months was halted because Congress failed to provide means for estimating the amount of damage to lands that the overflow would cause; but that matter has now been overcome by an ordinary appraisal, and the work is likely to go on, and the dam at Winnepigoshish will be constructed at an early day. It is not expected that this one structure will have any appreciable effect upon the water in the Mississippi river. But it will solve certain problems in practical engineering, and the extent to which it may be made to control the water passing through it, will be looked upon as a test of the efficiency of the general system. If the work about to be constructed prove a success, as there seems no good reason to doubt, a few more years will bring the extension of the system over enough of the territory near the river's source to graduate the amount of water in its channel, and with a corresponding improvement of the channel, assure the long-wished for navigation by large boats through the whole of the open season.—*Northwestern Lumberman.*

Belts.

Leather belts will last double the usual time if treated with castor oil; they will bear proof, they will always remain flexible, and will not crack. A belt four inches wide will be equal to one six inches wide which has not been oiled. It requires twenty-four hours to penetrate the leather. If used sooner the greasiness will make the belt slip.

PARQUETRY FLOORING.

The demand for parquetry floors is continual on the increase. They take the place of carpets for covering the coarse boards of ordinary flooring, and are made by ingeniously mortising together different kinds of wood. Most of this flooring is made seven-eighths of an inch thick, and what is known as "wood carpet" is made only about one-fourth of an inch in thickness. The principal body of parquetry work is oak, in different shades, but every kind of cabinet wood is used—mahogany, tulip, walnut, cherry—all furnishing a variety of shades, which when properly set, harmonize with agreeable effect. The entire mosaic, when mortised and joined, can be lifted without injury.

Nothing neater and more refined can be found for a floor covering to a room than a center rug or carpet, either in the shape of a square or parallelogram, and surrounded on all sides by a neat pattern in wood. If one wishes to practice closer economy he can cover the space occupied by the carpet, the piano, stage, or other large pieces, with plain wood the thickness of the parquetry wood. The surface, polish of the wood must be maintained to retain the beauty and finish of the floor. Waxing is often sufficient, or a vigorous application of shellack varnish.

The origin of this style of flooring can be traced back to the early history of western Asia. The material used was usually marble. From those early days to the present changes have taken place. Wood has succeeded stone, and the jig-saw the chisel. For some time past, parquet work has been successfully used in Germany, France and lately in England; and in this country, although new at present, we predict for it great popularity. In our American homes parquet flooring is particularly adapted for backgrounds to rugs or square carpets.

Next Winter's Operations.

A correspondent of the *Globe* gives the following estimate of the probable cut of logs in the Georgian Bay district, during the season upon which we are entering, viz:—

	Square ft.
Penetanguishene Mills	20,000,000
British Canadian Lumber Co.	25,000,000
Other mills at Midland Bay	14,000,000
Georgian Bay Lumber Co.	35,000,000
Parry Sound Lumber Co.	20,000,000
Guelph Lumber Co., Parry Sound	15,000,000
Magalloway Lumber Co.	30,000,000
Muskoka Lumber Co.	25,000,000
Victoria Harbour	15,000,000
Collingwood Lumber Co.	10,000,000
North Shore Mills	20,000,000
Mills along Victoria Railway, not included above	70,000,000
Mills along Midland Railway, not included	120,000,000
Other Mills	14,000,000
Total	434,000,000

HUMBLED AGAIN.—I saw so much said about the merits of Hop Bitters, and my wife who was always doctoring, and never well, teased me so urgently to get her some I concluded to be humbugged again; and I am glad I did, for in less than two months' use of the Bitters my wife was cured and has remained so for eighteen months since. I like such humbugging.—H. T., St. Paul.—*Pioneer Press.*

THE SADDEST OF SAD SIGHTS.—The grey hairs of age being by sight with sorrow to the grave is now, we are glad to think, becoming rarer every year as the use of Cingalese Hair Restorer becomes more general. By its use the scanty locks of age once more resume their former color, and the hair becomes thick and luxuriant as ever; with its aid we can now defy the change of years, resting assured that no Grey Hair at any rate will come to sadden us. 50 cents per bottle.

HONESTY.—It is commonly said that you cannot make an honest man believe that white is black and vice versa, but those who have grey hair by using the "CINGALESE HAIR RESTORER" will find that this apparent difficulty is easily overcome. 50 cents per bottle.

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